PART II CANDIDATE STATEMENT

1. Some experiences that will help me be a capable and successful board member include my undergraduate research in food deserts and food insecurity in northern Idaho, studying the various circumstances that lead to people being food insecure. Interning with UI's Sustainability Center gave me the resources and skills to further understand ways to sustainably approach issues of food sourcing, management, and consumerism. In addition, working with a non-profit initiative for Veterans gave me project management skills as well as leadership experience arranging donation drives. My current graduate research furthers my previous undergrad work, narrowing the focus on Moscow, specifically studying how our educational institutions are involved in our food systems. A few key personal skills that will make me an effective board member include my knowledge of cultural diversity and inclusion. With a degree in Sociology and Anthropology, I understand the complexities of our society that force people to make the decisions they do as well as underlying forces that give certain opportunities to some and not others. These skills and experiences will allow to me approach this board position from the point of view of compassion for those who are less fortunate, have less access to resources, and who are overall least represented in our community.

2. I want to serve on the Moscow Food Co-op Board of Directors because I have a deep interest in my community and food, as well as have the experience to bring new perspectives and ideas to the establishment. Ideas that are potentially more geared to the involvement of university students as well as those who are underrepresented in the community who can contribute to the overall long-term goals of the Food Co-op.

3.
A) As a student I have experience working in groups and collaborative projects that require compromise, understanding, and consideration for all of those involved, ensuring that everyone within the group feels heard and that their opinions are considered in the overall decision-making process.
B) Similarly, as a former intern for the UI Sustainability Center I understand the importance of teamwork in an atmosphere where everyone is on an even playing field—in my experience, it is key to work together within a group regardless of status to make sure the outcome is one that everyone contributed to.
C) My previous work experience working at the UI's Bookstore gave me the responsibility of assigning roles and tasks for others. This taught me to trust my fellow co-workers as well as taught me the responsibility that comes with the delegation, such as clear communication, attentive listening, and understanding of other people's points of view.

4. I plan to stay in Moscow until my graduate work is complete, and thus being able to make the three-year commitment so long as I live in Moscow. I agree to abide by the campaigning and electioneering guidelines established by the Nominations and Elections Committee.