

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

CC.27.01 Election of the 2026-2027 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 2027. Statements of interest are included.

- A. Timothy Bretl (Professor, ENGR)

2025-2026 COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES
Chaya Sandler, Chair
Kent Choquette
Linda Herrera
Gal Hochman
Myles Johnson

Tania Ionin
Bernhard Scully
Sahil Jain, *ex officio*
Jenny Roether, *ex officio*

STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

A. Timothy Bretl (Professor, ENGR)

Dr. Bretl has been on the faculty at Illinois for 20 years and plans to continue in that role for the rest of his career. He believes that integrity is the basis for shared governance — that it is important to have principles, to be consistent in the application of these principles, to be honest about the reasons for decisions, to follow through on commitments, and to treat all members of the campus community with dignity and respect. Dr. Bretl is a Professor, a Severns Faculty Scholar, and an Associate Head in the Department of Aerospace Engineering. His area of expertise is robotics. He is an award-winning researcher and educator whose goal is for students to become engaged public citizens. His activities at Illinois have included working with the Education Justice Project (as an instructor, a task force member, and a hiring committee chair), leading his department’s program accreditation process, serving on many college- and campus-level committees, and working for more than ten years with the Academy for Excellence in Engineering Education on mentorship of faculty and student teaching (including service as a Rose Education Innovation Fellow). Dr. Bretl is a current senator whose term extends through 2027.