

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE  
Committee on Committees  
(Final;Action)

CC.18.01 Nominations for Membership on the University Senates Conference (USC)

**Background**

The University of Illinois *Statutes*, Article II, Section 2. a. (1) state:

The University Senates Conference shall be made up of twenty members. The basic representation shall be two members from each senate. Additional members shall be apportioned to each senate, at least one from each senate, in numbers proportional to the number of faculty members on each campus. The apportionment shall be recalculated every five years. Each senate shall elect its own representatives from its membership.

The Urbana-Champaign campus has ten (10) representatives to the University Senates Conference. Members of the Urbana delegation to the USC, and the years their terms expire:

<i>Nicholas Burbules</i>	<i>EDUC</i>	<i>2017</i>	Prasanta Kalita	ACES	2019
<i>Bettina Francis</i>	<i>LAS</i>	<i>2017</i>	William Maher	LIBR	2019
<i>Kim Graber</i>	<i>AHS</i>	<i>2017</i>	Gay Miller	VMED	2019
<i>Sally Jackson</i>	<i>LAS</i>	<i>2017</i>	Terry Weech	SIS	2018
Harley Johnson	ENGR	2018	Matthew Wheeler	ACES	2018

**Nominations**

The following faculty are each nominated for a three-year term on USC, expiring in 2020. A bio-sketch of each nominee is included below. If no additional nominations are made, these individuals will be declared elected:

James Brennan	LAS
Nicholas Burbules	EDUC
Bettina Francis	LAS
Joyce Tolliver	LAS

**COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES**

Lisa Monda-Amaya, Chair  
Amy Ando  
Larry DeBrock  
Tim Flanagan  
George Gross  
David Hanley  
Tommy Justison  
Nancy O'Brien  
Annalisa Roncone  
Jenny Roether, *ex officio*

All nominations submitted from the Senate floor must include 1.) Nominee's name, 2.) Nominee's statement of willingness to serve, and 3.) A brief biographical sketch of the nominee (150 words or less). Nominations from the floor can be presented solely in printed form, in the same manner as the slate brought forward by Committee on Committees.

**JAMES BRENNAN (LAS)**

James R. Brennan is an Associate Professor in the Department of History, with a research focus on twentieth-century Africa. He arrived at the University of Illinois in 2008 after teaching for five years at SOAS, University of London. His current research focuses on political opposition in post-colonial East Africa, as well as the history of media and intelligence in Africa. He is author of the book *Taifa: Making Nation and Race in Urban Tanzania* (Ohio University Press, 2012), which won the 2013 Bethwel Ogot Prize for best book in East African Studies. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois (1991), and earned his Ph.D. at Northwestern University (2002). He is particularly interested in sustaining graduate teaching programs in the humanities and social sciences, and developing undergraduate courses that bring together a rigorous focus on history with analysis of current events and development of writing and public speaking skills.

**NICHOLAS BURBULES (EDUC)**

Nicholas Burbules has served on the University Senates Conference and chaired it twice. He has been active in trying to strengthen the USC's role in shared governance, including the design of four subcommittees to enhance the USC's ability to review and propose policy. He has been active in the ongoing process to revise and update the Statutes and General Rules. The first round of these revisions is complete, but there are additional areas needing revision, including a major change of language and policy to fit the new model of a System with three Universities rather than a single University with three campuses. It would be beneficial to that process to maintain continuity and institutional memory about how the new changes relate to the changes already made. As USC liaison with this university, he worked to improve communication and coordination between Urbana and system-wide governance issues.

**BETTINA FRANCIS (LAS)**

I am an associate professor in the Department of Entomology (LAS); my research is in environmental toxicology, with a focus on pesticides and chemicals that cause birth defects. I have served on numerous Senate committees, including: Educational Policy (chair, 2015-2017), Library, Student Discipline, Outreach, Benefits, Committee on Committees (chair, 2011-2012). I have also served on the Gen Ed Board of both the campus and LAS; on the Graduate College Fellowship Committee (chair, 2014-15), and on the campus Committee on Commencement (chair, 2012-2013). These varied committee assignments – and 35 years spent on campus, first as an academic professional and now as a faculty member - have given me a wide knowledge of the university, its needs and its culture. I have also spent just over 2 years on USC, which means I may finally know enough to become a useful member – if you elect me to a full term!

**JOYCE TOLLIVER (LAS)**

Joyce Tolliver, Director of the Center for Translation Studies, is a specialist on gender, race, and empire in Spanish and Philippine literature. She is Associate Professor of Spanish. She has an in-depth understanding of the three-campus University system and the issues confronting it, having served as Chair and then Vice-Chair of the SEC (2009-2011; 2011-13), and as vice-chair of USC in 2014-2015. She is a member of the faculty committee advising the Vice-President of Academic Affairs. She has led or served on many campus-wide committees, including the Graduate College Executive Committee, MOOC Strategy Advisory Committee, and the Miller Programs Committee. Her Senate committee work includes the Conference on Conduct Governance, GUP, Committee on Committees, the Sixth Senate Review Commission, and the Equal Opportunity and Inclusion Committee. At the national level, she represents Women in the Profession in the MLA Delegate Assembly, and leads the MLA Global Hispanophone Forum.