

**Profiles of Candidates
for Senator At-Large**

Term: 2022 – 2024

Election: May 2 – 6, 2022

Candidate Profile – Monica Amadio

Name and Title: Monica Amadio, Teaching Specialist Business Studies, Management

School: BUSN

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 1

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: N/A

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

I welcome the opportunity to serve in the Senate to contribute to important policy decisions at the university level. As a new professor at the university, I would bring a fresh perspective to the Senate.

As an instructional leader, I understand the complexities of developing educational courses and growing programs, in person and online. Over the years and through academic research, I have curated knowledge in the area of instruction and curriculum development, with a particular focus on business and technology. With a deep sense of commitment to education, I have dedicated more than 20 years to serving students at the high school and university levels.

Candidate Profile – Hyeoncheol (Charlie) Baik

Name and Title: Hyeoncheol (Charlie) Baik, Assistant Professor of Business Studies, Business Analytics

School: BUSN

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 3

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2024

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

As I have served as a committee member on student affairs, it has been worthwhile to address issues about student life and discuss with stakeholders at Stockton to seek the way to resolve the issues. These experiences bring my attention to involvement in other matters. Thus, as an at-large senator, I would like to contribute to touch diverse matters such as revising policies, developing new initiatives, and discussing current issues while representing the diverse faculty voices. Also, I would like to contribute to make reasonable and concrete resolutions on the matters throughout the university.

Candidate Profile – Lauren Balasco

Name and Title: Lauren Balasco, Assistant Professor of Political Science

School: SOBL

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 5

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2023

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

As an At-Large Senator, I understand that my service requires the leadership skills of listening, dialogue, consultation, cooperation, and patience. The Faculty Senate is the institutional embodiment of faculty governance, and therefore it is an important space for representation and deliberation. I know that my service as a senator is help uphold our academic standards and ensure that Stockton University remains a vibrant institution of learning and engagement. I will work closely with my colleagues to understand the ever-evolving needs and circumstances of our students and faculty, so that we can advocate for the institutional space and resources needed for our collective success. Most importantly, I understand the importance of upholding Stockton University's commitment to building a thriving intellectual and compassionate community both on campus and in our community. I hope to contribute to this mission.

Candidate Profile – Guy Barbato

Name and Title: Guy Barbato, Associate Professor of Biology

School: NAMS

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 11

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2026

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

Prior to coming to Stockton, I was on the Penn State Faculty Senate for 15 yrs and chaired the Senate Committee on Research. I have a firm belief in shared governance within the academy and have particular interest in intellectual property policies and research funding issues.

Candidate Profile – Muntakim Choudhury

Name and Title: Muntakim Choudhury, Assistant Professor of Business Studies

School: BUSN

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 3

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2026

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

I want to serve as a senator to represent the School of Business.

Candidate Profile – Joe Cirio

Name and Title: Joe Cirio, Assistant Professor of Writing & First Year Studies

School: GENS

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 4

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2025

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

I've enjoyed my time as faculty senator thus far. If reelected for another term, I will continue to advocate for the areas I feel strongly about: more equitable academic policies for students—particularly for students of color, shared governance, and the value of the general studies curriculum.

Candidate Profile – George De Feis

Name and Title: George De Feis, Assistant Professor of Business Studies

School: BUSN

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 3

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2024

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

As an assistant professor in the School of Business at Stockton (hired in 2019), naturally my doctorate is in business (management), but I am more diverse than just business. In fact, academia is my third profession. My bachelor's degree is in civil engineering and my experience is in the not-for-profit world. Thus, I will bring a wealth of diverse experience to the Senate. I was elected to the Board of Directors of the Business and Applied Sciences Academy of North America in 2016 and the Board of AirSoilWater – sustainability not-for-profit organization in Pennsylvania in 2015, and in 2019 invited as a Board Member of "Science Progress" (Sage Publications). With over 25 years of worldly professional and academic experience in the fields of strategic management, global affairs, and sustainability/ESG, I have consulted to the for-profit and not-for-profit worlds. Hence I will bring the Senate new thoughts. My LinkedIn profile: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/george-de-feis-0911046/>.

Candidate Profile – Petar Dobrev

Name and Title: Petar Dobrev, Assistant Professor of Finance

School: BUSN

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 3

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2026

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

As someone committed to Stockton University for the long term, I have a strong desire to be involved with and contribute to the formulation of University policy. I believe the best opportunity to do so is by becoming a member of the Faculty Senate. As a senator, I intend to be an active and constructive participant in discussing items on the Senate agenda. I will not hesitate to contribute to a discussion around any point of contention to help the Senate reach a consensus. Moreover, I pledge to approach each item on the agenda in an objective, evidence-based manner as I firmly believe this is the most efficient and unbiased method to reach an agreement on a specific issue.

Candidate Profile – Geoffrey Gust

Name and Title: Geoffrey Gust, Associate Professor of Critical Thinking & First-Year Studies

School: GENS

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 8

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year:

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

I have been an active leader on campus since I arrived in 2014, including serving as the Writing Across the Curriculum (W2) Coordinator, being an incumbent member of the Senate, and currently serving as the First-Year Seminar Program Convenor. I enjoy being involved, feel strongly about the importance of Faculty Senate, and would like to continue using my voice to support "the Stockton ideal."

Candidate Profile – Jessica Hallagan

Name and Title: Jessica Hallagan, Assistant Professor of Environmental Science

School: NAMS

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 5

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2023

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

I served as an At-Large Senator for the past 2 years and would like to continue serving the many voices throughout the broader University community. This is a very impactful position, and I value contributing to shared governance, having an active role in promoting effective campus policies, and striving to make the University a better place. As an alumna of Stockton, I also bring a unique perspective to Faculty Senate because I understand both the faculty and student side of policy implementation and effectiveness.

Candidate Profile – Kristen Hallock-Waters

Name and Title: Kristen Hallock-Waters, Associate Professor of Chemistry

School: NAMS

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 22

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2005

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

I believe in shared governance and that all faculty should have a voice at the institution. As the University undergoes changes and develops post-covid, the collective faculty voice is more important than ever. I bring to Senate 22 yrs experience at Stockton, but I also believe in empowering earlier career faculty to make their voices heard and to take an active role in shared governance since they are Stockton's future leaders.

Candidate Profile – Jung Ah Han

Name and Title: Jung Ah Han, Assistant Professor of Business Studies Marketing

School: BUSN

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 3

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2025

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

I believe it will give the opportunity to foster skills like leadership, communication, teamwork and organization. I am a hard worker, care about students, respectful, and I work well in a team.

Candidate Profile – Mina Jafarijoo

Name and Title: Mina Jafarijoo, Assistant Professor of Computer Information System

School: BUSN

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 3

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2024

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

As a junior faculty member, serving in the Senate allows me to gain greater insight into Stockton's goals and mission. And as a scholar whose research area is focused on governance, serving in the Senate allows me to share my governance-related knowledge with my colleagues. In addition, my research will contribute to the decision-making process in Stockton to shape more effective and efficient policies. Also, it would be an excellent opportunity for me to share my students, school, and program concerns with the faculty from the other schools and consider those concerns in making decisions and shaping policies.

Candidate Profile – Daniel W. Ki

Name and Title: Daniel W. Ki, Assistant Professor of Chemistry

School: NAMS

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 6

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2022

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

I have served as an at-large senator since 2018. The faculty senate has provided an excellent opportunity to be involved in important matters, which shape the future Stockton community. I'd like to continue serving as a faculty senate by sharing ideas and opinions to shape future Stockton and make a constructive contribution to our community.

Candidate Profile – Michael Law

Name and Title: Michael Law, Assistant Professor of Biology

School: NAMS

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 5

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2023

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

I have served as a Senator for four years. I think it is important to engage in shared governance with administration while representing the interests of my faculty colleagues at the university.

Candidate Profile – Zheng Li

Name and Title: Zheng Li, Assistant Professor of Computer Science

School: BUSN

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 4

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2023

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

As an untenured faculty, I want to represent junior faculty to let their voice to be heard in the senate and take an active role in faculty governance. In addition, also want to see how Stockton works locally and as a system, and work with other senate members across the Stockton Community.

Candidate Profile – Quynh Nguyen

Name and Title: Quynh Nguyen, Assistant Professor of Computer Information Systems

School: BUSN

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 3

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2025

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

I want to serve in the Faculty Senate as an at-large senator because I want to work with faculty across all the schools and programs to provide a faculty voice in the formulation of Stockton university policy. As the university and faculty are facing complex challenges, I want to use my expertise and experience to find solutions and work toward improvements. I will actively participate in faculty senate meetings to discuss important university affairs and policy development. I'm also interested in working with my colleagues in special task forces to examine various academic issues and develop recommendations. Serving as an at-large senator will enable me to exercise my right to participate in the governance and management of the university and make meaningful impacts. I believe that the dedicated participation of the faculty within the Faculty Senate will lead to noteworthy changes at Stockton University.

Candidate Profile – Matthew Olson

Name and Title: Matthew Olson, Assistant Professor of Environmental Science

School: NAMS

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 3

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2025

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

I currently sit on the Campus Biodiversity Committee and I'm interested in serving the University in other ways. I see this position as an opportunity to not only serve the Stockton community, but also as a chance to learn about how the faculty senate helps to shape University policy. I'm one of only a few faculty members (2?) with academic training in my field - forest resources management. Because of this, I feel would bring a unique perspective to the senate.

Candidate Profile – Barry Palatnik

Name and Title: Barry Palatnik, Associate Professor of Business Studies, Accounting

School: BUSN

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 7

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2021

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

I am always looking for opportunities to become more engaged in University affairs. When I was selected to chair the Senate Nomination Committee, I saw an opportunity to use my skill-set to support the University's mission. My ultimate passion is to help students become productive members of society.

Candidate Profile – Monika Pawlowska

Name and Title: Monika Pawlowska, Associate Professor of Communication Disorders

School: HLTH

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 8

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2020

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

I would like to contribute to shared governance at Stockton by participating in Faculty Senate's activities. I value points of view expressed by faculty from different programs and I appreciate the process of reaching consensus through discussion. I would like to work with and represent colleagues from across the university.

Candidate Profile – Larider Ruffin

Name and Title: Larider Ruffin, Assistant Professor of Nursing

School: HLTH

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 5

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2025

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

I am asking for your vote to re-run for Senator-at-large. This position allows me the opportunity to offer a voice to the faculty senate as a nurse and a nurse practitioner.

Candidate Profile – Thierry Saintine

Name and Title: Thierry Saintine, Assistant Professor of Math, First-Year Studies, GENS

School: GENS

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 4

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2023

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

I was fortunate to be elected as an At-Large senator and a member of the Senate Executive Committee two years ago. Both positions taught me a tremendous amount about the institution, the policy decision process, and the importance of shared governance. Now, that I am (hopefully) a few months away from being a tenured faculty member, I'd love to continue serving on the Faculty Senate and continue to fight on behalf of colleagues and students whose voices and experiences aren't always represented or factored into policy decisions and "shared governance." As a soon-to-be tenured faculty member, I feel ready to take on more of a leadership role. I am eager to work with other faculty members, staff, and other stakeholders, especially student government and under-represented student groups to find ways to keep moving Stockton toward a more diverse and inclusive space; in other words, further away from "The Other Stockton."

Candidate Profile – Christine Tartaro

Name and Title: Christine Tartaro, Professor of Criminal Justice

School: SOBL

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 21

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2005

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

I have been serving on the senate for a number of years. As a senior faculty member, I feel responsible for representing the faculty in a way that helps us maintain academic integrity and strong university standards.

Candidate Profile – Joseph Trout

Name and Title: Joseph Trout, Associate Professor of Physics

School: NAMS

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 8

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2018

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

My name is Joe Trout and I am a physicist. I completed my undergraduate degree in Applied Physics here at Stockton University after completing a five year enlistment in the US Navy. I completed my MS and Ph.D. at Drexel University in Atmospheric Physics. I have a strong desire to help students and to help direct the course of Stockton University. I believe that Stockton University was built on the concept that teaching is the most important function of the faculty. This teaching should include research opportunities for the students, and one important opportunity that Stockton can offer, and that most institutions cannot, is the research opportunities for undergraduate students. I want to continue on the Faculty Senate to advocate for the students, and help guide Stockton in the days to come, opening research opportunities to students while maintaining our high standard of teaching.

Candidate Profile – Beverly Vaughn

Name and Title: Beverly Vaughn, Professor of Music

School: ARHU

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 840

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 1990

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

It would be a dream-come-true to have the honor of serving as a senator-at-large!!! I've admired the passion, saluted the courage and been inspired by the vision and resolve of our faculty representatives since my very first days at Stockton! I just couldn't miss this opportunity to possibly serve and work in this atmosphere of commitment, thoughtful discourse and action. What would I bring? WOW—I believe and hope to bring such things as historical and cultural perspectives to the discussion; the ability to listen with understanding; vision and courage to move forward; passion and enthusiasm for the tremendous importance of the voice of the faculty in charting Stockton's future with a respect for the past, appreciation of the present, and an unfettered dedication to building an even greater and stronger institution!! I am so proud of Stockton and I am so proud of the incredible work of the Faculty Senate!!

Candidate Profile – Kerrin Wolf

Name and Title: Kerrin Wolf, Associate Professor of Business Studies, Public Law

School: BUSN

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 8

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2020

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

I want to serve as an At-large Senator because I served as a senator previously and really enjoyed it. Spending my time working with faculty colleagues from across the university on the important issues facing Stockton was very rewarding. I think I can bring a unique perspective to the work of the Faculty Senate and capably represent the faculty due to my background as a lawyer and social scientist, and prior service as a Senator and Senate Executive Committee member.

Candidate Profile – Yuli Zhang

Name and Title: Yuli Zhang, Assistant Professor of Business Studies, Marketing

School: BUSN

Position sought: At-Large Senator

Number of Years at Stockton: 4

Expected Tenure or Tenure Year: 2024

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

I serve in the Senate because I want to be part of the solution to the challenges facing our faculty. I will take an active role in faculty governance and do my utmost to communicate the thoughts and concerns of my colleagues to the attention of the Senate and the administration.