

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
(Final; Action)

SC.23.02 Election of Student Members to the 2022-2023 Committee on Committees

BACKGROUND

The Committee on Committees shall consist of three senators who are members of the student electorate, with no two from the same college, school, institute, or similar unit, and at least one of whom shall be an undergraduate and at least one of whom shall be a graduate or professional student.

Nominations for the Committee on Committees shall be made by the incumbent Senate Executive Committee. Nominations may also be made for student committee positions by student senators. Nominees must be student senators at the time the committee term begins.

NOMINATIONS

The Senate Executive Committee nominates the following student senators to serve a one-year term ending 2023. Each senator may vote for up to three nominees. The three nominees with the highest number of votes will be declared elected, with no two from the same college, school, institute, or similar unit, and at least one of whom shall be an undergraduate and at least one of whom shall be a graduate or professional student. Statements of interest are included.

Christoph Aoun	GRAD	Rachel Lindquist	AHS
Nicole Arnold	LAS	Nicholas Orr	BUS
Shifra Ferziger	ACES	Jiahao Zhang	LAS
Hadiya Jagroop	AHS		

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. Nominees must be senators at the time the term begins. A statement of interest and experience of no more than 150 words is also requested.

John Dallesasse, Vice-Chair
Nicole Arnold
Mike Bohlmann
Nicholas Burbules
Richard Gegg
Kim Graber
Prasanta Kalita
Gay Miller
Linda Moorhouse
JJ Pionke
Chaya Sandler
Helga Varden
Dana Yun
Robert Jones, *ex officio*

STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

Christoph Aoun, GRAD

Christoph Aoun is currently a PhD in Aerospace Engineering and is a Research Assistant with the University of Illinois. I am an entrepreneur who has created several projects in my home country and abroad and am thriving to further change humanity one project at a time. My work ranges from engineering, to publishing, and to composing. Creativity is the essence that drives me. I was born in West Beqaa, Lebanon. I received in BE and MS in Mechanical Engineering from the American University of Beirut. I also have a MS from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Since 2017, I founded and worked on the "New Lebanese Rocket Society," the first aerospace initiative in Lebanon since the 1960s. I was also part of the First Nano-satellite initiative in Lebanon since 2018. I have worked on "Energy-Optimal Path-Planning algorithms for quadrotors." He has also worked on "Deep Learning Algorithms for Fault Tolerancing in Aerospace Applications." I also am a professional pianist, vocalist, and composer of classical music. My research interests include Deep Learning, Numerical Optimal Control, Neural Networks. Adversarial systems, Adaptive Control, Robust Control, Optimal Control. Applications range from Quadrotors to VTOLs.

Nicole Arnold, LAS

Hello! My name is Nicole, and I am currently a junior studying Political Science and Economics with minors in Spanish and Legal Studies. I've been involved with the student government for my past three years on campus, which introduced me to UC Senate. I'm going into my second year as a senator, and I have served on the Senate Executive Committee for the past year. Outside of these, I am also a member of Kappa Alpha Pi pre-law fraternity as I intend to pursue law school after graduation. I want to serve on the Committee on Committees to play an active role in connecting the UC Senate to the student body since my experience in the student government gives me the unique opportunity to contribute insightfully to the committee's work. Thank you for your consideration.

Shifra Ferziger, ACES

My name is Shifra Ferziger, and I am a junior Animal Science major in the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences with a minor in Computer Science. This is my first year as a UC Senator. For the past year, I have served as a Senator in the Illinois Student Government where I have prioritized diversity, equity, and inclusion. As director and founder of the Disability Advocacy Department, I have worked to address issues facing the disability community on campus. I have also supported initiatives aimed at increasing college affordability. More recently, I was elected as Director of the Senate of the Illinois Student Government. I plan to use this role to improve communication and transparency in the Illinois Student Government. I will be bringing these priorities with me to the Urbana-Champaign Senate.

Hadiya Jagroop, AHS

As a Community Health major with minors in Business and Chemistry on the pre-medical track, over the last three years, I have been able to connect with many students in my classes and extracurricular activities. In addition to that, as an Illinois Promise Scholar and I-Connect facilitator, I have had the opportunity to interact with thousands of students across campus. Last year, in the UC Senate, I had the privilege of serving as the Student Senator for the College of Applied Health Sciences. During that same year, I served on the Committee of Committee. In my role, I have enjoyed learning more about the duties of each committee and working with my committee members to find interested students to fill various vacant roles. Given that, I would love to continue serving in this position to ensure that great student leaders are placed onto committees to make UIUC even better.

Rachel Lindquist, AHS

My name is Rachel Lindquist. I'm a third-year undergraduate student majoring in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences with a concentration in Health and Diversity on the pre-physician assistant track. I have been involved in Illinois Student Government for 2 going on 3 years where I have served as the Chairperson of the Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and as a committee member of several committees such as Financial Affairs, Disability Advocacy, and Governing Documents. I've also been a volunteer with Illini Service Dogs since my freshman year. This organization trains and places mobility service dogs to those that need them free of charge. In my free time I enjoy spending time outside, cooking, and baking.

Nicholas Orr, BUS

Hi, I'm Nicholas Orr. I'm a Junior studying Information Systems and Marketing at the Gies College of Business. Currently, I'm involved in the Gies Peer Advising Program, the University Band, and am the co-chair of two student sections supporting the university's student-athletes. When I'm not busy with schoolwork or my IT internship, I fill my time by running or biking around every neighborhood in Champaign-Urbana. I tend to see after roles that allow me to help people or give back to the communities that have given so much to me, hence why I sought after the Peer Advising position, an IT help desk job, as well as my position as Senator. I believe being selected for the Committee on Committees will allow me to give back to the University in a whole new way, which is why I'm very excited about the opportunity to do so.

Jiahao Zhang, LAS

Hello, this is Jiahao. I am studying physics. My interests are reading fantasy fiction, playing chess, and watching professional tennis. I was the service chair and am the current treasurer of Circle K International, a volunteering club. I am a member of the Society of Physics Students. I am serving on the Illinois Student Government. I am also doing physics research. My career goal is to go to graduate school and go on the academia path.

I believe that academic freedom and the right educational policies are very important to the success of each student and faculty member of our university. Having a good academic environment will promote the sharing and development of knowledge, also paving the way for our career successes. Nevertheless, I also believe in the importance of non-academic matters and their responsible committees as they are all essential to our well-being and the university's functioning.