

Senate Diversity Subcommittee (SDS)

Monica Lares: I have long been interested in serving on this committee and have nominated myself. Issues surrounding diversity interest me and would like to represent our school on this committee.

Kurt Sollanek - I am Kurt Sollanek, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Kinesiology (start date: Fall 2015). During my time here at SSU, I have gained insights into many of the qualities that make SSU unique. Even in this short time, I have seen within my own Department and in the SSU community as a whole, the concerted effort to increase our on-campus diversity. As someone who has lived in three drastically different areas of the United States (e.g., Northeast, South, and now Northwest), I have seen many 'shades' of diversity as I have been exposed to a variety of issues concerning this important topic on different University campuses. Additionally, being on the Academic Freedom and University Standards Subcommittee during the past couple of years has broadened my understanding of the various diversity issues that currently plague our University and the CSU as a whole. I can certainly say I have a whole new outlook on this topic. As a junior faculty member, I eagerly look forward to the opportunity to help shape the policies on this campus that will help address the issues of diversity, equity, and inclusiveness.

Education Policies Committee (EPC)

Matty Mookerjee: I am interested in serving my School by being on this committee.

General Education Subcommittee (GE)

Tom Targett: Unable to resist a quick calculation, over the past six-years have instructed an estimated 3000 SSU students in SST GE classes, spanning large section lectures, labs, and smaller WIC classes. I believe strongly in the GE experience, providing students with a breadth of experience across disciplines taught by instructors with different perspectives. I have previously served as a member (and later chair) of the SST curriculum committee, the academic senate, and am currently the SST representative on EPC. All of these positions have involved work on GE proposals, modifications, and discontinuances. I would appreciate your vote and confidence going forward into this roll. Best, Tom Targett

Academic Freedom Subcommittee (AFS)

Kurt Sollanek – Academic Freedom Sub-committee I am Kurt Sollanek, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Kinesiology. I have been serving as SST's representative on AFS for the past three years and I would like to nominate myself to continue in this role. I admit that I was somewhat naive to what "academic freedom" meant when I first joined this committee. However, during my time in this role, my knowledge in this area has grown tremendously and I have become very mindful of how important these issues are for all instructors (faculty and lecturers). During my time on AFS, I have played a key role in trying to help inform new/junior faculty members about their academic freedom, since this is an important topic for them to be

aware of. For example, we have presented about academic freedom at the required meetings for new faculty members (hosted by academic affairs) and presented at CFA junior faculty functions. Lastly, our committee has worked on various matters throughout my tenure on this committee and many of these have not been fully resolved. Therefore, I welcome the opportunity to continue my involvement with this committee to bring my historical knowledge to the table as we continue to bring these tasks to completion. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Mark Gondree: My name is Mark Gondree (Computer Science). Previously, I served as an interim representative for SST on the Academic Freedom Subcommittee in Fall 2018, and enjoyed the experience so much that I filled a vacant seat that had been declared At-Large for 2019. I am currently an At-Large member of AFS but my term expires this year. Thus, I am running to be the SST representative for AFS and continue supporting the committee. This is my third year at Sonoma State as an Assistant Professor in the Computer Science Department. Academic freedom is a cornerstone of university education. It is important that this fundamental faculty right is protected through self-governance. Our classrooms need to be places where students are encouraged to be engaged citizens, with their opinions and perspectives given value through the crucible of critical thinking and debate. If elected as your representative on AFS, I will continue work to support the committee's work on campus, including educating our peers and partners about the Senate's "Faculty Bill of Rights" and mediating when academic freedom may have been violated.

Scholarship Subcommittee

Karen Werder: I nominate myself, Karen Werder. I proxied for Rachel Napoli last Spring when she was on leave and enjoyed reading the scholarship applications. I have excellent writing and editing skills and can recognize the degree of skill and education a writer has when reading their essay. I am in the Nursing Department.

Jerry Morris: For the past several years, it has been my honor to serve on the scholarship committee. It is rewarding to be part of a process that enables students to be acknowledged for their hard work and accomplishments through financial assistance. At a time when our student body is growing and important decisions need to be made about how our committee can efficiently and fairly evaluate the growing number of essays each year, I look forward to continuing to work together with my colleagues on the committee to address these issues. All of us on the committee care deeply about the quality of work that we do, and if elected, I will continue to work hard to make sure that our process fairly evaluates student applications.

Mackenzie Zippay: I am an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology and have been on the Scholarship committee since Fall 2016. I most recently became the Chair of this committee in Fall 2018 and would really appreciate continuing to serve on this committee. Most importantly, I have enjoyed giving back to future and current students, helping our future generation strive to an educated part of society. Although reading the scholarship applications can be daunting at times, it has really opened my eyes to some of the real struggles our SSU

students face and made me feel closer as they pour their heart and soul in their personal essays. I want to continue to help our students by making it possible to award as many scholarships as possible to both our undergraduates and graduate students. As chair, I have assisted with making the online application system more stream-line and easier for us, as the committee, to read through the applications with as few hurdles as possible. I have also worked hard in recruiting more faculty to the scholarship committee to provide each application the individual attention each one deserves. Lastly, I have enjoyed giving back to the University and enjoyed meeting diverse faculty from all different disciplines, that otherwise, I would not get the opportunity to interact with. As an untenured faculty, this committee will continue to assist me in with my University service for RTP, while also allowing me to become more of a leader in faculty governance.

Monica Lares: I would like to nominate myself (Monica Lares) for this subcommittee. I would enjoy being a part of a committee that involves providing financial support for our students so that they can focus on their education.

Shubhi Taneja: I am interested in applying for this position because of a recent experience that I had from reviewing 15 faculty and 14 student scholarship applications to attend Grace Hopper Celebration 2019 conference, the largest Computer Science (CS) education conference in the country. It was a truly enjoyable and rewarding experience to read stories of some amazing women throughout the world who have committed to making a change through their mentorship and scholarly work. I also served on National Center for Women in Information Technology (NCWIT) Collegiate Award 2019 committee where I was tasked with evaluating scholarship proposals from several undergraduate female students studying in different universities all across the country. It was amazing to learn about some of the ongoing CS scholarly work and the potential impact of such work on the lives of others around us. At SSU, I am looking forward to expanding my network outside my department and through my participation in the Scholarship Subcommittee, I will gain the opportunity to interact with faculty members from other department serving on the committee and learn their perspective on assessing scholarship work. I am committed to further my knowledge as a scholar and I believe that this opportunity will help me gain insights on the scholarship proposal review process at SSU and provide a platform for me to grow.

University Studies Curriculum Committee

Robin Glas: My name is Robin Glas, I am a new Assistant Professor in the department of Geology. I am also the new permanent coordinator of Science 120, a first year learning course. As a former K-12 teacher, I am dedicated to our first year students' transition to college. I nominate myself (with enthusiasm!) for the University Studies Curriculum Committee.

SST Elections Committee

Brent B. Hughes: I am a first year faculty member in Biology seeking my first committee assignment. I have experience organizing large teams of academics, a necessary qualification

for this position. I fully understand the challenges in organizing professionals with busy schedules, and will use the latest SSU technology (e.g., Canvas v. Moodle) when generating voting. Most importantly I will ensure that elections are run with the upmost integrity and care.

Student Affairs Committee

Martha Shott: I have had the pleasure of serving on the Student Affairs Committee during the last three academic years and would appreciate the opportunity to continue this service for our school. In this time I have built strong collaborative relationships with the other committee members, including faculty from other schools, administrators, and AS representatives. Of note, I advocated for priority registration status for SI leaders, which was approved. Many courses within SST rely on being able to recruit excellent students for these positions. Removing registration roadblocks for our students who are already taking full semester loads in vertical majors can assist us in providing the best support for students in core classes while maintaining the SI leader's trajectory to a timely graduation. We have also suggested improvements toward how student grievances are handled on campus and have disseminated information about protecting our undocumented students on campus. Next semester we are looking more deeply into fostering inclusiveness and equity on campus, which is an area of high priority for our school. I am committed to progressing this work at the campus level and aligning it with the efforts we are making in SST.