

**ONGOING STAFF REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CANDIDATE STATEMENTS 2020 (11 received)**

**BISHOP, Amanda
(Communications and Administrative Officer, Dean's Office, Social Sciences)**

Staff members are uniquely positioned to see Brock not only from their own perspectives, but also through the different lenses of the stakeholders with whom they interact. Since coming to Brock in 2006, I have fulfilled various roles—showcasing accomplishments, facilitating community programming, providing administrative support, and leading class groups as an instructor, experiential learning facilitator, and TA—and have learned from many remarkable people. In my initial appointment to the Department of Communication, Popular Culture and Film, I worked closely with graduate and undergraduate students, faculty members, and the community visitors and external partners involved in the weekly film screenings of the Brock University Film Society (BUFS). Since 2015, as a Communications Officer in the Faculty of Social Sciences, I've heard and shared incredible stories of researchers, students, staff, and alumni. As a parent with children at the Rosalind Blauer Centre for Childcare, I've connected with another facet of our Brock community, one with a vested interest in Niagara families.

Having witnessed the university's growth over the years, I am committed to supporting our collective efforts to navigate and adapt to today's fast-changing circumstances. I would be honoured to represent staff interests on the Board of Trustees.

**BROUSSEAU, Mike
(Manager, Educational Technologies, Centre for Pedagogical Innovation)**

I've worked, studied, and taught at Brock for the last 14 years. Now I'd like to represent Brock's interests on the Board of Trustees.

Working at Brock.

I started my career at Brock in Central Information Technology Services and moved to the Centre for Pedagogical Innovation in 2010. As the Manager, Educational Technologies in the Centre for Pedagogical Innovation I work closely with our instructors, staff, and students to deliver innovative teaching and learning on our campus.

Teaching at Brock.

I've taught in the Interactive Arts and Science Program since 2011 as a sessional instructor, course coordinator, and teaching assistant. I teach about web design, web technologies, game design, and new media.

Studying at Brock.

I earned my undergraduate degree in Interactive Arts and Sciences in 2010, and I'm currently pursuing my Master of Education. My research interests are focused on the motivational aspects of public-school board governance.

Vote Mike Brousseau for Staff Representative on the Board of Trustees!

COLGONI, Andrew
(Associate University Librarian, Student Success, Brock University Library)

Dear Brock Community and Colleagues,

Thank you for considering my nomination to the Board of Trustees. While I am new to Brock, I bring to my nomination two years of experience on the Board of Governors at McMaster University, during which time I also served as the Board's representative on Senate. As a Governor, I chaired the Human Resources Advisory Panel, helping inform the performance evaluation of the President, and I sat for a time on the Committee to Recommend a President before I left McMaster to join Brock.

Other relevant executive experience I bring includes two years as the President of the Board of the McMaster Children's Centre Inc., a not-for-profit daycare, and positions on the McMaster University Academic Librarians' Association, including President.

It would be an honour and privilege to be able to bring my experience to Brock University's Board. It would allow me to learn about and understand this University more deeply, while also contributing to the critical task of resource stewardship, strategic growth, and strengthening Brock's role in the Niagara community, of which I have recently become a part.

Warm regards,

Andrew Colgoni, BSc., MSc., MLIS
Associate University Librarian, Student Success

GRUOSSO, Sandra
(Associate Director, International Support, Brock International Services)

As an alumnus of Brock University, and employee for the past of twenty years I respectfully submit my application to serve on Brock's Board of Trustees. My interest in serving as a staff representative stems from my personal and professional experiences. As a founding staff member in international recruitment and now the Associate Director of Brock International Services, I am proud to welcome international students to campus and promote internationalization on campus.

Having witnessed Brock's growth and development on many levels, I'm particularly proud that I have contributed to the international student landscape. I've seen first-hand the benefits that international students gain from coming to Canada and in particular to Brock, and the strong connections they form with our faculty, staff, students and the Niagara Region.

I appreciate the relationships that I've made with my colleagues in various departments and I'm grateful that our collaborative work promotes Brock's internationalization priorities. I look forward in continuing to contribute to the dynamic international landscape that has evolved at the University, and I hope to demonstrate this, if I'm chosen to represent you at the Board of Trustees. Thank you

KREZEK, Cara
(Director, Co-op, Career & Experiential Education)

I currently hold the position of Director, Co-op, Career & Experiential Education where I lead a team of staff professionals who passionately care about the success of our students and the community. I have worked

at Brock for 14 years in a variety of positions and have proven to be an advocate for staff and the university itself. I have served on a variety of national and local boards – I currently serve as President for CEWIL (Co-operative Education & Work-Integrated Learning) Canada - which illustrates my understanding of governance and strategic oversight. Through my work at Brock, and current and past board work, I have a strong understanding of the institution's bicameral system and board processes and procedures. I believe in using governance to be able to make a difference in the day to day lives of the people which the Board oversees. The key strengths I would bring to representing the staff community at Brock include; thinking innovatively, creative problem solving, communicating effectively and bringing compassion and empathy to decision making. I am happy to answer any questions regarding my suitability for the position and welcome your support in representing all staff colleagues in this role.

LOCKER, Megan
(Intramurals & Community Program Lead, Brock Recreation)

Hello, my name is Megan Locker and I graduated from Brock with a Public Health degree in 2012 and have been working for the University ever since.

I work very closely with students in my role as the Intramural & Community Program Lead with Brock Recreation and am always looking for different ways to better Brock and the student experience. I have and continue to do research on student retention at post-secondary institutions and currently am on the Wellness Day Committee. I would like to broaden my scope of knowledge and involvement with the University and hope to be able to do so by being on the Board of Trustees.

McLENNON, Trecia
(Intercultural Communications Coordinator, Office of Human Rights & Equity Services)

Staff deserve more. In my role as intercultural communications coordinator at Brock, I've had the pleasure to work with many of you from all over campus(es); it's commonly known that more must be done to support staff needs.

The next three years will be a time of change and tumult as we all navigate a pandemic/post-pandemic reality. As your representative to the board my goal would be to serve and ensure issues affecting staff are foregrounded; meaning voiced, considered and solved. I'd do this by tapping into my solid business administration skills via my MBA, service as a board advisor to Swansea Town Hall and City of St. Catharines, my work history in advising senior leaders as a former management consultant, communications strategist, entrepreneur, and twice-published author.

I have experience in postsecondary institutions in Europe, Asia, the Caribbean, USA, Mexico, BC and Alberta to contribute to our board. I'd aim to apply approaches that work and engage new solutions in a way that generate more light than heat in serving and representing you. You deserve more consideration and resources to thrive and bring your best here. Let me help.

Trecia McLennon, MBA CTDIP

NILSEN, Kristen
(Talent Development Specialist, Goodman School of Business)

My time working at Brock University has allowed me to work with students at multiple touchpoints in their academic journey, from recruitment, admission, advising, career development and post graduation job

search. While working at Brock, I completed my Master of Education, with a specific focus in Administration and Leadership, which allowed me to frame the subject matter of Higher Education within the context of Brock University. In this program I focussed on bridging my lived experience working at Brock to the broader theories, which I believe would be of benefit to the staff representative role on the Board of Trustees.

From these experiences, I have a strong understanding of the needs of the students, as well as understanding the operational structure, opportunities, and limitations of the university as it impacts students. As one of the staff representatives on the Brock University Board of Trustees, I would be committed to uphold the reputation of the University, with the students, and staff who passionately work in various capacities to provide a positive and memorable university experience, guiding my understanding of the issues and decisions to be made.

RAHIMI, Abdul
(Director, Goodman Group Dean's Office, Goodman School of Business)

Abdul Rahimi (MBA '16) is an innovative Business and Health Care leader with nearly twenty years' experience who finds realistic solutions to real world problems grounded by scientific methods and academic rigour.

Abdul appreciates Brock's local roots with a global reach and believes in the *Brock Experience* as a driving force for building a community and improving the campus experience for all. Abdul understands that this is attainable with a corresponding commitment to issues of equality, diversity, and inclusivity.

As a student, Abdul was active in representing Brock on numerous occasions both on campus and off campus in conferences, competitions, and student-driven consulting activities. Before Brock, Abdul worked in the Pharmaceutical industry.

In his current role as the Director, Goodman Group at Brock University, Abdul has helped design, develop, and deliver a wide variety of leading-edge programs related to executive education, professional development, student entrepreneurship development and management consulting services.

Service and community are important to Abdul. He has served / is serving on Brock's Learning & Development Committee, GSB Social Committee, United Way Niagara's Community Investment panel, PACHRED, as Brock's United Way lead canvasser within Goodman School of Business, and as a mentor in Brock's Employee Mentorship Program.

RISTO, Layton
(Social Media & Digital Content Coordinator, University Marketing & Communications)

As a committed member of the Brock community, it would be an honour to serve as the staff representative on the Brock University Board of Trustees.

I'm often asked why I chose to study at Brock, and why I decided to build a career at Brock, and my answer is always the same - it's because of the people.

I genuinely believe Brock's greatest strength is its staff. Everything from providing support and assistance to students, to working behind the scenes to keep the campus operational, YOU are the reason why students are successful during their studies and are employable after graduation. YOU are the reason why

there is a great sense of community on campus and around the region. YOU are the reason why Brock is in the top five in student satisfaction in Canada.

I'm determined to represent YOU by bringing my fresh perspective, enthusiasm for staff well-being and passion for building an even better Brock to the table as we shape the future of the institution and region.

SEKEL, Josh
(Senior Project Manager, Information Technology Services)

I ask you to vote for me as I have a unique perspective of the critical role that staff play at the University as I have worked at Brock University for over 18 years in both academic and administrative departments supporting teaching, research, and administrative goals as well as being a major component of multiple large projects across campus.

I feel that this experience will be important in the difficult times the University will be facing in the coming years and will work to ensure the staff perspective is represented at the highest levels of planning being done at the University.

I would take this broad experience and apply it towards the issues that would confront the board to ensure it is understood what the impact of the decisions would mean to the staff at the University.

Thank you for your vote.