

## 2018-19 PA Board Nominations Personal Statements

### Treasurer-Elect

- **Rupert Vaughan:** I have a background in finance and some understanding of accounting. I worked in banking for 8 years and in IT before that so I have a good sense of money management and the IT skills to record and monitor it. I did two GAAP accounting courses in graduate school and have always been interested. I have been an enthusiastic volunteer at Lab School ever since my twin fourth graders started at Lab.

### Secretary-Elect

- **Mariana Ingersoll:** Mariana and her husband, Paul, have three high school sons; two of them at Lab. Mariana has been an avid volunteer at Lab for many years. She has been a room parent, a volunteer at Rites of May and other festivals, a Connections Co-Chair, as well as a founding member of the parents group LASO (Latin American Spanish Organization). Mariana is also a trustee board member of High Jump, an organization working to expand the accessibility of our academic enrichment program to talented and motivated middle school students with limited family income. In her free time, Mariana enjoys playing tennis and gardening.

### Communications Coordinator-Elect

- **Patty Jones :** I have three children attending Lab (grades 9, 4, and K), and we have been a Lab family since 2006. I have served on the PA Board for the past five years, most recently as Communications Coordinator. As Communications Coordinator-Elect I will assist the Communications Coordinator to ensure timely and effective communication from the PA to parents and to strengthen and increase engagement of the Lab community.

### ESH Council

- **Ximena Colunga;** I have a son in kindergarten and since he joined Lab, my husband and I have enjoyed our experience as Lab parents. I have been a room parent and ESH tour guide. I was born in Mexico but have lived in Chicago for almost 8 years. As an immigrant, I have experience the importance of a supporting community to establish into a new environment. Therefore, I would like to bring my personal and professional experience to help other Lab families from all walks of life to build strong relationships within the Lab community.
- **Meggan Friedman:** Our son is a rising kindergartner. As a relatively-new family to Lab, I have found that volunteering as a room parent, at Picture Day, and as a Connections co-chair has helped our family to feel more a part of the Lab community. As a member of the ESH Council, I would like to focus on making new families feel welcome by organizing mentoring relationships and gatherings for new families, and to encourage more involvement and volunteerism among ESH families.

- **Shara Kamal:** As the parent of a child in N3 and a rising N3, it is of the utmost importance that I be an engaged participant in the Parents' Association. I am also committed to doing my part in helping to establish a more diverse community that is welcoming and supportive of all families. If I am allowed the opportunity to serve as a member of the Board, it would be an honor to share my time and creative energy.
- **Samantha Morales:** I am very-interested in helping connect Lab families across classes and grades; and deepening the connections of those families to Lab. As the parent of a current N3'er, I've volunteered for Connections, the parent's fund campaign, and as a tour guide; and in doing so, have learned what opportunities for support the ESH council might still provide. I would relish the chance to serve and bring personalized events and resources to the entire Lab community.
- **Michael Norwood:** Michael Norwood is a genuine and sincere individual who is an active member of his community and is very passionate about his work in education and what he does for children. He is a proud father of Natasha, who is currently in N3 and two sons. I feel that he would be a great addition to have on the PA Board and he can bring an exciting and new perspective.

## LS Council

- **Jill Cross:** I attended the Lab School from third grade until high school graduation. I enjoyed my experience from learning Logo Writer on an Apple computer to performing in French plays. My two school age boys are currently in 4th and 2nd grade. They are enjoying their Lab experience from maintaining a rooftop garden to playing in the courtyard. This position would allow me to contribute to the Lab experience of all Lower Schoolers.
- **Catherine Rosenberg:** My daughter, Ellie, will be in the third grade upcoming Fall 2018. I've been a room parent for the past five years as well as co-chair for Picture Day the past two years. I've been involved with Connections and Book Swap each year and would embrace the opportunity to work for the PA in the Lower School. Being involved in the Lab Schools' community, and helping to ensure its continuation of traditions of excellence has given me great pleasure.
- **Angela Shumpert:** As the parent of a lower school student who has been at Lab since N3, I would like to get more involved with my child's experience at Lab as he moves forward. I believe that my business experience coupled with my current involvement as a parent can be enhanced as a Parent Council member. I commit my time, knowledge and passion to being an asset to Lab and the children who are our #1 priority.

## MS Council

- **Susan Farmer:** Susan is an excellent candidate for Middle School Council. Susan has supported Lab through her contributions to Connections, the Parents Fund and other activities in her daughters' classrooms. Susan is thoughtful, strategic, and organized, and she is excited to participate more in the life of the Middle School.
- **Sarah Hoehn:** This is our first year at Lab and my children think we have found nirvana for school. The independence and creativity the students are allowed to express have been very welcoming. As a parent, learning the ropes has not been as straightforward. My hope is to advocate for middle school students with the PA, and to work to expand great all school activities such as gym night. I would like to expand our students' service opportunities to increase awareness of our world.
- **Monica Hughson:** My name is Monica Hughson and I have two children at Lab that are currently in fifth and third grades. I served as council member for ESH, a room parent and a tour guide for prospective families for ESH and the Lower School. I served as auction chair for the Connections Gala and was asked to be a member of the advisory hiring committee. As a Middle School Council member, I am committed to advocate for the middle school parents and children and continue to support building our community.

## HS Council

- **Laura Boffa:** I am an architect with my own practice and have an Executive MBA from the University Of Chicago Booth School Of Business. I also was a Studio Professor in the Department of Architecture at the Illinois Institute of Technology. I believe, after my daughter Giovanna has attended Lab for 2 years, that I might contribute something to the Parents' Association. I am keen on encouraging the fluent knowledge of languages as well as an avid supporter of the Sciences.
- **Farah Noor Cheema:** At my children's previous institution, Avery Coonley, I gained a wide range of experience by volunteering and organizing events including the eighth grade graduation, Book Fair, Heritage Festival, and Holiday House. Also, I served as room parent, treasurer for the parent association, class coordinator for auctions, and am a member of the Strategic Planning committee. At Lab, I am co-chairing ROM2018 and helping with graduation. I look forward to bringing the same passion and dedication to the U High community.

**Kevin Tan:** I retired from my position as Chief Investment Officer for Johnson Bank in order to spend more time with my daughter, Jasmine Tan, who is currently a freshman at UHigh. Prior to that, I was Senior Vice President at Northern Trust Bank. I wanted to be more involved with my daughter and her activities at school. As a retired executive, banker and parent, I have the experience, skill set and passion to be an effective PA Board member. My experience as a volunteer includes Oak Brook Park District Commissioner and Treasurer, co-lead for the Lab Parent Talent Database project, parent volunteer for the Butler Junior High Math team, Science Olympiad and Chess.