

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE  
Committee on Committees  
(Final;Action)

CC.15.08 Nominations to the Athletic Board

**Background**

The Athletic Board consists of seven faculty members, appointed by the Chancellor from nominations by the Senate, and two students appointed by the Chancellor from a slate of four candidates from the Illinois student government.

Terms of faculty ordinarily shall be four years; terms of students ordinarily shall be one year, with the possibility of reappointment for an additional year. Continuing faculty members of the Athletic Board and the expiration of their terms are as follows:

Kathryn Clancy	LAS	2018
<i>Cleo D'Arcy</i>	<i>ACES</i>	<i>2015</i>
Vicente Diaz	LAS	2017
Adrienne Dixson	EDUC	2016
Michael LeRoy	LER	2018
<i>Michael Raycraft</i>	<i>AHS</i>	<i>2015</i>
Thomas Ulen	LAW	2017

The Committee on Committees recommends approval of the following slate of nominees.  
(Submitted interest statements from nominees are attached.)

**Nominations**

The following faculty are nominated to fill two (2) faculty positions for four-year terms expiring in 2019. If no additional nominations are made, the nominees below will be forwarded to the Chancellor.

Kelly Bost	ACES
JJ Pionke	LIBR
Jay Rosenstein	MDA
F. William Simmons	ACES

The following students are nominated to fill two (2) student positions for one year terms expiring in 2016. If no additional nominations are made, the nominees below will be forwarded to the Chancellor.

Sarah Hochman	ACES
Maggie Klinge	SSW
Hannah Taylor	ENGR

**COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES**

Prasanta Kalita, Chair  
Lisa Monda-Amaya  
Sara Benson  
Mitch Dickey  
William Gropp  
Sarah Hochman  
Calvin Lear  
Randy McCarthy  
Jenny Roether, *ex officio*

Nominations from the floor must be accompanied by the nominee's signed statement of willingness to serve if elected, and a statement of interest. The statement shall be dated and include the name of the position to be filled. If present, the nominee's oral statement will suffice.

## **FACULTY NOMINEES**

### **BOST, Kelly (AHS: Human and Community Development)**

I am writing to self-nominate for one of the vacancies on the Athletic Board. I am a professor of Human Development and Family Studies in the College of ACES. I have had a long-standing interest in athletics as my father played in the NFL (1957 – 1962) and was a defensive line coordinator at Auburn University for over 10 years. I was also a competing gymnast for many years. As a faculty member, I strive to help student athletes recognize how the discipline and cognitive skills they learn through their sport can be used to reach their educational goals as well. I have taught a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses at the UI, and have served on committees related to curricula development and change. I have also served as a mentor for students involved in the Research Apprentice Program (RAP) which is specifically designed to recruit minority/underrepresented students. Finally, building my research program has involved creating, maintaining, and managing diverse budgets.

I would welcome the opportunity to serve on the Athletic Board to address issues related to student welfare and education.

### **PIONKE, JJ (LIBR: Kinesiology)**

I would like to nominate myself for the Athletic Board. My interest in the Athletic Board is multifold. As the Applied Health Sciences Librarian, one of my areas of responsibility is Kinesiology, of which many of our athletes major in. I am also responsible for purchasing research materials that will assist our teams in coaching and understanding the sports that they participate in. While I am a longtime fan of sport, I have also been an athlete myself and I understand the pressures that they face. As a tenure track faculty member, my research interests revolve around disability and the library, of which athletes are a segment, including our disabled athletes. Part of our values here at the University center on excellence, accountability, and inclusivity – whether that is in terms of education or athletics, we have a responsibility to help all students, including athletes, fulfill those values and be the best students and athletes that they can be. In terms of business and financial responsibility, I manage the funds for the purchase of materials for the University Library for the College of Applied Health Science. I take this responsibility seriously and aim to take a middle road approach – using my funds to make purchases that my faculty and students have expressed an interest in, as well as auditing the current spending in order to be more fiscally responsible. I believe in innovation and experimentation, but I also believe in making well thought out and wise decisions, especially financially.

### **ROSENSTEIN, Jay (MDA: Media and Cinema Studies and Journalism)**

Professor Rosenstein holds bachelors and masters degrees from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and has long followed Illini sporting teams as a fan. He is sensitive to minority participation in the intercollegiate athletic program, and his documentary “In Whose Honor? American Indian Mascots in Sports” (1997) aired nationally on PBS. Professor Rosenstein has spoken out in person and on social media about the ways in which athletics could help the university meet its educational and academic objectives, and the uses to which athletic revenue could be put.

**SIMMONS, F. William (ACES: Crop Sciences and Natural Resource and Environmental Sciences Departments)**

I would be happy to serve the University if selected to fill a four-year term on the University of Illinois Athletic Board. I would bring interest, enthusiasm, institutional knowledge, and experience to such a role. I have been on faculty at the University of Illinois in the College of ACES since 1987, and just recently retired to an emeritus appointment where I continue some teaching and research on campus.

I closely follow most of the Illinois athletics portfolio and have done so since arriving on campus. My children have participated in many of the summer camps offered by our intercollegiate coaching staff and I have a son, Bradley Simmons, who was a high jumper on the Track Team a decade ago. Through him I learned about and came to respect the strong institutional structure surrounding athletic achievement. I firmly believe that Brad's academic foundation put in place by DIA counselors put him in a strong position to graduate (which he did). As an instructor I have had numerous athletes in my classes and have provided them with flexibility and understanding as they split their time between athletics and academics.

As an ACES assistant dean (2005-2014) I became even more familiar with the academic-athletic interface. I worked with DIA to evaluate transfer courses for athletes coming into our programs. I was the main contact for NCAA certification and "progress toward graduation" metrics, working with Chris Byron in DIA. On occasion I represented the College at CASA meetings where we evaluated academic strengths of recruit/applicants. I took advantage of opportunities to become familiar with academic counselors and some coaches. I am sensitive to the delicate balance of academic and athletic achievement and am proud of The Illinois tradition.

I have viewed Illinois athletics as a professor, Assistant Dean, father, social friends of coaches, and most of all a fan. If I could be of service I would be happy to fill this role.

## **STUDENT NOMINEES**

### **Hochman, Sarah (ACES)**

I am a junior in the College of ACES and have been an active member of the campus from student government to going to many sporting events since my Freshman year. Freshman year I was a member of Block I and every year since I have been a member of Illini Pride. I believe there is a lot to be done in revamping the game day experience and get more students to come to the game. There is no reason that there is an empty seat in the student section during football games. Illinois is about tradition and I want to be apart of it.

### **Klinge, Maggie (SSW)**

My name is Maggie Klinge, and I am a sophomore in the School of Social Work. I have been an active member in the Champaign-Urbana community during my time so far at the University of Illinois. I have attended many Illini football and basketball games and make an effort to show my strong school spirit. I believe that our athletics hold a great tradition at the university, and I think it is important to get more students to come out and support Illinois athletics.

### **Taylor, Hannah (ENGR)**

My name is Hannah Taylor. I am a junior studying Materials Science and Engineering, and I would love to serve on the Athletic Board during the upcoming school year.

For the past three years, I have been an active member in Illini Pride and, more specifically, Orange Krush. I am currently the President of the Orange Krush Foundation and will act as a Senior Advisor for Illini Pride next school year. I have worked closely with the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics to restructure ticketing for both football and basketball as well as work to improve the fan experience at all intercollegiate athletics. My knowledge of the behind-the-scenes gameday experience and the fan perspective would be my main contribution to the board. I have attended every Division 1 sport that the university sanctions, and can speak as a fan for all of them. I stay up to date with NCAA and Big Ten changes and would love to have more of a voice in that regard. I can also provide ways in which we have worked towards diversifying Illini Pride as whole. I think athletics are essential to the success of a university such as ours both financially and in terms of campus atmosphere and student involvement, but the focus of the university should be on academics and creating the best people possible. I am a passionate, hardworking individual that wants to make a difference in many ways, and I hope that I can provide that to next year's Athletic Board.