

Profiles of Candidates for Standing Committee Chairs

Term: 2024 – 26

Election: April 15 – 19, 2024

Candidate Profile – Emma Witt

Name and Title: Emma Witt, Associate Professor Environmental Studies

School: NAMS

Position sought: Chair, Committee on Academic Policies

Number of Years at Stockton: 9

Why do you want to be a Senator or Committee Chair? What would you bring to this position? (150 words or less)?

I'd like to serve as APC Chair to continue the positive work the committee has done in the past couple of years, working with faculty and admin to modernize and improve our policies and procedures. I will continue to use data and common sense in procedure/policy development.

Candidate Profile – Naz Onel

Name and Title: Naz Onel, Associate Professor of Business Administration

School: BUSN

Position sought: Chair, Committee on Academic Programs and Planning

Number of Years at Stockton: 9

Why do you want to be a Senator or Committee Chair? What would you bring to this position? (150 words or less)?

In the past, I had the privilege of serving on the APP committee. Additionally, I have taken the initiative to develop three academic program proposals. These experiences were deeply engaging and rewarding, providing me with a thorough understanding of the process and its details. They offered rich insights into the dedication of the faculty and the strategic direction of the committee. My desire to be part of this essential process stems from a commitment to fostering a dynamic and impactful Stockton for our students, faculty, and the broader community. My interdisciplinary background equips me with a diverse perspective, enabling me to understand the varied needs and aspirations of different schools. With my experience, diverse background, and strong vision focused on growth and innovation, I am eager to significantly contribute to the committee's future endeavors, bringing insight, dedication, and a forward-thinking approach to the role. Thank you for your consideration.

Candidate Profile – Petar Dobrev

Name and Title: Petar Dobrev, Assistant Professor of Finance

School: BUSN

Position sought: Chair, Committee on Administration and Finance

Number of Years at Stockton: 5

Why do you want to be a Senator or Committee Chair? What would you bring to this position? (150 words or less)?

I appreciate the culture that Stockton University has fostered. Stockton is a tight-knit community and a great place to work. I am, therefore, highly motivated to contribute to Stockton University's long-term financial well-being. As a Chair of the Committee on Administration and Finance, I will work to ensure that the committee continues to support the University's financial management team in all matters related to Stockton University's finances. At the same time, I will also work to ensure that the financial management team remains fully transparent regarding the University's financial state in the short and the long term.

Candidate Profile – Aakash Taneja

Name and Title: Aakash Taneja, Professor, Computer Information Systems

School: BUSN

Position sought: Chair, Committee on Information Technology and Media Services

Number of Years at Stockton: 17

Why do you want to be a Senator or Committee Chair? What would you bring to this position? (150 words or less)?

I request the opportunity to serve as the Chair of the ITMS Committee, which has advisory responsibility for academic computing, distributive education, media services, and IT infrastructure.

Computer Information Systems (CIS) professionals design, develop, deploy, and manage technology in various contexts to accomplish organizational needs while considering its impact on individuals and communities.

My role as the CIS faculty and years of experience equips me with a deeper understanding of technology, enabling me to be at its forefront and recognize faculty, staff, and students' technology needs in the academic context. In addition, my prior experience as the ITMS-Committee Vice-Chair has given me insight into the committee's work and leadership capabilities.

I strive to coordinate and gain support for the committee's activities and advise the Office of IT Services to continually provide access to appropriate technology capabilities, resource awareness, reliable technology support, and IT security.

I thank you for your consideration.

Candidate Profile – Christy Goodnight

Name and Title: Christy Goodnight, Assistant Professor of Management

School: BUSN

Position sought: Chair, Committee on the Library

Number of Years at Stockton: 10

Why do you want to be a Senator or Committee Chair? What would you bring to this position? (150 words or less)?

With the library renovation starting this summer, the Library Committee needs greater institutional support than ever. I advocate for greater transparency in the library renovation process for all faculty, staff, and students at Stockton. I have served as the Vice-Chair of the Library Committee for the past two years. Prior to joining the School of Business, I worked as a faculty librarian and then as interim director of the library. Libraries are often the hearts of colleges and universities around the world, and I would like to see ours transform into something that brings everyone together to further our research and educational missions.

Candidate Profile – Justin Ostrofsky

Name and Title: Justin Ostrofsky, Associate Professor of Psychology

School: SOBL

Position sought: Chair, Committee on Research and Professional Development

Number of Years at Stockton: 10

Why do you want to be a Senator or Committee Chair? What would you bring to this position? (150 words or less)?

I bring many years of experience working on RPD as both a representative and chair. I would like to continue in this role to ensure fair evaluations of internal award applications

Candidate Profile – Robert Blaskiewicz

Name and Title: Robert Blaskiewicz, Associate Professor of Critical Thinking and First-Year Studies

School: GENS

Position sought: Chair, Committee on Student Affairs

Number of Years at Stockton: 8

Why do you want to be a Senator or Committee Chair? What would you bring to this position? (150 words or less)?

I am a current member of the committee, am familiar with its work, and would bring continuity into the next year. FRST faculty have a closer than usual working relationship with a wider variety of students than we would in other disciplines, and I'm especially interested in improving the experiences of the underserved.