

NEAAHP President-Elect Candidate



Betsy Brookins

Siena College

Director, Health Professions Advising
Director, Global Medical Volunteer Program
Track Coordinator, Health Studies Science Major
Biology Faculty

Advisor experience:

At Siena College, I currently serve as the Director of Health Professions Advising, where I advise all current and alumni students interested in health professions fields. In addition, I teach in the Biology department and serve as the track coordinator of the Health Studies- Science major (a new major at Siena that I served on the development team for). I actively work with Admissions to recruit students and host many panels for prospective students. In 2013, I added the role of Director of the Global Medical Volunteer program to my job, a program designed at Siena to provide traditional pre-med and pre-dental students the opportunity to experience a medical service trip during the summer. This program has helped me build relationships with organizations, alumni and others to increase education opportunities for my students. I also serve as a mentor to Siena's Biology Clubs- Health Professions group and the faculty advisor for the Pre-Dental club.

NEAAHP Involvement:

I am actively involved in NEAAHP- where I have been an Upstate NY Local Area Network (LAN) committee member since 2012, moderator at the 2013, 2015 and 2017 NEAAHP Regional Meeting and most recently, serving as the co-chair of the 2015 and 2017 NEAAHP Regional Meetings, as well as an Executive Committee member of NEAAHP. Since joining the Upstate NY LAN Committee, I have helped revitalize this area's advisor meetings by planning the 2013 meeting at Upstate Medical University, the 2014 meeting at Albany Medical College, 2016 at New York Chiropractic College, 2017 at University of Rochester School of Medicine and the 2018 at Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine.

I am also actively involved in NAAHP- I have been a member of the NAAHP Professional Development and Leadership (PD&L) Committee since April 2013 and became co-chair of this committee in 2014- helping to develop the Best Practices for Advisors and Institutions, and presenting at both National and Regional meetings. In 2014, I proposed the formation of a new NAAHP task force/ committee for Regional Meeting Planners; this committee, which I chair, is currently working on writing a guide book for planning Regional Meetings and facilitates communication among the

region's meeting planners. I am also on the 2018 NAAHP National Meeting planning committee and have been selected to co-chair the 2020 NAAHP National Meeting with Alex Tan. I have enjoyed all my roles in the NEAAHP and am excited to continue my involvement in the NEAAHP.

Interest in President- Elect position:

My interest in the NEAAHP President- Elect position is based on my years of positive experience in the NEAAHP and NAAHP. I personally have learned so much from both the organization and my fellow advisors that one of my goals is to continue to develop opportunities for members to learn from one another. Over the past few years, I have been fortunate to be a member and executive committee member of NEAAHP as well as the NEAAHP representative on the NAAHP Board, through these experiences I have learned the importance of a strong organization with solid leaders. As the representative to the NAAHP BOD since 2015, I have served as a resource for other advisors and as a voice of the advisors of the Northeast to the national organization.

As the President- Elect of NEAAHP, I will continue to be a voice for the NEAAHP membership to the NAAHP Board of Directors and a leader within NEAAHP. Another characteristic of a good leader that I bring to NEAAHP is to not only be the voice of the organization but also a good listener to the members. I am excited to continue to be involved with NEAAHP- working with the executive committee, Northeast advisors and NAAHP by serving as a liaison between the regional leadership and NAAHP BOD. I realize how important it is to address the current issues and concerns within the NEAAHP membership, so I will work with the executive committee to ensure that these issues/ concerns are addressed in an appropriate manner- at meetings, through listserv emails, LAN meetings or other events. I also plan to work with the executive committee of NEAAHP as a team to develop new initiatives and continue the current goals of NEAAHP to benefit our membership. I bring a lot of enthusiasm to all that I do (whether it is teaching, advising, search committees and more), and I will continue to bring this energy along with my leadership and organization skills to the NEAAHP as the president-elect. My background as both a faculty member and administrator allows me to relate to many types of advisors that may also hold other positions/ responsibilities on their campuses (institutions). As the NEAAHP President- elect, I look forward to leading NEAAHP in the future and being the voice for advisors in the Northeast.

NEAAHP Executive Committee Nominations

There are two positions for the 2018-2021 term

Overview of Responsibilities:

An Executive Committee member must be a member of NEAAHP and is expected to contribute to ongoing NEAAHP initiatives through participation on and/or leadership of committees, periodic conference calls, and conference planning during regional meeting years.

Current Board:

President-Elect-Moving into

President for 2018-2020

Jan Reichard-Brown, Susquehanna University

Outgoing President – Moving to Past President

Kristin McJunkins, Yale University

Past President – Remaining on NEAAHP/NEGSA

Lisa Kooperman, Vassar College

Treasurer, '20

Andy Simmons, University of Rhode Island

Secretary, '19

Kirsten Peterson, Allegheny College

2019

Stephanie Ripley, Tufts University

Kim Buck-Speck, Temple University

Michelle Klein, Prince George's CC

- Community College Liaison

2020

Seth Ramus, Bowdoin College

Alex Tan, Johns Hopkins University

Communications &

Technology Director, '20

Caleb D. Marsh, Temple University

NAAHP Representative, '20

Betsy Brookins, Sienna College



Jason D'Antonio

Carnegie Mellon University

Assistant Teaching Professor and
Director, Health Professions Program

Level of Participation in NEAAHP/NAAHP

Jason has been a NAAHP and NEAAHP member for the past five years, during which time he's attended two NAAHP meetings (San Francisco & Minneapolis), and the NEAAHP meetings (Albany and Philadelphia). Additionally, he's attended six LAN meetings in the northeast region. In spring of 2017, Jason co-coordinated the Western PA LAN meeting at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and has since taken over as the Western PA LAN Coordinator. In attending the larger NAAHP and NEAAHP meetings, he's volunteered to moderate sessions as well as serve as an experienced advisor for the new advisor's workshop at this NAAHP in Washington, DC. As a subscriber and an active contributor to HLTHPRF and NEAAHP-NEGSA, Jason continues to enjoy building connections with colleagues in the health professions advising circle as well as with admissions. Most recently, he was selected to serve as junior co-coordinator for the 2019 Boston NEAAHP, in preparation for becoming a senior co-coordinator for the 2021 Pittsburgh NEAAHP meeting. In May, he, his co-coordinator, and two past coordinators traveled to Pittsburgh and toured several hotels in preparation for the 2021 NEAAHP meeting.

Brief Statement of intent and interest in the Executive Committee position

Building relationships with NAAHP and NEAAHP colleagues who share common goals and philosophies has profoundly enriched my knowledge and brought greater meaning to my role as a pre-health advisor. As well, these interactions have enabled me to progress in both my teaching and administrative roles at Carnegie Mellon. In joining the NEAAHP executive committee, I look to play a more active role in advancing the NEAAHP mission through leadership, mentoring, and advocacy. I am particularly passionate about mentoring new advisors, a goal that can be targeted through the Professional Development Committee. Becoming a senior co-coordinator for NEAAHP 2021 will both challenge me and further enrich my membership in the pre-health community. As an EC member, directly interacting with senior NEAAHP leadership will also provide unique insights and perspectives that will assist in planning for the 2021 NEAAHP meeting in Pittsburgh.



Anna Gilmore
Quinnipiac University
Director of Pre-Health Advising

Level of Participation in NEAAHP/NAAHP

Prior to becoming a member of NEAAHP in 2013, Anna was very active in association work through her position as Associate Director of the Career Center at Emory University.

Brief Statement of intent and interest in the Executive Committee position

I would like to become more involved in NEAAHP and contribute to leadership initiatives. My experience includes a partial term of VP of SAAHP and local organizer for the NAAHP national conference in Atlanta.



Mel Govindan
Fitchburg State University

Professor of Chemistry and
Health Professions Advisor

Level of Participation in NEAAHP/NAAHP

Mel has been a moderator, presenter and volunteer at conferences. Additionally, he has been Department Chair of Chemistry since 2014; President of New England Association of Chemistry Teachers (2015-2017); councilor, American Chemical Society (2016-present); Nashoba Regional School Board member (2005-2011).

Brief statement of intent and interest in the Executive Committee position

I was approached to serve on the committee in the past and had to decline because of my commitments to NEACT and responsibilities at work including department chair duties. There is some relief now and I always believe in giving back to my community.



Patti Kreke
Mount St. Mary's University

Professor of Chemistry and
Health Professions Advisor

Level of Participation in NEAAHP/NAAHP

Patti has been a member of the NEAAHP Executive Committee for three years and currently serves as co-chair of the NEAAHP Professional Development Sub-committee. She was a member of a Community Advisory Committee to AMCAS; and has organized and presented several sessions and workshops related to these committees' work at the NAAHP, NEAAHP, and BCCE (Biennial Conference on Chemical Education) conferences. Patti also regularly volunteers to serve as moderator and in other capacities at these conferences.

Brief statement of intent and interest in the Executive Committee position

I enjoy working with my colleagues on the Executive Committee and believe I played an important role in organizing the start of the NEAAHP's Professional Development Sub-committee. The committee has several ideas for how to utilize the improved website and I look forward to working on these projects. My leadership roles at Mount St. Mary University inform my work on these committees. In addition to Health Professions Advisor and other roles among the faculty, I have served as Department Chair, Chair of our Tenure & Rank Committee, and currently serve as a member of our Governance Committee and Chair of the MSMU Faculty.



Louise Russo

Villanova University

Associate Professor Department of
Biology and Director, Health
Professions Advising

Level of Participation in NEAAHP/NAAHP

NEAAHP Member since 2011; co-organizer of the Philadelphia LAN (2015-2017); member of the NEAAHP/NEGSA working group (2016-2017); co-planner/presenter of a NEAAHP meeting Plenary session (2017); member of the 2018 NAAHP meeting local planning committee (2017); member of the NEAAHP professional development focus group (2016-2017)

Brief statement of interest in the Executive Committee position

Over the past seven years since joining NEAAHP as a new advisor, I have greatly benefited from the excellent resources and opportunities afforded by the organization and the wisdom of amazing colleagues who constitute the advising community. As my experience within the health professions advising realm has grown, I now feel more prepared to contribute to the organization in an expanded role. I would be honored and excited to work closely with those who have been successful leaders within NEAAHP on action items and new initiatives that will enhance services and support the important work of advisors at diverse institutions.



Lisa Schwartz

George Washington University

Director, Post-baccalaureate
Pre-Medicine Certificate Program

Level of Participation in NEAAHP/NAAHP

Lisa has been a moderator and presenter at conference and is currently a Regional LAN Coordinator for the Chesapeake, Philadelphia and Western Pennsylvania LANs.

Brief statement of intent and interest in the Executive Committee position

Since starting my position as Director of the GW Post-bac Pre-med Program, I have strived to learn about and contribute to the field of pre-health advising through progressively more involvement in both NEAAHP and NAAHP. In addition to my work with NEAAHP, I am currently co-chair of the Local Planning Committee for the 2018 NAAHP conference in Washington, DC in June 2018, so have learned a great deal about conference planning at a national level. Prior to my position with the Post-bac Pre-med Program, I've had over 20 years of teaching and administrative service in health-related academic programs, including genetic counseling and clinical research, and therefore believe I have a great deal to contribute to NEAAHP as a member of the Executive Committee. Thank you for your consideration.