

## Jasmin M. Cotter

I believe being a part of the AAUWMI SAC team would be a huge benefit to me, as well as bringing an asset to the team. Being a part of this organization would mean a chance for me to gain leadership experience and help shape the way future women both learn and lead. The team would then gain my knowledge and involvement in many aspects of the Business School of Central Michigan University.

Starting off my college life with a job was a hard, but it gave me an insight into issues that I never knew I cared about. While I worked my way vertically and horizontally through our workforce, I saw a discrepancies in women leadership. When discussing with other leaders why this issue occurred, I realized I had much deeper passion with women's issues. This brought me to sign my minor as women in management studies. Through this I have learned what causes major discrepancies of not only our laws, but the core beliefs and attitudes women face. In order to combat these issues, I chose human resource management as my major in hope to someday help eliminate employment discrimination.

I currently am President-Elect for Chi Alpha, a religious student organization, after being the organizational event coordinator. I have attended two human resource mock trials, both of which dealing with the EEOC and how to properly handle discrimination. The first was how HR managers can make mistakes when investigating discrimination claims, the second was how to handle work relationships (and how to eliminate conflict of interest). I then attended a leadership conference for Chi Alpha, which taught developmental leadership skills (transformational leadership).

My true passion is with our youth and the human trafficking that goes along with the lack of education and opportunities. I firmly believe many of the discrimination issues we face today are stemmed from early development and the lack of basic equality values. If children were taught basic

equality, the issues women face later in their life would be eliminated. This would then help reduce our trafficking in teens as they would have the opportunities often given to boys as they would be treated equally. If they are treated equally, girls will not have as large of a temptation to fall into trafficking situations (i.e. they have no other options but to turn to sex trades).

This leads into my next large gender issue, reproductive rights. When women are treated like actual people instead of as a second class citizen, the issues we are currently facing with reproductive rights would again be eliminated. In our current political system the beliefs of Christian men are valued over the safety and health of women. As a Christian, I believe that religion shouldn't be used to discriminate against other people. I hope that in my career I will be given opportunities to not only change the minds of others on the issue, but help women gain access to whatever form of reproduction control they want and need.

As a potential asset to SAC, I want to not only grow my leadership skills but to help create opportunities for the AAUWMI to make an impact on college women across all campuses. I reiterate that education is the most important part of changing our world and giving women an equal playing field as men in the higher system will lead to more beneficial individuals. I believe my passions and skills will help drive any organization I am a part of and can give them a unique perspective on issues women face in a highly competitive male occupied business school.