

ASEC Committee: Marwa Bassiouni-- Candidate Statement

My name is Marwa Bassiouni, and I am an Administrative Program Specialist for the Office of Industry Relations, located in the Dean's Office for Research at the School of Medicine and Public Health. I have been a member of the academic staff since 2004, including four years as a Research Specialist (Laboratory Manager) in the School of Veterinary Medicine, and two years as the Research Program Manager for the Department of Medicine, Section of Gastroenterology & Hepatology Clinical Research Office. In my current position, I negotiate agreements with both private-sector and academic contracting agents and administrators; communicate with principal investigators to make them aware of UW policies and procedures; and work with investigators and department administrators on proposed agreements to ensure that all required types of documentation are in place. The positions I have held as a member of the academic staff have given me a wonderful opportunity to interact with and to learn about the exciting research of the faculty and staff of SMPH and other schools and departments throughout campus. During graduate school, I served as the President of the Edgewood MBA Student Association (EMBASA); working closely with and listening to the MBA student body to provide them with events and resources which met their needs, such as the *EMBASA Resume Workshop*. Currently, I am a member of the SMPH's Research Administrators Network. This group meets monthly to discuss issues and concerns that research administrators face on a daily basis. I also meet monthly with administrators from across campus, along with RSP staff, to discuss a wide range of topics relating to research administration. As a result of my employment experience and these memberships and monthly meetings, I have developed many valuable relationships and skills; assets which I know will be very beneficial to serving on the ASEC.

There are a number of challenges facing UW-Madison and especially the academic staff. Some of these issues include compensation and equity. For example, it can be extremely frustrating for an employee to learn that another employee with similar experience and performing similar duties is receiving a higher salary. From personal experience and from many discussions with other academic staff, I know that these are issues that need to be addressed. Being a member of the ASEC would allow me to work with other members and administration to help close this inequity gap, in addition to helping solve the number of other issues facing academic staff today and into the future. In conclusion, I am adept at working with UW faculty, staff, schools and departments to resolve any issues that arise in order to further UW-Madison's mission of teaching and research. I am also known for my ability to build relationships, mediate disputes and motivate others into action. Therefore, I believe all of these experiences and qualifications make me an excellent candidate for the Academic Staff Executive Committee.