**Application for UCIMC Board of Directors**

The primary purpose of this application is to provide information to members of the UCIMC that they can use in selecting individuals to serve on the organization’s Board of Directors at the annual General Membership meeting. The application also gives candidates for the Board an opportunity to reflect on the mission of the IMC, their reasons for seeking the position, and what skills, past experiences and other qualities make them qualified to serve.

Please submit your application to the general membership at imc@ucimc.org and cc Board President Gary Storm at grstorm24@gmail.com.

**Name of Candidate:** Jay Schubert

**Affiliation with the UCIMC (if any):** UC Books to Prisoners

**Brief biography (Education, work and/or volunteer experience, current activities)**

My two children and I have been members of the community for 15 years and my wife has lived here for most of her life. I joined the IMC eight years ago when I became involved through Books to Prisoners and began to identify as an activist for the first time as a result of the relationships I formed, and the issues I learned about through volunteering with BTP. For the past 13 years I have worked for a large software company with offices in Champaign, where I am a project manager involved in budget, personnel and project planning as well as caring for and managing a team of 17 employees including three managers who report to me. I volunteer with a couple of projects in our community that advocate for inmates, especially those interested in recovering from addiction. I have taken special care to form successful partnerships with the administration of our jails, where I volunteer regularly and help oversee some community-powered projects. I love to mountain bike, DJ and dance to house music and tinker with photography. I am perfecting the art of home espresso making and am a DIY hacker who knows just enough to be dangerous to myself.

**What aspects of the UCIMC mission do you find especially appealing and why?**

Empowering the community to participate in media production and distribution increases our media literacy. When we combine this with caring about local issues we discover how powerful our simple involvement can be. I believe that facilitating this realization is the single most important contribution the IMC offers our community. This is what I have learned and continue to realize through my engagement with the IMC, whether I’m answering an inmate’s letter, meeting someone who is becoming concerned about local issues for the first time and figuring out how to get involved, or learning from a life-long activist.

**What past experiences could you call upon in serving as a member of the UCIMC Board of Directors?**

For the past 8 years, I have been closely involved in carefully growing Books to Prisoners in sustainable ways, utilizing technology to help our volunteer leadership make well informed, data-driven decisions which reflect our mission and values. I take this same approach in my professional life as I continue to build strong, diverse teams of successful people whom I mentor to facilitate an environment of patience, tolerance, love and kindness.

**What special knowledge and/or skills could you use to advance the mission of the UCIMC?**

Project Management, Not for Profit leadership, Financial and Budget planning, Computer Science and Technology background.

**Describe any goals you have for your year of service?**

Improve the new membership and membership renewal process. Increase the overall level of communication between IMC groups.

**Of the five Standing Committees of the Board (Finance, Building/Facilities, Fundraising/Membership, Programming, and Personnel), which would you most like to serve on and why?**

Membership – My belief is that we can improve our processes for joining and renewing IMC memberships.