

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

CC.26.01 Election of the 2025-2026 Senate Executive Committee (SEC) Chair

**BACKGROUND**

The Senate Executive Committee Chair shall: 1) Establish and maintain liaison with the Chancellor, the Provost, relevant administrative offices, and, where appropriate, the President of the University and the Board of Trustees on matters of concern to the Senate; 2) Establish and maintain liaison with the Office of Public Affairs and, where appropriate, with the press and the public; 3) Establish and maintain relationships with the chair of each Senate committee, and regularly advise and support Senate committee chairs; 4) Initiate reviews of standing Senate committees on a five-year rotation; and 5) Perform other duties as the Senate or Senate Executive Committee shall specify. (*Bylaws* Part D.1.b)

The Senate Executive Committee Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected by and from the membership of the Senate, and who shall be the presiding officers of the Senate Executive Committee. The officers of the Senate Executive Committee shall be elected for terms of one year. The Chair shall be released from other academic duties for one-half time, with this appointment funded from campus resources. (*Bylaws* Part D.1.c-d)

**NOMINATIONS**

Nominations for Executive Committee officers shall be made by the incumbent Committee on Committees. Nominations may also be made by others and must be accompanied by consent to serve from the person nominated. Nominations must be received in the Senate Office prior to the date set by the Senate Executive Committee. The nominations will clearly distinguish between Chair and Vice-Chair. The nominator shall provide a brief biographical sketch of each nominee. (*Bylaws* Part A.7.d)

The Committee on Committees nominates the following senators for a one-year term as Chair of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) ending in 2026. Statements of interest are included.

Angela Lyons	(Professor, ACES)
Charles Roseman	(Associate Professor, LAS)

2024-2025 COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES  
Chaya Sandler, Chair

Alex Belanger  
Kent Choquette  
Linda Herrera  
Myles Johnson  
Prasanta Kalita  
Robin Kar  
Lilah Leopold  
Carol Symes  
Jenny Roether, *ex officio*

## **STATEMENTS OF INTEREST**

### **Angela Lyons (Professor, ACES)**

As the current Vice-Chair of the Senate and a Professor in Agricultural and Consumer Economics, I'm honored to seek the role of Senate Chair as our current Chair steps down. I've had the privilege of serving in the Senate for over 16 years during critical periods such as the state budget crisis and the pandemic, and have contributed to key committees, including SEC, USC, Budget, Admissions, and Benefits. We are at a pivotal moment in higher education. Threats to academic freedom and shared governance are real, and they strike at the heart of our mission and our ability to serve the people of Illinois and the public good. We must stand together in defense of our mission and core values. Put simply—we need each other, and we must move forward with unity and resolve. If elected, I promise to lead with transparency, openness, and integrity—and above all, to listen. I believe I bring the experience and grit, along with a thoughtful, measured approach, needed to lead us through the challenging year ahead. My Vice-Chair experience has helped me understand the needs and pressures of this position, ensuring continuity. It would be an honor to serve as your Chair.

### **Charles Roseman (Associate Professor, LAS)**

Charles C Roseman is an Associate Professor of Evolution, Ecology, & Behavior. He studies the evolution of organismal form and issues involving race, politics, and genetics. His work has been published in a diverse array of journals, including the PNAS, BioEssays, and Evolution. His public-facing work may be found in Jacobin and Scientific American and was reported on in Le Monde and Science. Roseman has served on the Educational Policy Committee and was the Vice Chair of the Senate Executive Committee for a several months stint. Because he is frequently targeted by white nationalists and antisemites because of his scholarship, Roseman is steeped in issues of academic freedom. He served as a member of the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure for several years and as Chair for the 2024-2025 academic year. Roseman has demonstrated an ability to hold administrators accountable for their actions while maintaining a good working relationship with the administration. As Chair of the SEC, Roseman would continue defending academic freedom and ensure that institutional decisions are made through meaningful shared governance. He believes that restoring civil society and the rule of law depends on the fruits of scholarship and the strength of our resolve.