

## Reflections on Service

As a faculty member, service to my research community, university, department, and the general public is very important to me. During the last six years at SUNY Potsdam, I have actively contributed to service at all these levels.

At the University level, my service activities have included: serving as the department delegate in the Faculty Senate since May 2019; chairing the Student Affairs committee (SAC); member of the Faculty Executive committee; member of Academic Programs and Curriculum Committee (APCC); and a member of Business Affairs Committee (BAC). At the School level, my activities include: member of the Arts and Science Curriculum Committee (ASCC) and member of Arts and Science Council (ASC). The senate plays an important role in the University community by bringing out the voice of the faculty and enabling shared governance. The challenges of the past few years including the pandemic, social unrest, and SUNY's economic situation has given me a chance to closely witness how our community can come together and act selflessly to address these challenging issues that are at the center of our efforts towards diversity, equity, and inclusion. The debates and passionate discussions in different meetings has given me a larger perspective of the university community and their challenges and I believe I'm richer for these experiences.

In my committees, when possible, I tried to go beyond the routine assignments and respond to situations as they arose. For example, during the 2020 elections, as a student affairs committee chair, I worked with campus life and faculty volunteers to create a buddy-voting system that supported and arranged logistics for students to confidently exercise their right to vote. Another example is an emergency communication service for the university community that I built in partnership with Prof. Grabowski on recommendation of the faculty executive committee. While this was built for potential use during elections, it could be of future use to the community in other emergency situations. Also, I worked with the Students Affairs committee to address students' COVID-related health issues such as stress, anxiety, grief, and mental health. Our report comprising of a compilation and documentation of available campus resources was reported to the faculty senate.

As a member of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee (ASCC), I had the opportunity to review many course proposals and learn about the broader offerings of the school. It also allowed me to build my proposal for a new track on data analytics for our BS program and help in development and design of another track (Computer security). With my experience in ASCC, I was able to secure approval of both these tracks at the senate level and we are awaiting approval from SUNY Office.

At the department level, I've been an active participant in all our Board of Advisors meetings because I believe that our external advisors need to have a full picture of our activities so they can meaningfully contribute to our growth. Participation in Open Houses and Major Affairs has helped me contribute to our department's efforts to grow by attracting new students and undeclared majors to our program. To broaden student learning, I have keenly signed on to requests for 13 student senior projects and sponsorship of internships, an effort that is equal to 55 credits of teaching. I actively attract students by presenting a yearly research seminar to the students and these often get taken up as their senior projects. While this commitment is over and

beyond my teaching load, the personal interaction that it provides and high impact that it creates makes it a very rewarding one.

An important service for my students is my role as an advisor. I take particular care to ensure that students who might be falling behind get the help that they need. I try to find out why they may be underperforming and try to help in any way I can, including pointing out resources available to them. I encourage students who are doing well to keep them motivated. I use the advising opportunity to remind and inform students about outside university opportunities that I get to become aware of from my contacts. These include internships, research experience opportunities such as NSF's REU program, etc. To ensure that I provide the best advising I can, I am constantly getting feedback from my students and learning from my peers about best practices and updating my offering continuously.

I have a keen interest in furthering our student's experience during their time here. As an example, I was an active advisor for my department students' club: Association of Computing Machinery - Women (ACM-W). I participated in all the meetings and on-campus activities and arranged and accompanied the students to off-campus conference trips. For the most recent ACM NYCWIC conference, I worked closely with our students to review and revise the poster and our efforts paid off with a best poster award. Unfortunately, during the pandemic we could not continue the club activities and I'm now working on getting this back this year. I also conducted resume workshop for our students along with other faculty members in the department to improve their career placement changes.

At a professional level, I co-advise graduate students at Clarkson University, review papers for journals, present and organize workshops and seminars. I co-organized a 5-day international workshop on Sensors and Data Analytics in Clarkson University. I also bring in experts from outside to present to the department about latest research and open opportunities in Big Data and related fields.

At the community level, I'm serving on the advisory board of two PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute) projects conducted by St Lawrence health systems (SLHS). In this board, on the first one, I provide a patient perspective and assisted medical researchers in St. Lawrence Health System in submitting a proposal to PCORI to study CTD-ILD (connective tissue disease-associated interstitial lung disease) while on the other project (PCORI-DISRUPTS - Developing InfraStructure for Research to Utilize Patient-centered Techniques), I'm a member of the stakeholder advisory board. As part of this, I help organize seminars related to public health and offer it to St. Lawrence community. The most recent seminar, entitled "Vax vs Fiction" was widely attended by the campus community.

I also provide community service with my role as a mentor for the "Friends of India Association" (FIA). FIA brings together students, staff, and community with interest in Indian culture and helps new students from India when they first come to Potsdam. As a mentor, I help with the club's organization and functioning and am one of the primary organizers of FIA's annual Diwali show.

Overall, my service activities have given me a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing our community today. It has also helped me build a strong relationship with my colleagues from the entire campus and with my students. I look forward to expanding my activities and continuing to make a positive impact in the academic community.