

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE**  
COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES  
(Final; Action)

CC.22.20 Student Nominations to the 2022-2023 Athletic Board

**BACKGROUND**

The Athletic Board is the committee concerned with intercollegiate athletics (varsity sports) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. This Board is responsible to the Senate for the intercollegiate athletic program as it relates to the University's academic and educational objectives as defined by the Senate. The Athletic Board serves also 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.

Two nominees for membership on the Board shall be elected by the Senate for each student position to be filled from the Senate. The Senate Committee on Committees shall propose nominees; additional proposals may be made from the floor of the Senate. Terms of students ordinarily shall be one year, and students may be appointed to a second one-year term.

**NOMINATIONS**

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

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

Chris Gasche	LAS
Noah Henderson	LAW
Leonardo Jimenez	BUS
Elon Jones	LAS
Katherine Tichy	LAS

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES  
Chaya Sandler, Chair

John Dallesasse  
Virginia Dominguez  
Cindy Ingold  
Hadiya Jagroop  
Jeffrey Eric Jenkins  
Prasanta Kalita  
Ari Kelo  
Jenny Roether, *ex officio*

*Nominations from the floor must be accompanied by the nominee's signed statement of willingness to serve if elected. The statement shall be dated and include the name of the position to be filled. If present, the nominee's oral statement will suffice. All nominations must be in accordance with Senate Bylaws.*

## **STUDENT STATEMENTS OF INTEREST AND EXPERIENCE**

### **Chris Gasche (LAS; Political Science)**

The athletic board is interesting because of its broad appeal to people of all different kinds. Getting involved and participating in a school's governing body has been an interest for a while now. Gasche has an interest in the athletic board because he was involved in athletics in high school and sports has continued to be a main interest of his.

### **Noah Henderson (LAW)**

Noah Henderson is a former Saint Joseph's University student-athlete and current 2L at the University of Illinois College of Law. Outside of his studies, Noah works in multiple capacities within the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics. Noah is in his third semester working as an academic coach and tutor for "at-risk" student-athletes. Noah also works as a legal intern in the Name, Image, and Likeness Department, where he helped research and draft a new Illinois NIL law. In undergrad, he was a founding member of a peer-to-peer mental health organization designed exclusively for student-athletes. Noah is deeply devoted to student-athlete well-being, greater access to mental health resources, and post-graduation support for student-athletes. Additionally, he has worked as a compliance intern at San Diego State University and a legal intern at Student-Athlete NIL. Noah has diverse experience as a student-athlete, advocate, administrator, and college-athletics policy researcher.

### **Leonardo Jimenez (BUS; Accountancy)**

Sports have the power to ignite a fiery school spirit. Being a member of the athletic board would be a great opportunity to express a passion for sports while brightening the Illini student spirit. The fiscal aspect is also of great interest due to the experiences applicable to the Gies classroom and the real world. As someone with a passion for sports and its ability to bring people together and as an accounting and finance major in Gies, the Athletic Board and I can benefit greatly from one another.

**Elon Jones (LAS; Communications)**

All of my life I have been interested in the law and how policy works. So much so that unknowingly I have already begun to plan my future with regards to law. During my time at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign I have condensed my interest to Sports/Entertainment Law specifically. For the past two years I have worked with Big10 network as a student intern who records, and does graphics for the Big10 Plus website. In doing this, I have built an even bigger interest in Sports, and I am very intrigued to learn about the student policy regarding sports and how meetings on these policies are conducted. With a current minor in Legal Studies, I believe that being on the Athletic Board will benefit me in the concentration I hope to have in Law School and my overall interest in student athletic policy.

**Katherine Tichy (LAS; Communications)**

As a former athlete, sports were an immediate interest for Katherine at Illinois. She joined Illini Pride and saw firsthand how college sports bring students together and ignite a powerful school spirit. She made friends with student athletes and saw the hard work and sacrifices that go in each and every day. Katherine would love nothing more than to play a role in the future of Illini Athletics. By becoming a member of the Athletic Board, Katherine hopes to contribute a passionate student voice to continue the prideful legacy of Illini Athletics and help the department become the best that it can be. She wishes to protect and support our athletes as they compete at an elite level all while earning a degree from a top university. Katherine would also love to be an advocate for fairness in sports and continuing to build towards equity for all athletes.