

MEET *the* CANDIDATES

For Term Representatives to the Board of Directors

2021 ELECTION PROCEDURES

Each institution receives one (1) vote.

Those attending the Annual Meeting should be prepared to vote on 5 vacancies (4 members for 3-year-terms, 1 member for a 1-year term).

Votes must be cast online at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CCASBoard21>

by 9:00 am PT on Friday, November 12

MEET THE CANDIDATE *for* PRESIDENT-ELECT



WALTER R. Jacobs

Walter R. Jacobs has been the Dean of the College of Social Sciences at San José State University since July 2015, and is 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. He received his undergraduate degree in electrical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology, and his graduate degrees in sociology from Indiana University-Bloomington. He has received department, college, and university awards for undergraduate teaching. Over the 2013-2014 academic year he maintained a blog about his first year as a dean, and from 2015 through 2019 he wrote about leading a social sciences college (<http://thesocietypages.org/newdean/>).

In May Jacobs published *Sparked: George Floyd, Racism, and the Progressive Illusion* (Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2021). This anthology was co-edited by two assistant professors in his college, and brings together the perspectives of academics who work or have worked in Minnesota. Jacobs also authored the ethnography *Speaking the Lower Frequencies: Students and Media Literacy* (SUNY Press, 2005), and co-edited *If Classrooms Matter: Progressive Visions of Educational Environments* (Routledge, 2004).

Jacobs has been active in CCAS since becoming a dean in July 2013. He was the Co-Director of the July 2015 Seminar for Department Chairs/Heads, and Director of the October 2015 Seminar for Department Chairs/Heads. He has been on the CCAS Board of Directors since 2016, and in 2017 co-developed the CCAS speed deaning mentoring initiative while co-chairing the mentorship committee. Jacobs is also on the Board of Directors for StoryCenter [formerly known as the Center for Digital Storytelling], a founding organization in the global digital storytelling movement.

CURRENT
BOARD
MEMBER

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR BOARD of DIRECTORS



KYOKO Amano

Born in Tokyo, Japan, Kyoko Amano came to the U.S. to study American Literature in 1995. She received her doctorate degree in English from the State University of New York at Binghamton. She earned her tenure and the rank of full professor at the University of Indianapolis, where she served as

the Associate Director of the Honors College and the English Department Chair. She served as Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Education at Lock Haven University from 2017 until August, 2021, when she became the Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences at University of Houston–Victoria.

A thoughtful and collaborative educator-leader, she is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion. She has a record of success in instituting inter-multidisciplinary programs and degrees. Her professional goals include creating an environment where the demographics of faculty, staff, and administrators mirror that of students; and closing the access, support, and achievement gaps between underrepresented groups of students and traditionally well-represented groups of students. In addition to American Literature, her expertise includes honors education and peace studies. She is a recipient of the National Collegiate Honors Council Fellow (NCHC) and has served as an NCHC Board member (9 years) and secretary (6 years). At the University of Indianapolis, she taught a short-term, faculty-led travel course, Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Study, that was funded by the Japan Foundation.

Kyoko first attended the Seminar for New Deans in 2017. She has participated in various virtual sessions for deans and facilitated a few virtual discussions during the pandemic with Andrew McMichael. She will be talking about what she wished she knew when she became a dean at the Modern Language Association meeting in January 2022.



JOHN Z. Kiss

John Z. Kiss is the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro since 2016, and his academic appointment is as Professor of Biology. He has been an active participant in CCAS throughout his time as dean and currently has had a 1-year term on the Board.

John was a speaker and panel organizer for the session “Balancing Faculty & Administrative Life for the Dean” at the CCAS meeting in Chicago. Most recently, he was the host for the CCAS Discussion for Deans on the topic of “Working with Staff (Including Remotely)” and for the Discussions for Chairs on “DEI at the Department Level.”

Previously, John served as Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Mississippi from 2012–16. John was on the faculty of Miami University (1993–2012) where he was a University Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Botany Department. He has mentored 61 independent research projects by undergraduates and has served as major professor for 14 M.S. students, 8 doctoral students, and 8 post-doctoral scholars.

John’s research focuses on the gravitational and space biology of plants, and he has published 119 peer-reviewed papers. He served as PI on grants from NASA, USDA, NSF, and the NIH as well as PI on eight spaceflight experiments on the Space Shuttle and the International Space Station. In 2021, John received the International Cooperation Medal from the International Committee for Space Research, and in conjunction with this award, the International Astronomical Union has named an asteroid in his honor (#8267 Kiss).

John had served as President of the Midwestern Section of the American Society of Plant Biologists and the American Society of Gravitational and Space Biology. He has major editorial activities including currently serving as an Associate Editor for the *American Journal of Botany* and as a former Editor for *Advances in Space Research*. In terms of academic administration, John has served as the President of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools (2015–16).

John has been very passionate about the promotion of women and underrepresented groups in STEM fields throughout his academic career. He has been active in several NSF ADVANCE grants and has done two recent podcasts for the “Women4Space” program. He now seeks a full three year term on the CCAS Board.

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MICHAEL McGinnis

Michael McGinnis was appointed Dean of the College of Science and Mathematics and professor of chemistry at Norwich University in July 2013. Dr. McGinnis came to Norwich from the University of North Georgia, a sister senior military college, where he served as head of the Department of Chemis-

try and Biochemistry. Prior to North Georgia, he served as the Associate Dean and Director of Preprofessional Programs at Georgia College, Georgia's Public Liberal Arts College.

As dean, he oversaw the creation of interdisciplinary programs in exercise science and neuroscience and the first on-campus master's program to be approved in decades, Master of Athletic Training. Mike was awarded a IIE grant for student scholarships in 2015 to develop study abroad opportunities in Ireland. As a result of this and other initiatives, STEM students are studying abroad at records numbers and participated the college's first faculty led program in Berlin, Germany.

McGinnis has served in leadership positions at the local, regional, and national level for the American Chemical Society (ACS). As national chair for ACS's Committee on Community Activities, he led the transition to Chemist Celebrate Earth Week (CCEW) and played an instrumental role in securing funds to establish and maintain the Chemist Festival Grant where ACS trains and financially supports chemists around the globe to organize chemistry festivals.

McGinnis's research, much of it involving undergraduates, presently focuses on microwave-assisted organic reactions. He is an accomplished scientist with published articles and a book. He is a co-PI on a current NSF S-STEM grant, Promoting Success of Undergraduate STEM Students Through Scholarships, Mentoring, and Curricular Improvements in First-year Mathematics Courses.

He attended his first CCAS meeting in 2005 as an associate dean and recently finished a 2-year term (2017-2019) as chair of the standing committee on private institutions. As a facilitator of several CCAS virtual discussions, he helped maintain the COVID-19 communication and sharing of ideas of deans and department chairs/heads. A regular presenter at CCAS meetings, he co-presented "Managing the Changing Expectations of Faculty" at the 2020 virtual CCAS meeting.

CURRENT
BOARD
MEMBER



ELIZABETH Kavran

Elizabeth Kavran learned on the job that the role of Dean is the most impactful, far-reaching and rewarding position of her career. It is in the role of Dean that she stays connected to faculty and students while also conducting many external duties. This blend of duties keeps her immersed in the academic world

and student experience while also incorporating her leadership and organizational skills. And, in this role, the partnership with CCAS is both greatly impactful, beneficial to the team she leads, and personally satisfying.

Kavran is Dean of the School of Arts, Sciences and Professional Studies and a faculty member in the Biology department at Ursuline College in Pepper Pike, Ohio. Her previous leadership roles include two years as interim Vice President for Academic Affairs.

In her administrative roles at Ursuline College, her focus has been to create a campus-wide student success initiative which has looked at improving retention and graduation rates. She also initiated enhanced advising criteria for the promotion and tenure process, revised transitional English and Math course programming, and created a student research symposium for the school. Her research focus is on pedagogical methods of teaching case studies to undergraduate Nursing and Biology students. She brings research and teaching together through case studies in the classroom. These case studies tie physiological processes with Nursing and healthcare – related practices. In short, they humanize the learning process.

Kavran believes no girl should be left behind in STEM and that educators need to reach out to the K-12 students. As a result, she and the female faculty host robust Brownie through Girl Scout workshops that bring together STEM and the Arts in fun and exciting ways.

Kavran has attended the CCAS annual meeting since becoming dean. She has presented at the New Deans' Workshop and the New Chairs' Workshop and has been a frequent panel presenter. She has served on several CCAS standing committee; most recently elected to the Board of Directors.

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MARIE Moeller

Marie Moeller is currently the Associate Dean of the College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities (CASSH) at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse (UWL). She has served in a variety of administrative capacities at UWL since 2015, including Strategic Planning Team Lead, Assistant Dean and interim Asso-

ciate Dean. While serving as Associate Dean, she chaired two departments in receivership: the Department of Global Cultures and Languages (2016-2019) and the Department of Art (2019-2020). She joined the professional writing and communication faculty at UWL in 2010 from Fayetteville State University—an HBCU in Fayetteville, NC—where she assisted with SAC accreditation reporting and university-wide writing assessment. As the sole Associate Dean in CASSH, Marie is responsible for several aspects of the college, including: faculty development and promotion, accreditation and program review processes, enrollment management, internationalization, and conflict management for 17 departments/190+ FTE.

Marie has been an active member of CCAS since 2015. She has served as a facilitator for CCAS Seminars for Department Chairs since 2016 and subsequently authored a portion of the CCAS Department Chair Training Manual on Recruitment and Retention. She has presented her research on higher ed leadership, gender and succession planning at the CCAS annual conference as part of the Gender Issues sponsored panels. She is a member of the Committee on Associate/Assistant Deans, Committee on Comprehensive Institutions, and is the current Chair of the Committee on Gender Issues. Inclusive leadership is Marie's driving principle; as such, she is sitting for election to integrate the perspectives of Assistant and Associate Deans in the leadership of CCAS.

Marie is an award-winning teacher of professional and technical writing. She serves on the editorial boards of the journals *Technical Communication Quarterly* and the *Writing Across the Curriculum Clearinghouse*. Her research has appeared in journals such as *Disability Studies Quarterly*, *Communication Design Quarterly*, *College English*, and *Technical Communication Quarterly*. Her co-edited collection *Bodies of Knowledge: Embodied Rhetorics in Theory and Practice* is forthcoming from Utah State University Press. Marie is now pivoting her research agenda to higher education leadership, issues of inclusivity and intersectionality, and succession planning.



DOLORES Guerrero

Dolores Guerrero has served as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Texas A&M University—Kingsville (TAMUK) since 2016. She has been at TAMUK since 2002 where she has served in various appointments. Her first role at the university was as Director for the newly created Social Work Program.

During her eight years with the program, she successfully administered and directed the new program's Initial Accreditation and Reaffirmation efforts. In 2010, she was named the Founding Dean of the TAMUK Honors College. In this role, she led the successful creation of a new honors academic program and college which was housed in its own living learning residence hall. In 2014, she was named Interim Dean for the College of Arts and Sciences and appointed permanent dean in 2016.

As dean, she oversees 10 academic units (across the Arts, Humanities, and Sciences) with 26 degree programs and three units, the Connor Museum, National Natural Toxins Research Center, and Dual Enrollment. Her goals as dean have focused on enhancing student success and supporting faculty research, scholarship, and creative works for all departments and programs. In the past 5 years, the college has experienced a significant increase in external research funding by faculty across the disciplines strengthening the opportunities for students engaging in undergraduate research and experiential opportunities. In addition, the college has created and established partnerships with the local community, key individuals, and industries which support and secure external support for students, faculty, and the college.

She has been a member of CCAS since 2014. In 2018, she was elected to the CCAS Board of Directors for a 3 year term. She currently serves as CCAS Treasurer and member of the Executive Committee. She also served as Chair for the Comprehensive Institutions standing committee for two terms and co facilitated the past 2 years "Speed Deaning" events. During her membership with CCAS, she has been active as a conference/workshop presenter for Mindful Leadership practices for Deans, Comprehensive Institutions panels, and Seminar for New Deans.

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JOHN M. Pratte

John M. Pratte has been the Dean of the College of Arts, Education, and Sciences at the University of Louisiana at Monroe since July 1, 2018. He is a physicist, science educator, and administrator with three decades of experience in higher education. He received his bachelor's degree in Physics from the University of

Texas and his Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Colorado before a brief stint at Shell Oil as an exploration geophysicist. Since returning to academia, he has been a faculty member at four institutions, as well as serving as the Science Coordinator for the Middle Grades Teacher Education Program at Clayton State University; Co-Coordinator of the General Education Science Program at Kennesaw State University; and Chair of Chemistry and Physics, Associate Dean of Research and External Engagement, and Dean of Sciences and Mathematics at Arkansas State University.

Pratte's research has changed over time from fluid dynamics to science education, with a focus on the use of the Internet to improve education. An early adopter of technology in the classroom in the mid-1990's, much of his science education research has focused on the effect of technology on learning and attitudes. He has been the PI on several multi-institutional, NSF-funded programs that have developed materials and tools for teaching science online. This background has proved incredibly useful during the COVID-19 pandemic, as most classes have migrated to virtual or hybrid formats. With Dr. Aldemaro Romero from Baruch College, he recently completed a book that discusses the factors that cause institutional failure at universities and colleges.

Pratte has been a member of the CCAS since 2011. For the past nine years, he has served on the Research Institutions Committee, and in 2019, served as the Chair of this committee. He has served on eight panel discussions over the years and is a frequent contributor to the Case Studies section of the annual conference. For the past year, he has served on the Board of Directors in a one-year position.