

NSP 2020 Board election candidate application

Email the completed form to elections@nspserver.org before 4:00 p.m. mountain daylight time on June 1, 2020.

Personal information

Name Myron B. Allen
Street Address 1108 E. Sheridan St.
City, State, Zip Laramie, Wyoming 82070
Email address allen@uwyo.edu
Work phone [REDACTED]
Home phone [REDACTED]
Cell phone [REDACTED]
Best phone/time Afternoons (Mountain Time)

Please indicate which of the above pieces of personal information you approve making available to the NSP membership if you are selected as a nominee _____

Name, Street Address, City, State, Zip, Email address

LinkedIn (optional) <https://www.linkedin.com/in/myron-allen-95a2415/>
NSP 6-digit ID 181808
Member of NSP for how many years 25
Primary patrol Medicine Bow Nordic Ski Patrol (R037)
Division Rocky Mountain
Credentials (e.g. senior, certified, Nordic Master) Nordic Master 012
National appointment Number, if applicable 10216
Leadership Commendation Number, if applicable Not applicable
Number of years previous Board service, if applicable Not applicable

Please respond to each of the following questions concisely but completely.

1. - Describe your NSP Background: List the leadership positions you have held in your Patrol, Section, Region, Division and National.

2014-present National Program Director, Mountain Travel & Rescue
2013-2014 Avalanche Administrator, Eastern Region, RMD
2012-2014 Treasurer, Medicine Bow Nordic Ski Patrol (R037)
2002-2012 Mountain Travel & Rescue Administrator, Eastern Region, RMD

2. - List your NSP Educational program participation and certification (OEC, OET, MTR, Avalanche, Instructor Development, Nordic/Backcountry).

OEC: OEC 1994, Senior Emergency Management 2003
OEC Instructor since 1997
MTR: MTR 1 1995, MTR 2 1999
MTR Instructor since 2001
MTR IT since 2002
Avalanche: Avalanche Level 1 1994, Level 2 1998
Avalanche Level 2 instructor since 2009, Level 1 since 2005
Avalanche IT since 2009
Nordic/Backcountry: Senior Nordic Ski & Toboggan 2005
Nordic/Backcountry Instructor since 2017
Instructor Development: Completed certification in 1997
See question 1 for administrative positions held in MTR and Avalanche.

3. - Have you served as a board member in any organization? If so, please list the organization, years of service and board leadership positions held, if any.

Western Research Institute (nonprofit R&D), Laramie, WY, 2007-present,
chair of board of directors 2017-present
American Red Cross of Wyoming (nonprofit humanitarian), 2010-present
Editorial Board, Advances in Water Resources (scientific journal), 1992-present
Editorial Board, Numerical Methods in Partial Differential Equations (scientific
journal), 1988-present
American Council on Education Commission on Leadership, 2012-2014
WICHE Forum (chief academic officers at western U.S. universities), 2005-2013,
chair 2013

4. - In your professional, personal and community life outside of NSP, describe your leadership and other relevant experience and how it might benefit the NSP?

My leadership experience at the University of Wyoming includes the following:
2005-2013 Provost and VP for Academic Affairs (chief academic officer)
1999-2005 Associate VP for Academic Affairs
1992-1998 Head, Department of Mathematics.

These positions taught me valuable lessons in strategic planning, aligning budgets with priorities, stakeholder buy-in, and managing a large, complex organization.

My non-NSP volunteer work includes the following:

Membership in Albany County [Wyoming] Sheriff's Search and Rescue
Board of Directors, American Red Cross of Wyoming
Board of Directors (chair, 2017-present), Western Research Institute.

The sheriff's search and rescue team has given me insights into organizing and conducting mountain rescue. Participation in the two governing boards has allowed me to learn about budgets and governance in two types of nonprofits: a humanitarian organization and a research and development institute.

5. - As you review the List of Needs, which one(s) interest you most and why?

The four needs that interest me most are:

EDUCATION. This is the core of NSP's mission. I would love to apply what I've learned, both as a professional educator and as an NSP instructor, to advance this mission and support NSP instructors in all disciplines.

LEADERSHIP. Leadership is a commitment to the success of the group. My career has taught me a lot about what this definition means and how to lead large, complex organizations. I would like to help lead NSP into the brightest possible future.

STRATEGIC THINKERS. I strongly believe in the importance of strategic planning, and I have professional experience in developing and implementing strategic plans with specific action items and accountability.

GOVERNANCE. Principled, transparent governance is essential to NSP's continued success as a member-driven organization.

6. The four standing committees are Education, Governance, Finance, and Planning. What knowledge, skills, and abilities would you bring to one or more of these committees?

Education: I have devoted my professional and NSP careers to education. My professional career includes 36 years of teaching and educational leadership at the University of Wyoming, including the university's two highest faculty awards. I teach in four NSP disciplines, have mentored new instructors in all four, and have served as National Program Director for Mountain Travel and Rescue for over five years.

Governance: As an academic officer of a flagship state university, I worked closely with a governing board (university trustees) for 15 years. As a volunteer, I have served on two nonprofit governing boards and have chaired one of these boards for the past three years.

Finance: As chief academic officer of a state university, I directly oversaw roughly half of the institution's \$200+ million/year state-funded budget and played a pivotal role in decisions about the rest of the institution's budget. As board chair for a nonprofit research and development institute, I chair the board's Audit and Finance Committee, participating in monthly reviews of detailed financial statements.

Planning: As an academic administrator, I participated in the development of three five-year university-wide strategic plans. I was the lead author of two of those plans. I was also responsible for implementing the plans and developing progress reports for my university's governing board and state officials.

7 - Fundraising is critical to the sustainability of any non-profit, including the NSP. What expertise would you bring to the Board with regard to improving our non-dues revenue?

During my eight-year term as the University of Wyoming's chief academic officer, I worked regularly with the university's VP for institutional advancement, who was the chief fund-raising officer. I contributed not only to the stewardship of individual private and corporate donors but also to the development of strategic fundraising plans to help guide deans and department heads in their own fund-raising activities.

8. - Please describe one or two experiences in which you demonstrated your commitment to and support of the strategic mission of the NSP.

1. From 2010-2015 I worked with other MTR, Avalanche, and OEC instructors in the Rocky Mountain Division to deliver ski-mountaineering training to several teams of U.S. Army Special Forces ("Green Berets") from Fort Carson in Colorado Springs. These field sessions were personally rewarding, and they represented an unusual opportunity for NSP to serve our nation.

2. Since 2014 I have served as national program director for Mountain Travel & Rescue. In this role I have worked with an incredibly dedicated team of division-level MTR supervisors to update the MTR Instructors' Manual, enhance the relevance and rigor of the MTR curriculum, and ensure that MTR courses articulate closely with allied programs, such as the Avalanche and Nordic/Backcountry programs.

9. - The NSP faces many challenges. What do you see as the major challenge(s) facing the organization, and what strategic ideas and solutions would you offer?

Among NSP's challenges, I think two are pressing and persistent: (1) recruitment and retention of members and (2) improvements to the data base. Many talented people have made headway on these challenges, but work remains to be done.

(1) Recruitment and retention of members: We especially need to recruit from two under-tapped talent pools: women and young people who love outdoor activities.

Strategies:

* NSP's educational programs are huge assets and can form the nucleus of a focused, national marketing program aimed at outdoor-oriented women, aspiring guides, outdoor leaders, and outdoor enthusiasts with young families.

* NSP can develop guidance, assistance, and marketing materials for individual patrols, to help attract nontraditional candidates to our courses and curricula.

10. - Summarize why you would be the best candidate for membership on the NSP's Board of Directors.

I believe I can offer three essential assets to help advance NSP's mission and address its challenges:

1. Understanding of the organization: As an NSP instructor in four disciplines, I have a detailed, working knowledge of the organization's educational mission and the importance of developing and supporting our educational programs.

2. Leadership experience: As a national program director for NSP's MTR program and through my professional experience as an educator, leader, and nonprofit board member, I have learned a lot about how to lead large enterprises with complex budgets, strategic plans, and many expert stakeholders.

3. Broad perspectives: As an active Alpine Patroller and Nordic Master, I understand NSP from many perspectives, including in-bounds emergency management, extended backcountry care, leadership in the mountains, hands-on candidate training, mentoring new instructors, and designing highly effective outdoor curricula.

I regard service on the board of directors as the best way to raise my NSP contributions to the next level.

Resume (please attach as a separate document)

Please attach a professional resume including NSP-related activities.

References (please attach as a separate document)

Please include the name and contact information (email and phone) for up to three professional or personal references. Please also include their role(s)/title, organization and relationship to you. The role/title, organization and relationship to you will be made available to the membership if you are selected as a nominee.

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