Thank you for your interest in applying to serve on Oberlin College’s Interfaith Student Council (ISC). Members are appointed by the Dean of Students at the recommendation of the Director of the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life.

The ISC meets for dinner on Thursdays from 6-7 pm in fall and spring semesters. Members must be available during this time. The ISC will also have occasional retreats, special dinners, and programs in which participation by the group is expected.

Please respond to the following, and email your responses to Rev. Greg McGonigle at greg.mcgonigle@oberlin.edu. Please limit your responses to the questions to 1000 words.

Name:
Email:
Phone:
Graduation year:
Major/minor:

1. Please describe your religious/philosophical background, identity, and involvements, including your connections with campus and/or local religious/philosophical communities.

2. Please describe your other identities and other co-curricular involvements at Oberlin (student organizations, BCSL, MRC, OCD, Conservatory, Athletics, Residential Education, etc.).

3. Please describe why you are committed to religious and philosophical pluralism* and interfaith engagement, and how you have demonstrated interfaith leadership (e.g., courses on interfaith work, Interfaith Service Days, Winter Term projects, internships, research, field trips, conferences and trainings, vigils and celebrations, educational programs, reading, etc.).

4. Please describe why you want to serve on the ISC. Please include one or two ideas for activities or programs that you would like to develop that would fill a need at Oberlin College.

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* Religious and philosophical pluralism was defined by Harvard University Professor Diana L. Eck, director of the Harvard Pluralism Project, in her article “Neighboring Faiths: How Will Americans Cope with Increasing Religious Diversity” (Harvard Magazine, September-October 1996). Eck says that religious and philosophical diversity is a fact but pluralism is an activity. First, pluralism is not mere diversity but the active engagement with diversity. Second, pluralism is not mere tolerance but the active seeking of understanding. Third, pluralism is not relativism but the encounter of deep commitments. Pluralism involves building relationships, mutual learning, and dialogue, and it moves toward identifying common interests and taking common action for the common good.