**Marija Sablić**

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**Åsa Morberg**

President of the Association

for Teacher Education in Europe

Rue de la Presse 4

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Belgium

Osijek, June 18 2018

**Personal statement**

Dear President,

In response to the Call for New Members of the Administrative Council of the Association for Teacher Education in Europe (ATEE), I wish apply for my second term as AC member.

I work as an Associate Professor (Ph.D.) at the Faculty of Education of the University of Osijek (Croatia).

My research interests are teacher education, professional development of teachers, Montessori pedagogy, intercultural education and integrated curriculum.

My articles have been published in international journals (European Journal for Teacher Education, Croatian Journal for Education), and I have edited many books and proceedings.

I am a Montessori teacher and a member of Montessori Vereinigung Steiermark (Association of Montessori Educators of Steiermark).

My University has been an institutional member of the ATEE since 2014. I have been a member of the AC since 2015, and served as **Vice Chair of the A**wards Committee in 2016.

I have attended the Winter Conference in Budapest (2014), the Annual Conferences (Glasgow 2015, Eindhoven 2016), and the Spring Conference in Riga (2017).

I was the Chair of 42nd Annual ATEE Conference in Dubrovnik 2017. Over 400 delegates attended this conference and about 100 new participants became new members of the Association.

One delegate claimed that “*It was a superbly organized conference in a beautiful location, the likes of which I rarely attended. Despite a large number of participants everything ran smoothly and the atmosphere was great. I am delighted to have been a part of this! Many thanks to the Organizing Committee for a job well done! Organising committee was the best team ever!!”* (42nd Annual Conference Report, Results from Survey).

Throughout the last three years, I have been doing my best to contribute to the AC work. The reason for applying for my second term represents my wish to continue being an active and dedicated ATEE member. In my work, I plan to support the ATEE activities in Eastern Europe.

The ATEE **conferences are an excellent platform for meeting teacher educators and researchers from all over the world.**

Improving teacher quality is at the heart of ATEE effort to achieve excellence in the classroom. This comes at a time when the very structure of education in Eastern Europe is going through a profound change. With knowledge all around us, available anytime and anywhere, the role of the teachers is going to be fundamentally transformed, and as an AC member I believe that I will have a chance to help teacher educators from Eastern Europe to be more visible.

Professional development is often an underutilised resource by educators in supporting students and reaching goals.  Any time that teachers can learn about new educational theories and practices, they are able to become more effective teachers.  The world of education is ever changing and our interconnectedness is ever increasing.  New theories and practices come and go.  Without learning of these changes, we cannot discover those that may be far-reaching.  In order to become more effective teachers, it is essential that we determine for ourselves how those influential theories and practices may be used to enable our students become the future leaders of our society.

By taking an active part in the AC meetings, I have shown that I understand what the aims of the organisation are and I am willing to pursue them. I could demonstrate my organisational and leadership skills.

I am also committed to respect the content of the Statutes and the Internal Rules.

I strongly believe that ATEE needs accountable AC members willing to take responsibilities for improving the quality of work, modernising the organisation and support the activities of the Association.

This is my vision for education, my desire for students and teachers, and I hope I will have an opportunity to continue with my dedicated work in the AC.

Sincerely,

Marija Sablić, PhD



I enclose my detailed CV and supporting letters from the members of the ATEE.

Attachments:

1) CV;

2) Letter of support from Assis. Prof. Alma Škugor PhD – Facuty of Education , University of Osijek, Croatia

3) Letter of support from Prof. Linda Daniela, University of Latvia, Latvia;

4) Letter of support from Assoc. Prof. Erika Kopp PhD- Faculty of Education and Psychology, Institute of Education, Budapest, Hungary

5) Letter of support from Assoc. Prof Maria Assunção Flores Fernandes PhD- University of Minho, Braga, Portugal.