Candidates for FSU Executive Committee, Fall 2024 Special Election

The following individuals have submitted the required paperwork to be a candidate for a position on the FSU Executive Committee. Below is each candidate, their title, and a 150-word statement.

Non-Tenure Track Faculty – Vote for one

**Keith Robert Jones**, Lecturer. Africana Studies.

I have had the honor of serving as an NTT representative on a number of campus-wide committees. I have also served as a silent member of the expanded bargaining team during the previous contract negotiation and currently serve on the core bargaining team. In all of my union activity and cross-campus organizing, my priority has been to center equity for all members and to insist upon the co-building of a campus culture that prioritizes, as Dr. King once said, “the dignity of all labor.” I believe that a strong union focuses not only on bread-and-butter issues but also builds support around a shared vision in which bargaining for the common good inspires broader solidarity and rank-and-file participation. Given the hardships and precarity that so many of us increasingly face, especially NTT faculty and librarians, we need to continue to renew the power and visibility of our union and grow our commitment to solidarity across our various identities and sites of struggle. My commitment to a relational practice that centers coalition-building, finding compromise, and working to forge unity across our many differences, I believe, would be an important contribution to the FSU’s executive committee.

**Alejandro Reuss**, Lecturer. Labor Resource Center.

I have taught in Labor Studies (Labor Resource Center) since 2015, and also teach in the Union Leadership and Activism (ULA) graduate program at UMass Amherst. I have been devoted to the cause of labor for my entire adult life. It has been at the center of my activism, writing, and teaching for nearly 40 years. I have been active in several nonprofit social change organizations, including in staff or board leadership roles, over the years. As a member of FSU, I have previously served on a committee on distance learning and have recently been attending collective bargaining sessions as part of the expanded bargaining team. If elected, I can promise that I will approach this work with open ears to the concerns of all NTT faculty and other bargaining unit members, and with all the commitment and fighting spirit that I have in me. Solidarity forever.

Tenured Faculty – Vote for one

**Jorge A. Capetillo**, Associate Professor. Sociology.

I have been a faculty member at UMASS Boston for the past 22 years, and I always wanted to serve the FSU. But for one reason or another I never got the chance. I believe that this is a unique opportunity for me to get involved in union politics and become an agent of change.