

**To:** The University Senate  
**From:** Senate Nominating Committee  
**Subject:** Nominees for Vice Chairperson of the University Senate  
**Reference:** Bylaws, Section 3.20b, c  
**Disposition:** Election by the University Senate

**Proposal:** The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate to serve as candidates for Vice Chairperson of the University Senate during the academic year 2024-2025:

**David Sanders, Biology**

**Mark Zimpfer, Construction Management Technology**

Please see the following pages for their biographical statements.

**Committee Votes:**

**For:**

Dulcy Abraham  
Damon Lisch  
Andrew Liu  
Richard D. Mattes (chair)  
Byung-Cheol Min  
Abdelfattah Nour  
Qifan Song  
Mark Zimpfer

**Against:**

**Abstained:**

**Absent:**

Charles A. Bouman

**DAVID SANDERS** is an Associate Professor of Biological Sciences at Purdue University.

- Bachelor of Science degree from Yale College in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry.
- Ph.D. research in Biochemistry with Daniel E. Koshland, Jr., then editor of the journal *Science*, at University of California-Berkeley. Thesis concerned Sanders' discovery of a biochemical reaction that underlies how bacteria sense and respond to changes in their environments.
- Visiting Scientist at University of California-San Francisco.
- Postdoctoral researcher at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, which is affiliated with M.I.T. Studies on the entry of viruses into cells.

He joined the Markey Center for Structural Biology at Purdue University in 1995. He is the discoverer of a biochemical reaction that leads to the entry of cancer-causing retroviruses into cells and author of two U.S. patents on novel gene-therapy delivery techniques. His Ebola virus expertise led to his participation in the U.S. Defense Threat Reduction Agency's Biological Weapons Proliferation Prevention Program. He inspected the Vector laboratory (Siberia)—the site of biological-weapons development in the era of the Soviet Union.

- Recipient of National Science Foundation CAREER Award.
- American Cancer Society Research Scholar.
- 2015 Haines Lecturer in Biochemistry--Wabash College.
- 2019 Moses Passer Lecturer--Cornell University.
- 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Los Alamos National Laboratory Lecturer on Scientific Integrity.
- A principal investigator on Howard Hughes Medical Institute Experiment Grant for the reform of the undergraduate premedical curriculum.
- Served on Federation of American Societies of Experimental Biology (FASEB) Science Policy Committee.
- Elected to American Association of University Professors National Council in 2018.

He has served on numerous committees at the departmental, college, and university level.

- Elected the inaugural Chair of PULSe Admissions Committee.
- Elected Chair of College of Science and University Grievance Committees.
- Elected three times to serve as Chair of Steering Committee.
- Currently serves as Chair of Student Affairs Committee and on Athletics Affairs Committee.

**MARK ZIMPFER** was appointed to the faculty at Purdue University in August of 2016 and was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Practice in April of 2022. He has served in a variety of school, college, and university-level committees including the University Senate, Advisory Council, Grievance Committee, Ed Policy Committee, PPI DEI through Engagement Committee, and Faculty Fellow IMPACTX+, in addition to others. Additionally, Mark is involved on numerous boards, including the Advisory Board for the National Association of Homebuilders.

In the research field, Mark has been involved with the National Housing Endowment, is a faculty affiliate with the Institute for a Sustainable Future, and is a researcher for the Arequipa NEXUS Institute. All of this has been accomplished while teaching as many as four classes per semester, starting a new conference at Purdue (The Building Academy) with the Indiana Building Commissioner, along with mentoring dozens of students. Mark has also been a construction company owner for the last 26 years and has experience leading a diverse collection of stakeholders to reach successful outcomes.

He has been honored to receive four Excellence in Teaching awards, voted on by his students; the National Educator of the Year Award, awarded by NAHB/National Housing Endowment; the John P. Lisack Early-Career in Engagement Award; the Purdue Polytechnic Institute Outstanding Faculty in Engagement; and the Purdue Seed for Success Award, among others. Mark is currently a finalist for the university level Murphy Award.

Professor Zimpfer believes in open, direct dialogue that leads to action and looks forward to working with the Senate and the administration to coordinate measurable, meaningful pathways to enhance the Purdue environment for all parties. Outside of Purdue, Mark enjoys traveling with his spouse, Susan, and watching their four children become good citizens.