



1. Call to Order
2. Election of the Senate Chair-Elect (Action)
3. Approval of the April 26, 2023 Senate Minutes (Action)
4. Transition Meeting Slate 2023-2024 (Senate Document #22-23-25) (Action)
5. Report of the Outgoing Chair, Rochelle Newman (Information)
6. Report of the Incoming Chair, Christopher Jarzynski (Information)
7. New Business
8. Adjournment



## **CALL TO ORDER**

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Chair Newman called the meeting to order at 3:18 p.m.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES, MARCH 8, 2023 MEETING**

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Chair Newman asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the April 4, 2023 meeting; hearing none, she declared the minutes approved as distributed.

## **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

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### Committee Volunteer Period

Chair Newman reported that the application to volunteer for one of 10 Senate standing committees for the 2023-2024 academic year is open. She stated that volunteers need not be Senators and encouraged all Senators and non-Senators to volunteer for a committee. The deadline to volunteer is April 30, 2023. Those interested in volunteering should go to the Senate website to submit a volunteer statement, select three committee choices, and describe their interest and what they feel they can contribute. The Senate's Committee on Committees will then select volunteers to serve on each committee and will notify selected volunteers over the summer.

### Update on the Remaining Senate Meetings

Chair Newman announced that this meeting is the final meeting for outgoing Senators. She thanked all outgoing Senators for their work on the Senate. She asked that all outgoing Senators raise their hands so that they could be acknowledged for all their contributions.

### Working Group on Senate Communications

Chair Newman mentioned that, lately, Senate Leadership has been meeting to discuss how to improve communications between Senators and their constituents. She added that a working group will be formed to discuss best practice and communication between Senators and their constituencies. She detailed the composition of the working group, stating that it would be formed of Senate Leadership, Director of the University Senate, a member of the Office of Marketing and Communications, and Division of IT.

### Senate Transition Meeting

Chair Newman stated that the Senate meeting on May 9th will be the Transition Meeting and will include all continuing and incoming Senators and the Deans. She noted that this will be her last meeting as Chair and at that meeting, Christopher Jarzynski will take over as Senate Chair and the Senate will elect a new Chair-Elect.

### Nominations Committee Slates

Chair Newman mentioned that all continuing and incoming Senators should have received the 2023 Nominations Committee Slates yesterday. She added that outgoing Senators did not receive the slates. She asked all continuing Senators to please review the slates before our next Senate meeting on May 9th.

## **REVIEW OF THE INTERIM UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND POLICY ON FULL-TIME FACULTY WORKLOAD AND RESPONSIBILITIES (II-1.25 [A]) (SENATE DOCUMENT #22-23-12) (ACTION)**

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Chair Newman invited Peter Sunderland, Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee to provide his presentation.

Sunderland presented the Review of the Interim University of Maryland Policy on Full-Time Faculty Workload and Responsibilities (II-1.25[A]) (Senate Document #22-23-12) and provided background information on the proposal.

Chair Newman noted that the committee had brought forth several technical amendments. The amendments were shown on the screen for Senators.

Newman said that since these amendments were not substantive in nature that she would like to approve them by unanimous consent. She asked if there were any objections. Hearing none, the amendments were approved by unanimous consent.

Chair Newman opened the floor to discussion on the policy as amended.

Senator Oates, TTK, JOUR thanked Sunderland and the committee for their hard work. She first asked if the policy under discussion only applies to TTK faculty. She then asked if the deadline of May 23rd was a realistic deadline by which to implement the policy. She expressed concern that there may not be enough time for careful and collegial governance to take place by that deadline.

Chair Newman clarified that the timeline by which departments and units were to create their workloads is different from the policy.

Sunderland added that the policy is currently in effect now, as it has been signed by President Pines as an interim policy. He continued by saying that departments had been offered ample time to prepare their own workload policies.

Chair Newman elaborated that the May 23rd date had already existed in the interim policy, so any changes to the deadline regarding the policy on the floor would not change that May 23rd date.

Senator Wolf, Emeritus faculty, questioned if this policy would affect how business is done at the University.

Chair Newman explained that the University is required by the University System of Maryland (USM) to have a workload policy. She continued by saying that in order to be in compliance, it was necessary that there was one written. Therefore, the interim policy was written and the Senate is now evaluating it before it becomes policy.

Senator Moradi, PTK, CMNS, expressed a concern about the PTK workload policy and hoped that the workload policy for PTK faculty would not be forgotten.

Sunderland responded that the USM requires the University to have a workload policy for all faculty. He continued by saying that there are more PTK than TTK and, while it is not clear if that policy will

be included with this one, there would be one and it needs more time to consider the complexities of PTK workload.

Chair Newman added that a PTK workload policy is being worked on but that it is difficult because they are so distinct in their roles.

Chair Newman introduced John Bertot, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs, to respond to Senator Moradi's concern. He began by saying that they tried to create a unified policy that included both PTK and TTK faculty and the University held open forums about those policies. Bertot agreed with Chair Newman that the complexity of PTK workload made it challenging to put into a single policy. He also mentioned that funding was an additional complicating factor and needed more thoughtful study before putting it into policy but assured Senator Moradi that the policy is coming.

Newman asked if there were any other questions or comments. Seeing none, she called for a vote on the proposal as amended. The result was 95 in favor; 4 opposed; and 13 abstained. **The motion to approve the interim policy passed.**

Chair Newman thanked Sunderland and the committee for all of their hard work on reviewing the policy.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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Chair Newman asked if there was any new business.

Senator Hajiaghayi, TTK, CMNS mentioned that the resources that Senators have for administrative tasks are few. He wondered if more financial and administrative resources could be allocated to Senators.

Chair Newman responded that support for communications is something that the working group will be looking into. She mentioned that service on the University Senate was solely based on a volunteer effort.

Senator Wolfe, Emeritus faculty, mentioned that he would like to see the Senate be assertive in administrative concerns.

Senator Williams, TTK, CMNS expressed that she was pleased that a working group was formed to discuss communication. She mentioned that senators represent their constituencies but are speaking for themselves and should make this explicit in any written communication to their constituents.

Senator Moradi, PTK, CMNS made a comment about AI technology and that there has been discussion about students using it, but none about faculty. He suggested that a committee could discuss these technologies.

Chair Newman responded that it would be an appropriate item to put in a proposal to refer to the Academic Procedures & Standards Committee. She explained the process of submitting a proposal on the Senate website.

Senator Perkey, Graduate student, mentioned that she wanted to bring to light an issue concerning graduate student funding. She explained that she has heard from some graduate students who have sought external funding that their departments have treated that as part of their department funding package. She mentioned that even though the budget is coming from an external funding source, that it is still being included as part of the department's budget and oftentimes, if degree times are extended, then the student would have to seek additional funding. She mentioned that a committee should look into this issue.

Chair Newman encouraged Senator Perkey to fill out a proposal form on the Senate website.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

**Slate of Candidates for the 2023-2024 Chair-Elect**  
Submitted by the Senate Nominations Committee

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

- Gene Ferrick                      Director of Operations                      College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences
  
- Jordan Sly                              Librarian III                              University Libraries

## Candidacy Statements for the Chair-Elect 2023-2024 Election

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

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



My passion for the success of our institution and maintaining a high quality of life for our university community drives my desire to be the Senate Chair-elect. My time at the University of Maryland spans 43 years beginning as a student in the College of Arts & Humanities, then holding various positions within UMD, eventually joining the staff of the VP for Academic Affairs and Provost in 1991. It was there that I began working with the Senate by staffing the Senate PCC Committee and its sub-committee VPAC. I soon volunteered and became a member of the Senate Elections, Representation, and Governance (ERG) Committee.

In 1997, I joined the Dean's staff in the ever-evolving Colleges of Life Sciences, then Chemical & Life Sciences, and finally Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences. All the while, I continued to be engaged with the Senate as a committee member or a senator.

In addition to multiple terms as a senator, more effort has been given as a committee member and sometime chair of Campus Affairs, Staff Affairs, and ERG, as well as a member of the Senate Executive Committee, Student Affairs, the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee, the Committee on Committees, and the Athletic Council.

The tinkering aspects of my job range from student support to policy review to data mining, included advising students and teaching Freshmen; coordinating events such as Maryland Day and Bioscience Day; being a member of campus committees such as the Diversity Plan Steering Committee or the Data Policy Advisory Committee; evaluating program and course proposals; and analyzing data to prepare reports.

Some of the days of greater fun include advising a student group and a sorority, assisting with the summer orientation camping expedition program, and being a part of the peer consulting network through the Office of Organizational Effectiveness.

The broad spectrum of my work and service conferred on me wonderful and important experiences. More than that, I have developed a network of peers that include students, administrators, faculty, and staff across the campus who can offer opinions and guidance concerning the numerous issues that come before the Senate. If elected and with support from you, I will continue the cooperative and collegial environment between the Senate and the University administration that we have worked hard to achieve. I will champion the issues that concern our vibrant community as I have done in the past during many years of work with the University Senate.

**Jordan Sly, Librarian III**  
**University Libraries**



I am thrilled and honored to be nominated for the position of Chair-Elect of the University of Maryland Senate. We are extraordinarily lucky at our university to have such a robust, effective, and inclusive senate body. Shared governance is a vital component of higher education and our senate stands far and above those of our fellow institutions. If elected I will strive to serve the entire campus community and continue the Senate's vital role as a conduit between students, faculty, staff, and the campus administration and ensure equitable

access to all within our community to the privileges of shared governance.

I have been proud to serve the senate beginning with my appointment on the Programs, Curricula, and Courses committee (2017-19). Through this committee I witnessed the ways our combined expertise and shared values were actuated through the considered, careful, and importantly inclusive conversations to improve the educational experience for our students. Following that, I was elected to a faculty senate seat by my constituents in the University Libraries in 2021. In this capacity I have served on the Committee on Committees (2021-23), the Student Conduct Committee (2022-24), and importantly the Senate Executive Committee to which I was elected for terms from 2021-22 and 2022-23.

In my time on the Senate, I have vocally advocated for items of great importance to our campus such as the library-led PACT program for inclusive publication practices. Additionally, in the Senate Executive Committee, I have advocated many times on behalf of my constituents when items of discussion have a direct impact on the libraries. As an affiliated faculty member of the university's College of Information, too, I have also voiced concerns relating to the teaching and learning operations and student and faculty well-being. As a former student and life-long Terp, I have advocated on behalf of alumni/ae, future Terps, and families as I truly and thoroughly believe in our importance as a life-changing institution with the real power to do great things for our state, our local community, and our country through the development of highly competitive and engaged citizens and future leaders.

The period of time in which I have served on the Senate has been a tumultuous one, but also one of great hope as we have successfully navigated the depths of the pandemic and have emerged, in many ways, a stronger organization. Looking ahead, there are many challenges still to confront, and the Senate will have many important and impactful votes to consider in the immediate future. As Chair-Elect I will work closely with Chair Jarzynski, Past-Chair Newman, and the Senate leadership office to ensure the successful consideration and voting of all Senate matters.

I have been with the University Libraries since 2016 where I have earned my permanent status (libraries' equivalent of tenure at the associate level) and where I currently lead the humanities and social sciences librarian team as the unit head. I earned my BA from the University of Maryland in



2008 before pursuing my other degrees at both other institutions and returning to UMD. My research and teaching have been very student focused as I have published papers on the first-generation student experience and non-traditional student experiences. Additionally, I have published on faculty related concerns such as work on academic and intellectual freedom and the problems of data-driven publication models in addition to my general research in seventeenth-century global history and digital humanities. When I first came to campus I fell in love, both with my wife (UMD '07) and with our beautiful campus and the close-knit community I was able to find here despite the large campus size. This institution has become more than a workplace for my wife, two young children, and me as I share with them the cultural, intellectual, athletic, and other treasures that we are lucky to participate in and I am proud to serve the University as a member of the Senate and honored to be considered as candidate for leadership.

Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy for the Senate Chair-Elect position. If elected, I will work with my Senate colleagues to continue our reputation for excellence in shared governance and continue to build on our commitments of meeting our university's grand challenges through equity, inclusion, and transparency and to connect the concerns of our community with the outcomes of our shared mission and goals.



## Slates for the 2023 Transition Elections

**PRESENTED BY** John Straub, Chair

**REVIEW DATES** SEC – April 21, 2023 | SENATE – May 9, 2023

**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 2023-2024 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 during the Transition Elections.

### COMMITTEE WORK

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The Nominations Committee began recruitment efforts in January 2023. The committee sent announcements for self-nominations to all continuing and incoming Faculty, Staff, and Student Senators. The Nominations Committee met on four separate occasions to discuss nominees and recruitment efforts: January 30, February 22, March 14, and March 29, 2023.

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 May 31, 2023.

### 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 2023-2024 Chair-Elect**  
Submitted by the Senate Nominations Committee

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

- Gene Ferrick                      Director of Operations                      College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences
  
- Jordan Sly                              Librarian III                              University Libraries

# Slate of Candidates for the Senate Executive Committee, 2023-2024 Election

Submitted by the Senate Nominations Committee

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

- Damena Agonafer A. James Clark School of Engineering, *Mechanical Engineering*
- Mark Coulbourne University Libraries
- Sarah Dammeyer College of Arts & Humanities, *English*
- Michael Elonge College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, *University of Maryland Extension, Baltimore City*
- Lee Friedman College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences, *Chemistry & Biochemistry*
- Jordan Goodman College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences, *Physics*
- Meredith Gore College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, *Geography*
- Brit I. Saksvig School of Public Health
- Elizabeth Lathrop A. James Clark School of Engineering
- Abigail McEwen College of Arts & Humanities, *Art History & Archaeology*
- Jessica O'Hara Office of the Provost, *First-Year Research Program*
- Katherine Sharp School of Public Health, *Behavioral & Community Health*
- Patrick Wohlfarth College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, *Government & Politics*
- Zeena Zakharia College of Education, *Counseling, Higher Education and Special Education*
- Lei Zhou Robert H. Smith School of Business, *Accounting*

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

- Chant'e Ingram College of Arts & Humanities
- Daniel Ostick Division of Student Affairs, *Resident Life*

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

- Paul Keen College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences
- Oscar Velasco Division of Administration, *Operations & Maintenance*

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

- Adam Hopper College of Agriculture & Natural Resources
- Jennifer Mesiner College of Education
- Smirithan Ravichandran College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences
- Carolyn Robbins College of Arts & Humanities

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

- Reese Artero College of Behavioral & Social Sciences
- Zachary Braunstein College of Arts & Humanities
- Warren Dansou School of Public Health
- Nada Fadul College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences
- Shulamit Frenkel College of Behavioral & Social Sciences
- Aiden Wechsler College of Behavioral & Social Sciences

# **Slate of Candidates for the Committee on Committees, 2023-2024 Election**

Submitted by the Senate Nominations Committee

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

- Michael Elonge                      College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, *University of Maryland Extension, Baltimore City*
- Michel Kio                              A. James Clark School of Engineering, *Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering*
- Jessica O'Hara                        Office of the Provost, *First-Year Research Program*
- Matt Parker                            College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, *University of Maryland Extension, Sea Grant Extension*
- Brit I. Saksvig                        School of Public Health

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

- Darrell Claiborne                    Robert H. Smith School of Business
- Kim Gonzalez                        Robert H. Smith School of Business

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

- Jimmy McClellan                    College of Education
- Augustine Uzoigwe                A. James Clark School of Engineering

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

- Kaoutar Cheji                        Robert H. Smith School of Business
- Michael O'Neill                      A. James Clark School of Engineering

# Slate of Candidates for the 2023-2024 Senate-Elected Councils and Committees

Submitted by the Senate Nominations Committee

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## University Athletic Council Slate 2023-2024

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

- Drew Baden College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences, *Physics*
  - Ryan Blaustein College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, *Nutrition and Food Science*
  - Kim Coles College of Arts & Humanities, *English*
  - Cortney Fisher College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, *Criminology & Criminal Justice*
  - Imani Goffney College of Education, *Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership*
  - Joanna Goger College of Agriculture & Natural Resources
  - Gideon Mark Robert H. Smith School of Business, *Logistics, Business, & Pub. Policy*
  - Charles Wellford College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, *Criminology & Criminal Justice*
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## Council of University System Faculty (CUSF) Slate 2023-2024

### Faculty Representative Nominees (Two Full-Time Reps and Two Alternate Reps will be Elected)

- Damena Agonafer A. James Clark School of Engineering, *Mechanical Engineering*
  - Philip Evers Robert H. Smith School of Business, *Logistics, Business, & Pub. Policy*
  - Meredith Gore College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, *Geography*
  - Mohammad Hajiaghayi College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences, *Computer Science*
  - Isaac Moradi College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences, *Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center*
  - Matt Parker College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, *University of Maryland Extension, Sea Grant Extension*
  - Marcia Shofner College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences, *Entomology*
  - Gurpal Toor College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, *Environmental Science & Technology*
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## Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC) Slate 2023-2024

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

- Hosam Fathy A. James Clark School of Engineering, *Mechanical Engineering*
- Jonathan Resop College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, *Geography*
- John Straub College of Behavioral & Social Sciences, *Economics*

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

- Gene Ferrick College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences
- Adrienne Mayo-Brown College of Education, *Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership*

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

- Patrick Kemp                      College of Agriculture & Natural Resources
- Zachary Braunstein              College of Arts & Humanities

## Candidacy Statements for the Chair-Elect 2023-2024 Election

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

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College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences**



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In addition to multiple terms as a senator, more effort has been given as a committee member and sometime chair of Campus Affairs, Staff Affairs, and ERG, as well as a member of the Senate Executive Committee, Student Affairs, the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee, the Committee on Committees, and the Athletic Council.

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**University Libraries**



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The period of time in which I have served on the Senate has been a tumultuous one, but also one of great hope as we have successfully navigated the depths of the pandemic and have emerged, in many ways, a stronger organization. Looking ahead, there are many challenges still to confront, and the Senate will have many important and impactful votes to consider in the immediate future. As Chair-Elect I will work closely with Chair Jarzynski, Past-Chair Newman, and the Senate leadership office to ensure the successful consideration and voting of all Senate matters.

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2008 before pursuing my other degrees at both other institutions and returning to UMD. My research and teaching have been very student focused as I have published papers on the first-generation student experience and non-traditional student experiences. Additionally, I have published on faculty related concerns such as work on academic and intellectual freedom and the problems of data-driven publication models in addition to my general research in seventeenth-century global history and digital humanities. When I first came to campus I fell in love, both with my wife (UMD '07) and with our beautiful campus and the close-knit community I was able to find here despite the large campus size. This institution has become more than a workplace for my wife, two young children, and me as I share with them the cultural, intellectual, athletic, and other treasures that we are lucky to participate in and I am proud to serve the University as a member of the Senate and honored to be considered as candidate for leadership.

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# Candidacy Statements for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) 2023-2024 Election

## Faculty Senator Nominees (Seven will be Elected)

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### **Damena Agonafer, Associate Professor A. James Clark School of Engineering**

I am honored to be considered for the Faculty Senate Executive committee (SEC). As a relatively new faculty member at UMD, I am looking forward to engaging more with students, staff, and faculty. I believe the SEC plays a very important role in order to effectively represent the voices of students, staff, and faculty. If elected to the Senate Executive Committee, I will make sure to listen to students, staff, and faculty and work with other members of the committee to set an agenda which actively reflect the voices of the UMD community.

### **Mark Coulbourne, Librarian II University Libraries**

I am honored to be nominated for the Senate Executive Committee. I am currently a Librarian II in the Preservation Department of the University Libraries. I started working at the University as a student worker in the Special Collections and University Archives, and worked for two years as a Graduate Assistant before becoming a faculty member in 2019. In the Libraries I have served as the Co-Chair, Chair, and Past-Chair of the Library Assembly, and as a member of the Libraries' Staff Affairs Committee. I have served on the University Senate for the past five months, and I will continue to serve on the Senate for an additional three years. Additionally, I am currently a member of the Elections, Representation, and Governance Committee.

If I am elected I will bring my experience and commitment to service to the Senate Executive Committee. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

### **Sarah Dammeyer, Senior Lecturer College of Arts & Humanities**

Hi! You can find me in the English Department where I am a Senior Lecturer, teaching courses for the Writing Programs, for Undergraduate Teaching Assistants in English, for the Professional Writing Minor, and for internship in Prison Education. Every semester, I get to read the work of students from all over campus in Technical Writing, Science Writing, and Narrative Nonfiction courses; I learn about who they are, what matters to them, and what their concerns and aspirations are. I am a Faculty Fellow in the Professional Writing Program, where I support PTK faculty and help them [re]shape our courses to prepare students to work in this global society by promoting inclusion and equity. I have been teaching at UMD since 2009; earned my MA in Rhetoric and Composition here in 2008; and earned BAs in English and Secondary English Education and Honors and Gemstone citations, in 2003.

As a Senator, I am honored to be a candidate to serve on the Senate Executive Committee. I bring facilitation and coaching skills to co-create processes for deep listening to understand stakeholders' needs; to design collaborative tools to engage all stakeholders; and to take into account everyone's needs and values, and especially the needs of those who've long been ignored, deprioritized, or marginalized. For the past 8 years, alongside my work at UMD, I have worked as a restorative justice

facilitator and program coordinator for the Prince George's County Community Conferencing Program.

**Michael Elonge, Senior Agent**  
**College of Agriculture & Natural Resources**

My name is Michael Elonge, I am an African from Cameroon. I joined the UME in 2008 as a tenure-track faculty from the Maryland State Department of Human Service. In 2013, I was promoted to tenure (Senior Extension Agent/Associate Professor). For more than 6 years, I have not had the opportunity to provide services at the University level, which is an important requirement on the AGNR-Extension CV. As such, I am available to serve.

My teaching and research interest are in Economics and Financial Education with a focus on Public Housing, Family Investment Programs, Detention Centers, and Schools K12. My research has been presented at more than 32 national and 6 international peer-reviewed conferences including 10 journal publications.

**Lee Friedman, Senior Lecturer**  
**College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences**

I have been at the University of Maryland in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry since 2007. During this time, I have been a member of the Senate Student Conduct Committee, Campus Affairs and Academic Procedures and Standards. I have a solid understanding of how the Senate runs and I understand the importance of the issues that the Senate handles as well as how the construction of committee charges guides the legislative process. My relationships with stakeholders on campus reaches far outside of my Department via working with the Office of Student Conduct, various committees and working groups, and my involvement in the recent PTK symposia.

Teaching large (as large as between 600 and 700 students) and small(er) classes, I will be able to advocate for PTK faculty and provide insight into how small policy changes can affect those of us who teach and work with large numbers of students. I will also be able to guide the SEC process by providing an informed perspective that considers issues from multiple angles, and that is respectful to all members of our campus community while also being realistic and reasonable in light of current resources.

**Jordan Goodman, Distinguished Univ Professor**  
**College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences**

I have spent my entire academic life at the University of Maryland - as a student, postdoc, professor, department chair, parent, alumnus, and even Senate chair. I believe the University Senate, through its commitment to shared governance, can and should play an important role in defining the common mission of teaching and research, and leading in our quest for excellence. It is this goal that I have in seeking another term on the Senate Executive Committee.

My research is in particle astrophysics, studying high energy gamma rays and neutrinos from space. As principle investigator, I currently lead an international effort of 20 universities and 150 scientists from around the world on the HAWC Gamma Ray Observatory in the high mountains of Mexico. My research has been recognized with numerous awards including the Yodh Prize of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics, a shared 2016 Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics and being appointed a University of Maryland Distinguished University Professor.

Teaching is a passion for me. I have been recognized with numerous awards, including my selection as a Distinguished Scholar-Teacher, the USM Regents Award for Excellence in Teaching, the CMNS Board of Visitors Creative Educator Award, and the Kirwan Prize for Undergraduate Education. I feel fortunate to have been part of a supportive department and several active learning communities on the campus.

I believe strongly in contributing to the service of the University. During my seven-year term as chair of Physics, I learned a great deal about how the University works. I teamed up with campus leaders to create our Joint Quantum Institute (JQI) with NIST and brought the \$135M Physical Sciences Complex from an idea to completion. In addition, I have been engaged with the University Senate in a variety of ways. I am currently in my seventh term as a faculty senator including serving as Senate chair in 2016-17 and on the SEC this year. I played a major role in creation of the Senate Committee on University Finance on which I currently serve. Previously, I have chaired the Senate Student Affairs Committee, the Senate Research Committee, and the University Research Council. I have served on the Athletic Council, University APT Committee and have been the faculty representative on the Board of Governors for the Alumni Association for the last 30 years.

**Meredith Gore, Associate Professor  
College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

I am currently an Associate Professor in Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change in the Department of Geographical Sciences (GEOG) and a faculty affiliate with the Advanced Research Laboratory for Intelligence and Research (ARLIS). My research is focused on environmental risk, particularly nature crime, interdisciplinary and participatory mapping, and science diplomacy. I have active research projects in 6 countries on 2 continents with expertise in Africa and Southeast Asia. I currently lead an international team of scientists from 9 universities in 3 countries on mitigating biosecurity risks from the intersectionality of illegal wildlife trade with emerging zoonotic pathogens. I taught study abroad in Madagascar for 10 years. I am a University of Maryland Presidential Research Fellow, an American Geographical Society Council Member, a National Academies of Sciences Jefferson Science Fellow, and US Department of State Embassy Science Fellow. I have been a proud member of the University of Maryland faculty since Fall 2020.

I believe I have built and maintained a very strong service record over the course of my scientific career. My service activities have and currently include scientific/professional society leadership; nongovernmental organization and foundation boards and councils; journal editorships; science diplomacy with international parastatals; and trainings for practitioners in international sectors including banks, government agencies and students. I currently chair the DEIAR committee in GEOG, am the Human Subjects Protection Program Liaison, serve on the Human Dimensions Teaching Team, and have served on the Undergraduate Committee.

This is my first term serving on the Faculty Senate. I am running for a position on the Senate Executive Committee because I believe I have diverse lived experience and expertise to effectively contribute and because I strongly want to give back to the University that has provided me with a vibrant community within which to thrive as a professional and a person. I am committed to the success of the University and its community members. I have spent my entire professional life at land-grant universities and I fundamentally value and embody the mission. If elected I will work to serve for excellence.

**Brit I. Saksvig, Assoc Clinical Professor  
School of Public Health**

I am honored to be nominated for a position on the Senate Executive Committee. I have been a faculty member since 2002 and I am currently an Associate Clinical Professor and Director of Graduate Student Services in the School of Public Health. I was previously the Director of Graduate Studies and Assistant Chair for the Department of Epidemiology. I am committed to advancing the interests of Professional Track Faculty on campus. I was the co-chair of the 5th Annual PTK Symposium held in March 2023 and have served as the chair of symposium sub-committees in 2022 (Logistics) and 2021(Registration). I contributed to the development of the SPH PTK AEP guidelines and have chaired and served on multiple AEP Promotion committees for PTK faculty in the SPH. I also participated in the ADVANCE Program, Career Development Series for Professional Track Faculty as well as the ADVANCE Program, Leadership Fellows Program. I am currently completing my 2nd term on the University Senate and look forward to being more involved next year on the Senate Executive Committee. If elected, I will bring my experience, knowledge and commitment to the service of the University community.

**Elizabeth Lathrop, Senior Faculty Specialist**  
**A. James Clark School of Engineering**

I am honored to be considered as a member of the Senate Executive Committee for the University Senate. I believe that shared governance functions the best when all shareholders—faculty, staff, students, and administrators—actively participate and contribute to the welfare of the University. If elected, I am committed to bringing values and diverse perspectives by working with Senate representatives and the administration on campus policy consideration, deliberations, and concerns.

I have been actively engaged in the University shared governance, having served as an elected member to the Senate Executive Committee in 2017-2018, as an elected PTK Senator for the A. James Clark School of Engineering 2016-2019 and again 2021-2024. During my tenure, I have also served on the Senate Election, Representation, & Government Committee (2017-2020) and the Special Committee on University Finance (2020-2022). I held numerous positions on different committees for the campus-wide PTK Symposia, having helped to launch the inaugural PTK Symposium in 2018 and continued this work to the present. I have the fortune of working with many excellent faculty across campus in the planning and execution of these events to promote the visibility of PTK faculty, as well as campus community excellence as a whole.

I have been with the University of Maryland for over 10 years. As a PTK faculty, I am the Proposal Development Specialist in the Clark School, I provide critical support to the college's capacity for complex, multidisciplinary research initiatives to increase the impact of the engineering research enterprise. Working closely with faculty and staff, I provide a wide range of proposal and research development services, such as developing and delivering an effective proposal production system that includes logistics, quality control, communication, editing/writing, versioning, archiving systems, and more. Previously, I was the Associate Director for Programs of the DOE Energy Frontier Research Center - Nanostructures for Electrical Energy Storage (EFRC-NEES, 2014-18), a position that brought valuable hands-on strategic planning and management experience through working with a large multi-institutional project team.

Outside the University, I am the Co-Chair of the National Organization of Research Development Professionals (NORDP) Mentoring Committee. The committee is charged with elevating research development professionals to success by offering meaningful mentoring expertise, support, training and resources, including sponsoring 1:1 mentor matching serving >150 members annually. I am also a founding member of a new Affinity Group, Immigrant Knowledge and Wisdom (iKnowW), that seeks to

empower and engage research professionals who self-identify as immigrants in inclusive excellence, resource generation, recruitment and retention of professionals in alignment with the NORDP mission.

I will bring my experience and commitment as a member of the Senate Executive Committee to serve the University community. Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy.

**Abigail McEwen, Associate Professor  
College of Arts & Humanities**

I would be honored to represent the College of Arts & Humanities, as well as the Office of Undergraduate Studies, as a Faculty Senator on the Senate Executive Council. I came to the University of Maryland in 2010 and am currently Associate Professor in the Department of Art History & Archaeology (ARTH) and Faculty Director of Carillon Communities, a living-learning program for first-year students; I am also Affiliate Faculty in the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center. I believe in shared governance and appreciate the importance of service and collaboration in sustaining the work and well-being of the University. In the past decade, I have been pleased to serve on (and to chair) numerous committees—faculty and staff searches and promotions; program reviews; faculty and student awards—whose work reaches broad campus constituencies. I am a strong advocate for the arts and a regular collaborator with campus partners (Art Gallery; Stamp Gallery; Arts for All) as well as with local museums and cultural institutions (Art Museum of the Americas | Organization of American States; Phillips Collection) on exhibitions and student-driven projects.

In recent years, I have focused significant energy on undergraduate students, from recruitment and admissions to teaching and advising. I served a three-year term as Director of Undergraduate Studies (ARTH; 2017-20) and began my current role as Faculty Director for Carillon Communities in 2021. Carillon partners with faculty as well as colleagues across Student Affairs and at the Academy for Innovation and Entrepreneurship to develop curricula and programming for students who represent virtually all Schools and Colleges at UMD. My work encompasses service on the I-Series (General Education) Faculty Board and participation in the global WISE (Well-Being, Innovation, and Social Change in Education) Network, which asks such questions as, “How do we educate for student flourishing? What does it mean to center student growth and well-being as an overarching learning outcome and goal?” Amid a mental health crisis at UMD and college campuses worldwide, the University has an opportunity to center well-being in everything that we do for our students, staff, and faculty.

If elected to this committee, I would look forward to contributing my perspective—as an art historian, faculty member, and program director—on campus policy and to working closely with colleagues to “advance the public good,” as our strategic plan declares, in “our mission of service to humanity.”

**Jessica O’Hara, Asst Clinical Professor  
Office of the Provost**

I am truly honored to have been nominated to serve on the Senate Executive Committee. I have been at the University of Maryland since 2014 and have served in multiple roles during this time. Currently, I am a Clinical Assistant Professor with the First-Year Innovation and Research (FIRE) program, where I run the microbiology-focused Host-Pathogen Interactions research stream in addition to teaching undergraduate courses each semester for the School of Public Health. Previously, I worked for three and half years as the Assistant Program Director for the Public Health Science program at the Shady Grove campus.

I am deeply committed to advancing the interests of Professional Track Faculty on our campus. I have served as a faculty member on the Senate Faculty Affairs committee for the past four years and in this role, I have been able to review and provide feedback on a number of key policies that impact faculty. I am also currently a PTK Senator representing the Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost. In the past, I participated in the year-long ADVANCING Professional Track Faculty network and have helped organize and served as the marketing coordinator for the 3rd annual PTK symposium which was held in February 2021.

I feel that my teaching, research, administrative, and service experiences on both the College Park and Shady Grove campuses have provided me with unique insight into the varied roles of PTK faculty at UMD and I would love the opportunity to serve the broader campus community as a member of this committee. Thank you so much for your consideration.

**Katherine Sharp, Assoc Clinical Professor  
School of Public Health**

Thank you for the nomination to serve on the Senate Executive Committee. As a Lecturer, Senior Lecturer and Associate Clinical Professor over the years, I have an excellent understanding of how the university works and have built a strong network across the university. As the Director of Graduate Studies and a Professional Track Faculty (PTK) member, I am very focused on people – our most important resource.

My service commitments over the past 17 years have helped me learn more about how the university functions, how we can all feel valued and do a better job to support the mission of the university. Some examples of my service include: President Pines and Provost Rice's Strategic Planning Committee, Co-Chair of the 3rd Annual PTK Symposium, Dean Lushniak's Five-Year Review Committee, PTK Unit Appointment, Evaluation and Promotion (AEP) Review Committee, Council on Education on Public Health Accreditation Committee for the School of Public Health, and the Delta Omega Executive Committee. On many of these committees, I am the only PTK faculty member or one of a very small number (1 or 2 others) of PTK faculty on the committee. Given that PTK faculty represent 2/3 of the faculty on campus, it is imperative that we have a seat at the table.

We all work long days and nights and our work is so very important. I am committed to hearing all voices and perspectives and working hard to reduce structural inequities, enhance work-life balance, and understand how various policies impact specific groups of people. I am an excellent listener, a strong advocate and would be honored to contribute my skills and passion to work of the Senate Executive Committee.

**Patrick Wohlfarth, Associate Professor  
College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

I am interested in serving on the Senate Executive Committee given its broad jurisdiction, which offers a unique opportunity to participate in a wide variety of significant policy discussions that affect students, faculty, and staff. I have been a TTK faculty member at the University of Maryland for the past 12 years and GVPT's Co-Director of Graduate Studies for the past three years. I have served as a BSOS representative on the Graduate Council and a member of the graduate school's PCC (Programs, Curricula, & Courses) Committee. Starting in July, I will begin a new appointment as GVPT's Director of Undergraduate Studies. I have experience with a wide range of service roles within GVPT, including taking the lead on crafting GVPT's revised workload policy.



I can bring to bear useful experience as a department-level administrator overseeing the academics and personnel of a substantial doctoral program. In particular, I have shepherded numerous policy reforms through GVPT's doctoral program aimed at improving student education. These improvements have included: curriculum changes to better align program requirements with departmental practices and norms within the discipline; codifying mentorship expectations for faculty and doctoral students; reforming how the department administers comprehensive exams to better accommodate students; streamlining graduate course planning; and helping to establish and institutionalize a new outreach program to aid with the recruitment of underrepresented minorities to the doctoral program. I am proud to be a Maryland native, having grown up in Hyattsville, and an intense observer of Maryland politics and state policymaking, focusing especially on budgetary politics and the effects on the University of Maryland.

**Zeena Zakharia, Assistant Professor  
College of Education**

I have spent the past three years serving the Senate in multiple capacities, first as a College of Education (COE) Senator, member of the COE Senate Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee, and member of the COE Senate Executive Committee; second as a member of the University Senate Standing Committee on Academic Procedures and Standards (APAS); and most recently as an elected member of the University Senate. This work builds on four years of prior Senate leadership, including as College Senate Chair and Vice-Chair, and five years as co-founding member of the Racial Justice Committee at my prior institution.

I joined UMD during the pandemic and some of you may know me from a Zoom brick, or a masked hallway hello, as I coolly try to find my way around UMD. The pandemic context meant learning about my university community by listening carefully in different online spaces, including Senate meetings with faculty, staff, and students across the university. I also work closely with students as faculty adviser of the Education in Conflict and Emergencies student organization and member of the COE Senate Diversity and Inclusion subcommittee. It would be my privilege to represent our diverse Terp community on the University Senate Executive Committee and to contribute in ways that uphold our mission for excellence, equity, and justice.

**Lei Zhou, Research Scholar  
Robert H. Smith School of Business**

I am honored to be considered to serve on the Senate Executive Committee. I received my Ph.D. degree from the University of Maryland in 2004, and served as an Assistant Professor of Accounting at McGill University from 2004-2008. I returned to UMD in 2008 and am currently a Research Scholar in Department of Accounting and Information Assurance at the Smith School of Business. Since returning to UMD, I have received tremendous support from the students, faculty, and staff at the Smith School of Business. Over the years, I have served on various committees at the department, school, and university levels, including the Senate's Programs, Curricula, & Courses (PCC) Committee. In addition, I will take on the role of the Academic Director of the MS in Accounting program in the fall of 2023. My research and teaching focuses on the inter-disciplinary area of information technology and accounting, through which I have been learning about the opportunities and challenges faced by our students, staff and faculty, and the University as a whole. For the past few years, I have been a Co-PI on a research grant from NSA for my research related to the application of economics to cybersecurity.

Being a new Senator starting in 2022, I am amazed by the diverse perspectives and the shared governance presented by the University Senate. This experience has motivated me to become more involved in the activities of UMD's Senate as a member of the Senate Executive Committee , where I can share my perspective, learn from other parts of the University, and help to ensure that our policies enable all communities at UMD can grow and prosper. Thank you for considering me in your vote.

# Candidacy Statements for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) 2023-2024 Election

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

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### **Chant'e Ingram, Assistant to the Dean College of Arts & Humanities**

I am truly honored to be placed on the ballot for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC). As a current dedicated Senate member, I believe that I can bring valuable perspective, skills, and experience necessary to effectively serve in, and make a meaningful contribution to, this important role on the SEC. As a first time Senate member and experienced and dedicated member of this note-worthy University, I have developed a deep appreciation for the Senate's mission and its vital role in shaping our campus community. Since joining UMD, I have consistently demonstrated my commitment to the principles of equity, transparency, accountability, working collaboratively with my colleagues across campus to achieve shared standards and goals, and advance initiatives and guidelines that promote excellence.

As our campus community continues to evolve, it is essential that the Senate considers the full diversity of our faculty, staff, and students. If elected to the SEC, I will work diligently in my role to support the interests of the campus community to ensure that voices are heard and that the campus community has equal opportunity to participate in the shared governance process. I believe that it is essential to hear and consider diverse perspectives, move forward as a community, and continue to be forward-thinking in our approach to governance. To assist the SEC in being responsive to the evolving needs of our campus community, I will be a strong advocate for advancing new ideas and initiatives that will support the growth and success of our University. I hope to earn your support and look forward to the opportunity to serve the entire campus community for the benefit of academic, student, and staff advancement.

### **Daniel Ostick, Assistant Director Division of Student Affairs**

Hi everyone! As a Terp alum and a long-time staff member at UMD (21 years and counting), I care a lot about the university and have seen what it can do when it marshals its resources and taps into its potential. I have also seen how it can sometimes be bogged down by processes and struggle to bear its own weight. I wish to serve on the SEC to help the SEC help the committees achieve THEIR potential. As a past member of the Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Committee and the current chair of the Staff Affairs Committee, I know the vital role the SEC plays in empowering a committee to affect real change on campus. And the hurdles that the committees face when they don't have the ability to do so.

At UMD, I have worked in a number of roles, from training & development and human resources, to leadership education, to assessment and program planning - all in the Division of Student Affairs. I bring a lot of enthusiasm to my job and approach my work with a can-do mentality. I am a possibilities thinker and want the SEC to approach the work in this way - a focus on what we can do to move the needle and think of what can be.

# Candidacy Statements for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) 2023-2024 Election

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

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### **Paul Keen, Prg Admin Spec College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences**

Hello, my name is Paul Keen, and I was recently elected to represent non-exempt staff on the university senate and am looking to become part of the Senate Executive Committee. I've spent the better part of a decade working on this campus, first at the University Book Center as the Textbook Manager, before joining CBMG as a Program Administrative Specialist. I've also currently in my first year as a graduate student in the school of Architecture, Planning and Preservation pursuing a master's degree in community planning. I've always been looking to help drive change on this campus in any way I can, to make it a better place to work and learn and being elected to the university senate provided me with the opportunity to do so.

The Senate Executive Committee being the clearing house of senate proposals seems like a natural fit for my skillset. As a manager in the bookstore, I constantly had to delegate tasks to the people most equipped to accomplish them for the betterment of the store, something which would come in handy on the SEC. Additionally, I think my experience of having multiple roles across this campus can prove beneficial when assisting the committee in assigning proposals.

### **Oscar Velasco, Prg Admin Spec Division of Administration**

Hello fellow University members,

I am currently a Preventive Maintenance Planner and Scheduler at Facilities Management O&M since 2017, and have been a proud Terp employee since 2005. If elected, I look forward to serve within the Senate Executive Committee to fulfill its charge of initiating, reviewing, and recommend actions for policy implementation.

A tremendous amount of love for the University is what keeps us exceptional in these trying times. As stewards of these precious State resource, we need to stay informed of our own challenges to fulfill the University's Mission. I would like to be a part of identifying which cogs to oil, replace, and update that will make for a happier; efficient; and more trusting University environment.

# Candidacy Statements for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) 2023-2024 Election

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

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### **Adam Hopper** **College of Agriculture & Natural Resources**

Hi everyone! My name is Adam Hopper and I am a second year PhD student in Plant Sciences. I am extremely honored to be considered to serve on the SEC and am grateful for this opportunity. I want to serve on the SEC to continue working in a collaborative environment on important policy that impacts students, faculty, and staff at UMD. My previous experience in leadership roles as well as my current roles in University leadership would help me provide an authentic perspective to the Senate Executive Committee. At my previous institution (New Mexico State), I served as a student Senator for 2.5 years and in that time drafted and passed legislation for increased funding for diversity student programs as well as increasing sustainability efforts on campus. I worked with student and faculty representatives calling for increased resources for Spanish-speaking students to truly fulfill being a Hispanic Serving Institution. Currently, I am a Senator and have served on the Committee of Committees with other students, faculty, and staff to select campus volunteers for standing committees. I have also served on the Student Affairs Committee and recently was the Senate representative on the Committee for the Review of Student Fees. I also serve as the Chair of the Graduate Assistant Advisory Committee (GAAC) which meets with Provost Rice, VP Carlo Colella and Dean Fetter (Graduate School) once a semester to discuss issues impacting Graduate Assistants and work to develop resolutions to these issues.

These experiences have shaped my ability to work collaboratively with students, staff, faculty, and the administration. My passion and drive to advocate for increased resources to ensure all people are receiving the right support they need to succeed on this campus has grown within each unique position I've held and the different perspectives I hear from constituents. With your support, I want to continue being an advocate for the campus community in the SEC. I sincerely appreciate your time and consideration.

### **Jennifer Mesiner** **College of Education**

I am honored to be considered as a candidate to serve on the Senate Executive Committee for the 2023-2024 academic year. I have previously served the university as a representative in the Graduate Student Government where I served as chair of both the Student Affairs and Parents and Caregivers committees.

### **Smirithan Ravichandran** **College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences**

Thank you for reading my statement and considering giving me the honor to serve on the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) for the year 2023-2024.

To my understanding, the SEC requires members who can make objective judgements on proposals that may be presented to the Senate, without being swayed by personal opinions and to judge based on facts. I believe that the scientific temper I have developed as a PhD student equips me with the

ability to analyze a case from a third perspective and apply rational thought in assessing a proposal. As a passionate science communicator, I've learnt to identify instances of miscommunication or misinterpretation more naturally, which will play an integral part in a discussion on important matters. I will be perceptive to various perspectives that surround a complex proposal and serve on the SEC in an unbiased manner.

As a proponent of transparency, and as someone who has inadvertently embraced leadership roles because of wanting to see things get done right to the very end, I will play an active role in upholding the SEC's responsibility to report to the Senate on implementing new policies. With my ability to speak for and boldly stand by what matters, I will heed to the needs of the campus community and exercise the role of the SEC, if elected, to communicate these needs to the Senate. To this end, I look forward to working with the campus community and the members of Senate to propose new ideas, improve our policies, and ensuring the smooth execution of said policies to foster a rich experience for everyone in the university.

**Carolyn Robbins**  
**College of Arts & Humanities**

Hello everyone. My name is Carolyn, and I am honored to be nominated to the Senate Executive Committee. I initially ran for University Senate due to my personal commitments to transformative justice and equity. These commitments have also led me to research and advocate for important causes on- and off-campus such as #TimeFor22, Black Lives Matter, and increased accessibility for disabled people like me. If elected to SEC, I will champion these ideas and continue to carry out my commitments to equity and transformative justice. I have spent the past 8 years researching the United State's criminal legal system and witnessing its reproduction on university campuses. As a senator and SEC member, I will be a voice for the people, advocating for your best interests.

UMD claims to value diversity, equity, and inclusion as some of its core values; however, this type of statement rings hollow when not backed up by concrete policy changes to support these values. As an Instructor of Record teaching Argumentation and Public Policy along with my research on the Rhetoric and Political Culture track in the Communication department, I have the necessary skills to move through the process of change making -- from listening to the people to bringing the issues through the proper channels to seeing solutions through to their outcomes. I promise to listen to, advocate for, and lift up my fellow Terps so that we can all learn and work in the best possible conditions. A rising tide raises all ships, and I look forward to sailing into a better future together.

# Candidacy Statements for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) 2023-2024 Election

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

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### **Reese Artero** **College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

As the current Undergraduate Studies Representative and a previous member of the University Senate, I am excited to express my candidacy for the Senate Executive Committee. Through my experiences, I have developed a strong understanding of the intricate relationship between students and the administration. I am passionate about fostering positive change in this relationship and ensuring that student voices are heard and valued in the decision-making process.

My involvement in the Student Government Association has allowed me to develop the necessary skills to be an effective leader, including the ability to listen to and advocate for the needs of my constituents. I have demonstrated this through my sponsorship of multiple bills related to issues such as sexual assault prevention, diversity and inclusion, and sustainability. Additionally, my experience working with various student groups, administrators, and vendors has prepared me to navigate complex situations and communicate effectively with diverse stakeholders. As a member of the Senate Executive Committee, I will continue to work towards building a stronger and more collaborative relationship between students and the administration, while prioritizing transparency and accountability.

### **Zachary Braunstein** **College of Arts & Humanities**

As a re-elected student Senator and undergraduate leader in the Student Affairs Committee, I am deeply honored to be considered for the Senate Executive Committee.

Over the past year, I've invested countless time and resources towards improving student life. Whether it's making proposals or talking with like-minded student advocates, my effort has made a positive impact on the UMD community. Working closely with many campus organizations, I bring a great deal of experience to this committee. Serving on the SEC would be a beneficial opportunity for me to give my expertise with an open mind when reviewing new bills.

Before representing this prestigious university, I was an active member of my local community. Back in 2020, I worked tirelessly as a phone banker for California's 45th Congressional District election. From making phone calls to meeting with constituents, my outreach drastically increased the number of voter turnout. While attending UMD, I've had many conversations with local attorneys and pre-law advisors in the DMV area. These connections have helped me promote the school to individuals who look for a nourishing environment to be an active leader.

I appreciate the potential opportunity and look forward to your decision.

### **Warren Dansou** **School of Public Health**

Hello everyone! My name is Warren Dansou and I am a third year Public Health Science and Biochemistry double major with a minor in French. I was recently honored to be elected to be one of

the two newly elected undergraduate representatives for the School of Public Health and am even more honored to be nominated for the Senate Executive Committee (SEC). As a first year senator, I am coming into my position and role with a zeal for accurate representation in places where voices like mine are not common.

I currently serve as an undergraduate representative on the Committee for Diversity, Equity, and Climate in the Chemistry and Biochemistry department where me and my fellow representatives take issues that exist in our undergraduate community to the floor of the committee to enact real change. My experience as an Orientation Advisor has allowed me to learn how to advocate for my students and this translates to how I represent my fellow undergraduate students.

As undergraduate students, our voices are already underrepresented in influential places across our campus and this is funneled down even more as a Public Health student. Being on the Senate Executive Committee will allow me to properly represent my school and allow their opinions to be brought to the forefront of topics that matter. My goal is to serve the committee by allowing students to see real change across our campus based on what they need.

**Nada Fadul**  
**College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences**

Our community has been built by our camaraderie and compassion toward one other, our dedication to our education, and our commitment to upholding model principles of inclusion and equality on our campus, both within the classroom and beyond. As a student who values engagement in our community, I would be honored to represent the interests of my fellow students on the University's Senate Executive Committee (SEC).

At the University of Maryland, each and every one of us should feel empowered to make a difference because one day, we will take what we've learned and shape the future as revolutionaries in every field. As we all move forward in this marathon of life, our constellation of students will soon become national ambassadors and representatives of our esteemed university, matriculating throughout every inch of this country and being agents of change. UMD will always be a part of our identity, and it is our responsibility to empower our university in present and in future by expanding its legacy in forward-thinking research, technological innovation, and commitment to serving our community, our nation, and humanity.

Who am I? With two older sisters who graduated from UMD, I was honored to receive the Banneker/Key scholarship for my pre-medical studies in physiology and neurobiology, and I intend to pursue my postgraduate studies as an MD-PhD at UMD as well. A representative of my fellow classmates since middle school, I believe in the importance of our community and quality of education. As the director of the Education Policy Department in the Montgomery County Regional Student Government Association (MCR-SGA), I worked closely with students, the Montgomery County Council, and the Board of Education to propose solutions that addressed pertinent educational issues and improved the quality of education for students in Montgomery County. In response to strikingly flagrant injustices in my community, I also co-founded Girls4Girls, NGO, a non-profit organization that strives to educate, empower, and provide opportunities to disadvantaged girls around the world. On a local level, I galvanized students in the DMV area to join a community outreach program in underserved PGCPs schools, facilitating a student-to-student support program through donations and dialogue. Every connection I developed within my community inspired me to pursue a future filled with engagement.



If elected, I am prepared to do whatever it takes to fight for the success of my fellow Terrapins and their futures, and to continue making us proud of the university that so many of us call home.

**Shulamit Frenkel**  
**College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

My name is Shulamit Frenkel, and I am a BSOS senator double majoring in Criminology & Criminal Justice and Family Science. I am deeply committed to the University of Maryland and to meeting the varying needs of the diverse communities we foster on campus.

As a member of the RHA senate, I have helped create more halal dining options on campus, improve undergraduate access to academic resources, and promote prosocial behavior by identifying spaces for Facilities Management to add more outdoor tables and recreational activities.

My involvement in extracurricular activities such as ASL Club, Crochet for a Cause, Preventing Sexual Assault, Resident Hall Association, and University Student Judiciary, coupled with my enrollment in the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences and the School of Public Health, has given me an expansive and inclusive perspective on how University policies will impact the undergraduate body.

If elected to the Senate Executive Committee, I hope to collaborate with all members to ensure that the policies we develop and review are beneficial to everyone affiliated with the University of Maryland.

Thank your consideration, I look forward to the opportunity to serve on the Senate Executive Committee and make a positive impact on the future of our University.

**Aiden Wechsler**  
**College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

Hello everyone, my name is Aiden Wechsler, and I am a newly elected Senator for the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, and I am asking for your support to be one of the undergraduate students to be able to serve on the Senate Executive Committee. While I am new to the University Senate, my experience in outside organizations has prepared me to effectively represent students on the committee and work towards improving the university for everyone. For the past three years, I have been a member of the Residence Hall Association, where I have worked on supporting and advocating for students among various departments in Student affairs. As a result, I have worked on initiatives related to student fees and affordability, mental health advocacy, and Residence Life and facilities. In addition, to my role in the Residence Hall Association, I had the honor of serving as the Director of Academic Affairs for the Student Government Association this past year, where I have been deeply involved in helping to plan the agendas for the Provost Student Advisory Council, have served on the Undergraduate Dean's Student Advisory Council, and worked on many Senate initiatives such as excused mental health absence and the consideration of a fall break. In addition, some of the initiatives that I have taken on include advocating for textbook affordability, expanding financial literacy resources for students, and working to make the university course offerings more inclusive by advocating for the addition of more ASL courses as well as the addition of a Ukrainian Language course on campus. In addition, I have also had the honor of serving on the Student Conduct Review Committee, where I have heard directly from students about the changes they would like to see made to the process. I highlight these roles because, as a student on the Senate Executive Committee, the students who serve must be able to effectively work and collaborate with university staff and faculty and advocate for students' interests. My experience working with administrators and leaders across the divisions of academic

affairs and student affairs has prepared me well to create change on campus while being a collaborative partner with the other members of the Senate Executive Committee.

I would like to serve on the Senate Executive Committee because a Senator's most important responsibility is to advocate for the needs of their constituents. As a member of the Senate Executive Committee, my experience in the Residence Hall Association, Student Government Association, and Student Conduct Review Committee would allow me to advocate effectively for all students and provide reliable input when reviewing proposals. One of the goals that I would take on as a Senator would be to support affordability across all university colleges and begin a review of all student fees charged to students and the process by which many academic fees are reviewed each year. Tuition and room and board are only some of the costs students face while at the university, and many fees are charged with enrollment in certain classes. The university must look at these fees more closely, as additional fees can create inequitable challenges for students, especially the most vulnerable. In addition, I would like to include more students in the University Senate process, including expanding the number of Senators that serve on committees to make the Senate more accessible. The work of the Senate has the potential to impact every student on campus, and the work of the Senate must be visible and transparent. I am asking to serve on the Senate Executive Committee because my experience outside of the Senate working on countless issues related to academics and student affairs has prepared me to be an effective advocate for students as well as a partner in helping to ensure the success and improvement of the university for everyone. Thank you.

# Candidacy Statements for the Committee on Committees 2023-2024 Election

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

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### **Michael Elonge, Senior Agent College of Agriculture & Natural Resources**

My name is Michael Elonge, I am an African from Cameroon. I joined the UME in 2008 as a tenure-track faculty from the Maryland State Department of Human Service. In 2013, I was promoted to tenure (Senior Extension Agent/Associate Professor). For more than 6 years, I have not had the opportunity to provide services at the University level, which is an important requirement on the AGNR-Extension CV. As such, I am available to serve.

My teaching and research interest are in Economics and Financial Education with a focus on Public Housing, Family Investment Programs, Detention Centers, and Schools K12.

My research has been presented at more than 32 national and 6 international peer-reviewed conferences including 10 journal publications.

### **Michael Kio, Asst Research Professor A. James Clark School of Engineering**

It is with great honor and pleasure to be nominated to serve in the committee on committees. I am Michael Kio an Assistant Research Professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Maryland College Park (UMCP). My current research interest focuses on developing enhanced fouling release coating formulation. My research interests also include surface wettability and nanoparticle interaction with lipid bilayers for studies of drug delivery implementing molecular dynamics. I received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Rivers University and a PhD in Aerospace Engineering from Cranfield University with specialization in computational and molecular dynamics in the United Kingdom. I was a postdoctoral associate in the A. James Clark School of Engineering and a member of several professional organizations and committees.

I am a senior member of the American Institution of Aeronautics and Astronautics and chaired several AIAA technical sessions, and an AIAA reviewer where I assessed and evaluated presenters and manuscripts. I am currently a Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET), a chartered engineer in the United Kingdom and a professional project management practitioner (PMP) in the United States. I was a member of the University of Maryland College Park PTK symposium organizing committee that planned and successfully executed the PTK symposium 2023. I was the teacher facilitator for Student Spaceflight Experiments Program Mission 16 which was a finalist team from the University of Maryland College Park and flew a microgravity experiment to the international space station and currently in the review board of mission 17 terms in space. I will utilize experiences gained over time to develop creative ideas and shape policies for the betterment of the senate and the university community.

### **Jessica O'Hara, Asst Clinical Professor Office of the Provost**

I am truly honored to have been nominated to serve on the Senate's Committee on Committees. I am currently a PTK Senator representing the Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost. Additionally,

I have served as a faculty member on the Senate Faculty Affairs committee for the past four years and in this role, I have been able to review and provide feedback on a number of key policies that impact faculty.

I have been a faculty member at the University of Maryland since 2014 and have served in multiple roles during this time. Currently, I am a Clinical Assistant Professor with the First-Year Innovation and Research (FIRE) program, where I run the microbiology-focused Host-Pathogen Interactions research stream in addition to teaching undergraduate courses each semester for the School of Public Health. Previously, I worked for three and half years as the Assistant Program Director for the Public Health Science program at the Shady Grove campus.

I feel that my teaching, research, administrative, and service experiences on both the College Park and Shady Grove campuses have provided me with unique insight into the varied roles of PTK faculty at UMD and I would love the opportunity to serve the broader campus community as a member of this committee. Thank you so much for your consideration.

**Matt Parker, Principal Agent Associate  
College of Agriculture & Natural Resources**

Thank you for the nomination for the Committee on Committees. I look forward to serving on this committee to help the University Senate attract new members and make sure existing committees are running efficiently.

**Brit I. Saksvig, Assoc Clinical Professor  
School of Public Health**

I am running for a position on the Senate Committee on Committees. I have been a faculty member since 2002 and I am currently an Associate Clinical Professor and Director of Graduate Student Services in the School of Public Health. I was previously the Director of Graduate Studies and Assistant Chair for the Department of Epidemiology. I am committed to advancing the interests of Professional Track Faculty on campus. I was the co-chair of the 5th Annual PTK Symposium held in March 2023 and have served as the chair of symposium sub-committees in 2022 (Logistics) and 2021 (Registration). I contributed to the development of the SPH PTK AEP guidelines and have chaired and served on multiple AEP Promotion committees for PTK faculty in the SPH. I also participated in the ADVANCE Program, Career Development Series for Professional Track Faculty as well as the ADVANCE Program, Leadership Fellows Program. I am currently completing my 2nd term on the University Senate and look forward to being more involved next year on the Committee of Committees. If elected, I will bring my experience, knowledge and commitment to the service of the University community.

## **Candidacy Statements for the Committee on Committees 2023-2024 Election**

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

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**Darrell Claiborne, Director  
Robert H. Smith School of Business**

Director of Operations for the Robert H. Smith School of Business since 2016 and my prior experiences in higher education were in student affairs from 1994 to 2015. At UMD, I have served on the Senate's staff, student, & campus affairs committees, a member of the Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC), President's Initiative Energy Task Force, mentor for the Incentive Awards Program (IAP) & the Black Faculty Staff Association (BFSA) undergraduate mentorship programs, and as a representative for UMD on the Council of University System Staff. Additional involvement at the Smith school includes serving as a co-chair for the Smith Safety & Security and College Action Plan Committees, as a Diversity & Inclusion Committee member, and as the Academic Facility Officer. As a passionate higher education professional I'm always exploring opportunities that will allow me to be involved and connected at the institution I work for and being elected to serve on the University Senate Committee on Committees would continue to help me build on that foundation. As a senior manager with over 30 years of experience in higher education, I'm passionate and committed to consistently making a difference and having a real impact on the lives of the students we serve on a daily basis. I also believe that my volunteer professional involvement with the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) on both the regional & national levels as conference chair, convention chair, education & professional development coordinator, diversity coordinator, mentor, and most recently appointed as a Trustee for the NACA Foundation would support me in serving on this Committee on Committees. My professional motto is inspired by Napoleon Hill's quote "Whatever the mind can conceive and believe, it can achieve!" and I hope I can count on your vote and support.

**Kim Gonzalez, Manager  
Robert H. Smith School of Business**

I am so honored to be considered for the Committee on Committees. This is my first year on the Senate but I have been an active member of the UMD staff for nearly 10 years now. The Committee on Committees aims to keep a check on the effectiveness of all the committees, which is largely in line with the work I do at UMD already. I manage two of our Business Master's programs, keeping track of courses, students, schedules, and evaluations of the program. I'd love to take this experience and use it to look at all the committees and help ensure we're spending time effectively for everyone. I have also worked closely with our admissions team, helping identify students that are the best fit for our programs, another skill I'd love to bring to the committee to help find the right people to serve UMD. I also hold a Masters in Educational Leadership, where I focused on Student Affairs, so helping create the best university experience for students is a passion I have always had. I am so excited at the prospect of working with the Committee on Committees.

# Candidacy Statements for the Committee on Committees 2023-2024 Election

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

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### **Jimmy McClellan** **College of Education**

My entire career has been focused on advocacy; I know that having people with motivation and dedication in the right positions can create lasting change of our campus community. I believe that relationships are the crux for creating change. The University Senate need an advocate on the Committee on Committees who understands the importance of balancing work, family, childcare, and academic responsibilities, while also wanting to make a difference in University leadership. Our administration needs to hear from diverse voices with various perspectives on all committees, ranging from student affairs, to transportation, to academic issues. As the only Part-Time Graduate Senator for the University Senate, I will work to ensure we are approving committee assignments that allow for positive change and idea generation to take place, not to simply continue with the status quo; that's never been what the University of Maryland has been about. I look forward to the opportunity to select interested students, faculty, and staff who want to make a difference in their community. As a member of the Committee on Committees I see it as my duty to advocate for more voices at the table and ensure that each committee has a group of committed, proven, and equitable leadership to make UMD an even better place to work, live, and study. Thank you for your consideration and I hope to earn your support!

### **Augustine Uzoigwe** **A. James Clark School of Engineering**

I am honored to submit my candidacy for the Committee on Committees in the upcoming election. As an experienced academic professional with a deep commitment to the principles of shared governance, I believe that I possess the skills, knowledge, and dedication needed to serve effectively in this important role. I believe that effective committee work requires a keen understanding of the needs and interests of faculty, staff, and students, as well as a willingness to engage in open and respectful dialogue with all stakeholders.

I believe that the Committee on Committees plays a critical role in ensuring that the university's governance structures are effective, efficient, and responsive to the needs of the community. If elected, I will work tirelessly to ensure that the committee's work is grounded in a deep commitment to shared governance and that the interests and needs of all stakeholders are fully represented. Vote your MouthPiece.

# Candidacy Statements for the Committee on Committees 2023-2024 Election

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

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### **Kaoutar Cheji** **Robert H. Smith School of Business**

Hi, everyone, my name is Kaoutar Cheji, and I am thrilled to apply for the committee of committees position. I am a junior and transfer student from the community college of Baltimore County. As someone born in Italy to ethnically Moroccan parents and who moved to the United States at ten, I have always valued education and the opportunities it provides. After spending two years at community college to obtain my associate degree, I feel fortunate to be here today, relating to many of my peers who attended four-year universities straight after high school. Throughout my college journey, I have been committed to positively impacting my community. Serving on the executive board of student government, I advocated for mental health, equality, and poverty-related issues faced by my peers. My efforts paid off when I successfully collaborated with Maryland senators to create scholarships for students from lower-income families.

Additionally, I was responsible for tracking funding for school clubs, ensuring they had the necessary resources to thrive. I also spearheaded a fundraising campaign for a hospital in Ukraine, which raised over \$12,000. This experience taught me the importance of reaching out to diverse communities and using my skills to create meaningful change.

In addition to my experiences in student government, I have taken leadership roles in working for social justice organizations in Baltimore City. For instance, I have worked closely with youth poets and the Baltimore Mayor's office to create a platform for young African American students to speak out against injustices they face through poetry. Through my work in these organizations, I have gained a deep understanding of the importance of practical committee work and its impact on communities. My experiences have equipped me with the skills needed to be an influential committee member. I have developed strong leadership skills, communication ability, and dedication to social justice issues. As a committee member, I would work tirelessly to assess the effectiveness of committees and recruit individuals who can bring unique perspectives and experiences to Senate, University, and System committees and councils. Thank you for considering my application, and I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the Senate's important work.

### **Michael O'Neill** **A. James Clark School of Engineering**

I am truly honored to be considered for a position on the Committee on Committees. I believe that effective committee service is crucial to the success of any organization, and I am committed to supporting this goal through my work on the committee that is charged with organizing and monitoring said committees.

As a highly organized and detail-oriented individual, I understand the importance of identifying and recruiting individuals with the necessary skills and expertise to serve on the Senate, while also ensuring that equal representation and diverse opinions are presented at all times. I am confident that I can work effectively with other members of the committee to develop and implement strategies for identifying and recruiting the most qualified candidates for these important positions. In addition to my recruitment skills, I am also committed to the ongoing assessment of the effectiveness of committees. I believe that regular evaluation and feedback are essential to ensuring that committees are operating in the most

efficient and effective manner possible. My goal with this position is to allow for all voices to be heard and all ideas to be taken into account for the wellbeing of the senate and the students of UMD.

Overall, I am excited about the opportunity to contribute to the University community in this important role. I believe that my skills, experience, and commitment make me well-suited to serve on the Committee on Committees, and I look forward to the opportunity to work with other members of the committee to support effective committee service throughout the University. Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to the opportunity to serve on the Committee on Committees.



# Candidacy Statements for the University Athletic Council 2023-2024 Election

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

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### **Drew Baden, Professor College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences**

I am indeed honored to be a candidate for the Athletic Council. I am a professor in the physics department, and have been at UMD since 1989. My research is in experimental elementary particle physics, having participated in the discovery of the top quark and Higgs boson. I was associate chair of the physics department for facilities and personnel 1999-2006, and was fortunate to be chair of the department from 2006 to 2016. I spent 3 years on leave to the Department of Energy from 2018-2021, working as a program manager in the Office of High Energy Physics.

I love it here at Maryland, where I have spent the vast majority of my professional career. I consider it a privilege to spend my time teaching and doing research, and spend as much time as I can with the students, especially the undergraduates. I have learned that one should never underestimate the students, they are every bit as smart and determined as are the rest of us, they only lack the same experience, but they have their entire future ahead of them. This is our responsibility to nurture.

Athletics is a complex and vital part of the campus, playing a central role in our campus culture and giving us tremendous visibility. On a personal level, it gives the students an avenue for tremendous growth, learning the value of hard work, dedication, and especially, how to work collaboratively towards a common goal. We have a wonderful athletics program, and it's up to all of us to help nurture it and help our students succeed. It would be an honor to be a part of that effort!

### **Ryan Blaustein, Assistant Professor College of Agriculture & Natural Resources**

It is an honor to be nominated for the University Athletic Council. I joined the Department of Nutrition and Food Science as an Assistant Professor in August 2022 and am eager to get involved with leadership on campus. As a longtime Terrapin sports fan, and UMD alum, I am ecstatic to return to campus. I feel collegiate sports make such positive impacts on a University community, and find scholar athletes of utmost importance. My research and teaching program in food microbiology focusses on how tiny life (microbes) all around us, and within us, have profound impacts on our health and well-being every day -- from soils in agricultural production, to human gut function. Our health is intertwined with the environment, especially through food and nutrition. If elected, my goal is to foster this spirit of interconnectedness amongst our student athletes, the campus community, and beyond. Thank you for your consideration.

### **Kim Coles, Professor College of Arts & Humanities**

I have previously served on the University Athletic Council (2019-2022) and the Academic Advisory Committee of Athletic Council (2020-2022). This service was in the wake of the tragic death of Jordan McNair, when the Athletics Department was trying to investigate the behavior that led to the entirely preventable death of a student, account for the mistakes that were made, and put protocols in place to assure that this never happens again. During my tenure, University Athletics also worked to assure that the university was honoring its promise to student athletes to provide an excellent education in

exchange for their hard work on behalf of the University of Maryland. The Academic Advisory Committee established new protocols for reporting student grades, for tutoring student athletes, and for intervening with students who were experiencing academic difficulties. The Athletics Department is now reporting strong grades and high GPAs on the part of the majority of its athletes. I am proud to have played a role in a number of these changes. Now that I have once again been elected to the University Senate, I would like to continue this work.

**Cortney Fisher, Lecturer  
College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

I am honored to be nominated to serve as a faculty representative to the University's Athletics Council. I have been with the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice in a part-time capacity since 2004 and within the last 18 months, joined the full-time faculty as a Lecturer. I hold a B.A. from Penn State University, a J.D. from New England Law - Boston, and a PhD from the University of Maryland - College Park. My areas of research and teaching expertise are in the role of the victim as they engage in different criminal justice processes, and the different ways that professionals in the criminal justice system can work together.

I am particularly interested in serving the University of Maryland community as a representative to the Athletics Council, as I am an unabashed sports fan. Over the past 19 years of teaching in the classroom, I have had the opportunity to engage with many student athletes from a wide range of sports. I am always awed by the commitment that it takes to manage a successful athletic and academic career. I was also raised in a family that relied on college athletics to provide an opportunity for many of my family members to achieve their educational goals. My father, aunt, and both sisters competed in Division I college athletics. In Spring 2022, I was the proud recipient of the Women's Lacrosse Most Valuable Professor Award. I see this opportunity as a chance for me to advance student success in both the academic and athletic areas and I would be honored to be elected.

**Imani Goffney, Assistant Professor  
College of Education**

*No statement provided*

**Joanna Goger, Principal Lecturer  
College of Agriculture & Natural Resources**

I am extremely honored to be nominated to serve on the University Athletic Council. I first began teaching at the University of Maryland as an adjunct faculty member in 2003, while simultaneously serving as a trial attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice. I have been a full-time member of the faculty of the Environmental Science and Policy Program since 2011. I teach courses in environmental law, policy, and environmental justice. I served as a Senator on the University Senate from 2016-2018 and am currently a member of the Senate Educational Affairs Committee, and am thus familiar with the important role shared governance plays at our University.

I have taught and mentored numerous student-athletes throughout my time at Maryland and was a Division I track and field athlete myself. I am also a mother to three high school student-athletes, one of whom will be playing Division I lacrosse starting this fall. If elected to the Athletic Council, I hope to lend a voice of personal experience to the important decisions that are made regarding athletics on campus. As a member of the Council, I would look forward to contributing to the overall success of

the student-athlete experience at Maryland while also learning more about how I can personally best support student-athletes.

**Gideon Mark, Associate Professor  
Robert H. Smith School of Business**

Thank you for considering my candidacy for the University Athletic Council. I would like to serve for two main reasons: (1) I have a keen interest in sports in general and in intercollegiate athletics in particular; and (2) I think I can make a valuable contribution to the Council. I'm an associate professor at the Smith School, where I've taught since 2008. For six of those years I taught a course on sports management. The course covered intercollegiate sports in the first half and professional sports in the second half. Coverage of the former included such key topics as Title IX, NCAA compliance and infractions, NIL (name, image, and likeness), business operations, agents, conference realignment, and marketing, and featured guest presentations by numerous members of the leadership team of the UMD Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. Other somewhat relevant qualifications: I've served as a senator for a number of years, as a member of the Senate Student Conduct Committee for seven non-consecutive years, and as a member of the Senate Faculty Affairs Committee for the last two years.

**Charles Wellford, Professor Emeritus  
College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

I am honored to be nominated for a position representing the Campus Senate on the Athletic Council.

As a former Chair of the Campus Senate and the Athletic Council, I know how much the Council can do to assure our athletics programs meet the very high expectations we have for them. I served on the Athletic Council for over 15 years and was Chair for 13 years. In addition, I have served on the Management and Championships Councils of the NCAA and as President of the Atlantic Coast Conference. These experiences and my continued activity in campus governance give me a strong foundation to represent the Senate on this important body.

My involvement in campus athletics oversight began following the tragic death of one our student athletes (Len Bias). This event led to a comprehensive review of intercollegiate athletics on our campus which identified many problems, most of which were linked to the absence of meaningful oversight by the campus and especially the faculty. Since then I have sought to work to assure as much transparency as possible in the operation of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, and more oversight by faculty, staff, students and the Senate. If I am elected to serve on the Council, I will continue to seek to further increase transparency and oversight and to ensure the academic success, personal development, and athletic success of our student athletes.

# **Candidacy Statements for the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF) 2023-2024 Election**

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

### **Damena Agonafer, Associate Professor A. James Clark School of Engineering**

I am honored to be considered for The Council of University System Faculty (CUSF). As a relatively new faculty member at UMD, I am looking forward to engaging more with students, staff, and faculty and translating the voices of the UMD community to University leadership. During the tenure of my previous institution, I served on DEI committees at both the college of engineering and University level. I understand the importance of conveying the most pressing issues to University leadership. Thanks again for the consideration.

### **Philip Evers, Assoc Prof & Asst Dean Robert H. Smith School of Business**

I previously served as a representative on the Council of University Faculty (CUSF) from 2017 until 2020. During that time, I held the following leadership positions: Vice Chair, 2018-2019; Interim Chair, 2019; and Executive Committee At-Large Member, 2019-2020. I have always felt that the University of Maryland College Park faculty should take CUSF activities seriously as CUSF provides direct input to the University System of Maryland and the Chancellor. Faculty at other schools within the System recognize the importance of CUSF—UMCP faculty need to ensure that their voice is heard as well. If I am elected, I intend to again assume a leadership role in CUSF.

### **Meredith Gore, Associate Professor College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

I am currently an Associate Professor in Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change in the Department of Geographical Sciences (GEOG) and a faculty affiliate with the Advanced Research Laboratory for Intelligence and Research (ARLIS). My research is focused on environmental risk, particularly nature crime, interdisciplinary and participatory mapping, and science diplomacy. I have active research projects in 6 countries on 2 continents with expertise in Africa and Southeast Asia. I currently lead an international team of scientists from 9 universities in 3 countries on mitigating biosecurity risks from the intersectionality of illegal wildlife trade with emerging zoonotic pathogens. I taught study abroad in Madagascar for 10 years. I am a University of Maryland Presidential Research Fellow, an American Geographical Society Council Member, a National Academies of Sciences Jefferson Science Fellow, and US Department of State Embassy Science Fellow. I have been a proud member of the University of Maryland faculty since Fall 2020.

I believe I have built and maintained a very strong service record over the course of my scientific career. My service activities have and currently include scientific/professional society leadership; nongovernmental organization and foundation boards and councils; journal editorships; science diplomacy with international parastatals; and trainings for practitioners in international sectors including banks, government agencies and students. I currently chair the DEIAR committee in GEOG, am the Human Subjects Protection Program Liaison, serve on the Human Dimensions Teaching Team, and have served on the Undergraduate Committee.

This is my first term serving on the Faculty Senate. I am running for a position on the Council of University System Faculty because I believe I have diverse lived experience and expertise to effectively contribute and because I strongly want to give back to the faculty and University that has provided me with a vibrant community within which to thrive as a professional and a person. I am committed to the success of the University and its community members. I have spent my entire professional life at land-grant universities and I fundamentally value and embody the mission. If elected I will work to serve for excellence.

**Mohammad Hajiaghayi, Professor**  
**College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences**

As a professor in CMNS affiliated with CS, Applied Math, and Business School, I have been honored to receive numerous awards such as Guggenheim Fellow, ACM Fellow, IEEE Fellow, AAAS Fellow, EATCS Fellow, and Blavatnik Honoree. Additionally, I have received the EATCS Nerode Prize, ONR Young Investigator Award, NSF CAREER award, and twice awarded the Google Faculty Award. I strongly believe that all faculty members, including those from off-site departments, should have representation in important committees such as CUSF. With over 13 years of experience as a UMD faculty member (starting as an assistant professor), I understand the unique challenges faced by faculty and staff from various departments, and I am committed to being a voice for all members of the university community and ensuring their concerns are addressed in a timely and effective manner as I have already initiated communication with my constituents in CMNS.

**Isaac Moradi, Research Scientist**  
**College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences**

I am honored to be nominated for the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF). I am a Research Scientist at Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, CMNS working offsite at NASA Goddard. The shared governance is essential for the success of any system of higher education. CUSF is responsible for making recommendations on the system wide matters to the Chancellor. The USM policies and practices directly impact all of the faculties at UMD, therefore, it is important for CUSF to have representation from all faculty constituencies. PTK faculties form a large portion of the faculties at UMD and among them many work off-site on research and extension tasks sponsored by different government agencies.

Since joining UMD in 2011, I have been involved in many activities and tasks at both departmental and university level including representing PTK faculties in the Senate for multiple terms, Senate Executive Committee, UMD Research Council, the Senate Committee and Committees, and the Campus AEP Committee. Through these years of service, I have developed a fundamental understanding of the UMD system and also a respectful relationship with many UMD faculties and administration.

If I am elected, I will continue to advocate for fairness, inclusion, and diversity and will eagerly work with other committee members, faculties, the Senate, and the university administration to ensure that the USM and especially UMD succeeds as a top tier public university.

**Matt Parker, Principal Agent Associate**  
**College of Agriculture & Natural Resources**

I am honored to be nominated for a position on the Council of University System Faculty. Since joining the University of Maryland in 2011 as PTK faculty member in AGNR, I have been promoted to

the rank of Principle Agent Associate and converted my position from 100% grant funded to only 25% grant funded. Working with Extension and not being based on campus has provided me a unique perspective on how the University works and is perceived by our stakeholders in Maryland. In my tenure at UMD, I have served on several hiring committees. I have seen the challenges UMD faces in attracting and retaining qualified candidates for positions. I would like to see UMD be more proactive and competitive with respect to new faculty members, and keeping the talented staff we already had. For example, early in my career at UMD I saw a tenure track faculty member denied tenure since they did not have enough scholarship. It was obvious no one helped them navigate the tenure process and explain what they needed to do and what the categories meant. I have also served on the AGNR Merit Pay committee for the last year. This was an enlightening experience to help determine the Merit Pay Policy for AGNR so that all TTK and PTK faculty were evaluated equally and fairly.

I was asked recently in my annual review what some of my goals would be for the next 5 years. I would like to be more involved with my university-based service and to represent the interests of PTK faculty members at UMD. PTK faculty play an important role at UMD. I will help to elevate their concerns to UMD Administration so that PTK faculty are not forgotten in policy decisions.

**Marcia Shofner, Senior Lecturer  
College of Computer, Mathematical, & Natural Sciences**

Thank you to the Nominations Committee for bringing forward my nomination. It is a privilege to represent UMD. I served as a PTK faculty representative on the Council of University System Faculty (CUSF) this past term, and I would like to have the opportunity to continue the work we have been doing. I am on the Education Policy subcommittee. We actively worked on the important issue of Academic Integrity, and this has been expanded into exploring the impact of AI-based programs, such as ChapGPT and DALL-E, on us as faculty. Do we embrace it? If so, how? Should we be wary? Do we need a system-wide policy to address its inevitability? Discussing and working together across the various Maryland campuses as we think about higher education and its service to our students is vital to me, and the opportunity to serve as a representative on CUSF is an honor. I am struck by the unique opportunity afforded to PTK faculty like myself as we work together with TTK faculty. I would continue to advocate for positive advances in our educational community while ensuring the perspectives of our over 3000 UMCP PTK faculty are considered on the Council. Shared governance and collaborative conversation is how positive change happens, and it is how the CUSF team of faculty works.

I have been full-time at UMCP since 2005, serving as Assistant Director for Life Sciences Scholars, Assistant Director for the Biological Sciences Program back when it was in the College of Chemical and Life Sciences, and am now in my current position as Senior Lecturer in the Department of Entomology and as the Director of the Graduate Program for Masters in Chemical & Life Sciences. I have participated in various capacities at the University, College, and Departmental levels, such as program, search, review, and departmental committees, and as a faculty representative on the Student Honor Council and Senate. I hope my experiences in these various roles while at UMD might continue to add perspective in our shared goal of strengthening higher education in Maryland. Thank you for your consideration.

**Gurpal Toor, Professor  
College of Agriculture & Natural Resources**

*No statement provided*

**Candidacy Statements for the Campus Transportation  
Advisory Committee (CTAC)  
2023-2024 Election**

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

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**Hosam Fathy, Professor  
A. James Clark School of Engineering**

It is an honor to be considered as a nominee for the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC). I am a tenured professor of Mechanical Engineering. I joined UMD in Fall 2019, not very long before the COVID-19 pandemic, so there is still a lot that I am learning about this great campus and university. My research focuses on the optimal control of energy systems, including transportation systems. Over the past 30 years, I have interned at a couple of automakers, worked as a full-time control systems engineer in an automotive consulting company in Detroit, and done quite a bit of research in the automotive systems area. This included research on vehicle suspension/chassis systems, plug-in hybrid vehicles, vehicle-to-grid integration, and connected/automated vehicles. The biggest lesson I have learned from these experiences is humility, i.e., the fact that there is always more to learn. Campus is currently going through several significant transitions related to its transportation infrastructure, so this is certainly an exciting (and perhaps stressful) time for transportation on campus. My interest in the CTAC committee is driven mostly by intellectual curiosity regarding opportunities to listen, learn, and of course serve. If elected, I promise to do my best to serve the campus community's interests, and I also promise to always listen. After all, listening is the best way to learn, and my motivation to serve is partly driven by a motivation to learn.

**Jonathan Resop, Senior Lecturer  
College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

My name is Jonathan Resop and I'm running for the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee. To be honest I'm not sure what to expect. I am a new University Senator and I have not yet served on a senate committee. I did previously serve on the University IT Council (2020 to 2022) and it was an enjoyable experience. But since my term on that council is over I was looking for another opportunity to serve the university. And to be honest again, the transportation committee seemed to be the most interesting option available that worked in my schedule. I have absolutely no transportation experience. I have been teaching as a lecturer at UMD in Geographical Sciences teaching in our MS GIS program since 2013. Previously I did my Ph.D. at Virginia Tech (Ut Prosim - That I May Serve) and I did my B.S. and M.S. at UMD in Biological Engineering and Computer Science. So I am a Terp alumni and a current Terp faculty. I have lots of experience walking around campus as a student and faculty. I used the bus often as a student. I current work part time on campus and drive in a couple days a week. If I can be useful to serve the university in this manner, I would be happy to serve.

**John Straub, Senior Lecturer  
College of Behavioral & Social Sciences**

My term as a PTK senator is ending in May and I'm interested in continuing to contribute to shared governance by serving as a non-senator on the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC).

I have been a lecturer or senior lecturer at the UMD since 2011, and the Director of the MS Degree Program in Applied Economics since 2014. My interest in shared governance has grown, especially since my role as the director of an academic program is still student-facing, but also requires actually implementing many important UMD policies. I see directly how policies impact students and staff,

and want to bring that perspective into rooms where policy is formulated and deliberated. As a PTK faculty member working in both the 12-week, as well as the semester-based calendars, I can also bring PTK and 12-week calendar perspectives, which are still often considered only as an afterthought when important policies are formulated, despite the rapidly expanding roles of both PTK faculty, and professional academic programs that operate on the 12-week calendar.

As an outgoing senator this year, I have served as the chair of the Senate Nominations Committee, which prepares slates of candidates for 5 of the elected Senate committees and councils, including the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), CTAC, and 3 other bodies. Outside the senate I have also served on advisory committees to the BSOS dean's office on PTK matters, to the Office of Extended Studies, and the ELEVATE Program. I have participated in ADVANCE programs for professional track faculty. In 2019 I served on the planning committee for the UMD PTK Symposium. I have also been an active participant in the group of directors of professional master's degree programs in BSOS.

My interest in serving on the CTAC stems from both personal and professional interests in transportation issues on campus. The students in my program take evening classes. Many of them have spoken with me about the UMD Shuttle service upon which they rely for transportation home after their evening classes. Also, like many UMD employees, I do not come to campus 5 days a week, so I use day passes rather than semester-based parking passes. I have often wondered, for example, why the UMD parking portal does not have an app that could be used via cell phones when using the day passes. Our department has also experienced issues at times like insufficient visitor parking for our interview candidates at the Mowatt Lane garage, despite many unoccupied "U2" spots on the top floors. I have discussed things like this with the coordinator who handles parking issues for our department.

Given the 3-year term, I would focus initially on learning the ropes and developing relationships. But I would be coming to the committee with significant previous experience with campus transportation challenges, and UMD service more generally.



**Candidacy Statements for the Campus Transportation  
Advisory Committee (CTAC)  
2023-2024 Election**

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

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**Gene Ferrick, Director  
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 43 years of association with UMD including my start as a student. Over this time 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 I 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.

**Adrienne Mayo-Brown, Director  
College of Education**

I am very excited about the possible opportunity to serve on the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee. I am currently Director of Finance and Administration for the Department of Teaching & Learning, Policy & Leadership in the College of Education. With almost 18 years of campus experience in 3 different colleges across campus I have seen a lot of changes around campus and many of them impact transportation. With issues such as the cost and locations of parking on campus, safety issues surrounding parking (especially as we prepare for the Metro) and access to campus parking for people with limited mobility, now seems like the perfect time to get involved. I would welcome the chance to participate in shared governance around such important policies and decisions that effects campus members at all levels.

**Candidacy Statements for the Campus Transportation  
Advisory Committee (CTAC)  
2023-2024 Election**

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

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**Patrick Kemp**  
**College of Agriculture & Natural Resources**

*No statement provided*

**Zachary Braunstein**  
**College of Arts & Humanities**

I am deeply honored to be nominated for the Campus Transportation Advisory Committee.

As a former nominee for this committee, my campaign was targeted at highlighting numerous campus transit matters. From advocating for finishing the Purple Line to promoting fundraising ideas, my suggestions set the standard for making transportation projects more efficient. Being an avid traveler from coast-to-coast, I've spent years reaching out to many places across Maryland.

In particular, I've spent this time traveling to schools across the East Coast. Whether it's for a class, political club, or community organization, I frequently ride the UMD bus to school, rent cars from SORC for interscholastic competitions, and take the D.C. metro to complete volunteer work. As a new legislative candidate for student government, I'll be using public transportation more frequently when I lobby in Annapolis next year.

Thank you for the potential opportunity and I look forward to working together.