

MEET THE CANDIDATES

BOARD *of* DIRECTORS

For Term Representatives to the Board of Directors

2019 ELECTION PROCEDURES

Each institution receives one (1) vote.

Those attending the Annual Meeting in Atlanta should be prepared to vote for president-elect (1) and term members (5 vacancies).

Votes must be cast online at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CCAS2019Ballot>

by 9:00 am on Friday, November 8

MEET THE CANDIDATE For President-Elect



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MEMBER

Jonathan H. MILLEN

Jonathan H. Millen was named Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of New England on July 1, 2019 after serving for three years as the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Rider University. Jonathan earned his Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst (1992) and joined

the Rider faculty in the Department of Communication and Journalism in 1991; he served as department chair from 2005-2010. Prior to being appointed Dean, he was Associate Dean for seven years. During his tenure as Dean at Rider, he was appointed Chair of the Academic Excellence and Engaged Learning committee for the University's 2018-2015 Strategic Plan, Chair of the First Year Experience Task Force, and member of the Steering Committee for compliance with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education Accreditation. In 1997 he received Rider's award for distinguished teaching and in 2000

the award for distinguished service. Named to the *Princeton Review's Best 300 Professors*, a past president of the New Jersey Communication Association and member of the editorial board of the *Atlantic Journal of Communication*, his research on conflict resolution has been published in *Mediation Quarterly*, *Human Communication*, and *Human Systems*. His work on political discourse appears in the *Atlantic Journal of Communication* and *Studies of Communication in the 2012 Presidential Campaign*.

Millen has been an active member in CCAS since 2011. He was the director of the CCAS Seminar for Department Chairs in July 2016 after serving as a facilitator for seven previous CCAS Seminars. Millen has conducted CCAS workshops on several campuses including St. Joseph's University, St. Bonaventure University, Lynchburg College, the Keck Graduate Institute and most recently Worcester State University. He has been a member of the Committee on Associate/Assistant Deans, a mentor in the Mentoring Program, a Case Study Leader, and a participant in the 2016-2019 strategic planning process. He was elected to the Board of Directors in 2016 and currently serves on the Executive committee and the Governance committee and is the Board's liaison to the Committee on Private Institutions.

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Shaily MENON

Shaily Menon joined Saint Joseph's University as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in 2017. She led a strategic planning effort and is working on innovative programs, experiential learning opportunities for students, learning environments for a dynamic world, diversity and inclusion efforts, and sustained

community partnerships. She played leadership roles in facilitating a biotech incubator program with student internships in translational medicine and entrepreneurship, exploring and establishing new interdisciplinary curricular programs, founding a new School of Health Studies and Education, and developing a partnership with the world-renowned Barnes Foundation.

At Grand Valley State University, she led special project assignments in the Office of the Provost on Community Engagement and Design Thinking for Social Innovation. She helped organize the MI-ACE Senior Leadership Program for mid-level administrators in higher education and served on an accreditation preparation committee. Previously, Menon served as Associate Dean for Research, Facilities Planning, Strategic Planning, and Community Engagement in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Grand Valley State University. She served as an inclusion advocate, mentor to department chairs, trained mediator, member of the University Strategic Positioning Task Force, and Department Chair of Biology. During 2015-16, Menon was an ACE Fellow in the President's Office at San Francisco State University.

Menon was a PI on multiple NSF grants aimed at advancing the representation of women and underrepresented minorities in STEM disciplines. She serves on the board of directors of a national organization, Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE). Previously, she served on the board of the Pierce Cedar Creek Institute, an environmental education organization, and as co-chair of the Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance.

Menon has attended CCAS annual meetings since 2011, and serves on the Gender Issues committee of CCAS. She co-organized a panel on allies and advocates in 2012, helped pilot the CCAS publication of the *Standards of Practice: A Self-Assessment Guide for Colleges/Schools of Arts & Sciences*, and helped organize and present panels for 2018 and 2019. Her interests lie in increasing CCAS programming on inclusive practices, innovative and interdisciplinary approaches, and being a strong advocate for the intellectual stature and public understanding of the value of the liberal arts and sciences.



Abbey ZINK

Abbey Zink has been Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Sam Houston State University (SHSU) in Huntsville, TX, since 2014. Previously, she served as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Texas A&M University-Kingsville (TAMUK) and as Interim Dean and Assistant Dean

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of the School of Arts and Sciences at Western Connecticut State University (WCSU) in Danbury, CT. To her role as a current CCAS board member, she brings experience on campuses ranging from 5,500 to 21,000 students, in union and non-union environments, and at a Hispanic Serving Institution.

As an administrator, Zink has focused her efforts on developing community partnerships, creating opportunities for liberal arts students to gain applied skills, expanding diversity and inclusion initiatives, and making the case for the liberal arts and sciences. Since joining SHSU, Zink championed a new minor in Community Leadership developed with the Sociology Department, the Center for Community Engagement, and community groups. She also secured a dedicated Career Services counselor for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, made tremendous progress in faculty diversity, and expanded Study Abroad and experiential learning opportunities. At TAMUK, Zink led the effort to partner with LULAC Council #1 Foundation to create the Tejano Civil Rights Museum in Corpus Christi, TX.

Zink has attended CCAS annual meetings since 2010 and participated in the 2011 Seminar for New Deans. In 2016, she was elected to the CCAS board and serves as Treasurer, an Executive board member, board liaison to Liberal Arts institutions, and Annual Conference Planning Committee member. Over the years, she has presented at CCAS on topics related to community engagement, use of social media to advocate for the liberal arts and sciences, and collaboration with vice presidents for research. She has also served on the Comprehensive Institutions and Gender Issues standing committees and on the strategic planning task force. She also has been active in the Texas Association of Deans of Liberal Arts and Sciences (TADLAS) as an interim board member and as secretary. As a CCAS board member, Zink would continue work to develop programming to support member institutions' diversity and inclusion efforts and to foster collaborative partnerships as a way of making the case for the liberal arts and sciences.

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Andrew McMICHAEL

Andrew McMichael is the founding Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) at Auburn University in Montgomery (AUM). Prior to joining AUM in January 2019, he served as an Assistant and then an Associate Dean at Western Kentucky University since 2009, where he was responsible for

curriculum planning, external funding, international initiatives, professional development, targeted strategic planning, and development and advancement.

At AUM McMichael's first semester has been devoted to organizational initiatives common to any new college, as well as developing a strategic vision, recruitment and retention, planning, curriculum and program evaluation and reform, and serving as the co-Chair of the university committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. His first initiatives include program assessments and re-writing the college tenure and promotion guidelines to include recruitment, retention, and efforts to increase diversity as a service expectation. He is working to organize policies and procedures, create the college development and outreach plan, and assess faculty and staff salary benchmarks with an eye towards equity.

In CLASS, a college of six departments including ROTC, about sixty faculty, and around one thousand majors (20% of the university total), McMichael is helping to launch program revisions with new instructor lines in Fine Arts, Spanish, and Theatre with an eye towards enriching the college campus as well as promoting workforce development through community partnerships. A re-organization in Fine Arts will include new money for studio facilities, while new lines and a new degree program in Social Work and new curriculum initiatives in Criminal Justice and Legal Studies in concert with community stakeholders will help attract and retain students in those programs.

McMichael has attended CCAS meetings since 2009, serving on the Committee on Assistant/Associate Deans from 2009 - 2019, and as chair of that committee in 2013-2014. He has presented at CCAS on topics such as creative development and funding strategies, faculty fellow positions, and the Dean's office as "middle ground" in times of crisis, and routinely organizes CCAS Annual Meeting tours of local breweries. An administrator by accident and historian by training, his research focuses on the history of alcohol, particularly beer and spirits, in the Atlantic World from 1400-1800. He has conducted research and published extensively in these areas.



Sharon NELL

Sharon Nell has served as the Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities at St. Edward's University since 2012. Prior to that, she was Associate Dean for Departments with Graduate Programs in the College of Arts and Sciences at Loyola University Maryland. A scholar of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century

French literature, her most recent work focuses on both the cultural contributions of women (e.g., structures of sociability and literary activities) and their physical precariousness (e.g., subjection to male coverture, physical abuse, rape). With more than 20 years in the classroom, she has taught all levels of French: from first-year five skills language courses to graduate level courses in French literature and theory. She is a strong advocate of study abroad and has accompanied students to France six times.

As Dean at St. Edward's, her portfolio includes 8 academic departments, 15 majors, the Writing Center, the Center for Ethics and Leadership, the Fine Arts Gallery, the Mary Moody Northen Theatre, the Marcia Kinsey Visiting Writers Series, and *Hilltop Views*, the student news outlet. She has overseen the creation of academic departments and the articulation of the role of department chairs while embracing innovations such as the creation of the Video Game Development major. She is also committed to mission-oriented work. In 2018-19, she served on the planning committee for a faculty pilgrimage journey to the hometown in France of the founder of the St. Edward's congregation. Since Fall 2018, she has served as co-chair of the President's Advisory Council for a Respectful and Inclusive Community, a university-level body charged with overseeing the implementation of diversity, equity, and inclusion strategies. Part of her work included chairing a team whose task was to create a roster of best practices for recruiting, hiring, retaining, and promoting a diverse faculty and staff.

Nell has attended CCAS since 2013. She has been active as a member of the Gender Issues Committee, has presented on institutional reorganization and shifting advising strategies, and has served six times as co-director of CCAS Department Chair Seminars.

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Walter R. JACOBS

Walter R. Jacobs is the Dean of the College of Social Sciences at San José State University, and a professor of sociology. From July 2013 through June 2015 he was the Founding Dean of the College of Social Sciences & Professional Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside. Prior to joining

UW-Parkside he was on the faculty of the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities for 14 years, including five years as the Chair of the Department of African American & African Studies (2007-2012). He received his B.S. degree in electrical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology (1990), and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in sociology from Indiana University-Bloomington (1995, 1999). He has received department, college, and university awards for undergraduate teaching.

Jacobs is the author of the ethnography *Speaking the Lower Frequencies: Students and Media Literacy* (State University of New York Press, 2005), and is co-editor (with Jeffrey Di Leo) of *If Classrooms Matter: Progressive Visions of Educational Environments* (Routledge, 2004). His current research explores personal and social possibilities of undergraduate students' generation of creative digital nonfiction; an article he co-published about digital storytelling in the online journal Seminar.net provides a good overview (<http://z.umn.edu/seminar.net>). He is a member of the Board of Directors for StoryCenter [formerly known as the Center for Digital Storytelling], a founding organization in the global digital storytelling movement.

Jacobs has been active in the CCAS since becoming a Dean in July 2013. He attended the 2013 Seminar for New Deans, and sent his Associate Dean to the 2014 Seminar for New Deans. Jacobs was the Co-Director of the July 2015 Seminar for Department Chairs/Heads, and Director of the October 2015 Seminar for Department Chairs/Heads. Over the 2013-2014 academic year he maintained a blog about his first year as a Dean, and in the 2015-2016 academic year he wrote about leading a social science college (<http://thesocietypages.org/newdean/>).



Carlos A. GARCIA

Carlos Garcia has been dean of the School of Mathematics, Science and Engineering at the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, TX for over seven years and has over 25 years of experience in higher education in both private and public colleges and universities in Texas. His policy initiatives

include the development of multi-year budget models based on yearly assessments of academic units, offices to support undergraduate research, STEM-specific internships, student mentoring, and industry funded faculty support for collaborative research. A major undergraduate initiative accomplishment was the creation of summer boot camp programs to support students academically prepare for courses in mathematics and chemistry.

His scientific research laboratory is interested in the mechanisms of neurodegeneration in animal models of rheumatoid arthritis and diabetes. To support his research along with student success initiatives he has been principal investigator, co-PI, or project director on externally-funded grants totaling over \$3 million. Currently, he is leading investigations of cytokine-mediated signal transduction changes in five functionally important brain regions with a focus on inflammation and oxidative stress. He has a Ph.D. in biochemistry, and a master's degree in physiological optics from the University of Houston.

He has led or served as an officer on not-for-profit boards of educational and arts organizations. In 2018, he was appointed by the San Antonio City Council to the steering committee charged with the development of a Climate Ready Action Plan focused on making the city safer and more resilient in the face of climate-linked disasters, like heat waves, tornadoes, and flash floods.

Garcia has been the seminar director or co-director at the CCAS-sponsored Seminars for Department Chairs.

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Nanette HANKS

Nanette Hanks has served as the Assistant Dean of Curriculum in the College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities since 2006. She provides curricular leadership and oversight for the 31 departments in the college and collaborates on a broad range of college and campus-wide initiatives

around curriculum development (face-to-face and on-line), resource allocation, assessment, and management including the design, implementation, and review of policies, practices and programs. Hanks leads the collegiate initiatives for student recruitment and learning abroad. She has taught global seminars in Spain for the past 8 years hiking with students over 300 miles on the Camino de Santiago. Hanks has presented nationally and internationally at the Forum on Education Abroad, Excellence in Learning Abroad Series, Summit for Learning Abroad, Council on International Education Exchange and the Title VI 50th Anniversary Conference. She has been on the review team for programs in Istanbul, Turkey, Buenos Aires, Argentina, Toledo and Madrid, Spain, Beijing and Shanghai, China, Copenhagen, Denmark and Dublin, Ireland. Hanks has received the Minnesota Governor's Award for Excellence in Urban Programming, the College of Liberal Arts Professional and Administrative Outstanding Service Award and was a President's Emerging Leader focusing on "Internationalizing the University." She is an enrolled member of the Santo Domingo Pueblo in New Mexico and has served on the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council and as a contributing writer to *The Circle News*, *American Indian News and Arts* and *Colors Magazine*.

Hanks has attended CCAS annual meetings since 2014, and immediately knew she wanted to participate and support the organization and its members. She has served on the Standing Committee for Research Institutions since 2015. She has presented on cluster hires (2015), Dean's office in times of crisis (2016), intentionally engaging students (2017), core career competencies (2017), and has been a case study facilitator each year since 2015. She feels she has personally and professionally benefited from her participation in CCAS meetings and programs and looks forward to the opportunity to serve.



Danille K. TAYLOR

Danille K. Taylor joined Clark Atlanta University (CAU) in Atlanta, Georgia, as the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences in 2016. Prior to this appointment she was the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences at Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas, for five years. She also served

as Dean of Humanities at Dillard University in New Orleans from 2003 – 2010. Preceding these deanships she was department chair of Minority Studies at Indiana University N.W. in Gary, Indiana. A graduate of Princeton University with a B.A. in English, she also received a M.A. in African American Studies from Boston University before earning her Ph.D. in American Civilization from Brown University. Taylor's scholarship is grounded in African American literature and the exploration of African Diasporic cultures. She was a Rockefeller Foundation Resident Fellow at the Center for Black Music Research at Columbia College in Chicago. Her publications include *Conversations with Toni Morrison* (University of Mississippi, 1994) and *The Cambridge Companion to African American Women's writing*. (Cambridge, 2009) She is currently working on two articles on the Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison for publication.

Under Dean Taylor's leadership, strategic planning and resource development have become top priorities that have provided new partnerships with local and national institutions, paid internships for students and collaborative research opportunities for faculty. Significant too, is her emphasis on the merging of technology and humanities for a more complete understanding of our changing world. As a result, developing the faculty's capacity to teach Data Science and Digital Humanities has resulted in the formation of a Center for Africana Digital Humanities, one of the first of its kind at an HBCU.

Taylor has been active in CCAS since 2013, organized a Department Chairs Development seminar on her campus and assisted the CCAS Board in its programming for the Atlanta conference this year. Dr. Taylor will present her work "Study Abroad Opportunities for Underrepresented Groups" at this year's conference and has organized a panel of Deans to discuss the topic "Why HBCU's Still Matter." Taylor is interested expanding access to the professional development and networking opportunities CCAS affords its members for HBCU's and other minority serving institutions deans. She looks forward to working with the Board on advocacy for liberal arts education, inclusion and equity as central components of social justice issues in higher education.