**2017-2020 BSA Governing Council Candidate Statements**

[Stephanie Alcid 2](#_Toc480193851)

[Toby Morris 2](#_Toc480193852)

[Diane Mayo 2](#_Toc480193853)

[Kalie Sacco 2](#_Toc480193854)

[Avi Rosenzweig 3](#_Toc480193855)

[Marissa Saraf 3](#_Toc480193856)

[Danielle Wiskerson 3](#_Toc480193857)

[Rosita Lucas 4](#_Toc480193858)

[Summer Scanlan 4](#_Toc480193859)

[Jorge Martinez 4](#_Toc480193860)

[Deborah Gray 4](#_Toc480193861)

[Zachary Kelly 5](#_Toc480193862)

[Danny Reyes 5](#_Toc480193863)

[Allison Covington 5](#_Toc480193864)

[Sandra Cruz-Lezama 6](#_Toc480193865)

[Rachel Kowalik 6](#_Toc480193866)

[Jennifer Bevington 6](#_Toc480193867)

[Shirley Giraldo 6](#_Toc480193868)

[Chris Balke 7](#_Toc480193869)

[Emma Strong 7](#_Toc480193870)

[Brian Decal 7](#_Toc480193871)

[Sabina Garcia 8](#_Toc480193872)

[Janelle Fine 8](#_Toc480193873)

[Kait Gutherie 8](#_Toc480193874)

[Rocio "Harumi" QUINONES 8](#_Toc480193875)

# Stephanie Alcid

I have worked at UCB for over 3 years as the Scheduler/Curriculum Planner for the Political Science Department. While in this position, I have worked on course scheduling and development, and enrollment management. These aspects of my position have allowed me to meet various constituents all over campus. The accompanied experiences have helped to foster my skills and knowledge base about my position and the UCB campus. I have also had the opportunity to develop valuable relationship with colleagues. These relationships have helped me to see the importance of mentorship, and its pivotal role in professional development. I would eagerly serve on the BSA Mentorship Committee as I would be able to help new employees connect with seasoned colleagues, navigate the campus, as well as build confidence in their respective positions. I have significantly benefited from the knowledge of others and I am seeking to be that resource for new colleagues.

# Toby Morris

I have worked at UC Berkeley’s Tang Center for the past five years. I am a registered dietitian providing direct services to students. In this capacity, I have a lot of interaction with students but little interaction with staff outside of the Tang Center. I hope to learn more about the campus community and will contribute energy and creativity if chosen to participate in Governing Council for the Berkeley Staff Assembly.

# Diane Mayo

My name is Diane Mayo and I am a Project Manager with the Construction and Design department under the Real Estate Division. I have worked for the campus for over 10 years. As a Project Manager for construction, my work can potentially intersect with and impact many other departments. During my time at UC Berkeley, I have seen the importance of the relationships and collaborations across campus. I am excited about the opportunity to join the BSA Governing Council and to work on the various committees. It seems like a great way to continue building connections across campus and among different disciplines and to contribute to the campus in new ways.

# Kalie Sacco

I have worked at UC Berkeley's Lawrence Hall of Science for three years total, and also obtained my BA at UC Berkeley. As a student, I worked in many departments around campus (including the Hall). Berkeley has shaped my life and career, and my perspectives as an emerging leader in our organizational structure will inform my actions on the BSA. Professionally, I have strong project management skills and experience that will lend themselves to successfully contributing

to the work of the BSA (such as managing events and communicating across wide ranges of audiences). I believe that despite current challenges, UC Berkeley overall is a great place to work (especially as an emerging professional), and there are many ways we on the BSA can make it even better. I am excited about the opportunity to serve the UC Berkeley staff community on the BSA. Thank you for your consideration.

# Avi Rosenzweig

As my Cal career sputters toward a third decade here on campus, I have been lucky to be both a mentee and a mentor in BSA’s staff mentorship program and am convinced of its value in keeping our far-flung offices glued together through the connections we help establish and strengthen, despite the many larger bureaucratic forces that loom over us. I’ve seen how things work (and don’t) from many vantage points over the years — several Colleges, Schools, Divisions, both academic and central services units, and before all this I was a student here, too

— undergrad and grad (Go Bears!) All this time on the field has not exhausted my enthusiasm for the game — it has spurred it further, and also allowed me to develop an efficient stride and learn a few tricks of the trade along the way.

BSA is a valuable player in the campus lineup, not a bench-warmer, and it deserves our support. As new people come into the campus leadership roles, I will help BSA coach them to keep their eye on the ball, and be mindful that staff are what keep the whole enterprise functioning.

# Marissa Saraf

I joined UC Berkeley in March of 2015 as the Capital Projects Accounting Manager. During my first two years here, I was engaged in learning the job, identifying and implementing process improvements, and coaching my team of five employees. I introduced my team to StrengthsFinder and led a team building event around their results. I’d like to spend my next few years here engaging with the larger campus community and partnering with like-minded individuals to support managers and staff in their career objectives. I believe the BSA is the perfect forum for me to make the greatest contribution to UC Berkeley.

# Danielle Wiskerson

I have been an employee of the university for close to 10 years. I’m currently an Associate Director, External Relations in University Development and Alumni Relations, which includes planning, developing, and implementing strategies for events that are typically complex and often include controversial and/or politically sensitive issues. These programs often involve working with important friends or members from all over the campus community, including the Chancellor and Chancellor’s cabinet, the UC Berkeley Foundation Board of Trustees, faculty, international dignitaries, and government officials. Some programs I manage are December Commencement, Berkeley Charter Gala featuring the presentation of the Achievement Awards, and Berkeley Communications Conference, which draws together 200 campus communicators.

I would take great pride is using these skills to serve on the Berkeley Staff Assembly Governing

Council and be a voice for staff all across our campus on such programs as the Speakers Program, Mentorship Program and New Professionals Network.

# Rosita Lucas

I have worked for the Philanthropy Office in the Division of Student Affairs for fifteen years and my department serves the entire university by raising money to support undergraduate scholarships and student programs. From my vantage point I see the many challenges that staff on the Berkeley campus face, and recognize the opportunities that are afforded to us. As someone who “just fell into" fundraising, I understand that folks tend to develop as professionals in many ways and that not every career follows a straight or predictable path. We need to network, learn new skills, and understand how we fit into the bigger picture - and that's where the Berkeley Staff Assembly comes in. If elected I will act as a dedicated member of the Berkeley Staff Assembly’s Governing Council and bring my breadth of experience, as well as my unique perspective to serving the campus staff community.

# Summer Scanlan

I joined the staff at UC Berkeley over 10 years ago, and am honored to have been nominated to serve on the Governing Council for the Berkeley Staff Assembly. My positions in the UCB Library, the UCB Retirement Center, and now in IST - CalNet have allowed me to collaborate with people from all over campus, which I really enjoy. My team considers me to be a great asset due to my organizational skills, efficiency, and light-hearted and goofy spirit. If elected, I will gladly help BSA advocate for the benefit of staff on this campus. I look forward to learning more about our campus and continuing to grow professionally.

# Jorge Martinez

As I approach my eight year anniversary working as an Administrative Officer in the Residential and Student Service Programs Auxiliary within the Division of Student Affairs, I welcome the nomination to serve on the BSA Governance Council. In these challenging times filled with economic uncertainty and polarizing viewpoints, the importance of BSA’s sponsored programs will be both increasingly magnified and likely more difficult to maintain / attain. If given the opportunity to join the council, I will endeavor to make positive contributions in support of the BSA mission to benefit staff and the campus community at large.

# Deborah Gray

During the last ten years on campus I have worked in administrative positions within three departments. Working in Classroom Scheduling allowed me to interact with staff in both academic and administrative departments, to learn about their work and the challenges they face. It is vitally important for the staff to have an organization like BSA on campus. While we all

appreciate the programs that Human Resources creates, I believe that those of us “on the ground” have the best perspective on what we need. I have served on committees frequently during my career, including several here on campus. It’s important for me to be part of forging the future in every aspect of our workplace, rather than just focusing on my own position. Also, I bring more than twenty years of event planning, website development and marketing experience which I believe could be very helpful to the BSA.

# Zachary Kelly

I have worked at UC Berkeley for almost five years. I currently serve as the Assistant Director of the Institute of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, an organized research unit on campus. My responsibilities range from administrative (finances, CSS) to academic (co-leader of a Summer Abroad program). Prior to starting at UCB, I was a student and employee at both Indiana University and the University of Wisconsin – Madison. This outside experience has been valuable tool when navigating UCB and adjusting to systemic changes. Since Berkeley is such a large campus and, as staff, we are usually limited to our offices and assigned colleagues, I look forward to expanding my community on campus. I find a strong social network makes the job easier and more fun. I also hope to replace the customer/client rhetoric to a more inclusive recognition of co-worker and peer for all staff members on campus.

# Danny Reyes

My name is Danny Reyes. I currently work as a Senior Human Resources Partner with Campus Shared Services. I began my career at CAL in 2006 and have been a member of the campus community since 2002 when I enrolled as a Freshman (GO BEARS!). Becoming a part of BSA General Council would provide the opportunity to be more engaged with, and contribute back, to the campus that I hold close to my heart. I hope you’ll consider giving me your vote.

# Allison Covington

I am a relatively new UCB staff community member, serving as an Academic HR Analyst for slightly less than two years. What I love most about my job is the complex issues that present themselves daily that require me to deeply engage with: critical thinking, creative problem solving, and using effective communication serving as a liaison between multiple parties. In my short-time here, I have been active in participating in campus activities that aim to benefit staff, including volunteering on the 2016-17 Common Solutions Academic Personnel team. I believe that both my supervisors and colleagues would describe me as detail oriented, ambitious, positive, and a team-player. If given the opportunity to be part of the BSA-GC, I look forward to bringing a new-staff perspective to the Programs & Events committee as well as meeting colleagues from across campus, and working together to maintain and improve staff morale.

# Sandra Cruz-Lezama

A year ago I was lucky enough to obtain a position here at UCB. Being a Cal Alumnae, I was extremely excited to be a part of the amazing staff that UCB employs. When I first stepped foot back onto campus after graduating, it was truly an honor for me to come back and work at Haas. Leadership and teamwork are one of my many takeaways that I received being a student here at Cal. Now that I am a staff member of this great institution, I continue to strive to be a great team player. Therefore when I recently became aware of BSA, I was really excited to

see to their mission and purpose. I would love the opportunity to be a part of BSA and collaborative with my fellow UCB colleagues to find ways to better assist and empower the rest of the UCB staff.

# Rachel Kowalik

I am a relatively new UC employee, currently the Front Office Coordinator at EPS. I am excited to have the opportunity to help the BSA continue to serve as a medium for addressing staff concerns, building a sense of community, and career advancement support. I’d like to think I’d be a good advocate for UC Berkeley staff because I am resourceful, conscientious, and driven. I'll happily share a laugh with anyone about the absurdities of life. I look forward to meeting and working with staff throughout campus.

# Jennifer Bevington

I began working at Berkeley in 2008, directing a college access program for first-generation, low-income middle and high-school students. Much of that work included fundraising. Since leaving that position, I have been fortunate to work in fundraising roles in Student Affairs

Philanthropy (focusing on Cal in the Capital raising funds for student summer stipends), and the Lower Sproul Redevelopment Project. I now work with University Development & Alumni Relations as a Senior Analyst for the Arts + Design Initiative, part of the Strategic Initiatives group. I appreciate that the Initiatives are multi-disciplinary and multi-unit, and are helping to knit together the work of so many entities. Berkeley's depth and diversity are tremendous, but also a challenge and I believe I excel at bringing disparate groups together. I see myself contributing to BSA in a similar way, and I look forward to the opportunity to serve on the BSA Governing Council.

# Shirley Giraldo

My commitment to staff engagement, advocacy, and professional development predates my two years at Berkeley as a Leadership Coordinator for the Graduate Assembly. While here I’ve been recognized by the Division of Student Affairs with a SPOT Award for my efforts as a

co-chair “... of the Staff Onboarding & Team Engagement LEAD Center Committee, organizing appreciation events and hosting healing circles during times of major challenge.” My belief is that employees do best when they like where they work, feel valued, and grow professionally. That’s why I encourage colleagues to nominate others for awards like the Excellence in Management awards and provide professional development opportunities to my staff. My dedication to staff affairs is so evident that I was nominated by two colleagues to join BSA and I am excited to potentially create an impact for all staff through this opportunity. Thank you for taking the time to read this statement.

# Chris Balke

I've been working in the university for close to six years as an Senior HR Business Partner I am a good team player, strategic thinker and advocate for UC Berkeley employees and management. I am honored to be nominated to Governing Council for the Berkeley Staff Assembly. I would enjoy representing part of the staffing UC Berkeley Population in building bonds among the staff,faculty, and administration. If given an opportunity to be part of the BSA-CC, I would be glad to contribute my time and efforts in making the difference for the BSA and the campus community.

# Emma Strong

I have been involved with BSA for several years, first and a mentee in Cycle 8 of the BSA Mentorship Program, and currently as a member of the BSA Career Development Committee. In particular, I strive to help professionals who are relatively early in their careers find opportunities for leadership and involvement by supporting the BSA Mentee Planning Committee, which I was a part of during my own mentorship cycle. The opportunity that BSA

provides for staff to connect across departments is invaluable and refreshing on a decentralized campus such as UC Berkeley. I strongly believe in the work of BSA, and I hope to continue finding opportunities to connect with UC Berkeley staff and support others' professional development through a position on the BSA Governing Council.

# Brian Decal

I have been a UC employee for 2.5 years. I have worked as a Recruiter in Campus Shared Services and Central HR. My duties include recruiting, sourcing, scheduling and, upholding HR policies. UC Berkeley has been my favorite workplace because of all the educational opportunities for staff to increase or sharpen their skills. Additionally, all the staff that I have encountered have been friendly and helpful. Please accept my candidacy to be a part of the Berkeley Staff Assembly, and to continue to make UC Berkeley a top place to work.

# Sabina Garcia

A proud UC Berkeley alumna, I have been a career employee for the last six years. As a Project Analyst I have had the pleasure of working with many staff members over the course of my time here and am a strong advocate for the values of pride, trust, and community that we base our work upon in Student Affairs. Serving in the BSA would enable to me to share these values with the rest of the campus community and I would be honored to play a part in helping to champion staff interests across campus.

# Janelle Fine

I am a new UC employee, and have been with Campus Shared Services over the last 9 months. I currently work with the Process Transformation and Innovation Team. My role is to work with the functions and to support the improvement of how they currently do their work. The goal of my role and team is to support projects from their creation to their execution. I believe that this position has helped me grow in developing my skills and has made me an asset to CSS and as a consequence to Campus. I have been in other roles throughout my career which have been in leadership, and recently been asked to be part of a Board of Directors for a Children's Advocacy Group. My strong belief is that we need individuals represented from all levels of UC Berkeley, including Campus Shared Services. I hope to be able to compliment the committee with my background and to be part of a very important group that represents leadership and the voice of UCB.

# Kait Gutherie

Hello! My name is Kait and I have been with UC Berkeley for three years working in Admissions and Student Affairs at the School of Optometry. I have the privilege of being a mentee in the current BSA Mentorship Cycle. The experience has not only connected me with great resources on campus (the main of which is my mentor), but has allowed me to network outside of my department and develop myself in a professional setting. If given a chance to participate in BSA I would like to continue working with future cycles of the mentor program to build community and opportunity for those who join. Thank you!

# Rocio "Harumi" QUINONES

It is an honor to have been nominated to the BSA Governing Council. As an employee with nearly 15 years of service to Cal it has been my pleasure to serve and represent fellow staff in the last 5+ years through various capacities: as a former co-chair and current member of Alianza’s Steering committee, as an active member of APASA, and through my extensive work with BSA’s Career Development Committee for the past 2 mentorship program cycles

Supporting the needs of the volunteer Career Development Committee, in particular, is at the heart of why I am honored to accept the nomination to join the Governing Council. I look forward to bringing my experience and expertise to further expand opportunities for all staff on campus through continued work on the Career Development Committee and with the Governing Council. Thank you.