

To: LAUC President, Martin Brennan
From: LAUC Nominating Committee, Heather Smedberg, Chair
RE: 2020-2021 LAUC Nominating Committee Report
Date: May 5, 2021

Charge: The Nominating Committee was assigned its regular charge to find candidates for Vice-President/President-Elect and Secretary for the 2021-2022 academic year. Because the LAUC President role has been filled for several years by librarians from “South” campus divisions, our committee was also urged (but not required) to prioritize viable candidates for Vice President/President Elect from one of the “North” campus divisions: UCSC, UCSF, UCM, UCD, or UCB.

Summary: The three-person committee was charged and convened in February and held meetings via zoom, roughly bi-weekly. We also worked asynchronously via the new LAUC Slack workspace, and through Google Docs. The committee put out direct calls to the LAUC Membership for self-nominations and recommendations. We also gathered our lists of eligible and qualified candidates from division websites/rosters, through communication with division chairs and committee chairs, and working through process of direct outreach. We strove to reach out to a diverse group of candidates, and to cast a wide net. For example, we also welcomed nominations from members who may not have as much direct experience with LAUC, if they have comparable experience with other campus/system groups or organizations.

Finding a full slate of qualified candidates was again a challenge this year, despite this sound strategy and concerted effort. SILS is having a huge impact on the portfolios of many of our colleagues and there is an expectation that many will continue to be impacted in the new academic year. The day-to-day realities of the pandemic and a feeling of great uncertainty and further increasing workloads as we all re-shift and prepare to reintroduce in-person services and work arrangements, are further constricting any remaining bandwidth. As is always the case, we are also limited in which campuses we are able to consider for these two roles per the LAUC Bylaws.

The Election Calendar set our deadline of April 26, and by this date we had expressions of interest from one candidate for each position. I reported our status to the Officers and sought an extension to continue to find additional candidates. We extended our search efforts until May 5 but found no additional candidates. Thus, we submitted our ballot of one candidate each to Secretary Kristen LaBonte on May 5, 2021, along with each candidate’s statement of interest and biography. The committee thanks these two colleagues for their eagerness to serve. During the Assembly LAUC members have an opportunity to hear the slate of candidates and offer additional nominations from the floor.

I would like to thank the nominating committee members for their hard work and diligence in completing our charge amidst great challenges.

Respectfully Submitted,

LAUC Nominating Committee 2020-2021

Heather Smedberg, UC San Diego (Chair)
Kyra Folk-Farber, UC Santa Barbara
Kate Peck, UC Berkeley