



## Slates for the 2020 Transition Elections

**PRESENTED BY** Beth Brittan-Powell, Chair

**REVIEW DATES** SEC – April 20, 2020 | SENATE – May 6, 2020

**VOTING METHOD** In a single vote

**RELEVANT POLICY/DOCUMENT** [Bylaws of the University Senate](#); [University of Maryland Plan of Organization for Shared Governance](#)

**NECESSARY APPROVALS** Senate, President

### ISSUE

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The Senate Nominations Committee has prepared a slate of nominees for the 2020-2021 Chair-Elect, the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), and the Committee on Committees, as well as the Senate-elected memberships of the University Athletic Council, the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF), and the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC).

### RECOMMENDATION(S)

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The Senate Nominations Committee recommends the attached slate of nominees for election at the May 6, 2020 Transition Meeting of the University Senate.

### COMMITTEE WORK

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The Nominations Committee began recruitment efforts in January 2020. The committee sent announcements for the self-nominations period to all continuing and incoming Faculty, Staff, and Student Senators. The Nominations Committee met on five separate occasions to discuss nominees and recruitment efforts: January 31, February 21, March 12, March 27, and April 9, 2020.

Members of the Nominations Committee reached out to eligible candidates for all open seats and obtained written consent of all nominees, in accordance with the Senate Bylaws. The Nominations Committee endeavored to create balanced slates with representation from across campus.

The Nominations Committee voted in favor of approving the attached slate on April 17, 2020.

### ALTERNATIVES

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The Senate could decide not to accept the slate of nominees for the elections.

### RISKS

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There are no risks to the University.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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There are no financial implications.

## **Slate of Candidates for the 2020-2021 Chair-Elect**

Submitted by the Senate Nominations Committee

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### **Chair-Elect Nominees (One will be Elected)**

- John D. Lea-Cox    Professor    College of Agriculture & Natural Resources  
*Plant Science & Landscape Architecture*
  
- Ellen D. Williams    Distinguished University Professor    College of Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences  
*Physics*

# **Slate of Candidates for the Senate Executive Committee, 2020-2021 Election**

Submitted by the Senate Nominations Committee

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## **Faculty Senator Nominees (Seven will be Elected)**

- Sharada Balachandran Orihuela College of Arts & Humanities, *English*
- Tanya Bansal School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation, *Real Estate Development*
- Cinzia Cirillo A. James Clark School of Engineering, *Civil & Environmental Engineering*
- Susan De La Paz College of Education, *Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education*
- Angela Jones A. James Clark School of Engineering, *Bioengineering*
- John D. Lea-Cox College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, *Plant Science & Landscape Architecture*
- Valerie K. Orlando College of Arts & Humanities, *School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures*
- Bria Parker University Libraries
- William Reed College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, *Government & Politics*
- Neil Sehgal School of Public Health, *Health Policy and Management*
- Madlen Simon School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation, *Architecture*
- J Carson Smith School of Public Health, *Kinesiology*
- Karol Soltan College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, *Government & Politics*
- Uzi Vishkin College of Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences, *Institute for Advanced Computer Studies*
- Ellen D. Williams College of Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences, *Physics*

## **Exempt Staff Senator Nominees (One will be Elected)**

- James Bond Division of Student Affairs, *Office of Student Conduct*
- Andrea Dragan Division of Research, *Office of Research Compliance*

## **Non-Exempt Staff Senator Nominees (One will be Elected)**

- Jeanne M. Pekny A. James Clark School of Engineering, *Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute*
- Emily A. Spangler University Libraries

## **Graduate Student Senator Nominees (Two will be Elected)**

- Nicole Catanzarite College of Behavioral & Social Sciences
- Sarah Kilmer College of Education
- Han Kleman College of Behavioral & Social Sciences
- Emmanuel Wanjala College of Education

## **Undergraduate Student Senator Nominees (Two will be Elected)**

- Emily Berry College of Behavioral & Social Sciences
- Duong Le School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation
- Nadia Owusu College of Behavioral & Social Sciences
- Leah Williams Robert H. Smith School of Business

**Slate of Candidates for the Committee on Committees, 2020-2021 Election**  
Submitted by the Senate Nominations Committee

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**Faculty Senator Nominees (Four will be Elected)**

- Richard Lee Blanton Jr      A. James Clark School of Engineering, *Engineering Information Technology*
- Lucas Butler                College of Education, *Human Development & Quantitative Methodology*
- Alison Flatau                A. James Clark School of Engineering, *Aerospace Engineering*
- Sheila Lalwani                College of Arts & Humanities, *English*
- Isabel Lloyd                 A. James Clark School of Engineering, *Materials Science & Engineering*
- David Mussington            School of Public Policy
- Peter Sunderland            A. James Clark School of Engineering, *Fire Protection Engineering*

**Non-Exempt Staff Senator Nominees (One will be Elected)**

- John Brown                    Division of Administration & Finance, *Public Safety*

**Graduate Student Senator Nominees (One will be Elected)**

- Sarah Kilmer                 College of Education
- Emmanuel Wanjala            College of Education

**Undergraduate Student Senator Nominees (One will be Elected)**

- Niels Brandon                College of Letters & Sciences
- Danielle Tayco                A. James Clark School of Engineering

# Slate of Candidates for the 2020-2021 Senate-Elected Councils and Committees

Submitted by the Senate Nominations Committee

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## University Athletic Council Slate 2020-2021

### Faculty Representative Nominees (Three will be Elected)

- Manik Bali                      College of Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences, *Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center*
- Bradley Hatfield                School of Public Health, *Kinesiology*
- Pamela Lanford                Division of Research, *Office of Research Compliance*
- Robin Pike                      University Libraries
- Yunfen Zhang                  A. James Clark School of Engineering, *Civil & Environmental Engineering*
- Jo Zimmerman                 School of Public Health, *Kinesiology*

### Staff Representative Nominees (One will be Elected)

- Ben Prescott                    School of Public Health, *Dean's Office*
- Nicole Jackson                College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, *Criminology & Criminal Justice*
- Carlton E. Green              Office of the President, *Office of Diversity and Inclusion*



## Candidacy Statements for the Chair-Elect 2020-2021 Election

### Chair-Elect Nominees (One will be Elected)

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#### John D. Lea-Cox, Professor, Plant Science & Landscape Architecture College of Agriculture & Natural Resources



I am truly honored to be considered for Chair-Elect of the University Senate. Having previously served my Department and now my College as Senator, I have always appreciated the opportunity to share in the responsibility (albeit in a small way) to develop policies and procedures for our Institution. The impact of COVID-19 is of immediate concern, and the coming year will be a testament to whether we can minimize the impacts of this crisis on our whole campus community. In these times of disruption, dislocation and uncertainty, our collective decisions have even greater import. Supporting and advising our incoming President, Darryll Pines and the University administration in the coming months will be vital to navigate our way through these troubled times. And yet the resilience – already demonstrated – by our Faculty and Staff during the past month has been a testament to everyone’s strength and resourcefulness.

We need to listen, develop creative solutions and work collaboratively to chart a path forward for the University’s continued success, while recognizing the indelible impact of this period on our community. If elected, I promise to be a voice for *all* members of our community. I truly believe that inclusion is at the heart of our shared governance process, and the Senate provides a unique opportunity for all of our constituencies to work together, to provide their perspectives to our campus leadership. I would strive to support our incoming Senate Chair, Laura Dugan during this crucial time, to foster a congenial and mutually beneficial relationship between the Senate and President Pines.

Having been a member of the University of Maryland community for 24 years, I have seen and experienced a number of (mostly positive) changes on our campus and State in that time. As an extension specialist with teaching, research and state-wide outreach responsibilities, I have been privileged to lead national research teams that have ultimately served our farming communities, in both rural and urban environments. I have learned how important building teams, leveraging talent and engendering trust are to achieving success. Research is foundational to our success as an institution, our innovation and to our teaching and outreach missions. But academic excellence is also fundamental to our success – as students are our life blood, and graduate students are our future capacity.

I have served in various Committee and Chair roles at Department, College and University levels; my most important roles have been serving on faculty mentoring and APT committees, to advise and promote our Faculty. But on a personal level, my greatest achievements have always been reflected in mentoring both undergraduate and graduate students, to enable their ultimate success. If elected, I look forward to the opportunity to advocate for faculty, staff and students; to gain insight and help improve the function of our great University; and to contribute to the well-being and success of the whole campus community.

**Ellen D. Williams, Distinguished University Professor, Physics  
College of Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences**



I am honored to be a candidate for the position of Chair-Elect of the University Senate. I came to the University of Maryland as a postdoctoral research associate, and I cherish the opportunities the University provides for faculty to excel in teaching, research and service. We now face challenging times as the University, along with our society as a whole, approaches the peak of the COVID pandemic and prepares to develop a 'new normal' in its aftermath. If elected, I would do my best to represent the Senate and support the University in the grave decisions that will be made during the next few years.

During my professional career I have developed a collaborative way of working, and focused on interdisciplinary topics in research, teaching and service. For instance, as the Director of the Interdisciplinary Chemical Physics Graduate Program, I supported graduate education spanning three colleges and multiple departments. I later established a NSF-supported Materials Research Science and Engineering Center, representing a similar breadth of disciplines in research, graduate education, and providing educational outreach to the local community.

I also spent several years on leave from the University, working both in the energy industry on sustainability issues, and on clean energy innovation at the Department of Energy as the Director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy. Since returning, I have worked with colleagues in the College of Engineering and the School of Public Policy to advocate for the impacts of university research and role-model behavior in advancing the use of clean energy.

The experience I have had within the University of Maryland and with external organizations has given me a great appreciation of the diversity of human talents that comes together in an effective organization. I would welcome the opportunity, if elected, to use my experience to support the campus community as a whole in sustaining and expanding the University's mission.



## **Candidacy Statements for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) 2020-2021 Election**

### **Faculty Senator Nominees (Seven will be Elected)**

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#### **Sharada Balachandran Orihuela, Associate Professor, English College of Arts & Humanities**

I have been at the University of Maryland since 2012, and have just completed my first two years as a Campus Senator. In this role, I have learned about the deliberative process employed in the shared governance of the University of Maryland. Serving as senator has built upon my experience serving on various departmental and college-level, which include serving on the ARHU Programs, Curricula, & Courses (PCC) Committee, on the Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies Coordinating Committee, as well as in the Department of English personnel committee, job placement committee, and post-tenure review committee. Serving on these committees reflects my commitment to participating in the rich and diverse tapestry of service possibilities offered at UMD.

I am enthused by the possibility of serving on the Senate Executive committee. I am particularly eager to work closely with the other committee members, while also learning more about the close working relationship between administrators, the Provost, and the President. This past year has been especially difficult with our campus closure, and I think the next few years will be extremely important and will deeply affect the future of the university.

Thank you for considering my candidacy.

#### **Tanya Bansal, Assistant Clinical Professor, Real Estate Development School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation**

I feel honored to be nominated again to serve on the Senate Executive Committee (SEC). It has been a great learning experience serving on SEC over the last year and I would consider myself fortunate to serve for a second term, especially when the University is going through major transitions. I have been on campus since 2012, first as a graduate student, then as a staff member and now as a clinical assistant professor. I am faculty in the Real Estate Development program, housed in the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. This is my third year as a senator. The senate meetings have given me an opportunity to learn about the university outside my department. It is my honor to represent my program and one of the smaller departments on campus at the university level.

Some of my departmental duties include teaching and mentoring master of real estate development, certificate and dual degree students in the School. I also serve as an academic adviser for the students. As part of teaching and administrative work, I also attend various conferences nationally and internationally for program outreach and have presented papers and participated as a panelist in some of them. My objective is to represent University at an international level. I have co-led a study abroad in St. Petersburg, Russia. Last summer, I guest lectured at universities in India and was part of an exchange program to South Africa.

Ever since I moved to United States from India, University of Maryland has been my home. I want to take this opportunity of serving on the committee as a step towards giving back to the university. I

believe in diversity and equality, and hope to contribute towards some of the initiatives by the university. Thank you for considering me for this candidacy.

**Cinzia Cirillo, Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering  
A. James Clark School of Engineering**

I see this as an opportunity to sustain and contribute to shared governance during difficult times. More than ever our future will depend on timely and courageous decisions. I'll be honored to commit again my time and my experience to the Senate Executive Committee.

**Susan De La Paz, Professor, Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education  
College of Education**

I am honored to be nominated for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC). The Covid-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on K-12 education and educational research, and has required a transformation of services as provided by institutions of higher education (IHE). Should I be elected to this position, I will bring my perspective as researcher and professor in Special Education, as well as my experience with other IHEs in the Maryland System, to help address challenges facing our campus.

My research on the development of effective writing interventions has targeted secondary students who struggle due to disability, linguistic challenges, or limited academic engagement. I have developed effective approaches for secondary students that promote conceptual, epistemic and disciplinary understanding in history and science. In my courses, I teach future teachers to address the needs of all K-12 students. In my role as professor and advisor, I have worked to support academically and culturally diverse college students who face academic challenges (including difficulties arising from being a first-generation college student). If elected, my goal will be to apply lessons learned from these arenas to discussions involving academic and socio-emotional needs of UMD students.

I have served in a variety of leadership positions at UMD, including as a member and Chair of the Graduate Council PCC (2010-2014), member of the Undergraduate Diversity Committee (2013-2016), DGS for Special Education (2015-current), as Leadership Fellow in the ADVANCE Program, as well as other fellowship and advisory committees. I am also Co-Director for the Special Education Program in the Department of Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education (CHSE), a position that allows me to mentor both faculty and doctoral students and oversee the program as a whole. If elected to this position, I will use my experiences as a member of the UMD community to help the SEC to advise our new President, Dr. Darryll Pines.

If elected, I will bring my knowledge of how UMD fits within the broader Maryland System to the SEC. This comes from prior work with the Graduate Council PCC, current work with the UM scholars program, and from establishing Project RISE (Research Institute for Scholars in Education), a federally funded collaboration between Bowie State University and researchers in Hearing and Speech Sciences (HESP), Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership (TLPL), Human Development (EDHD) and Special Education to help underrepresented students from UMD and BSU prepare for graduate school. These experiences have helped me recognize that competing perspectives can be both valid and challenging – and that effective problem solving requires understanding differences in the systems to which individuals belong. If elected, I will use “lessons

learned” from these experiences when considering issues sent to the Senate, to support SEC in the shared governance of the University.

**Angela Jones, Senior Lecturer, Bioengineering  
A. James Clark School of Engineering**

I am honored to be nominated for the Senate Executive Committee. I joined the Bioengineering faculty in 2013 as a Lecturer, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in our department. I was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 2018 and named as Director of the Professional Master's Program in Bioengineering in 2019. In service to my home department and school, I have been a member of several committees, typically related to PTK advancement and undergraduate education. I am also about to begin my third year in my second term as Senator, representing Professional Track Faculty in the School of Engineering, and I currently serve on the Athletic Council.

Early in my tenure here, I was tapped to participate in the development of PTK-related policies, particularly in the School of Engineering. I have been actively involved in drafting and improving these policies from the beginning, and I continue to advise and mentor newer PTK in the School of Engineering and beyond. I am a staunch advocate for PTK faculty, and I am glad to be a part of the UMD initiative, as I believe we are leading the country in supporting the faculty in these roles.

As an instructor of undergraduates and director of a graduate program, student success is foremost in my mind. All of my pedagogical and curricular decisions are based on evidence-based best practices and a tireless commitment to studying the data to ensure career-readiness of our students. As a member of this committee, I will bring that same analytical-devotion to University-wide decisions.

I'm a proud member of the Terrapin community, and I have spent a majority of my years here involved at all levels of service. I have proven myself as an advocate for both students and PTK, and I want to continue to do so as we help during the transition of President-Designate Pines to his new role.

**John D. Lea-Cox, Professor, Plant Science & Landscape Architecture  
College of Agriculture & Natural Resources**

I am truly honored to be considered for a position on the University Senate Executive Committee. Having previously served my Department and now my College as Senator, I have always appreciated the opportunity to share in the responsibility (albeit in a small way) to develop policies and procedures for our Institution. The impact of COVID-19 is of immediate concern, and the coming year will be a testament to whether we can minimize the impacts of this crisis on our whole campus community. In these times of disruption, dislocation and uncertainty, our collective decisions have even greater import. Supporting and advising our incoming President, Daryll Pines and the University administration in the coming months will be vital to navigate our way through these troubled times. And yet the resilience – already demonstrated – by our Faculty and Staff during the past month has been a testament to everyone's strength and resourcefulness.

We need to listen, develop creative solutions and work collaboratively to chart a path forward for the University's continued success, while recognizing the indelible impact of this period on our community. If elected, I promise to be a voice for *all* members of our community. I truly believe that inclusion is at the heart of our shared governance process, but Senate representatives have to *listen*

and *understand* constituents' issues, to ensure that our voices are heard in our respectful deliberations with the campus leadership. As a member of the SEC, I would strive to objectively advise our Senate leadership during this crucial time, to foster a congenial and mutually beneficial relationship between the Senate, the Administration and President Pines.

Having been a member of the University of Maryland community for 24 years, I have seen and experienced a number of (mostly positive) changes on our campus and State in that time. As an extension specialist with teaching, research and state-wide outreach responsibilities, I have been privileged to lead national research teams that have ultimately served our farming communities, in both rural and urban environments. I have learned how important building teams, leveraging talent and engendering trust are to achieving success. Research is foundational to our success as an institution, our innovation and to our teaching and outreach missions. But academic excellence is also fundamental to our success – as students are our life blood, and graduate students are our future capacity.

I have served in various Committee and Chair roles at Department, College and University levels; my most important roles have been serving on faculty mentoring and APT committees, to advise and promote our Faculty. But on a personal level, my greatest achievements have always been reflected in mentoring both undergraduate and graduate students, to enable their ultimate success. If elected, I look forward to the opportunity to advocate for faculty, staff and students; to gain insight and help improve the function of our great University; and to contribute to the well-being and success of the whole campus community.

**Valerie K. Orlando, Professor, School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures  
College of Arts & Humanities**

I am honored to have been nominated for a faculty member seat on the Senate Executive Committee. There is an African proverb that states “If you want to go quickly, go alone, if you want to go far go together”. This proverb embodies my teaching, scholarly work and mentorship. I have benefited greatly from co-teaching and collaborating with colleagues and students at the University of Maryland, at other universities in the U.S. and internationally. In AY2019-2020, as Fulbright-Tocqueville Distinguished Chair Award Recipient at the Université Lumière Lyon II, Lyon, France and a research fellow at Le Collegium de Lyon, Institut d'études avancées, I have had the opportunity this year to interact with colleagues from all over the world and from various disciplines. The experience has allowed me to learn from others and to grow in my research; all of which when I return to UMD in fall 2020, I will integrate into my courses on the literatures of Africa and the Caribbean in French. Given my experience as a global teacher, researcher and scholar I believe that I am in a unique position to contribute to the university's mission of advancing interdisciplinary, as well as international research.

My research encompasses 20th and 21st century French and Francophone Literatures and Cultures (specifically of the Maghreb, West Africa and the Caribbean), African Cinema, Women's Studies, and African Studies. Since 1999, I have published six books and two co-edited volumes, covering a wide-range of aspects associated with the study of Francophone Literatures and Cultures, African film and women's issues. I have taught many courses and directed graduate MA and PhD theses covering the above-mentioned disciplines and areas. One of the primary goals of my teaching is to inspire students to engage with and explore some of the most influential cultural production by authors, filmmakers and journalists from France, the Maghreb, Sub-Saharan/West Africa and the Caribbean. I strive to encourage students to think about the place/space of the continent of Africa and the region of the Caribbean in terms of history, 19th and 20th century colonialism, neocolonialism and

globalization. For example, when talking about the Caribbean, my students consider the legacy of colonialism and the slave-trade as they continue to influence the themes of authors who, from the early days of the Negritude movement to the contemporary debates emanating from ideologies such as créolité, have used writing as a process through which to understand their own humanity as well as that of others.

Since my hire in 2006 as a professor of French/Francophone literatures and cultures in the Department of French & Italian, housed in the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, I have had the privilege to work in several different capacities on Senate committees: as an elected member of the SEC (2010-2011), as Chair of the Human Relations Committee (2009-2010), as a Faculty Senate Representative (2008-2011 and fall 2006) and as a member of the Human Relations Committee (2006-2009). In all cases, I found my work with the Senate enriching and fulfilling and was appreciative of the insight these various duties gave me into the internal workings of the University of Maryland as an institution.

From 2014 to 2019, I served as Head of the Department of French and Italian in the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. In my role as Head, I had the opportunity to work with a variety of colleagues across disciplines and programs in the College of Arts and Humanities. From 2010-2013, I served a three-year term as Director of the Honors Humanities Program in the Honors College. Serving as the director of Honors Humanities was one of the most fulfilling administrative positions I have held at UMD. During my three-year term, I was able to explore with some of the university's most gifted students various historical traditions and practices of the humanities while engaging with contemporary questions and investigations concerning the role of the arts and humanities in today's world. I strongly believe that a strong background in the liberal arts with a sound foundation in the humanities will help our students navigate the challenges that we are currently facing as Americans and as citizens of the world.

If elected to the SEC, I will continue to be an advocate for the humanities while also drawing on my fifteen years of experience here at the U of Maryland, working in many capacities in and outside my unit, in order to help the SEC make informed decisions and recommendations to the full Senate during AY2020-2021.

### **Bria Parker, Librarian II University Libraries**

It is an honor to be considered for the Senate Executive Committee. SEC faces monumental opportunities in the coming year, from a presidential transition, to shepherding the campus community through what will likely be a lot of change after the disruption of COVID-19. I have served on the Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG) Committee for the past two years and was recently elected as a Faculty Senator for the Libraries. My experience on ERG has provided insight into the workings of the campus units and the Senate. It has been fascinating to review plans of organization and participate in the discussions of the charge to create the Senate Committee on University Finance (SCUF). I have also been involved in self-governance within the Libraries, serving for two terms on the Nominations, Elections, and Voting Procedures Committee (with two years as chair), and served on the Library Assembly Advisory Committee (The Library's equivalent of SEC) for two years.

I came to University of Maryland in 2014 and am currently the Head of Discovery and Metadata Services for the Libraries. Much of my work centers around making Library resources easier for the

University community (and beyond) to find and use. This involves a lot of creative problem-solving, from technology issues, fixing bad metadata, and improving the user experience on local and vendor systems. If elected I would bring a creative and innovative approach to the challenges the campus faces in the coming year.

**William Lawton Reed III, Professor & Chair, Government & Politics  
College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

I am delighted to be nominated to serve on the Senate Executive Committee (SEC). I have been a faculty member in the Department of Government and Politics (GVPT) at the University of Maryland since 2009. I am currently serving as the Chair of GVPT. This year I chaired the Senate's Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS) Committee. Our committee reviewed several important items including a new course evaluation policy and a new policy for calculating Latin Honors. I have found this work to be rewarding and the relationships I have formed with other members of the Senate to be enriching. The Senate is central to shared governance at our University, and I want to contribute.

I am committed supporting shared governance, equity, inclusion, and diversity in the Senate and the University more generally. If selected, I would bring these core values and a student centered approach to the work of the SEC. Thank you for considering me for this important position.

**Neil Sehgal, Assistant Professor, Health Policy and Management  
School of Public Health**

Fellow Senators, I am honored to be included on the slate for the 2020-2021 Senate Executive Committee and ask for your support to serve a third term. The past year has provided opportunity for our campus to rebuild after trying times, and one that elevated the importance of our collective voice as members of the University community. And, as leadership transitions on our campus and at the University System will surely introduce both challenges and opportunities for our community, I hope to have the opportunity to continue to help steward the Senate and ensure that every voice is heard as we make steady progress.

The opportunity to participate in shared governance was for me, as I'm sure for many of you, a key reason for my pursuit of a career in the academy, and a responsibility I have not taken lightly as I have served my two terms on the SEC. Parallel to my commitment to campus service is my commitment to public higher education – I feel a responsibility to leverage the power of the University to change society, and in my mind there is no more democratic place to push for that than a campus such as ours.

A key motivation for my campus service has been to build community among faculty across disciplines, with students, and the community at large. In my four years at UMD I have embraced opportunities for service to SPH and the University. Within my department I direct the graduate program in Health Administration, and work closely with undergraduate, professional, and doctoral students, dedicating time and energy to foster a positive environment both in and outside of the classroom. In addition to my service within the School, I have been an ambassador for SPH on campus serving on the Future of Information Alliance Brainstorming Board, and representing the School of Public Health on the UMD Banneker/Key Scholarship selection committee and the Research Technologies Working Group.

I hope that my experiences and perspective have proven helpful to my service as a member of the SEC, and I would be honored to continue to devote them and my diligence as a member for the for the 2020-2021 term.

**Madlen Simon, Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Outreach, Architecture School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation**

The importance of the Senate Executive Committee as the conduit for our campus community to bring forward ideas, concerns, and proposals and initiate Senate activity is highlighted in this time of rapid transformation in response to the evolving public health crisis. I would be honored to contribute to this key facet of our shared governance system essential to providing faculty, staff, and student input to decisions that are reshaping our university with astonishing speed. It is particularly critical to give voice to all members of the campus community as the current situation has widened the gulf between those with resources to safely continue their education and work lives, vs. those at risk. The path our university charts through this time of change will have a tremendous impact on the future of the young people of Maryland.

I have prepared for this important service in several ways. I am beginning my third term as a senator at UMD. As chair of the Senate Educational Affairs Committee for two years, I understand how Senate committees function and have a good working relationship with Senate leadership and staff. I served on CUSF, gaining perspective on the impact of academic issues on the diverse campuses of the University of Maryland System. I am currently a Big 10 Academic Leadership Program Fellow, engaged in a year-long leadership development program with a cadre of 100 peers from our Academic Alliance partner universities. Through this experience I have been exposed to all facets of university administration, hearing from leaders at UMD and other Big 10 institutions, particularly on responding to crises and leading through change. Last year I participated in the UMD Academic Leadership Program led by incoming President Daryll Pines and Dean Bonnie Thornton Dill, getting a thorough grounding in issues and skills required for campus administration. I have served my School in administrative roles including Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Outreach (current), Architecture Program Director, and ADVANCE Professor. All of these positions have focused on the educational mission, provided insight into the concerns of faculty, staff, and students, and highlighted issues of equity and social justice. Through these roles, I have engaged in extensive campus service, currently representing our School at the Graduate School and Undergraduate Studies and serving on the Facilities Advisory Committee.

My teaching and research expertise in design thinking helps me bring together diverse teams to work collaboratively, making sure that all voices are heard in order to bring forth the broadest possible range of solutions to complex problems. If elected to the SEC, I will bring my teamwork expertise, foundational concern for diversity and inclusion, commitment to the educational mission, strong campus faculty and staff network, administrative skills, broad understanding of campus issues across the Big 10 universities, and years of Senate experience to this new role. I hope to have this opportunity to serve our campus community as we move towards an uncertain future together.

**J Carson Smith, Associate Professor, Kinesiology School of Public Health**

It is an honor to be nominated to serve on the Senate Executive Committee. I have been at UMD since 2011. I am the Director of the Exercise for Brain Health Laboratory, and have 2 NIH grants to

conduct an exercise clinical trial in older adults at increased risk for Alzheimer's disease, and to understand the role of physical activity on MRI and PET imaging biomarkers in older adults and in a mouse model of Alzheimer's disease. My research is highly inter-disciplinary, and this has prepared me to serve effectively on the Senate Executive Committee. My service to the UMD campus community has also included:

- Director, Cognitive Motor Neuroscience Laboratories, 2012-present
- Director, KNES Undergraduate Honors Program, 2015-2018
- IRB Liaison for KNES, 2014-present
- Chair, Undergraduate Awards and Scholarships Committee, 2016-present
- Member, KNES Graduate Committee, 2011-present
- Member, SPH Research Committee, 2015-present
- Member, KNES Executive Committee, 2012-2015
- Elected Member, NACS Executive Committee, 2015-2018

**Karol Soltan, Associate Professor, Government & Politics  
College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

I have been in and out of the Campus Senate multiple times, and I'm coming back next year, after a few years away.

There will be new issues on the agenda next year after the current crisis. But the best guide for your voting choice is likely to be what I think is important now.

I think this University, like many others, faces multiple risks due to the increased reliance on the internet in teaching (even assuming the current emergency will not lead to permanent changes on this front). For a number of years I served on the PCC committee in my college. We were asked to approve many new programs, leading to relatively new types of degrees, with courses mostly online, and with faculty mostly not among regular faculty. These were extremely difficult to evaluate, and approving them made me uneasy. At some point in the near future I believe the university should step back and seriously evaluate the existing programs of this kind, and the policies guiding the development of such programs. Departments propose them in part because they are a source of income, and that strikes me as a potentially dangerous set of incentives.

There are other potential sources of corruption contemporary American universities face, athletics being another obvious example. We should be very active and innovative in our efforts to defend against such threats.

Finally, during my multiple stints in the Senate I have been struck by the degree to which this body engages in rubber stamping decisions made elsewhere. Perhaps in the last years, when I was not a member, this has dramatically changed. But perhaps not. If not, I would support some institutional changes to increase the capacity of the Senate to act as an independent decision-making body.

**Uzi Vishkin, Professor, Institute for Advanced Computer Studies  
College of Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences**

I am honored to be considered for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC). I joined the UMD faculty in the late 1980s after serving on the faculty of Technion, New York University and Tel Aviv University, where I was also chair of the Computer Science department. I was accustomed to the



Israeli model, which (among other things) integrates shared governance (SG) through rotation of faculty and administrators at all levels. I soon learned that instead UMD incorporates SG into its checks and balances by augmenting its hierarchical model. Given that the UMD model appears to need constant nurturing, I will be glad to make my contribution as a way of giving back, if elected.

I have been a strong proponent of democracy, in general. However, I believe that pro-active faculty, as well as other members of the community, are even more important for research and higher learning institutions, such as UMD. I have demonstrated my commitment by many initiatives. All those noted next I undertook as a regular senior faculty at a time when I did not have any administrative title.

(i) Initiated and led the opening of double-major programs in CS. These programs enabled combining CS with any other major at Tel Aviv University (1986). Few years after it opened, nearly half of the CS undergraduates at TAU enrolled in this program. Top-ranked U.S. universities started similar programs only in the 2010s.

(ii) Initiated the opening of the EE undergraduate Honors program at UMD.

(iii) Initiated the original plans (in 1991-2) towards opening a Computer Engineering program at UMD (in 1997) as a double-major between Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

(iv) Led changing the name of the Electrical Engineering Department at UMD to Electrical and Computer Engineering.

(v) Led the complete modernization of the ECE core computer engineering graduate courses, including a course I introduced that allows an incoming ECE graduate student with little or no background in CS to enroll in most CS courses.

(vi) Led to installing an independent Computer Engineering program director at UMD.

(vii) Led the 2015 opening of a Computer Engineering Minor program by the ECE Department at UMD.

(viii) Led a sequence of joint UMD-NCI (National Cancer Institute) workshops, as part of the Year of Data Science, 2018—2019.

I am a computer engineering faculty member and permanent member of UMIACS, whose parallel algorithms and computer system research anticipated the transition of information technology (IT) to parallel computing two decades before it happened. If elected, I would welcome the opportunity to gain greater insights into the macro-operation of UMD; provide feedback to the UMD leadership on improving the competitiveness of UMD in computing and its contribution to industrial competitiveness of the State of Maryland on IT; and, advocate for the entire campus community, including faculty, staff and students.

### **Ellen D. Williams, Distinguished University Professor, Physics College of Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences**

I am honored to have been nominated to serve on the Senate Executive Committee. I came to the University of Maryland as a postdoctoral research associate, and deeply appreciate the opportunities the University provides for faculty to excel in teaching, research and service. We now face challenging times as the University, along with our society as a whole, approaches the peak of the COVID pandemic and prepares to develop a 'new normal' in its aftermath. If elected, I would do my best to represent the Senate on the Executive Committee and support the University in the grave decisions that will be made during the next few years.

During my professional career I have developed a collaborative way of working, and focused on interdisciplinary topics in research, teaching and service. For instance, as the Director of the

Interdisciplinary Chemical Physics Graduate Program, I supported graduate education spanning three colleges and multiple departments. I later established a NSF-supported Materials Research Science and Engineering Center, representing a similar breadth of disciplines in research, graduate education, and providing educational outreach to the local community.

I also spent several years on leave from the University, working both in the energy industry on sustainability issues, and on clean energy innovation at the Department of Energy as the Director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy. Since returning, I have worked with colleagues in the College of Engineering and the School of Public Policy to advocate for the impacts of university research and role-model behavior in advancing the use of clean energy.

The experience I have had within the University of Maryland and with external organizations has given me a great appreciation of the diversity of human talents that comes together in an effective organization. I would welcome the opportunity, if elected, to use my experience to support the campus community as a whole in sustaining and expanding the University's mission.

## **Candidacy Statements for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) 2020-2021 Election**

### **Exempt Staff Senator Nominees (One will be Elected)**

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#### **James Bond, Assistant Director, Office of Student Conduct Division of Student Affairs**

My name is James Bond and I would like your consideration and vote to represent the Exempt Staff members on the Senate Executive Committee. As an alum, and 15-year staff member with the Division of Student Affairs, I've seen the campus through many lenses. In my roll working with student conduct and academic integrity matters on a daily basis, I regularly interact with a students, faculty and staff. I find the work challenging, but fulfilling as the objective has always been to create a better academic community where all of its members thrive. I see no better place to help direct that change than on the Senate Executive Committee where agendas are set, and critical measures are taken to move our campus forward.

If selected, I would be returning to the SEC where I have enjoyed two years representing Exempt Staff in my previous term as a Senator. My past Senate experiences also include chairing the Staff Affairs Committee, as well as serving on the EDI committee and the Athletic Council. I think it is an exciting time to be on this committee given the state of our campus. How we as a Senate affect the transition of a new University President and work with our other senior leaders to recover from this sensitive state that we are in is something I would like to be a part of and for that reason, I would very much like your vote.

#### **Andrea Dragan, Manager, Office of Research Compliance Division of Research**

I am honored to be nominated for a seat on the University of Maryland Senate Executive Committee. During my time as a Staff Senator (2015- 18, 2019- present) and Chair of the Student Conduct Committee (2017-18, 2019- present), I have recognized the very significant role the SEC has in both selecting proposals that reach the floor at Senate meetings, as well as the overall guidance and direction they provide to the campus. The SEC is also the leading example of shared governance for our campus, representing the entire community, ensuring that all voices are equally represented. It is of the highest importance that the Exempt Staff representative on the SEC is committed to voicing the concerns of their constituency and are dedicated toward the continued growth of the university. In my role as IRB Manager within the Division of Research, I am in a unique position in that I work with staff across nearly all divisions and departments on campus, always striving to serve each in a way that best fits their needs. I will bring this idea of serving and representing diverse needs and fearless ideas to the SEC.

This coming year will be one of transition and change, as President-Designate Pines will be taking the helm and leading the University through a time of unprecedented administrative, fiscal, and emotional challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on campus are sure to be an ongoing concern that the campus as a whole, as well as the Senate, will have to carefully and mindfully navigate. It is imperative to have representatives with experience and dedication to the University, as well as a vision for the future to be involved in the SEC. It is my desire to carry on the efforts of the current SEC and devote my energy and talents toward the continued development of the University of Maryland as

a model for public universities across the world. It is with passion, enthusiasm, and Maryland pride that I request your vote to represent Exempt staff on the SEC.

## **Candidacy Statements for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) 2020-2021 Election**

### **Non-Exempt Staff Senator Nominees (One will be Elected)**

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#### **Jeanne M. Pekny, Program Administrative Specialist, Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute A. James Clark School of Engineering**

Jeanne began her work at the University of Maryland on September 1, 1998 as an Administrative Assistant II for Louis Robinson, then Director of Maryland Industrial Partnership (MIPS), a program of the Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute (Mtech). Her position at MIPS has evolved over the years, giving her more responsibilities and making it more challenging and rewarding as she met and spoke with prospective MIPS companies assisting them through the application process. Jeanne finds it so rewarding when a company that she helped is selected to receive an award and becomes a successful business. MIPS is a collaborate program which provides funding for research projects connecting Maryland companies with university faculty to develop technology-based products. The products and services that are developed under MIPS utilize faculty and students. Students especially learn research and development processes, develop their thesis and many ultimately find jobs and careers in these industries.

In addition to Jeanne's duties for MIPS, she is the Coordinator for the ASPIRE program where she receives and processes student applications and makes payments to their accounts once awards are finalized. ASPIRE was created by Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute (Mtech) and the A. James Clark School of Engineering to broaden the educational experience of undergraduate engineering students through direct involvement in real-world engineering projects. This is a unique opportunity for students to go beyond the classroom to expand their knowledge through collaboration with faculty and staff.

Currently Jeanne serves as a member of the Senate and the Sub-committee on Staff Affairs. Previously she has served on the Contract Negotiating Committee for AFSCME and now serves as the PDD Day Coordinator. By serving on these committees, Jeanne has helped change policies and procedures throughout the University community; thereby, making a difference in faculty, staff and students lives. She would love the opportunity to continue broadening her service by sitting on the Senate Executive Committee.

#### **Emily A. Spangler, Library Services Supervisor University Libraries**

Hello! My name is Emily Spangler and I am running for the Non-exempt staff Senate Executive Committee seat. I am a Library Services Supervisor in McKeldin Library, and have worked for the university for almost 4 years now. While this is my first experience running for a campus-wide committee, I have had plenty of experiences being on committees that affect change in the libraries, such as serving as a non-exempt staff representative on Library Assembly, as well as on the library's Staff Affairs Committee. I strongly believe in being involved in committees that affect change both department wide and campus wide because it is important to give every student, staff, and faculty member a voice in how change impacts their lives. This is often done through representation, and I enjoy representing the non-exempt staff group as best I can, through consistent communication and

listening to their input. Through this work, I have gained a better understanding how proposals would flow into the broader campus community and continuously improve the university.  
Thank you for your consideration!

# **Candidacy Statements for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) 2020-2021 Election**

## **Graduate Student Senator Nominees (Two will be Elected)**

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### **Nicole Catanzarite College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

During my recent appointment on the University Senate Elections, Representation, and Governance Committee, I actively reviewed and made recommendations regarding the Plan of Organization of multiple schools, colleges, and the libraries. This opportunity equipped me with a deep understanding of university structure that will support my ability to serve on the Senate Executive Committee in a knowledgeable and active capacity. My familiarity with university governance is further demonstrated by my service in Graduate Student Government as a program representative and member of the Rules Committee.

Further, I am deeply committed to representing and supporting the development of both graduate and undergraduate students on our campus. This is evidenced by my leadership on multiple committees within the Neuroscience and Cognitive Science program, as Vice President of the Human Development Graduate Student Organization, and as the advisor of an undergraduate student organization (Calisthenics Club). I am honored to have been nominated to serve on the Senate Executive Committee and look forward to contributing the perspective of my student colleagues to the challenges and decisions the committee is tasked with throughout the upcoming term.

### **Sarah Kilmer College of Education**

It is an honor to be nominated to serve on the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), which holds great importance for our university, and the University of Maryland governance. In the fall of 2020, I will be a fourth year Ph.D. student, and I feel uniquely qualified to serve on the SEC for several reasons. First, I have direct experience with higher education governance and leadership through my role as the director of communications for graduate student government while enrolled as a master's student at Arizona State University. I worked collaboratively with graduate students, university leadership and various faculty members, and achieved numerous positive outcomes for various constituencies while in this role. Second, my current dissertation research directly examines campus service and faculty gender dynamics, through investigating what role gender stereotypes and social roles play in faculty members taking on campus service work. As such, I have direct experience working collaboratively and effectively with university faculty members, as well as other higher education leaders. Finally, as a graduate student who has studied higher education for six years, and holds 10 years of professional higher education experience, I believe I have unique qualifications that can help the SEC be responsible for carrying into effect the actions of the Senate. I seek to have open, meaningful and clear dialogue, and listen carefully to my colleagues, while making collaborative contributions to the SEC.

**Han Kleman**  
**College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

It is a profound honor to be considered as a candidate for the Senate Executive Committee. I am delighted for the opportunity to support our University's mission at such a level. I recognize that the SEC has no small task in the upcoming year. The core functions of the SEC are to vet proposals, selects those that reach the Senate floor, and implements action steps. Importantly, the SEC is exceptionally positioned in the presidential transition. Further, the SEC's role has taken on greater importance with the COVID-19 pandemic. This pandemic has placed a myriad of challenges to our campus community, some of which have been encountered in the immediate and others that will continue to be revealing themselves. It is especially essential that the SEC works to continue supporting the well-being of our community and establishing a close relationship with President Pines in these difficult times.

At the University and College level, I have had the privilege to serve on the Senate, Graduate Student Government, Provost's Student Advisory Council, Dean's Graduate Student Advisory Council (BSOS), and Graduate Council. In my own department, Sociology, I have served on the Admissions Committee and brownbag lecture series. With each level of engagement comes the opportunity to be of service and to attentively act in a socially responsible manner. If elected to the SEC, I intend to devote my energy to serving and representing the campus community's needs.

**Emmanuel Wanjala**  
**College of Education**

Serving on the UMD Graduate Student planning committee and the Graduate Student Government at large has honed my leadership skills as well as provided me with an opportunity to learn while advocating for the interests of my fellow graduate students. I have been able to debate and vote on key legislation that touches on the wellbeing of graduate students. This position in addition to my previous professional endeavors have significantly equipped me with top-notch transformational as well as transferrable leadership skills that positions me as a strategic and excellent member of the SEC who will proactively advocate for the interests of my colleague graduate students while actively participating in shared governance

As an international student who has studied, lived and worked in both Kenya and the US, I am confident that my intercultural experience, as well as my global mindedness, will enrich the SEC with robust and diverse ideas. Moreover, my aptitude and attitude to advocate for social justice issues while serving on the SEC remain unwavering should my selection is approved.



## **Candidacy Statements for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) 2020-2021 Election**

### **Undergraduate Student Senator Nominees (Two will be Elected)**

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**Emily Berry**  
**College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

My name is Emily Berry and I am a rising senior Government and Politics and Economics double major in the College of Behavioral and Social Science. I have been greatly involved in governance at the University of Maryland since my freshman year, having held leadership positions in the Student Government Association, served as the president of the Residence Hall Association, and served a year in the Senate as an undergraduate representative for BSOS. Throughout my time, I have worked extensively to ensure that student voices are heard-- not only in student governance bodies but also by administrators. As the RHA representative on the Committee for the Review of Student Fees (CRSF), I advocated extensively for the reduction of the Department of Transportation Services and the Athletics Departments' mandatory and nonmandatory fees in RHA Senate, to Vice President of Administration and Finance Carlo Colella and Vice President of Student Affairs Patty Perillo, and in meetings with President Loh. As a result of this process, student governance bodies are now working actively with President Loh to make changes to the student fee process to enhance student voices in its decision-making process. As President of RHA this year, I passed resolutions calling for president-elect Dr. Pines to meaningfully engage with on-campus residents and condemning the university for their decision to remove funds from departments for their own strategic initiatives. As a BSOS Senator, I began projects outside of Senate to increase textbook affordability and to create new minors for BSOS majors to better meet the academic needs of our students.

I ran for University Senate because I am passionate about taking pragmatic steps to meet the concern that students have historically faced regarding the cost of college. The process of setting annual student fees is one of the few places where students have a voice in reducing their financial burden, but the university does not always uphold its duty to enhance the student voice. Through my work on CRSF this year, I experienced firsthand the extensive problems that students face in trying to balance their service needs with justifiable costs. Many departments do not follow the process that is required of them by 2012 Senate legislation, making it difficult for students to meaningfully engage in the process. Historic trends persist, like students advocating against the drastic annual increases in the DOTS fees only to be overturned by administration. I have gained a deep knowledge of the student fee process through the development of an extensive and transparent student fee report, and have identified the key changes that need to be made to keep the student voice alive in reducing their cost of attending this university. With the knowledge that I already bring to this policy area and the relationships that I have built with administrators, I would spend my time on the SEC working diligently to critically examine current processes—especially regarding student fees—while putting the voice of students at the forefront of our conversations. I am committed to making UMD a place where students have an equal voice and I hope to have the opportunity to do this in one of the key committees of the Senate. Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Duong Le**  
**School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation**

My name is Duong Le. I am a sophomore majoring in Architecture, minoring in Art History, and will be serving as the Maryland School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation Undergraduate Senate for the 2020-2021 term. The fundamental driving force to represent my constituent at the Senate level ties with what I, passionately and collaboratively, desire to shape the learning community. As the current Architecture Representative in the SGA, I reviewed over 400 student organizations' budget applications to ensure a transparent form of support from the legislature, as well as sponsoring funding for communication technologies for SGA. I co-sponsored the bill to push forward the Double A/A- policy which reflects student concerns during this unprecedented crisis time. From Fall 2019, I serve as an Undergraduate Representative in the Student Facilities Fund Committee which facilitates financial support for infrastructural projects on campus. Being one of them, the Solar Decathlon Middle East Competition encompasses students with multidisciplinary initiatives across colleges.

Into the year 2020 filled with uncertainty and anxiety surrounding the pandemic, I hope to set practical strategies to revitalize the campus dynamics. First, with sustainability issues happening both on the local and global scale, our university must take immediate tackle to reduce carbon emission rates with smart collaboration with facility management and sponsors. Second, with health and wellness, I advocate for campus accessibility with restrooms and classrooms being the top priority. Accessibility to healthcare plans for minority students is equally crucial in the process of promoting diversity and inclusiveness. Last but certainly not least, communications from the SEC to every student of all colleges need to be streamlined and manageable during any circumstances. I hope that these goals reinforce your long-term plan as a fearless Terp at UMD. I look forward to having your votes and ultimately, walking alongside you on this adventure. Thank you for this opportunity!

**Nadia Owusu**  
**College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

My name is Nadia Owusu, and I'm a junior Government and Politics major, Public Leadership minor. I would be honored to serve on the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) as it is a new day at the University of Maryland, College Park. This transitional period with incoming UMD President Dr. Darryll Pines holds immense potential to take our University to the next level. Dr. Pines has exclaimed that he wants to work to change the University culture and confront the declining minority enrollment... issues that I care deeply about. I am currently part of the Student Success Leadership Council which helps facilitate excellence among Black students through large-scale events and workshops. This experience has expanded my knowledge on what our minority students endure whether it be having to take semesters off because tuition cannot be paid or being discriminated against just walking around campus. I have been an Undergraduate Senator since 2019 being on the Campus Affairs Committee, Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Committee, as well as, the Nominations Committee. These experiences have taught me a great deal on how the Senate runs, how to create dialogue, and how to get things done. I have solidified solid relationships with fellow peers, faculty, and staff which gives me the resources to make equitable change on SEC.

Taking a role on SEC isn't about me, it's about all of us. It's about making equitable change for all students even after I've graduated and moved on. It's about giving the students who've been silenced a voice. It's about making sure our environment is conducive for all students to reach their fullest potential, so upon graduation, they are prepared to make waves in their varying fields and industries. My voice will echo real student concerns. I always have been—and I will continue—fighting for

students, regardless of identity. It is a new day at the University of Maryland, and I hope that you vote for me, Nadia Owusu, to be part of the revolution.

**Leah Williams**  
**Robert H. Smith School of Business**

In times like these, everything right now is uncertain. We are uncertain about when we will be able to leave our homes. We are uncertain about when we will return back to our school. We are uncertain about what the next day will bring and if these circumstances will improve. However, even in the midst of this uncertain time, the one thing you can be certain of, is no matter what obstacle, together we are we can overcome it. This is why I am running to represent the Students and the University Senate Committee on the Senate Executive Committee. I understand the work does not stop here, and even though we are at home, our voices need to be heard ten times louder than before. As a member of the Senate Executive Committee I will make sure that your ideas are heard and represented, regardless of our situation.

I have had ample experience with Executive Committees because of my internships with the Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg Philanthropies, and Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business where I was granted the opportunity to sit in on board meetings and pitch ideas that provided over 800 job opportunities for Baltimore City Youth. I believe I possess the drive, grit, and determination to ensure that no matter where I am, whether home or on the senate floor, your voices will be heard, remembered, and recognized. If there is one important lesson that the Covid-19 has taught me, it is that no matter what, we may be strong alone, but together, as family, we are stronger.

# Candidacy Statements for the Committee on Committees 2020-2021 Election

## **Faculty Senator Nominees (Four will be Elected)**

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### **Richard Lee Blanton Jr, Faculty Specialist, Engineering Information Technology A. James Clark School of Engineering**

I am honored to be asked to apply for service on the Senate Committee on Committees. This is my first term as a member of the University Senate, representing the Clark School of Engineering as a PTK Senator. I obtained my undergraduate degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park. I was fortunate enough to return to UMD to work as the Director of Technical Operations for the Clark School.

I know the Senate plays a critical role in the University's operations and I believe deeply that as a campus citizen, we each have an obligation and duty to contribute to the shared governance of this place we all love. As a member of the Committee on Committees, I look forward to helping my committee colleagues find candidates to fill vacancies while maintaining the University's goal of increasing inclusiveness and collaboration. Thank you for your time and consideration of my application.

### **Lucas Butler, Assistant Professor, Human Development & Quantitative Methodology College of Education**

Nothing is more important to the functioning of a University than its people. The Committee on Committees does an important job in facilitating the staffing of the Senate's true workhorses--the committees that examine and make recommendations on important issues facing the University. I am an Assistant Professor of Human Development in the College of Education, and have been a senator for two years. It has been fascinating to learn about the inner workings of the Senate, and it has become clear to me that the bulk of the true work comes long before we meet to discuss and vote. I would welcome the opportunity to contribute to forming those committees, and to learn more about the process.

### **Alison Flatau, Professor & Associate Chair, Aerospace Engineering A. James Clark School of Engineering**

Although I have been at the University for over 15 years, most of my service has been within my Department and College. This is my first year as a member of the University Senate. I look forward to the opportunity to work with others across campus in this position, while also learning more about the different Senate Committees and the range of their activities.

### **Sheila Lalwani, Lecturer, English College of Arts & Humanities**

I am honored to serve as a Senator for the University of Maryland Senate and view work on the Committee on Committees as a fantastic way to further the mission of this wonderful university. Shared governance is important and part and parcel of the inner workings of UMD. In this capacity, I

would seek to better understand why people are interested in service on committees and councils and how committees can be more effective. I am particularly interested in advancing diversity, equity and inclusion across all committees.

Your vote for me will ensure that Senate Committees are diverse, representative and meaningful experiences for all involved.

I am a lecturer in the Professional Writing Program through the Department of English, and I find this work deeply rewarding and meaningful. My courses on technical communication have advanced communication and writing skills to undergraduates in a variety of majors across the university. I have also taught journalism classes and have twice been nominated for university-wide awards for teaching and classroom instruction. Outside of the University of Maryland, I also lead a nonprofit and have more than a decade of experience serving in leadership roles and on committees at numerous institutions both in and outside of academia. I believe these experiences will give me a broad perspective in addressing the needs of the committee.

My undergraduate education at Indiana University was in journalism, and I spent years traveling around the world as a journalist. My graduate education was in Public Policy at Harvard University. I believe in quality teaching and mentoring students. I also believe that staff and instructors should have a supportive environment with colleagues who encourage and inspire. Those who have served and worked with me would tell you I am service-oriented, collegial, dedicated and committed to the university mission. I appreciate new ideas and am passionate about ways to engage and move forward. Your support enables me to bring my experience and dedication to the Senate Committee on Committees. Thank you for your consideration.

**Isabel Lloyd, Associate Professor, Materials Science & Engineering  
A. James Clark School of Engineering**

I am honored to be nominated to serve on the Senate Committee on Committees. I am a first-time senator but a long-time faculty member in Materials Science and Engineering. As a Keystone Professor in the A. James Clark School of Engineering's Keystone Program for first and second year engineering students and my department's Undergraduate Program Director, I have a strong interest in undergraduate education and advising. As a research active faculty member and as a member of the University of Maryland IT Council, I am also deeply interested in technology and graduate education. After serving in the Senate for a year and learning about its operation and goals, I feel that I can help the Senate to identify and recruit outstanding candidates to fill vacancies on Senate committees that represent all of the university constituencies. I appreciate the opportunity to serve my community in this role.

**David Mussington, Professor of the Practice  
School of Public Policy**

I am a professor of the practice and Director of the School of Public Policy's Center for Public Policy and Private Enterprise. I am honored to be nominated to serve on the Senate Committee on Committees. Since joining UMD in 2016 at the School of Public Policy, I have learned the value of engagement with skilled colleagues and students. Since arriving at the School I have seen first hand the value of trust and close working relationships with faculty and students - within the School and with other departments and centers across campus. I know that the best work engages

interdisciplinary communities across campus - integrating the disparate expertise of campus to achieve better outcomes for the institution as a whole. As a newly elected PTK senator I look forward to serving my constituency - and contributing to the governance of the university in a way that serves the best interests of the institution as a whole. I believe my candidacy for the Committee on Committees is a means to that end.

This is the approach I plan to bring in working with campus colleagues on the Committee on Committees. I am committed to finding common ground with fellow faculty members and other stakeholders in the University community. I am active on committees within the school of public policy, currently serving as faculty chair of our school assembly. As an experiment in collaborative staff - faculty governance, this assembly reinforces my belief that committee assignments matter, and that outcome based evaluation of committee and initiative performance can be executed in a rigorous yet human manner. That is what my approach will be to service on the Committee on Committees. Not only will I give my best efforts to achieve better performance, but as well I will seek common ground with those who have different perspectives to me, but also to uphold a common and inclusive vision of the university as a learning and growing community. A community with values and ethics worthy of our support.

**Peter Sunderland, Professor, Fire Protection Engineering  
A. James Clark School of Engineering**

I am pleased to be considered for a faculty seat on the Committee on Committees. As a faculty member of Fire Protection Engineering since 2004, I have a good network of people to call on in Engineering and across campus. I have been a senator since 2019 and I am deeply committed to the shared governance principles of the UMD Senate. If selected, I will do my best to recruit dedicated and diverse faculty, staff, and students to serve on Senate and University committees and councils.

## **Candidacy Statements for the Committee on Committees 2020-2021 Election**

### **Non-Exempt Staff Representative Nominees (One will be Elected)**

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#### **John Brown, University Police Officer IV, Department of Public Safety Division of Administration & Finance**

I am new to the University Senate and I am hoping to bring a different perspective to the Senate. I have spent about twenty years at the University starting as a student and have spent more than a decade as a Police Officer for the Campus. It is the job of the committee on committees to identify individuals of strong character to help serve on other committees and to assess the effectiveness of other committees. I believe my experiences with the University have made me a good judge of character and given me an ability to think critically about what is or isn't working properly. I would appreciate the opportunity to add my voice to this committee.

# Candidacy Statements for the Committee on Committees 2020-2021 Election

## Graduate Student Representative Nominees (One will be Elected)

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### **Sarah Kilmer** **College of Education**

It is an honor to be nominated to serve on the UMD Committee on Committees. This committee serves an important purpose for UMD and our university governance. In the fall of 2020, I will be a fourth year Ph.D. student, and I feel uniquely qualified to serve on this committee for several reasons. First, I have direct experience with higher education governance and leadership through my role as the director of communications for graduate student government while enrolled as a master's student at Arizona State University. I worked collaboratively with both graduate students, university leadership and various faculty members, and achieved numerous positive outcomes for various constituencies. Second, my current dissertation research directly examines campus service and faculty gender dynamics, through investigating what role gender stereotypes and social roles play in faculty members taking on campus service work, particularly committee work, like this. Finally, as a student who has studied higher education and university governance for six years, and holds 10 years of professional higher education experience, I believe I have unique qualifications that can help this committee achieve its stated purposes and create balanced committee memberships that represent a variety of colleges, disciplines, and constituencies.

### **Emmanuel Wanjala** **College of Education**

Having served on the UMD Graduate Student planning committee and the Graduate Student Government at large has honed my leadership skills as well as provided me with an opportunity to learn while advocating for the interests of my fellow graduate students. I have been able to debate and vote on key legislation that touches on the wellbeing of graduate students. This position in addition to my previous professional endeavors have significantly equipped me with top-notch transformational as well as transferrable leadership skills that positions me as a strategic and excellent member of the Committee on Committees who will proactively advocate for the interests of my colleague graduate students while actively participating in shared governance. As an international student who has studied, lived and worked in both Kenya and the US, I am confident that my intercultural experience, as well as my global mindedness, will enrich the Committee on Committees with robust and diverse ideas. Moreover, my determination to advocate for social justice issues while serving on the Committee on Committees will remain unwavering should my nomination be approved.



# Candidacy Statements for the Committee on Committees 2020-2021 Election

## Undergraduate Student Senator Nominees (One will be Elected)

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**Niels Brandon**  
**College of Letters & Sciences**

Feel like your voice isn't heard? Do you want to see change on campus? The. I am your guy. Don't just sit idly by as nothing get by, stand up and have your voice heard. I want to get things done and work towards a better tomorrow. Let's keep on going. Rock on!

**Danielle Tayco**  
**A. James Clark School of Engineering**

This will be my first year serving as a student senator and I am honored to have been granted the ability by my peers to serve the campus community. As a first-year senator I am excited to get involved and bring my own perspective. I am highly motivated and strongly believe that a strong sense of communication is the key to reaching goals. I work well in teams and believe that collaboration will bring the best results. My professional experiences taught me how to work with professionalism, responsibility, and respect. I have learned the value of serving others and how to work with a variety of different people. While I may be new to the University Senate, I have a variety of experiences that I will be able to use to bring to the table.

On campus, I am involved in a number of organizations. I am a board member for the Flexus Living and Learning Community and Vice President of the Denton Hall Council. In both of these positions I had the ability to serve these communities by promoting a better community. I am an active member of the Women in Engineering community, Sigma Kappa, and the Filipino Cultural Association. In addition to being involved in these organizations I am also a student employee here at the University of Maryland. These opportunities have enabled me to have a large breadth of experiences and knowledge of the campus community. To be elected to serve on the Committee on Committees will be a great opportunity to become more familiar with the Senate. I believe that as a senator I will be able to be a good representative of undergraduate students not only in the engineering school but also for the whole undergraduate community.

# Candidacy Statements for the University Athletic Council 2020-2021 Election

## **Faculty Representative Nominees (Three will be Elected)**

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### **Manik Bali, Senior Faculty Specialist, Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center College of Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences**

I am running for the Athletic Council. I believe my experience as a senator, a sportsman and nearly a decade of service to UMD will strongly benefit the workings of the Committee and provide an open and inclusive link to our community and Campus life.

I have been a part of University campuses across Asia, Europe and the US, played sports (even to extent of sports articles on me in German press) and worked closely to create opportunities for students and faculty within and outside the university campuses.

From my experience, I have learnt that a good combination of sports/athletics and coursework results in an all round development of qualities such as fitness, personality, teamwork and knowledge in students which helps them make crucial contribution to society in their lifetimes even after they leave the university.

If selected to serve on the Athletic Council, I would bring to the table ideas that can help athletics become easily accessible to students (through matching classwork Vs Athletics schedules and meeting costs for Athletics activities). I can work hard to maintain and promote an open and inclusive link to our community for a safe and productive Campus environment. I would be looking forward to helping carry out the Senate actions, reviewing current and new proposals and ideas for the Senate.

### **Bradley Hatfield, Professor & Chair, Kinesiology School of Public Health**

I truly appreciate the possibility to serve on the Athletic Council. I am currently Professor and Chair in the Department of Kinesiology, which is located within the School of Public Health (SPH), and have served on the faculty of the University of Maryland for 38 years. I believe that current developments at our University, specifically the recent MPower initiative entitled the Center for Brain Health and Human Performance, promises innovative partnerships between many of our academic units, the School of Medicine and the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics (ICA). This initiative is proceeding robustly, as evidenced by the Cole Field House renovation and construction project, and has the potential to contribute in profound ways to the well-being and the performance enhancement of our student athletes. The benefits will extend in exciting ways to a number of constituencies on the campus (i.e., scientific research opportunities for students and faculty) and in the community (i.e., services of wellness promotion provided to children, men and women of all ages, to first responders and the military). This outstanding project (scheduled to open in late 2021) provides a critical catalyst to promote collaboration between several units ranging from SPH, the Clark School of Engineering, the campus-wide Brain and Behavior Initiative, the College of Arts and Humanities and ICA as well as others in a historic way. For example, the teaming of scientists, philosophers, engineers, physician-scientists and athletic coaches all “under one roof” offers multiple perspectives to examine the impact of sleep, exercise and nutrition on mental and physical health, quality of life, development and recovery from brain and orthopaedic injury. I believe the Cole Field House project, and the associated MPower initiative, holds the potential to provide a remarkable model for the nation. A model that

brings the academic and athletic elements of the campus together like never before and promotes an environment that truly serves the very best interests of the student athletes and the broad interests of the University in scholarship and service.

As a Professor of Kinesiology, I have spent my entire academic and professional career studying the impact of physical activity on health and human performance, along with experience in athletics ranging from the high school to the professional levels, and I have advocated broadly for many years on the promise of this partnership. I have served on the Athletic Council in the past and I know that membership enables “a voice at the table” to further contribute to the vision described above. This is truly a critical time to advance this promising initiative and I believe that the privilege of membership on the Athletic Council will serve the interests of student-athletes, students, faculty members and ICA staff in a beneficial and significant way.

**Pamela Lanford, Assistant Research Professor, Office of Research Compliance  
Division of Research**

Over the last 20 years, and through the various courses I have taught in the biological sciences, I have interacted with a relatively large number of student athletes, and I have grown to respect and admire them and the dedication they have for their careers here at UMD. Through the University Senate, and specifically last year as Chair-Elect, I have been deeply involved in the issues surrounding the tragic death of one of our student athletes, Jordan McNair, as well as the numerous steps that have been or are being taken to ensure the health and welfare of all of our athletes going forward. For these reasons and others, I ask to be considered for membership on the Athletic Council, - so that I may follow up on the recommendations made by the Senate last year, and to provide whatever support I might toward the experiences and, ultimately the success, of all who participate in our athletic program.

**Robin Pike, Librarian III  
University Libraries**

I have worked at the University of Maryland for 8 years, managing operations to digitize Libraries collections and put materials online. In my work, I manage large-scale projects with interrelated dependancies and a lot of stakeholders. I realize the effort it takes to collaborate toward a unified goal, on a timeline that works for everyone, and within a dedicated budget.

I have also played an active role in shared governance in the Libraries and University, with five years on the Libraries Committee on Committees, with three years as chair; a term as Chair of Library Assembly; and five years on the Library Assembly Advisory Council (equivalent to the Senate Executive Committee). I have also served a two-year term on the Senate Academic Procedures and Standards Committee and a one-year vacancy term as Senator. In all of these roles, I have learned the importance of researching policies and practices, listening, condensing opinions and needs, and finding a compromise.

I believe that one thing we should not be compromising on is the well-being of our student athletes. As a runner with underlying health conditions, I have learned when to push myself to increase performance and when to take a step back at risk of causing serious injury. I believe that wellness goes beyond practice and includes training and cross-training, nutrition, rest, and alleviating personal stress. Athletes who perform best have a balanced regimen.

The university athletics program faces a new reality due to the coronavirus. I want to ensure that we take the right steps in protecting our athletes, including through the point at which a solution to the virus is created and distributed.

I would be honored to serve on the University Athletic Council. Thank you for your consideration.

**Yunfen Zhang, Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering  
A. James Clark School of Engineering**

I am honored to be nominated to serve on the University Athletic Council. I have been a faculty member in the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at UMD since 2008. I have been participating in the shared governance as a Senate member for the past three years and have served on the Educational Affairs Committee for two years. I believe my experience on various committees and unique background make me a good candidate to contribute my policy input to the University Athletic Council and help the University to develop the best collegiate athletic program by empowering student athletes and promoting diversity and inclusion.

My academic training and teaching experience in engineering has offered me precious opportunities to look at athletic policies from a unique view angle of inclusion and diversity. As a faculty member in engineering, I found student-athletes in my classes are typically some of the most hardworking and self-disciplined students with highest goal of their career development and I have enjoyed to work with them in their academic development and personal need accommodation. However, I feel there are still more things left to done in addressing the special needs of student-athletes, encouraging more participation from minority and under-represented groups, and promoting clear communication of student-athletes' concerns. This can be done by serving in the Athletic Council and developing and monitoring the implementation of policy matters affecting the intercollegiate athletics program. Thank you for considering my candidacy.

**Jo Zimmerman, Senior Lecturer, Kinesiology  
School of Public Health**

I am completing my 3-year term as a PTK Senator representing Kinesiology and the School of Public Health, and I have found the Senate work interesting and informative. I've had past experience with the Staff Affairs Committee and their Awards Subcommittee, and several committee memberships and chair-ships in my home department and within my school. This year I had the additional honor to Chair the Campus Affairs Committee and serve as Ex-Officio on the Campus Transportation Affairs Committee and the Athletic Council. It is this last position that I'm interested to continue in a standard membership role.

I feel that the School of Public Health in general and Kinesiology in particular should always be represented on the Athletic Council. Not only do we share proximity on our campus, we also share facilities for classes, internships, and programs, so KNES has a vested interest in Athletics. We also share a substantial number of students as athletes, interns, volunteers, employees, and alumni. That said, I am first and foremost an educator, and my alignment with the stated mission of our University is in contrast with certain aspects of collegiate athletics overall, including within our own Athletics programs. I see the Athletics Council as an explicit collaboration to negotiate between the advocacy for and accountability of Athletics to our University's mission. The Athletic Council's members

maintain a system of healthy checks and balances, so that the benefits of a strong Athletic Department are put to best use, and any drawbacks are addressed to minimize negative impact on student-athletes and all other campus constituencies and beyond.

I am a senior lecturer in the Department of Kinesiology, and the Physical Activity Program Director. I earned my undergraduate and master's degrees from George Mason University, and have held the ACSM Certified Exercise Physiologist (formerly known as ACSM Health Fitness Specialist) certification since 1996, the NSPA Strength and Conditioning Specialist credential since 2001, and the ACSM Exercise is Medicine credential since 2012. I have been working in the health and fitness industry for nearly 30 years and university-level teaching for over 24 years. My research interests are focused on the effects of physical activity and exercise on brain function in apparently healthy adults. By measuring behavior along with functional brain imaging we can strengthen the evidence that supports keeping active throughout the lifespan.

# Candidacy Statements for the University Athletic Council 2020-2021 Election

## **Staff Representative Nominees (One will be Elected)**

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### **Ben Prescott, Assistant Director, Dean's Office School of Public Health**

When I first arrived at the University of Maryland in 2004, I was a freshman undergraduate student full of optimism but completely clueless about what I wanted to study, let alone my professional ambitions. Thankfully, I quickly found myself at home with the Gymkana Troupe, which introduced me to the kinesiology program in the College of Health and Human Performance (becoming the School of Public Health during my senior year). Having a lifelong appreciation for sport, this was the perfect fit for me.

After graduating from the University of Maryland, my focus turned to fitness and sports conditioning. I became a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist, a Certified Personal Trainer, and earned a Master of Science degree in exercise science with a concentration in performance enhancement and injury prevention. I owned a fitness and sports conditioning business, while maintaining my connection with the University through Gymkana as an assistant coach.

When I accepted the position as Gymkana's assistant director and returned to the University in a full-time position, I was excited to dedicate my full attention to working with our University students. I believe that as a coach, it is my responsibility to teach lessons and values beyond our sport. Among others, the values of leadership and integrity are central themes in our program, as they should be in any successful organization. I am committed to my role in developing our students through coaching and mentorship, while furthering the public health cause of inspiring healthy lifestyles. If elected to the Athletic Council, it would be my honor to serve and provide insights from my experiences in the hopes of ensuring the success and safety of our student-athletes.

### **Nicole Jackson, Assistant Director, Criminology & Criminal Justice College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

I am honored to be considered for the University Athletic Council. I have been a part of the University of Maryland (UMD) family since 2007, when I started as a graduate assistant advisor in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences Advising office. Currently, I am the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice (CCJS), where I have worked for the past 11 years. Through my role in CCJS, I have had the opportunity to work with a wide variety of people within the athletic community, including coaches, athletic advisors, student athletes, returning student athletes, and prospective student athletes. I have worked with students of various sports, from multiple countries of origin, and of different academic abilities, goals, and interest. As a part of this work, I advised student athletes on their course selections and spoken with athletic advisors to ensure students athletes were meeting NCAA policy guidelines. Additionally, I have met with coaches and prospective student athletes informing them about the CCJS major and UMD as a whole.

Through working with student athletes, I have come to understand the unique role that they play at the University. Student athletes are very diverse and can have needs that go beyond your basic college student. One of the most fulfilling moments I had as an advisor was working with a retuning

student athlete. The student played football for UMD, was drafted before finishing his degree, and played in the NFL for several years. Upon retirement, he wanted to complete his CCJS degree here at UMD, but faced the challenges of being out of school for a long period of time and having to provide for his young family. Through hard work and creativity, he graduated with his CCJS degree in less than a year. Now he is pursuing his dream job of broadcasting. It is cases like this, that really make my job feel meaningful.

If I were given the opportunity to serve on the athletic council, it would be my goal to see that UMD creates an academic environment where student athletes can thrive both on the field and in the classroom. From my experience, I know that working with the student athlete population takes cross-collaboration across units. I am prepared to enter this position with an open mind, a student-centered focus, and the desire to work across units to make the optimal student-athlete experience.

**Carlton E. Green, Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion  
Office of the President**

It is a privilege to submit this statement to be considered for a role on the University Athletic Council. I have been affiliated with the University of Maryland since 2011. For the past two years, I have served as the Director of Diversity Training & Education in the Office of Diversity & Inclusion. Prior to taking on this role, I worked in the University Counseling Center as both a doctoral intern and a staff psychologist.

For the past 30 years, I have been in higher education as a student or a staff person. I have worked with student athletes as an academic or mental health counselor at multiple institutions, and my relationships with student athletes have taught me much about intercollegiate athletics. During both my undergraduate and graduate studies, I supported student-athletes who were reaching for both athletic and academic dreams. It was a rewarding challenge to collaborate with students in their pursuits, while also advocating for policies and programs that were responsive to their needs. Those early experiences contributed to my understanding of how systems and social power work. As an administrator with a psychology background, I hope to contribute a systems-level analysis to the Council so that we can continue to address challenges faced by the Athletic Department and provide counsel to President-select Pines in his transition to his new role. From continuing to monitor the climate following the death of Jordan McNair to addressing post-coronavirus initiatives for student-athletes to recommending equity initiatives to ensuring the Institution's academic integrity, I believe that I can bring a unique voice to the Council. It would be my privilege to serve the University in this capacity.

# **Candidacy Statements for the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF) 2020-2021 Election**

## **Faculty Representative Nominees (Three Full-Time Reps, One Alternate Rep will be Elected)**

### **Debabrata Biswas, Associate Professor, Animal & Avian Sciences College of Agriculture & Natural Resources**

It is an honor to be nominated for a position on the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF) by Dr. Pamela Lanford, Senate Chair and Laura Dugan, Senate Chair-Elect. My experience offers a unique experience as I have transitioned from student in both developing and developed countries to faculty member at the UMD through several postdoctoral and research faculty trainings in Japan, Canada and US.

My active participation in various committees at the UMD community including University of Maryland President Hiring Committee, Gemstone Director Hiring Committee, Senate, and Faculty Affair Committee have provided a perspective forged from developing and executing strategies to see positive change become a reality and its role in improving diversity, efficiency and directing to upwards. Thus, I believe I would be a valuable asset to the CUSF and this opportunity will allow me to get engaged and work with the UMD community and University System of Maryland (USM).

### **Rachel Gammons, Librarian III University Libraries**

Thank you for considering me for a position on the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF). This council represents the interests and faculty voices of UMD to the University of Maryland System, Chancellor, and Board of Regents. In the past, CUSF has advised on issues ranging from faculty salaries to student learning outcomes assessment. Although librarians hold faculty rank at all twelve of the USM institutions, there are no librarians currently serving on the CUSF, from any of these institutions. I would welcome the opportunity to not only ensure that our campus community is strongly represented within these USM discussions, but also bring the perspective of librarian faculty, who are lacking representation at the system level.

The mission of the CUSF is to “strengthen higher education through shared governance,” which is a commitment I have modeled in my own practice. I have been a member of the UMD faculty since 2014, when I was appointed as a Librarian II in the UMD Libraries. I am currently a Librarian III (equivalent to the rank of Associate Professor) and serve as Head of Teaching and Learning within the Libraries. In my tenure at UMD, I have held multiple positions in shared governance in the college level, including serving two terms on the Libraries’ Nominations, Elections, and Voting Procedures Committee (2015 – 2019). I have been active in the University Senate, serving as a faculty senator (2016 – 2020), faculty representative on the Equity Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Committee (2018-2019) and chair of the EDI committee (2019 – Present). As chair of EDI, I have shepherded important policies, including review of Interim Sexual Misconduct Policy, Policy on Threatening and Intimidating Conduct and Policy on Inclusive Communication. I have also been active across campus serving on the Teaching and Learning Transformation Advisory Board (2016 – Present), Provost’s Commission on Learning Outcomes Assessment (2014 – 2019), University Career Center Advisory Group (2020), and Learning Technologies Working Group (2018 – Present).



These are pivotal times in higher education. The UMD campus is, and will continue to be, impacted by system level decisions that range from financial to infrastructure improvements. It is essential that UMD faculty have strong representation at this level and it would be my honor to contribute to this work. If elected, I will use my platform to represent this campus and its faculty to the Chancellor and Board of Regents. Thank you for your vote!

**Robert S. Gold, Professor & Chair, Behavioral & Community Health  
School of Public Health**

Since 1986 I've had the good fortune to serve several different academic units at the University of Maryland and at several levels of responsibility. I am currently Professor and Chair, Department of Behavioral and Community Health, in the School of Public Health. I was the founding Dean of the School of Public Health, and former Chair of the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, also in SPH. I also serve currently as the Director of Educational Innovation for SPH.

In my tenure here I've had extensive interaction with other institutions in the system including University of Maryland, Baltimore School of Medicine (as the first University of Maryland Professor), as well as Morgan State University and Coppin State University as a member of the Maryland Sullivan Alliance (a subsidiary of a national organization, The Sullivan Alliance created to increase the number of underrepresented minority and other populations in the health sector. It is my hope to be able to serve the University and the System once more in this position.

**Pamela Lanford, Assistant Research Professor, Office of Research Compliance  
Division of Research**

As we move into a new area with both a new Chancellor and a new University President, I believe it is critically important to ensure that UMD is well-represented at the System level, and to build a positive and productive relationship between our campus and the Chancellor, as well as with the rest of the UM System Institutions. I respectfully request that I be considered for membership on the Council of University System Faculty, so that I may engage in the process of building those relationships and to provide important perspectives from the College Park campus.

**Robin Pike, Librarian III  
University Libraries**

I have worked at the University of Maryland for 8 years, managing operations to digitize Libraries collections and put materials online. In my work, I manage large-scale projects with interrelated dependancies and a lot of stakeholders.

I have also played an active role in shared governance in the Libraries and University, with five years on the Libraries Committee on Committees, with three years as chair; a term as Chair of Library Assembly; and five years on the Library Assembly Advisory Council (equivalent to the Senate Executive Committee). I have also served a two-year term on the Senate Academic Procedures and Standards Committee and a one-year vacancy term as Senator. In all of these roles, I have learned the importance of researching policies and practices, listening, condensing opinions and needs.

I am interested in serving on the Council of University System Faculty because I am committed to education policy and carrying out programs that facilitate education. As a unit manager, former Library Assembly Chair, and Senator, I have made communication of policy revision an important part of my tenure; my constituents are well-informed. Despite technological advances, we have seen unequal success with distance learning, during the recent need to go 100% online; this could be a future direction that the Council addresses, particularly because in my work, I have heard that universities across USM have faced different challenges with their faculty and student populations.

Thank you for your consideration to the Council of University System Faculty. I would be honored to serve.

**Stephen B. Thomas, Professor & Director, Health Policy and Management  
School of Public Health**

I am humbled to be considered for a position on the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF). I must admit, I had no idea such a role existed, and I previously had no aspiration to participate at such a high level of faculty governance. However, the 2017 murder of Lt. Collins and the 2018 death of Jordan McNair followed by the pain and grief that overtook our campus was my wake-up call. These events catapulted UMD College Park into a national spotlight and accept it or not, we TERPS became the case study for crisis management, faculty governance and the importance of upholding the core values of our land grant mission. I participated in many meetings and brainstorm sessions with faculty, students and staff. I came away from the experience with the realization that I may actually have an opportunity to make a meaningful difference in shaping the future of our campus and the relationship between UMD College Park and the University System of Maryland. If I am so honored to be elected to this position, I give you my pledge to listen, learn and take action in the best interest of our TERP family.

Let me share with you how deep my roots extend to UMD College Park. In 1986, I joined the tenure track faculty in the Department of Health Education (now Behavioral and Community Health) as an Assistant Professor. In 1987, I co-founded (with Dr. Robert S. Gold), the UMD Minority Health Research Laboratory, we believe UMD was the first university to establish such a research infrastructure. In 1992, I was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. In 1993, I was recruited away from UMD to join the faculty at the Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University in Atlanta, as Associate Professor of Behavioral and Community Health and Founding Director of the Institute for Minority Health Research. In 2000, I was recruited to the Graduate School of Public Health (GSPH) at the University of Pittsburgh as the Inaugural Philip Hallen Professor of Community Health and Social Justice and Director of the Center for Minority Health. Over the next decade, I established an NIH funded multi-million-dollar academic research enterprise focused on eliminating racial and ethnic health disparities. The field of minority health evolved to focus on health disparities and today it is an established field of study and career path in health equity. It was during this period that I was successful in recruiting women and minority faculty to the Univ. of Pittsburgh as tenure track faculty and Associate Directors in the Center for Minority Health.

In 2009, I received a phone call from Dr. Robert S. Gold, Founding Dean, UMD School of Public Health. He was calling to determine my interest in helping to build a new school of public health and I responded in the affirmative. Then I told him there were five of us. He consulted with the Provost; the rest is history. In May 2010, a reception and news conference was held to announce the largest cluster hired in UMD history and the UMD Center for Health Equity was launched. The arc of my

career brings me back to UMD with all of the lessons learned at two major schools of public health (Emory and UPITT).

I believe these experiences have prepared me to serve on the Council of University System Faculty. I am well aware that UMD is the largest of the 12 Institutions that make up the University System of Maryland. The System and the Chancellor have the ability to make decisions and set general policies that directly affect our campus. These include issues as varied as capital improvements, policies on academic freedom, as well as the UMD-UMB Empower Initiative. I have had two “tours of duty” as a member of University of Maryland community 1986-1991 and 2000-present. I have solid ties to state government. For example, I was appointed to the Maryland Commission on Health Care by Governor O’Malley and reappointed for a full-term by Governor Hogan. I serve on an advisory board in the School of Social Work at the University of Maryland Baltimore and was awarded an M-Power research award with UMB partners in the School of Pharmacy. I also served, with Dr. Reese, UMB School of Medicine dean, on a statewide task force focused on addressing racial and ethnic health disparities. This work resulted in the Maryland Health Improvement and Disparities Act of 2014. In 2017, the state passed legislation to establish the University of Maryland, School of Public Health, Center for Health Equity Health in All Policies ACT.

Finally, as a resident of Prince George’s County, I was elected as Vice President of the Yarrow Neighborhood Association and I serve on the board of College Park Academy. Over the past decade, I have served on the Big10 Transition Committee, Presidential Awards Committee, UMD APT Committee, Chair of the UMD Senate-Provost Task Force on Faculty Diversity and member of several search committees including, but not limited to the committees for the Vice President for Research, Dean, School of Public Health, Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and the 2019 search for the new President for UMD College Park. Additionally, I serve on the Presidential Transition Committee and represented UMD on the Big10 Academic Alliance Health Equity Initiative. I am confident in my ability to vigorously represent UMD in deliberations with the System.

**Candidacy Statements for the Campus Transportation  
Advisory Committee (CTAC)  
2020-2021 Election**

**Faculty Representative Nominees (One will be Elected)**

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**William Douglass Dorland, Professor, Physics  
College of Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences**

I am honored to stand for election to the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee. There are many ongoing transportation policy challenges and opportunities on our campus, including the purple line, road and sidewalk use, parking, and more. Everyone has a stake in the decisions and outcomes. I am committed to helping to find solutions and also to working in real time, to try to keep up with new challenges and prevent them from becoming critical issues.

I have been a member of the UMD community for 22 years, first as research staff and later as a professor and mid-level administrator. I have helped to raise and manage tens of millions of dollars for the university, both for research and for undergraduate programs. As a corollary, I have some hard-earned insights into how campus governance processes work. As a result of necessary but very aggressive cancer treatments, I walk with crutches. I have a keen sense of the challenges faced by mobility-impaired members of our community, and would work to be sure those challenges are not overlooked.

**Derek A. Paley, Professor, Aerospace Engineering  
A. James Clark School of Engineering**

I am honored to be a candidate for the 2020-2021 Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) election. I currently serve as Director of the Maryland Robotics Center and Willis H. Young Jr. Professor of Aerospace Engineering Education in the A. James Clark School of Engineering. Although I have been on the faculty at UMD College Park since 2007 and have served previously on the University Senate, my interest in transportation developed recently. For the past three years, I have been an avid rider of a unicycle-style electric scooter, which zooms me around campus a lot faster than walking. A year ago, I joined the DOTS Bicycle Infrastructure Implementation Committee in order to track the progress of a shared e-scooter and e-bike pilot program with VeoRide. Subsequently, I received a seed grant from the Maryland Transportation Institute, called Research in Electric Scooter Mobility (RESUME), which seeks to create a data-driven modeling framework for electric-powered mobility in urban and campus environments to aid in policy-making decisions. My research applies tools from engineering dynamics and control, human motor control, and transportation big data to quantitatively assess the benefits to personal mobility and risks to public safety posed by electric-powered transportation devices under current and future regulations. As part of this grant, I am using DOTS vehicle traffic data to better understand and reduce campus congestion patterns.

Both personal and shared scooters and bikes (electric or pedal) are an important component of a sustainable, accessible campus transportation system, but they must be operated safely and with appropriate guidelines. Furthermore, the development associated with the Purple Line will bring changes and opportunities to the patterns of movement in College Park. New expectations for social distancing in the aftermath of the coronavirus pandemic may disrupt traditional approaches to public transportation and put increasing emphasis on alternatives like scooters and bikes. As a member of CTAC, I will work to ensure that efficiency, sustainability, accessibility, and safety are priorities for the College Park community, which can lead the way for other campuses in the region and the country.

**Candidacy Statements for the Campus Transportation  
Advisory Committee (CTAC)  
2020-2021 Election**

**Exempt Staff Representative Nominees (One will be Elected)**

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**Gene Ferrick, Director, Dean's Office  
College of Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences**

I have a passion for the University's success and maintaining a high quality of life for our campus community. My network of colleagues includes faculty, staff and students who can offer guidance concerning all kinds of issues. I have 40 years of association with UMD including my start as a student. Over the years my work has ranged from operations management to student support to policy review to data analysis. I have advised and taught students; evaluated programs and courses; and backpacked in the woods with new students.

As a candidate for a seat on the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee I think it is most important for you to know that I have commuted to campus over these many years mostly by car but have also walked, biked, and used the Campus shuttle (until it was cancelled). With the continued development on and off campus we must have a thorough plan for transportation. I want to help insure that all commuters – staff, students, and faculty can get to campus safely and timely.

**Judi Cohn Gorski, Director of Administrative Services, Institute for Research in Electronics and Applied Physics (IREAP)  
College of Computer, Mathematical & Natural Sciences**

I have been a past member of CTAC as the Staff Affairs Committee representative on the CTAC for AY17 & 18 as well as a member of the Transportation Access Management Advisory Committee (TAMAC) the campus commissioned to do a transportation study of the campus for AY19-20. The campus transportation options are at a critical tipping point. Transportation needs, options and access to the campus is in the midst of a transformation with the upcoming Purple line, changing housing and businesses around the campus, options for transport around the campus and the parking for students, staff and faculty. Many different groups, students, faculty, staff and vendors (i.e., AirGas, food vendors (dining services), UPS/Fedex) have competing needs. I believe my experience and perspective working with these different groups as well as my past participation in CTAC and the TAMAC will benefit CTAC at this pivotal time advocating for thoughtful change when needed, support of our infrastructure and most importantly providing needed transportation options for our community within our limited fiscal resources.

**Candidacy Statements for the Campus Transportation  
Advisory Committee (CTAC)  
2020-2021 Election**

**Non-Exempt Staff Representative Nominees (One will be Elected)**

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**Anthony Harmon, Office Supervisor III, Transportation Services  
Division of Administration & Finance**

I am deeply honored to be considered for the position of Non-Exempt Representative for the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee of the University Senate. While this will be my first term serving as a University Senator, I am humbled to be considered for a position on this extremely important committee of the University Senate.

I came to the University in November 2016, just days after our last Presidential Election. Upon beginning my employment here, I witnessed how that election created a change of tone away from a historically progressive trend of Hope and Change. The resulting polarization of our nation has invaded and been felt on this campus every single day that I have been working here. My desire to combat this insidiously negative atmosphere, inspired me get involved in the governance of this University, starting with this particular method of service.

Serving on the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee may not seemingly have a direct effect on changing this unfortunate campus atmosphere. However, representing the Non-Exempt staff in the matters that come before this committee, in a way that promotes diversity, inclusion, fairness, compassion, justice, and ultimately the mantra of Hope & Change will add to the efforts to change this University for the better.

As the new University Senate is assembled at the same time that our new President takes office, we have a very unique and wonderful opportunity to continue the efforts to strive to create the diverse, inclusive, fair, compassionate, and just University that will not only better benefit the students, faculty and staff, but will also change the larger community and perhaps even our nation and the world.

Should I be elected to this key role in the governance of the University Transportation Administration, I will work tirelessly to not only bring about the best results for Transportation and Parking for the University, but I will work to insure that each decision regarding these issues is made with the greater good of the entire University Community as the primary goal.

Since joining the University and the Department of Transportation Services in 2016, I have witness some extremely unfortunate and inappropriate practices, both in DOTS as well as in other departments throughout the University. I promise to not allow those practices to continue without being brought to light and dealt with according by this body and the University as a whole. I vow to represent ALL members of the Non-Exempt staff and the entire University overall.

While I am just becoming active in pursue of this goal, I have accomplish the following, both in my time here as while as throughout my career.

From December 2016 – 2018, while working as a Special Events Supervisor for the Department of Transportation Services, I pursued and obtained my Masters of Business Administration. I am currently pursuing my Masters of Human Resources Management, which I anticipate receiving in Spring of 2021.

Before coming to the University, I practiced for 17 years as an attorney who dealt with cases involving labor law and labor relations. I have initiated and defended numerous cases, representing both plaintiffs and the defendants. I have provided backup support in Labor and Employee Relations, compensation, benefits, employment verification, or other areas of Human Resources for the Department.

In addition to this, I have two Bachelors Degrees in Political Science and History, and I have a Juris Doctor from Howard University.

During my current studies, I have been educated on, and exposed to many of the governing principles of Legal Ethics in Business, Human Resources, and Equal Employment Opportunity practices.

I have worked with Discrimination based complaints in Labor and Civil law in 17 years of Private Practice. Additionally, I have worked with Discrimination based complaints in the University Environment with the Risk, Estate and Asset Management Department at Howard University.

I have also handled and gained experience investigating cases under federal and state equal opportunity and non-discrimination laws and regulation, including, but not limited to Title VI, Title VII, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

My TRUE desire is to work to make the University a better place for the entire community, helping others and this University achieve the mission of preserving the integrity of the University. I wish to solidify that same integrity of the University while defending the rights of the Students, Staff and Faculty working therein.

Thank you for the opportunity and for your consideration.

**HuyenTran Nguyen, Library Services Specialist  
University Libraries**

My name is HuyenTran Nguyen and I am honored to be selected for the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC). Over 16 years working full time at University of Maryland as Library contractor to a Library Technician, and to an End Processing Specialist/Library Services Specialist, I have gone through several challenges in different work environments. I have joined in some committees such as, Catholic Association, Campus Affairs Committee, Library Assembly Committee, Library Staffs Award Committee, and Maryland Day events. I have learned different serving roles that promoted my knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA) in a better serving for diversity communities. And, I have achieved my work goals.

Currently, I keep taking a part time studying to pursue a Master degree in Cybersecurity field after I completed my Bachelors of Science on May 2017 at University of Maryland University College. I also hold an Associate of Art degree in Medical Record Technology in 2002 at Montgomery College. I hope that I am able to continue to contribute all my KSA for University of Maryland Campuses, especially during this crisis year.

**Candidacy Statements for the Campus Transportation  
Advisory Committee (CTAC)  
2020-2021 Election**

**Undergraduate Student Senator Nominees (One will be Elected)**

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**James Hanmer**  
**College of Arts & Humanities**

The value of convenient and cost-effective transportation to and from and about campus is inestimable. The benefits enjoyed by a student whose commute time is halved by the University of Maryland Shuttle Service, for example, are not limited to this savings in time, although the value of this benefit alone is significant. Rather, easy transportation means less stress, less distractions, and therefore an ability to devote more of one's energy, both mental and physical, to what is really important, namely, a student's or employee's intellectual or vocational pursuits at the University of Maryland.

Since expedient transportation confers unto its users such benefits, it stands to reason that the University of Maryland should expedite, whenever possible, the transportation of its students and employees to and from and about campus. As noted above, services such as Shuttle-UM do a good job of this already. Yet, that is not say improvements, even of a drastic kind, cannot be made. They most certainly can. This will be my aim in serving on the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee, and it is with the utmost sympathy for those whose commutes are anything but expedient that I will undertake this service. Thank you for your time spent reading this.

**Nikita Mutter**  
**College of Arts & Humanities**

Being elected as a Senator on the University Senate this year is a great honor. I initially ran for the Senate because I was eager to make a difference in the student experience and the overall University operations. As an undergraduate student who is part-time and commuting, I have the unique insight of how various issues impact students who are not on campus full time and who are not taking classes full time. I am eager to serve on the Senate in multiple capacities to allow my constituency to well represented while helping the University evolve during its many phases.