





TO: The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents
FROM: Kevin G. Smith 
SUBJECT: Appointment to the New York State Rehabilitation Council
DATE: October 4, 2018
AUTHORIZATION(S): 

SUMMARY

Issue for Consent Agenda

Vacancies have occurred on the New York State Rehabilitation Council (SRC). We are seeking the review and approval of the proposed appointments and reappointments of members of the SRC by the Board of Regents.

Reason(s) for Consideration

The Federal Workforce Innovations and Opportunity Act (WIOA), requires the Board of Regents to appoint members to the New York State SRC.

Proposed Handling

This item will come before the Full Board at its October 2018 meeting.

Procedural History

Each year, as the vacancies occur, the Board of Regents approves recommendations to fill such vacancies.

Background Information

Information on the proposed appointees is noted in Attachment 1.

Related Regent's Items

[State Rehabilitation Council Appointments December 2017](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1217brca2.pdf)
<http://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/1217brca2.pdf>

Recommendation

VOTED: That Hillary Nichols be appointed to a three-year term beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2021.

VOTED: Michael Godino be reappointed to a three-year term beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2021.

VOTED: Jennifer Machucki be reappointed to a three-year term beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2021.

VOTED: That Lynette M. Togalski be appointed to a three-year term beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2021.

VOTED: That Robert Leiter be appointed to a three-year term beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2021.

VOTED: Sebastian Chittilappilly be appointed to a three-year term beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2021.

VOTED: That Rachel Jones be appointed to a three-year term beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2021.

VOTED: That Gregory Lau be appointed to a three-year term beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2021.

VOTED: Melinda Dolezal will be appointed to an on-going term beginning January 1, 2019.

Timetable for Implementation

Upon approval by the Board of Regents of the recommended candidates, appointments will go into effect January 1, 2019.

Attachments

Attachment 1

New York State Rehabilitation Council
(New Appointment for term January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2021)

Representative of a Community Rehabilitation Service Provider

Hillary Nichols
Employment Coordinator
Resource Center for Accessible Living Inc.
Kingston, NY

- Coordination and management of all employment programs for individuals with disabilities in partnership with ACCES-VR and OPWDD.
- Providing vocational and educational services to individuals with disabilities in the areas of assessment, counseling, job coaching, guidance, placement, benefits, mobility training, and job development.
- Providing employment-related services to persons who have disabling conditions and have knowledge of the local job market and develop and maintain connections with business leader in the community.

Michael Godino
Manager Youth and Vision Loss Coalition
Vision Services for the Blind
Malverne, NY

- Develop relationships among differing communities providing services to people with varying disabilities.
- Research and analyze the divergence of Education and Rehabilitation for the blind regarding the ADA, 504 and IDEA.
- Publish informational mentoring resource guides for parents and youth with vision loss.

Jennifer M. Machucki
Williamsville, NY

- Master of Social Work - Concentration: Health, Mental Health and Disability Community Action Organization.
- Implemented the Second Early Learning Program and trained teachers on its Implementation.
- Implemented emotional growth and behavior plans.

Representative of a Disability Advocacy Group

Lynette M. Togalski
Director of Erie County Independent Living Center
Western New York Independent Living
Buffalo, NY

- Extensive Experience with person centered planning, quality assurance, program development and strategic planning.
- Supervision of: Independent Living Specialists, Educational/Transitional Advocacy, Medicaid Services Coordination, Region 1 New York Connects, Open Door, Olmstead Housing and Community Based Services, ACCES-VR and Benefits Advisement.

Robert Leiter
Independent Living Specialist/Benefit Advisor
Independent Living of Western New York, Niagara County
Niagara Falls, NY

- 15 years' experience Instructor: Independent and Community Based living and advocacy skills, appropriate communication, safety and personal protection.
- Individual Residential Alternative (IRA) Specialist, Program Instructor at Day Treatment.

Sebastian Chittilappilly
Director of West Farms Day Programs and Vocational Services
Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State
Bronx, NY

- Oversight and coordination of operations of Day and Vocational Services in New York City.
- Seven years of experience serving the developmentally disabled in the NYC area - Daybreak Independent Services Inc.

Representative of Business, Industry and/or Labor Organization

Rachel Jones
Director of Operations
AVI Food Systems
Siena College
Latham, NY

- Experience in higher education/retail food service and non-profit education reform.
- Coordinates events with Student Life, Senate, Residential Housing Association and Commuter Student Association.

- Responsible for human resources and employee relations for over 150 employees.
- 2017 Regional Business Recognition Award, NYS ACCES-VR.

Representative of Transition Education Services

Gregory Lau
Interim Assistant Director of Special Education High School Programs
City School District of New Rochelle
New Rochelle, NY

- Ensure compliance in all areas of referral evaluation, Individualized Education Program (IEP) development and implementation, efficient provision of special education programs and services.
- Cultivate strong relationships with Office of Persons with Developmental Disabilities, the Office of Mental Health and ACCES-VR.
- Transition Coordinator/Guidance Counselor - understanding of graduation requirements, career and life planning, and transition.

Representative of the New York State Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs

Melinda Dolezal
Coordinator of Technology Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (TRAID)
Albany, NY

- Help people with disabilities learn about, obtain, and use assistive technology services and devices that meet their needs.
- Ensure that people with disabilities have access to local assistive technology-related information and referral, product demonstrations, device loans, and advocacy and awareness services.