

Appointed

Volunteering for the Position of:

SI Help Desk

Candidate's name:	Judy Bartel
Gender:	Woman
Year of birth:	29/05/54
Servas country:	Canada
Servas Membership since:	01/08/85
Country/Number in ServasOnline and Positions Held in Own Country and/or SI:	Canada 18448. Board member, Host/Interviewer Coordinator and Host list coordinator for Canada for several years. Managed the transition to ServasOnline for Canada (2nd country to come on board). Moderator of the Servas/online Users Group and later member of the ServasOnline Development Team. Currently answer messages coming to Servas International via "contact us" on the website.
Motivation. Why are you volunteering for this position? What can you offer Servas and what do you hope to achieve?	<p>1. I have spent all of my working career in a problem-solving environment (as a student advisor and later Student Services Director in a community college. The latter included a few years of working with the implementation of a new Student Information System. This experience stood me in good stead in understanding how systems work. While not a computer programmer, I took computer courses "just for fun". This gave me the skills I need not to program, but to know how to work with systems analysts in describing what we needed a system or a program to do, and what might be going wrong when it doesn't work. Having worked with the implementation team of ServasOnline, I have a good understanding of how it works, which helps me troubleshoot problems for members. For a couple of years, I worked directly with the developers, writing the specifications for changes to Servas.org. I have good communication skills in English. While I am not fluent in another language (can for the most part understand emails that come in German and Spanish) I have found that hasn't hindered my ability to respond to requests--Google translate does an impressive job!</p> <p>2. I think the priority for Servas as relates to this position should be to help the Servas.org v.2 development team to make the system as user friendly as possible. From my perspective this can best be done by providing feedback on the type of problems users experience and using this information to inform development (this is occurring now).</p> <p>Having a complete directory of "who does what" in Servas would be an advantage in referring non ServasOnline issues to the correct person.</p> <p>3. I'd like to see greater encouragement of communication between members that doesn't necessarily involve travel. I think that moving to a world wide system that allows members to communicate freely, whether they have a current LOI or not is a great step forward. Perhaps COVID has also helped in this regard, normalizing online group communications. This could be encouraged even more.</p> <p>One of the things that became very clear to me in working with Servas.org development, is the challenge of trying to unite all the Servas groups to use a single online system, while country procedures and philosophies vary, sometimes dramatically. In my current work, I've realized how difficult is to program a system to deal with these differences, how confusing it is for members, and how it complicates the Help Desk job. A good example is the necessity in some countries to use both the country website and the SI website in the application, renewal, and LOI processes. Participating with Servas discussion groups in connection with the last two SICOGAs has showed me how challenging it is to get agreement about any of these things (interesting, in a peace organization!).</p> <p>4. I mentioned travel in the previous section, but I think we need to think seriously about this as it relates to the Servas peace mission. If we accept that travel is a negative factor in climate change and that climate change negatively influences peace (and I think we have to), then how do we reconcile these two different aspects of our organization? Are there ways that we can encourage communication without travel? Could we host discussion groups, for example?</p> <p>I also wonder if there are ways we can maximize the benefits of travel for the furtherance of peace, especially across cultures that are very different--not just different countries, but across religious lines, income groups, etc. I think the greatest impact of these exchanges comes to young people. My world view has to a great part been formed by the experiences I had in my thirties and forties in visiting African villages, working with Habitat for Humanity in the barrios in Bolivia, and more--seeing how different life is for us and them. Could we encourage more of these types of experiences for Servas youth?</p>
Attended Servas International Events in the Past 10 Years?	International meetings and events; Attended SICOGA in New Zealand and Korea; National meetings and events;
<i>Candidate is confirmed to be eligible for election. The candidate has the required supporters.</i>	
<i>Candidate is available for appointment</i>	yes
Type of Support (2A or 2B):	0
Filled here if National Group:	
Role of Supporter in National Group:	0

National Group (country) and Name of Supporter:	0
Filled here if 5 Individual Servas Members:	
1st Nominator's Name, Country, Email, Skype UID:	0
1nd Nominator's Name, Country, Email, Skype UID:	0
3rd Nominator's Name, Country, Email, Skype UID:	0
4th Nominator's Name, Country, Email, Skype UID:	0
5th Nominator's Name, Country, Email, Skype UID:	0
Extra supporter:	
Extra supporter:	
Extra supporter:	
Contact Details:	Contact SI Nominations Team

Language skills	
Spanish:	1 Basic
English:	5 Fluent
Other languages:	German
Skill level of other language:	2
Computer and other equipment	
Has own computer and software:	I have my own computer (or other device);I have software for communication (email, Teams, Skype, WhatsApp, Zoom, etc);I have internet search and navigation software;I have Microsoft Office / MS365 (Word, Excel, Teams, SharePoint, Forms);
Candidate's assessment of own computer skills and knowledge level (0-4)	
Communication:	3
Search and navigation:	3
Microsoft Office / MS365 in browser:	3
Microsoft Word:	3
Microsoft Excel:	3
Microsoft Teams:	1
Microsoft SharePoint:	0
Microsoft Forms:	0
Code and website creation:	1
The candidate described above has declared: By clicking submit and sending this Candidate Form myself I confirm that: I have read and understand the guidelines page and the Job Description for the post for which I am volunteering. I will inform my supporters that they have to submit the Support Form at https://forms.office.com/r/GGURvDKaJkto validate my nomination for an elected position. I have accurately presented myself and will fulfil the requirements of the position to the best of my ability. I understand that on taking up an SI post I will need to provide an annual report of my activities and to follow the SI Financial Operating Procedures. I know that my Candidate Form may be advertised on any Servas web sites (without the contact details) and also sent to all the delegates, National Secretaries and SI officers.	

Supporters (NS or 5 Individual Servas Members)

2A. National Secretary:	0
Information in support of the candidate	0
Other who would support the same candidate	0
2B. 5 Individual Servas Members:	
1st Nominator	0
Information in support of the candidate	0
2nd Nominator	0
Information in support of the candidate	0
3rd Nominator	0
Information in support of the candidate	0
4th Nominator	0
Information in support of the candidate	0
5th Nominator	0
Information in support of the candidate	0