

APPROVED BY SENATE
09/15/2025

CC.26.13
September 15, 2025

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

CC.26.13 Election of **Faculty Members** to the Ninth Senate Review Commission

BACKGROUND

According to Article VI, Section 10 of the Senate *Constitution*, at least once every seven years, the Senate shall provide for a comprehensive review of its size, organization, structure, and operation by a commission composed of members from each electorate, and the administration. Such commission shall report its findings and make recommendations to the Senate Executive Committee, as prescribed in the *Bylaws*. The report of the commission shall be made public and distributed as a report for information to the Senate.

NOMINATIONS

The Committee on Committees present the following nominees to serve as **faculty members** to the Ninth Senate Review Commission. Submitted interest statements from nominees are attached.

Jenny Amos	ENGR	Pedro Hallal	AHS
Andrew Belmont	LAS	Kirsten Pullen	FAA
Michael Grossman	ACES	Joyce Tolliver	LAS

Nominees shall be elected in accordance with the approved election procedures in SC.26.03.

1. Each senator may cast up to four (4) votes.
2. The four (4) nominees receiving the highest number of votes are elected, with at most two (2) from any single college or similar division.

Additional nominations by faculty senators may be made from the floor and must be accompanied by the nominee's willingness to serve if elected. Nominees must be members of the faculty electorate as defined in [Article II of the Senate Constitution](#). A statement of interest limited to 200 words is also requested.

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES
Chaya Sandler, Chair
Kent Choquette
Sohan Hajra
Linda Herrera
Gal Hochman

Tania Ionin
Bernhard Scully
Michelle Gornicki, *ex officio*
Jenny Roether, *ex officio*

STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

Jenny Amos (Teaching Professor, ENGR)

Jenny Amos is a Teaching Professor in Bioengineering at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She is an AIMBE Fellow and Board of Directors Member, BMES Fellow, ABET Commissioner, and a two-time Fulbright Specialist in engineering education. She has won multiple awards and recognitions for her teaching and scholarship of teaching, both on and off campus. Outside of BIOE, she has also worked to revolutionize the future of graduate medical education serving as a founding member of the Carle-Illinois College of Medicine. She also holds affiliations with Art+Design, the Siebel Center for Design, the Center for Global Studies, the College of Education, and the Health Sciences Engineering Center. Amos has served her campus community on several high-level search committees, University Senate, and the Education Policy Committee. She was recognized for her service with the Campus Outstanding Faculty Leadership Award in 2022.

Andrew Belmont (Professor, LAS)

Andrew Belmont joined the faculty of UIUC in the Spring of 1989 as an Assistant Professor and has been here ever since in the Department of Cell and Developmental Biology (CDB). His research is on how the genome is folded and positioned within the cell nucleus and how this influences gene expression. Along the way he served first as interim department head and then department head of CDB. Having spent his entire academic career at UIUC, his loyalty and interests lie in preserving and extending UIUC's performance as a top public Research University.

The nominee has observed that most of our time of the Senate is spent on tedious "scut work"- for example, mandatory voting on countless resolutions that have no discussion and near unanimous or unanimous votes. Conversely, discussion and debate are limited on substantial issues. Additionally, the requirements and procedures required to raise new topics are unnecessarily formal and complicated. If elected, the nominee would push for procedural revisions that would make our time spent on Senate activities more productive and meaningful.

Michael Grossman (Professor Emeritus, ACES)

Michael Grossman is Professor Emeritus in the Departments of Animal Sciences and Statistics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Before retiring in 2005, he taught, did research, and published in the fields of statistical genetics and mathematical modeling. Since retiring, he taught workshops on techniques for writing and presenting a scientific paper to graduate students and staff members at universities, institutes, and companies, mostly in Europe and Asia. At Illinois, he served as chair of the Urbana Senate Executive Committee (SEC) and as chair of the University Senates Conference (USC). Most recently, he served on the Committee on

University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP). These experiences helped to motivate his interest in shared governance.

Pedro Hallal (Professor, AHS)

Dr. Hallal has served as president of the Federal University of Pelotas, Brazil from 2017 to 2020. Dr. Hallal's administrative experience might help navigate the necessary changes in UIUC's Senate. Dr. Hallal is the Director of the Master of Public Health Program.

Kirsten Pullen (Professor, FAA)

Dr. Kirsten Pullen is a performance historian with interests in labor, gender, and location in England and the US from the 17th C through the present. Previously a member of the faculty of Texas A&M, the University of Calgary, and Colorado State University, Pullen's administrative positions include Department Head, Director of Graduate Studies, and Director of the Academy of Visual and Performing Arts. Active in disciplinary service, she was most recently the (elected) Vice-President for Conferences 2024-25 for the Association of Theatre in Higher Education, and planned a series of online, one-day symposia and the week-long virtual annual conference for its 800+ members in Spring and Summer 2025. Her University service includes the FAA DEIA Committee, the General Education Policy Committee, the Program Committee, the Campus Review Board, and the Senate Committees on the Library, Research, and Education Policy. This work affirms her belief that tenured faculty have a responsibility to speak with and sometimes for students, contingent faculty, and those on specialized and tenure tracks. The Senate needs to be as proactive and as nimble as possible, and to reflect the University's gender, rank, age, ability, and racial demographics, something this Review Commission could help achieve

Joyce Tolliver (Associate Professor, LAS)

Campus senates across the country are under attack, and shared governance is in peril. I have dedicated many years to shared governance, and I'm committed to doing whatever I can to support the health of our own senate now. The 9th SRC comes at a critical time, and I believe my experience in shared governance has prepared me to contribute thoughtfully to this review.

As chair of the Senate Executive Committee, I led the Senate during the admissions crisis (2009-2011); and I served as SEC vice-chair during a second governance crisis (2011-2012). In addition to serving on the Sixth Senate Review Commission, I have chaired the Committee on General University Policy and the Committee on Committees and served on the Equal Opportunity [now DEI] Committee and USSP. I have contributed to several system-wide and campus-wide task forces, including the Consensual Relationships Policy task force. In 2019, I was awarded the Campus Outstanding Faculty Leadership Award.

My research on the intersections of gender, sexuality, and coloniality in late nineteenth-century Spain provides a humanities-centric and historicist perspective to all my work. A consideration of both the current state and the history of our senate can illuminate SRC's recommendations for its future.