

David Ross
Treasurer



David Ross is a Legislative Correspondent for Rep. Rodney Davis (IL-13), handling the Science & Technology portfolio. David was born and raised in Springfield, Illinois to a small business owner and a teacher. David has 2 younger sisters so he and his dad are in the minority. David graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2016 majoring in Political Science and History. At the U of I (and to this day), David followed the football and basketball teams religiously (he is used to disappointment by now). In addition to watching the Fighting Illini, David enjoys watching the NFL, playing golf, and reading the occasional book.

David started working for Rep. Davis in January 2017 and has been on his team since. While living in DC, working for your own member of Congress is an undervalued "gig" and David has appreciated the fact that he can still work and live in Washington while maintaining such strong ties to his home state of Illinois. He thinks this can also be attributed to the great work of our State Society, and David would love the opportunity to continue that work.

Quote: "The finest steel has to go through the hottest fire." — Richard M. Nixon

Emily Tuttle
VP Communications



Emily Tuttle works for the University of Illinois System in the Office of Governmental Relations as the federal relations specialist. Prior to joining the Office of Governmental Relations, she interned on Capitol Hill with the House Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health and Congressman Rodney Davis. Emily holds a degree in business administration with a minor in political science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

John Lee
Corporate Liaison



John Lee is a Principal at the Policy Resolution Group at Bracewell LLP where he specializes in guiding corporations, trade associations, industry coalitions and nonprofit organizations through the legislative and regulatory aspects of government advocacy campaigns. John has experience in organizing fly-ins, drafting materials to share on Capitol Hill, and developing messaging to best reach intended audiences. John also has particular knowledge of appropriations and budget processes, assisting clients in sectors including energy and environmental, product safety, health care and defense

Originally from Deerfield, Illinois, John graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Political Science and International Relations from Colgate University. In 2008, John served as Deerfield High School's Chapter Coordinator for the Students for Barack Obama Chapter, and as an intern for Congressman Bobby Rush's Washington D.C. office. Fun fact - John also was a not so star athlete on a little league baseball team that Congressman Brad Schneider managed prior to his election.

Saat Alety
Corporate Liaison



Saat Alety is the Director of Federal Legislative and Regulatory Affairs at Allstate, the nation's largest publicly held personal lines insurer. In this capacity, Alety leads all of the company's lobbying efforts with Congress, the Executive Branch, and federal agencies.

Previously, Alety served as Legislative Assistant to U.S. Senator Tim Scott (R-SC), a member of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. As Sen. Scott's policy advisor on financial services issues, Alety also served as the Majority Staff Director for the Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development.

Prior to his tenure as a Senate staffer, Alety spent almost three years as Communications Director to U.S. Representative Ed Royce (R-CA), Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. While spokesperson, Alety was also Legislative Assistant to Rep. Royce for his housing and capital markets portfolio on the House Financial Services Committee.

In addition to his Capitol Hill experience, Alety has held positions with the Bank Policy Institute, a leading advocacy organization for the financial services industry, and Governor Mitt Romney's 2012 Presidential campaign. A native of Naperville, Illinois, Alety started his career with the office of U.S. Representative Judy Biggert (R-

Chris Sarley
At-Large Member



Chris Sarley is an Illinois native from Arlington Heights where he attended Buffalo Grove High School and later went on to receive his B.A. in finance and business management from Roosevelt University in downtown Chicago. His start in politics came on then Congressman Mark Kirk's campaign in the early 2000's. From there he went on to serve over 14 years on Capitol Hill working in the Illinois delegation. First for Speaker Hastert and most recently over a decade for Congressman John Shimkus as a principal advisor on energy, environment and health care policy both in Shimkus's personal office as well as professional staff on the Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Environment of which Shimkus served as Chairman. In 2017 Chris joined Cornerstone Government Affairs, a bipartisan government relations firm in DC with operations in seven other states including Illinois with offices in both Chicago and Springfield where he is able to continue to maintain and strengthen his Illinois roots. He's a northsider but loyal to the White Sox and remains a diehard Bears, Blackhawks and Bulls fan.

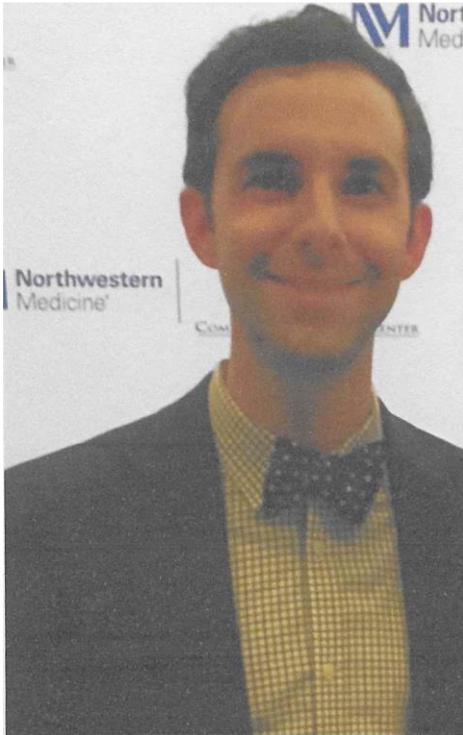
Erum Ibrahim
At Large Member



Ms. Erum Ibrahim Ali currently serves as a Legislative Assistant for the Democratic Whip, Senator Dick Durbin, having been with the office for nearly a decade.

A native of Chicago, Erum holds degrees in International Studies and Political Science from DePaul University. Prior to her service on the Hill, Erum worked as a fellow with the Interfaith Youth Core and spent summers teaching early childhood literacy with the Jane Addams Hull House Association. Erum has additionally served as a Truman Congressional Security Scholar and a Woodrow Wilson Foreign Policy Fellow in Washington, and volunteered for numerous political campaigns over the years. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, reading fiction, and spending time with family and friends.

Jonathan Jacobson
At-Large Member



Jonathan Jacobson, a Chicago native, is a trial attorney at the Department of Justice, handling complex commercial litigation on behalf of the United States. Prior to joining Justice, Jonathan served as a federal judicial law clerk for Chief Judge Carl Stewart of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and for Judge Kiyo Matsumoto of the Eastern District of New York. Before becoming a lawyer, Jonathan joined Teach for America and worked as an elementary school teacher for two years. He graduated from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, where he served as a news editor at the Daily Illini. He subsequently attended the Northwestern School of Law, where he worked for two years at the Center on Wrongful Convictions of Youth. Although he misses Chicago terribly, Jonathan currently resides in Washington, D.C. During his spare time, Jonathan enjoys playing fetch with his beagle (Teddy), running, and kayaking on the Potomac.

Will Layden
At Large Member



While I was born just outside of Washington, D.C., I consider myself a native Illinoisan, having grown up in Western Springs nearly all my life. I graduated from Lyons Township High School in 2011, lettering in both track and cross country. As an Eagle Scout, I have always been civically engaged and passionate about politics. This passion led me to Clemson University following high school, where I earned a Bachelor of Science in Political Science, with an emphasis on political statistics.

Following my graduation in 2015, I worked briefly in New Hampshire for the bipartisan nonprofit NoLabels, before moving to Washington, D.C. My Hill career started with the Committee on Natural Resources, first as a staff assistant with the full committee, and eventually working to research assistant with the Federal Lands Subcommittee. I work currently as a Legislative Assistant to Congressman Bruce Westerman, handling the natural resources and agricultural portfolio for Congress' only forester.

Despite working for an Arkansas member, and having lived and worked in both New Hampshire and South Carolina over the past eight years, my Illinois roots run deep. I recently completed my first Chicago Marathon, my parents are both small business owners in the state, and I'm a lifelong Cubs fan. My first hill internship was with Rep. Peter Roskam, and I have been active with both the Illinois State Society and the Illinois State Society Young Professionals since moving to D.C.

As an at-large member of the Illinois State Society, I would work to achieve two goals: first, I would work to expand and diversify the Young Professional membership to ensure the long-term growth of the Illinois State Society. Second, I would work to continue the successful fundraising efforts led by the board to ensure the sustained financial health of the State Society.

I appreciate the opportunity to apply for the at-large position, and would welcome the challenge to grow and expand the organization which has afforded me a start to a career and many friends here in Washington, D.C. I would be happy to provide additional information and reference upon request.