



2019 Candidates for Harvard University Board of Overseers

Nominated by the Harvard Alumni Association



Alice Hm Chen

M.P.H. '01
B.S. '90, YALE UNIVERSITY
M.D. '96, STANFORD UNIVERSITY
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

Alice Hm Chen is chief medical officer and

deputy director for the San Francisco Health Network and professor of medicine at the University of California, San Francisco.

She has dedicated her career to enhancing health care access and quality for underserved communities through patient care, teaching, policy and advocacy, and administrative leadership across a variety of settings, including public health, philanthropy, academia, and government.

Known for her efforts to redress health disparities, serve immigrants' needs, and strengthen the safety net through delivery system innovations, Chen has received numerous honors, including selection as an Aspen Institute Health Innovators Fellow and a Soros Physician Advocacy Fellow.

Chen has also devoted considerable volunteer time to health-related nonprofits focused on equity and social justice. She serves as board president of both Health Access Foundation and the Health Initiative, and as a volunteer physician removing tattoos for at-risk youth.

An alumna of the Commonwealth Fund Fellowship in Minority Health Policy at Harvard, Chen has served as a fellowship mentor, speaker, and advisory board member. A deep believer in investing in future generations, she has taught and mentored Harvard medical students and residents at Harvard-affiliated Brigham and Women's Hospital, where she completed her residency and chief residency.

"My time at Harvard was among the most formative of my personal and professional life. Having the opportunity to help shape the future direction of the Harvard community would be both a privilege and a responsibility that I would be honored to undertake."

She and her husband, David Bilder A.B. '90, have two children. ■



Ryan Wise

ED.L.D. '13
B.A. '98, CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY
M.P.A. '08, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA OMAHA
DES MOINES, IOWA

Ryan Wise is the director of the Iowa Department

of Education. Named the 2017 Policy Leader of the Year by the National Association of State Boards of Education, he is a member of numerous state boards and committees focused on education and workforce development. He co-chairs the board charged with developing a mental health system for Iowa's children.

Wise started his career as a high school history teacher in Nebraska and Mississippi. He went on to serve as founding executive director of Teach for America in South Dakota, where he focused on improving education on the Rosebud and Pine Ridge Reservations. He was also a founding staff member of Teach For All, which aims to enhance educational opportunities in under-resourced schools worldwide.

Part of the first cohort of Harvard's Doctor of Education Leadership (Ed.L.D.) program, Wise joined the Iowa Department of Education as a senior fellow during his Ed.L.D. residency year. His capstone project led to one of his signature achievements, the launch of Iowa's nationally recognized teacher leadership and compensation system.

An active alumnus, he is a member of the Harvard Club of Central Iowa and an alumni interviewer for Harvard College.

"As a career educator and public servant, I am energized by the Overseers' impact in ensuring Harvard's place as the global leader in research, education, and service. I have devoted my professional life to improving educational opportunities for students, and I would be thrilled to have this chance to serve Harvard."

He and his wife, Sacha Wise, have two children. ■



Janet Echelman

A.B. '87 MAGNA CUM LAUDE
M.F.A. '95, BARD COLLEGE
BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS

Janet Echelman is an artist who defies categorization. Combining

ancient craft with material science and engineering, her experiential sculptures at the scale of buildings have become inviting focal points for civic life on five continents. Named an Architectural Digest Innovator for "changing the very essence of urban space," she has received a Guggenheim Fellowship and the Smithsonian American Ingenuity Award.

As a visiting professor at MIT, Echelman led a collaboration of engineering, computer science, and architecture graduate students. Next year she will teach at Princeton. Beyond academia, she seeks to address wider audiences. Her work was ranked first on Oprah's list of "50 Things That Will Make You Say 'Wow!'" Her TED talk, "Taking Imagination Seriously," has more than two million views and has been translated into 37 languages.

"Harvard opened up the world to me. When I first arrived, a 17-year-old from public school in Florida, I stumbled into my first art class by accident. Decades later, my world expanded again when I returned to Harvard as a Loeb Fellow, taking courses at Harvard's graduate Schools of design, law, business, and government. Those experiences enabled me to expand the reach of my art, to harness the potential of public space to bring people together. Now, as Harvard embarks on the largest campus expansion in its history, I am ready to serve our alma mater."

Echelman and her husband, David N. Feldman M.B.A. '94, have two children. ■



John B. King Jr.

A.B. '96 ('95) MAGNA CUM LAUDE
M.A. '96, ED.D. '08, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
J.D. '07, YALE UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

The former U.S. secretary of education and New York State commissioner of education, John King is president of the Education Trust, a national nonprofit working to close opportunity gaps that disproportionately affect students of color and low-income students.

By the time he was 12, both his parents had died. He credits New York City public school teachers with saving his life—providing him with engaging educational experiences and hope.

Dedicated to the power of education, King began his career as a social studies teacher in Puerto Rico and Boston, and then as a principal in Boston. He led a school network in New York City and became the first African American and Puerto Rican to lead the New York State Education Department. He joined the U.S. Department of Education in the Obama administration, rising to become the nation's 10th education secretary.

King sits on the boards of the Century Foundation, the Robin Hood Foundation, the American Museum of Natural History, and Michelle Obama's Reach Higher Initiative.

At Harvard College, he was president of the Phillips Brooks House Association, taught civics and conflict resolution in Boston public schools, and ran the Mission Hill Summer Program.

"I would be honored to give back to the institution that has had such a meaningful impact on my wife and me. Through classroom experiences, service learning opportunities, and campus life, Harvard can prepare a next generation of diverse graduates who can help the nation meet persistent as well as new challenges."

King and his wife, Melissa Ed.D. '07, have two daughters. ■



Vivian Hunt DBE

A.B. '89 CUM LAUDE, M.B.A. '95
LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

A noted management consultant, Dame Vivian Hunt is the managing partner of McKinsey & Company's United Kingdom and Ireland offices and a member of the firm's global board of directors. In 2018, she was named Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to the economy and women in business.

A frequent author on leadership and diversity, Hunt is engaged with a range of civic, professional, and cultural organizations, including the CBI London Council, the Mayor of London's Business Advisory Board, BritishAmerican Business (chair), the Trilateral Commission, the US-UK Fulbright Commission, Southbank Centre, and the Tate Modern. In 2017, the *Financial Times* named her among the 30 most influential people in the City of London. In 2018, she joined the United Kingdom's Industrial Strategy Council.

Hunt honed her business and leadership skills in Harvard College, serving as president of Harvard Student Agencies. She worked in the Peace Corps in Senegal before studying for her M.B.A. at Harvard Business School.

She has been an alumni interviewer for Harvard College and a supporter of undergraduate financial aid.

"My belief in the ability of a Harvard education to change lives and build leaders is my primary reason for standing for the Board of Overseers. I would be honored to commit my time, talent, and energy to framing the issues, asking the right questions, and helping to steer Harvard to remain a world-class, open, and globally relevant university."

She and her husband, Nicholas Basden A.B. '89, M.B.A. '97, have two children. ■



Tyler Jacks

A.B. '83 MAGNA CUM LAUDE
PH.D. '88, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

An eminent leader in cancer genetics, Tyler Jacks is founding director of MIT's Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research and an investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Known for his pioneering work in creating sophisticated, genetically engineered models of human cancer, Jacks has received numerous awards for his research, including the 2015 Killian Award, the highest honor MIT grants to its faculty members.

A member of the National Academies of Science and Medicine, Jacks has served as president of the American Association for Cancer Research, chair of the National Cancer Advisory Board, and co-chair of the Blue Ribbon Panel for the National Cancer Institute's Cancer Moonshot initiative.

A graduate of Harvard College, he has collaborated frequently with Harvard faculty colleagues and has mentored many Harvard students and postdoctoral fellows over his 26 years on the MIT faculty. He has also co-lead the Bridge Project, which supports collaborative research between MIT and the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center.

Jacks is a current or past member of numerous boards and advisory boards of universities, foundations, government organizations, and life sciences companies. He is also the cofounder of Dragonfly Therapeutics, launched in 2015 with a Harvard College suitemate.

"My father, also a Harvard College graduate (Class of '43), was fond of saying that the country is only as great as its great institutions. Given the challenges that face higher education today, my fundamental interest in serving on the Board of Overseers is ensuring that Harvard remains in position to lead through education, research, public policy, and public discourse." ■



Danguole Spakevicius Altman

A.B. '81 MAGNA CUM LAUDE
M.B.A. '85, YALE UNIVERSITY
HOUSTON, TEXAS

Danguole Spakevicius Altman is an experienced health care entrepreneur.

Founder and past president and CEO of Vapogenix, a clinical-stage pharmaceutical company developing non-opioid analgesics, she previously cofounded the women's health care services firm FemPartners and has held management positions at other companies across various sectors of the industry.

The child of Lithuanian refugees, Altman has devoted substantial time to helping Baltic countries transition from authoritarian regimes to thriving democracies, serving as a director of the Baltic-American Freedom Foundation and a former director of the U.S.-Baltic Foundation.

She has been active with the Harvard Club of Houston for nearly three decades, serving several terms as Club president and as a long-time alumni interviewer. She has also held leadership roles on the Harvard Alumni Association (HAA) Board of Directors—including co-chair of the Alumni Leadership Conference, regional director for Texas, co-chair of the Clubs and Shared Interest Groups Committee, and member-at-large on the HAA Executive Committee. She recently received an HAA Award for her dedicated service to the University.

“Harvard College took a chance on me and gave me the gift not only of admission but of the financial aid without which I would not have been able to attend. Now I can share my time, talents, and energy to support the school I love and help other people on a similar journey. Where needed and when I can, I'd especially like to strengthen the College experience for undergraduates.”

She and her husband, William Altman M.B.A. '84, have four children, including Darius A.B. '17. ■



Scott C. Collins

A.B. '87 MAGNA CUM LAUDE,
J.D. '90 CUM LAUDE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

“From my first day as a freshman until today, Harvard has been a character-defining journey.

Ultimately, Harvard has challenged and inspired me to be my best and to make a difference in the world. As an Overseer, I hope to contribute to the future of the University and its community at a time of great change in higher education globally.”

An economics concentrator at Harvard College, Scott Collins captained the varsity football team as an All-Ivy linebacker. At Harvard Law School, he was managing editor of the *Harvard Law Review*. A devoted alumnus, he currently serves on the Committee on University Resources, the Joint Committee on Alumni Affairs and Development, the Harvard Law School Dean's Advisory Council, and the Harvard Varsity Club Board. He has been an Elected Director of the HAA and has also co-chaired his College and Law School Reunions.

With wide-ranging experience in law, government, and business, Collins has served in positions in the White House and the U.S. Department of Transportation, and as an assistant U.S. attorney, before embarking on a career at Summit Partners, a growth equity investment firm where he is now managing director, COO, and head of technology investing. He founded the firm's European operations and called London home for 16 years.

Collins is a board member of City Year Boston and cofounder of Impetus-PEF, a U.K. philanthropic trust dedicated to improving the lives of disadvantaged youth.

He is the father of five children, including William A.B. '16, Robert S.B. '20, and Martha A.B. '21. ■



Reshma Saujani

M.P.P. '99
B.A. '96, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
J.D. '02, YALE UNIVERSITY
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Reshma Saujani is the founder and CEO of Girls Who Code, a national nonprofit working to close the gender gap in technology and to change the image of what a programmer looks like and does.

After beginning her career in law and finance, Saujani became the first Indian American woman to run for Congress in 2010. During the race, she visited local schools and saw the gender gap in computing classes firsthand, which inspired her to start Girls Who Code.

A passionate advocate for women's leadership, she has written three books on female empowerment, and her TED talk, “Teach Girls Bravery, Not Perfection,” has more than four million views. She serves on the boards of the International Rescue Committee, the Museum of Modern Art, and She Should Run, which seeks to increase the number of women running for office in the U.S.

Since earning her master's in public policy from Harvard Kennedy School, Saujani has visited campus to speak and mentor students. She was the Harvard Graduate School of Education's convocation speaker in 2017.

“The Kennedy School made a huge impact on my life, and I would love to give back to the Harvard community. I am most concerned that diversity and equity as values are at risk at institutions of higher education. As an Overseer, I will continue to fight for those values to ensure that Harvard is preparing the next generation of women—and women of color—who will make our world a better place through technology.” ■