

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

CC.19.17 Faculty Nominations to the Athletic Board

BACKGROUND

The Athletic Board serves as an advisory committee to the Chancellor and the Athletic Director on the financial management, personnel, and other operational aspects of the intercollegiate athletics program in the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics. The Athletic Board consists of seven faculty members, appointed by the Chancellor from nominations by the Senate.

Terms of faculty ordinarily shall be four years and faculty may be reappointed to a second term but are then ineligible for reappointment until a period equaling the length of their second term has passed. Continuing faculty members of the Athletic Board and the expiration of their terms are as follows:

James Anderson	EDUC	2021
<i>Kelly Bost</i>	<i>ACES</i>	<i>2019</i>
Paul Heald	LAW	2021
Michael LeRoy	LER	2022
Brenda Lindsey	SSW	2020
<i>Michael Raycraft</i>	<i>AHS</i>	<i>2019</i>
Endalyn Taylor	FFA	2022

NOMINATIONS

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

The following faculty members are nominated to fill two faculty vacancies, with terms ending in 2023. If no additional nominations are made, the nominees below will be forwarded to the Chancellor for selection of two.

Neha Gothe	AHS
Peter Goldsmith	ACES
Barry Houser	FAA
Eric Larson	BUS

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

Nancy O'Brien, Chair
Roy Campbell
Joseph Edwards
Tim Flanagan
Lilya Kaganovsky
Jennifer Monson
Deniz Namik
Christopher Span
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 of willingness to serve will suffice.

FACULTY STATEMENTS OF INTEREST AND EXPERIENCE**Neha Gothe (AHS - Kinesiology & Community Health)**

Dr. Gothe's involvement with the Men's Gymnastics team since Fall 2018 motivates her to serve Illini athletes and the university in the capacity of an Athletic Board member. Since Fall 2018, she has collaborated with Randy Ballard, Associate Director of Athletics, and the Men's Gymnastics Team, led by Justin Spring, to study the role of yoga and mindfulness to improve athletic performance, potentially reduce the rate of injury, and improve student athlete mental health. She conducted an 8-week yoga program for the team and will track the athletes as they compete for the championship this Spring. Although she has limited experience serving on department, college and campus wide committees; being a former athlete (tennis), a researcher in the field of exercise science, and her interest in working with Illini athletes to promote wellness and enhance athletic performance positions her well to contribute meaningfully as a member on the Athletic Board.

Peter Goldsmith (ACES - Food and Agribusiness Management & USAID Feed the Future Lab for Soybean Value Chain Research)

Professor Goldsmith has a strong interest in intercollegiate athletics at the University of Illinois which emanates from a variety of sources. First, he is a fan, holding season tickets and regularly attending both men and women's sporting events since his arrival on campus in 1999. Professor Goldsmith had an "unremarkable D-III career as a collegiate athlete", however, he maintained a passion for sport in general, and specifically university varsity athletics. Additionally, Professor Goldsmith served as the chair of the Finance committee, and, thus, appreciates the critical role athletics directly and indirectly plays in the University's revenue portfolio. As an economist with an MBA specializing in Finance, Professor Goldsmith would bring to the Board a strong analytical approach. Professor Goldsmith prides himself on being a caring faculty member who fully understands the challenges facing student athletes. Professor Goldsmith has extensively served on, and chaired, the College of ACES Advancement committee, and as such, appreciates the important nexus between advancement and intercollegiate athletics.

Barry Houser (FAA – Associate Director of Bands & Director of the Marching Illini)

Barry Houser has a tremendous interest and knowledge of athletics. In his role as Director of the Marching Illini, he is active in football, men's and women's basketball, volleyball, and other Olympic sports. As a music professor, he teaches academic classes and is aware of academic objectives. He expects his students to achieve excellence in academics just as they do on the field. Barry manages an extensive budget for the Marching Illini. He is active with the Foundation in raising funds, and he has assisted with the capital campaign as well as extensive work to raise funds for the Marching Illini. Barry is a people person who enjoys interacting with students across campus, especially our student athletes. He has been asked to judge for Jock Jams which is a testament to the relationships that have been established. Barry wishes to serve in order to give back to this organization.

Eric Larson (BUS – Business Administration)

Eric C. Larson is a passionate teacher and sports fanatic, with a special interest in Illini Athletics. He was an Academic All-Conference golfer at Colorado State University. Eric's interest in sports and academic achievement has made him a demanding, award-winning, and compassionate professor for all of his students, including our scholar athletes. Eric has interacted successfully with athletes from multiple sports and diverse backgrounds. Eric has demonstrated success in budgeting, working with a wide-range of people, and bettering the institution in various roles at the University of Illinois and during his 14 years of business experience. Eric volunteered as a walking scorer at the 2014, 2017, and 2018 NCAA Golf Championships for both men and women and he frequently tries to keep up with Josh Whitman at the Illini game-day running club. Eric is a Teaching Associate Professor and holds a PhD in Information Systems from the University of Minnesota.