

2023 Faculty Senate Nominees

Niaz Abdolrahim

Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, School of Arts, Sciences, & Engineering

Webpage: https://www.hajim.rochester.edu/me/people/faculty/abdolrahim_niaz/index.html

John Ashton

Associate Professor of Biomedical Genetics, School of Medicine & Dentistry

My research expertise and interests are in cancer biology, specifically leukemia stem cell (LSC) biology. Collaborating with colleagues, my current focus is adapting single cell transcriptomic methodologies for use with primary stem and progenitor cell populations to characterize molecular mechanisms underlying malignant stem cell biology. Additionally, I serve as the Director of the Genomics Research Center and Director of Wilmot Shared Resources. In this role, I strive to improve research infrastructure across several areas. My desire to join faculty senate is largely to further make an impact at the institution and to help drive forward strategic ideas that will better enable UR, as a whole, achieve its mission.

Tyler Batey

Instructor of Clinical Family Medicine, School of Medicine & Dentistry

Webpage: <https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/people/30098572-tyler-m-batey>

Kristina Becker

Assistant Professor of German, Eastman School of Music

I teach German language and culture courses in the Humanities Department at the Eastman School of Music. I received my master's degrees in education and American Studies at the Free University and Humboldt University Berlin and then taught for several years in the Berlin school system. In 2008, I moved to Rochester and started teaching beginning, intermediate, and advanced German-language courses at The Eastman School of Music as well as at the University of Rochester. In 2020, I obtained a full-time teaching position on the Eastman Campus. In 2019, I directed the 4-week "German in Germany" Berlin program. For a number of years, I have facilitated a weekly German conversation table for members of the University community. In 2018, I co-authored, with Prof. Susan Gustafson, a translation of Goethe's play "*Stella: A Play for Lovers*".

From the beginnings of my career at the University of Rochester in 2008 until today, I can look back on the exciting evolution of the non-tenure-track teaching position. My transition from adjunct faculty to senior lecturer to instructional professor has catalyzed my wish to be more involved in decisions affecting students and faculty.

Karen Berger

Associate Professor of Instruction, Earth and Environmental Studies, Coordinator of College Sustainability Studies, School of Arts, Sciences, & Engineering

I joined the University faculty in January 2011 as an adjunct instructor, then served as a full-time lecturer before transitioning into an instructional track position in 2017. I teach undergraduate courses on water, energy and environmental problem-solving, as well as overseeing multidisciplinary sustainability academic programs. I serve on the Senate's Ethical Investment Advisory Committee and the Inclusive Faculty Policies Committee. As Co-Chair of the University Council on Sustainability from 2011-19, I engaged with faculty, staff and students from across the entire institution. I also have served as President of the campus chapter of Phi Beta Kappa and as a member of the committee for the Carnegie Classification in Community Engagement. I am running for a second term on the Faculty Senate to continue representing the interests of faculty with diverse titles and responsibilities.

Francis Chang
Assistant Professor, School of Medicine and Dentistry

Webpage: <https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/people/31169189-francis-m-chang>

MariaLaina Chennell
Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing, School of Nursing

An educator and clinician with more than 20 years of experience as a nurse practitioner, MariaLaina Chennell, DNP joined the School of Nursing faculty in 2012 as an adjunct professor teaching the on-line anatomy and physiology course through the Center for Lifelong Learning, while working full-time as a trauma nurse practitioner. Dr. Chennell earned her bachelor's and master's degree from the UR School of Nursing, and her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from St. John Fisher College in 2018. She then joined the school of nursing full-time as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing.

Dr. Chennell teaches in the master's program with a focus on Advanced Pathophysiology and the Primary Care clinical courses. In addition, she provides additional support to the Family Nurse Practitioner MS program through interviewing applicants and serving as a student advisor. She remains clinically active and currently works per diem at UPMC as a nurse practitioner in the department of surgical oncology. In Addition to her clinical teaching responsibilities, Dr. Chennell Teaches in the only international Registered Nurse First Assistant (RNFA) program.

Dr. Chennell is a member of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and The Nurse Practitioner Association of New York State. She currently serves as the Legislative Chairperson of The Nurse Practitioner Association of New York, Region 2.

Link to Faculty Web Page: <https://son.rochester.edu/directory/>

Stephen Cook, MD
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Medicine, and Center for Community Health and Prevention, School of Medicine and Dentistry

My clinical work is in pediatric primary care and my research has focused on clinical and community factors related to nutrition, physical activity and obesity. I have also worked actively around public health and health care policy after completing my MPH from the University of Rochester. I have been faculty since 2001. My research and advocacy work has resulted in regional and national collaborations around child and family health, including working part-time for the NYS Department of Health as a medical director for Medicaid in 2018. That opportunity provided tremendous insights to the inner workings of state government. This position also required me to pivot my activities from healthcare policy to public health response when the pandemic arrived in the spring of 2020. While my work with NYS Dept of Health has ended after 2 years, it was these experiences that have brought me to seeking a nomination for Faculty Senate. If elected, I hope to share these experiences and insights as part of my role in the Faculty Senate.

Webpage: <https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/people/23145160-stephen-r-cook>

Matt Curlee

Assistant Professor of Music Theory, Eastman School of Music

Webpage: <https://www.esm.rochester.edu/directory/curlee-matthew/>

Alison d'Amato (she/they)

Associate Professor of Vocal Coaching, Eastman School of Music

I began the full-time appointment as Associate Professor of Vocal coaching and Coordinator of the Vocal Coaching area in Fall 2022. Prior to this appointment, I worked for ten years as part-time Assistant Professor of Vocal Coaching at Eastman. I am interested in gaining an understanding of the university community and its governing structures, as well as serving Eastman and the University of Rochester in a broader capacity. My official short bio is below.

Pianist Dr. Alison d'Amato (she/they) has been working in vocal and instrumental genres for more than twenty-five years as a collaborative pianist, teacher, and music director. Known as a trailblazer in the field of art song, she directs her passion for song's rich history towards generating new music and merging its past with its present. In all her activities, Dr. d'Amato is dedicated to energizing relationships in music and bringing student's love for their art to the forefront of their projects.

Dr. d'Amato's breadth of artistic experience has made her a valued partner in creative projects and an effective leader in several organizations. While on faculty at University at Buffalo from 2015-2022, Dr. d'Amato was promoted to serve as Director of Music Theatre in order to lead the program into new practices of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Webpage: <https://www.esm.rochester.edu/directory/damato-alison/>

Chen Ding

Professor of Computer Science, School of Arts, Sciences, & Engineering

My research is on computer systems in particular memory systems. I teach programming languages and program design for correctness and efficiency. I joined the university in 2000 and

held visiting positions at IBM Center for Advanced Studies, Microsoft Research, and MIT. Technology is increasingly important in research and teaching, and the computer science department combines expertise in many aspects of technology. I first joined the faculty senate in 2020 to connect with others on academic matters and shared governance, and I will be happy to continue in the next three years.

Maria-Joelle Estrada

Associate Professor of Instructions, School of Arts, Sciences, & Engineering

Webpage: https://www.sas.rochester.edu/psy/people/faculty/estrada_marie-joelle/index.html

Marie Flannery, PhD, RN

Associate Professor, School of Nursing

I have been a full-time faculty member since 2010, and am currently the program director for the doctoral program at the School of Nursing. I am a current senator running for re-election, and also serve on the Wilmot Cancer Institute Peer Review and Monitoring Committee. My research focuses on older adults with cancer. I am an active member of the Geriatric Oncology Research Program, involved in many interprofessional research studies and clinical trials. My teaching responsibilities include the philosophy of science courses in the doctoral program. It has been my privilege to serve as one of the voices of the school of nursing and I have found that Faculty Senate allows me to appreciate and understand more about our “one university”.

Webpage: <https://son.rochester.edu/directory/mflannery/>

Katherine Grzesik

Assistant Professor of Statistics, School of Arts, Sciences, & Engineering

Broadly, my teaching and research concern statistics. Specifically, I teach courses on applied statistics at varying levels as well as statistical programming. I joined the University of Rochester in 2018 as an assistant professor of statistics on the instructional track. As instructional track faculty, my research interests have been focused on assisting students perform strong applied research and prepare well-written journal articles. My theoretical research interests are in non-parametric statistical methods, adaptive smoothing techniques as well as statistical education. I am the faculty sponsor for the Society of Undergraduate Statistical Students (SUSS) where I helped students to form the club and am an active participant in their events via faculty lunches and topical talks. I interact regularly with our Rochester-area academic and professional community through my active membership within our local chapter of the American Statistical Association (ASA) as secretary since 2019 and chapter representative (2017 – 2019), and event planning committee member since 2016. I am interested in joining the Faculty Senate because I would like to be a voice for our students and fellow instructional-track colleagues in a way that can advocate for positive change. I am very invested in the early-academic student classroom experience and how us faculty can better set them up for long-term success without losing rigor and still produce effective critical thinkers, worthy of the UR designation.

Webpage: <https://people.math.rochester.edu/faculty/kgrzesik/>

Susan Hobbs, MD, PhD

Professor, Department of Imaging Sciences, School of Medicine & Dentistry

I joined the faculty in 2009 as the founding Division Head of Cardiothoracic Imaging within the Department of Imaging Sciences at URM. I currently serve as Vice-Chair, Education within the Imaging Sciences Department, Program Director (PD) for the Diagnostic Radiology residency program, and Associate PD for Integrated Interventional Residency Program. I specialize in the subspecialty of Cardiothoracic Imaging; particular interest in thoracic oncologic imaging (involved in Wilmot Cancer Center Thoracic Oncology Service Line), and cardiovascular CT (Imaging component in the development of the structural heart program). My undergraduate and graduate background is in Chemical Engineering. I have pivoted to developing programs and exploring topics focused on the education of future radiologists. I wear many hats in national radiology organizations and am engaged in supporting URM in engineering graduate programs.

My interest in joining the Faculty Senate is to be a part of development of collaboration across departments and schools and continue to promote and support the inclusive and encouraging community at the University of Rochester.

Webpages:

<https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/people/27350324-susan-k-hobbs>

<https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/education/graduate-medical-education/prospective-residents/radiology.aspx>

Ali Hussain

Associate Professor of Radiology, School of Medicine & Dentistry

Our family was admitted to the United States as part of the Iraqi refugee resettlement program in 2008. After completing a two-year fellowship at the URM, I joined the faculty in 2011 serving neuroradiology division, Imaging Sciences Department. During these years, I've lived the dynamic and the positive strides made at different levels, including the medical center, the University, and Rochester community at large. My motivation to join the Faculty Senate is to be part of this change.

Webpage: <https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/people/27279977-ali-h-hussain>

Suzannah Iadarola, Ph.D., BCBA-D

Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Public Health, School of Medicine and Dentistry

Faculty member since 2012

I am a licensed clinical psychologist and Associate Professor of Pediatrics (primary) and Public Health (secondary). I also serve as the Director of the Strong Center for Developmental

Disabilities, a federally-mandated University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities. My research and clinical work focuses on programs, services, and advocacy for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), across the lifecourse. With my colleagues, I conduct community-partnered research related to developing, disseminating, and evaluating community interventions to support individuals with IDD and their families. Additional translational research priorities include assessment of parent needs and barriers to self-care, as well as the development of programs to help address parent stress and well-being. Much of this research is conducted in collaboration with national, multi-site research networks. In addition to scholarship, I engage in the development, evaluation, and community dissemination of programs and services in the disability and related fields. I also prioritize mentorship of trainees, staff, and junior faculty in research, scholarship, and program administration.

Participation on Faculty Senate is of interest at this time due to my increased involvement in administrative and development structures within my division and the broader Department of Pediatrics. At present, the only Pediatrics representative on Faculty Senate is rotating off their term, and I feel strongly that our department's priorities require representation. In addition, I am interested in promoting inclusion – with an emphasis on the experience of individuals with disabilities – in all spaces, particularly those that have historically not always been accessible.

Marisa Jacob-Leonce, MD

Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, School of Medicine & Dentistry

Areas of interest are autopsy, forensic pathology, medical education, public engagement, laboratory management and quality management systems.

My background includes several years of teaching in multiple educational disciplines and at various, educational levels; subspecialty training in forensic pathology and surgical pathology; past secretary of the Saint Lucia Medical and Dental Association; working as a consultant pathologist in the Caribbean region and currently an active member of the National Association of Medical Examiners.

I consider University of Rochester my professional home and aim to support the University and its academic mission.

Webpage: <https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/people/32273311-marisa-jacob-leonce>

Narayana Kocherlakota

Lionel W. McKenzie Professor of Economics, School of Arts, Sciences, & Engineering

My teaching and research currently focus on macroeconomics and monetary economics. I joined the faculty of the University of Rochester in 2016, after having had academic appointments at the University of Minnesota, Stanford University, The University of Iowa, and Northwestern University. Immediately before coming to the University of Rochester, I served for six years as a member of the Federal Open Market Committee, which makes monetary policy for the United States. I've remained an active public commentator on macroeconomic policy issues since arriving here at Rochester.

I've been a member of the Faculty Senate since 2020. It's been a rewarding experience, as I've learned a lot about Rochester and about the many highly dedicated faculty at our University. I hope to be able to continue to serve the faculty in this way.

Faculty Webpage:

http://www.sas.rochester.edu/eco/people/faculty/kocherlakota_narayana/index.html

Natalie LeBlanc

Assistant Professor, School of Nursing

Webpage: <https://son.rochester.edu/directory/nleblanc/>

Michael J. Potchen

Professor/Chief Division of Neuroradiology, School of Medicine & Dentistry

Webpage: <https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/people/28515258-michael-j-potchen>

Luis A. Rosario-McCabe

Associate Professor of Clinical Nursing, School of Nursing

I joined the UR SON in 2003 as an adjunct clinical faculty member, and in 2013, I moved to a dual appointment between the UR SON and URM. Though I continue to work clinically, in 2018, I transitioned to a full-time academic position at the UR SON. My academic and clinical foci are on women's and gender-related health. I am currently the co-director of the Accelerated Bachelor's Program for Non-Nurses at the UR SON. In addition, I served on the Board of Directors of the Out Alliance from 2018 – 2021 and have a strong interest in creating inclusive spaces. To that end, I recently completed an LGBT Health Policy & Practice Graduate Certificate Program at George Washington University to help me bridge queer theory with my academic and clinical interests.

Webpage: <https://son.rochester.edu/directory/lrosariomccabe/>

Deborah Rossen-Knill

Executive Director, Professor (Instructional Track) Writing, Speaking, and Argument Program, School of Arts, Sciences, & Engineering

I am a non-tenure eligible faculty member in AS&E's Writing, Speaking, and Argument Program. I also direct the program. My teaching and research bring together work in writing studies, cognitive science, and linguistics in order to describe how communication works and to develop writing pedagogies. For the past 20 years, I've focused on developing and strengthening a writing and speaking program designed for undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty in all disciplines. If I were a member of the faculty senate, I would represent the perspectives of instructional-track faculty and would aim to understand the perspectives of others so that we might further our work toward creating an inclusive and caring community.

Webpage: http://writing.rochester.edu/people/rossen-knill_deborah/index.html

Maria Shiau, MD, MA

Associate Professor Dept Imaging Sciences, Cardiothoracic Division, School of Medicine & Dentistry

I have been an academic radiologist for 24 years, recently joining the faculty at University of Rochester, School of Medicine and Dentistry November 2022. I am an enthusiastic member of not only the cardiothoracic imaging division but also our new remote (teleradiology) section, pioneering novel positions for offsite radiologists who want to maintain a rigorous academic career: teaching, doing research and participating in interdisciplinary conferences. One of my passions was medical student education; I was the Director of Medical Student Education in Radiology from 2010 until 2018 at NYU Langone Medical Center.

I am now looking for opportunities to expand my role in service participating on committees such as the radiology faculty and professional development committee, supporting colleagues who want to apply for promotion as well collaborating on the development of a contrast reaction training session for new physician assistants, residents, and fellows. By joining the faculty senate and committee on elections, I hope to provide a valuable service to the institution and in turn, gain illuminating insight into the inner workings of the institution and policy making.

Webpage: [Maria C. Shiau, MD - University of Rochester Medical Center](#)

Hongying Sun

Assistant Professor of Surgery, School of Medicine & Dentistry

I am an Assistant Professor of Supportive Care in Cancer and a biostatistician in the Department of Surgery at the URM. Prior to joining URM, I had a diverse background working in both academic institutions (St. Jude Children's Research Hospital) and pharmaceutical companies (Takeda Pharmaceuticals), where I held roles as a software developer and a biostatistician. Notably, I collaborated with Moderna on RNA secondary structure prediction and analysis, which contributed to the development of the COVID mRNA vaccine. During my time at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, I developed an R software tool called KEYBOARD, which is used in maximum tolerated dose and optimal biological dose finding trials in early-phase designs.

I'm currently working on developing statistical analysis plans for clinical trials. This includes specifying aims and hypotheses, determining sample size, implementing randomization and stratification, choosing appropriate control groups, and defining inclusion/exclusion criteria. Additionally, I am performing thorough statistical and graphical analyses of clinical trial data using techniques such as structural equation modeling, profile plotting, and both parametric and non-parametric testing. My passion for cancer research is also evident in my interest in developing personalized prediction models using high-performance computing AI techniques. I believe that such models hold the key to advancing our understanding of cancer and improving outcomes for patients.

My motivation to join the Faculty Senate is for personal and professional growth, collaboration with colleagues, and making a positive impact on the academic community.

Ann Marie White**Associate Professor of Psychiatry, School of Medicine & Dentistry**

Dr. White is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry, with secondary appointments in Psychology, Public Health Sciences, and Community Health and Prevention. In her university faculty roles, she leads change initiatives to deepen community engagement and public health approaches to health promotion as well as child development via service, education and research. From 2004-19, she also directed the Office of Mental Health Promotion, prior to becoming the Executive Director of the Children's Institute in 2019. OMHP oversaw community, consumer and diversity affairs for Psychiatry faculty and staff. Dr. White directs collaborative and participatory research. She promotes mental health supporting behaviors, services utilization, injury prevention as well as child and family development strategies within community-based settings. Her research applies system and data science methods in community engaged research, mental health promotion, injury prevention systems. Her years of research and administrative experiences in developmental psychology emphasize the role of community settings such as childcare, arts centers and after-school programs in children's development.

Upon completion of her doctorate in Human Development and Psychology from Harvard's Graduate School of Education, she was an AAAS/SRCD fellow in the U.S. Senate and the National Institutes of Health. She was a visiting scientist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2017 to foster the implementation of systems science approaches to state suicide prevention.

Dr. White is currently an elected member and co-chair of UR's Research Policy Committee. She had been a member of Faculty Senate previously (beginning 2019), and has a child now enrolled as a UR undergraduate. Born in Rochester, her interests include promoting community engagement in all mission areas to foster greater health equity, and promoting a campus climate centered on inclusion, equity, well-being, and families.