

PLATO Board of Directors Nominees 2015-2016 Membership Year

Frank Power - President

Frank Power is serving this year as President-elect. He served four years on the PLATO Board as an At-large Director. He chaired the Previews for three years as a member of the Curriculum Committee. In 2014 he chaired the Ad hoc Social Opportunities Committee which organized the four sessions of The Arts Café. He also chaired the first rounds of the Ad hoc Long Term Planning Committee. Frank graduated from the University of Massachusetts, and studied theology at The Catholic University In Washington, D.C. His first career was in ministry, much of it abroad in West Africa. His second career was in Aging Services in New Jersey. Frank is committed to the PLATO Mission of providing quality learning, teaching, and social opportunities for its members and making PLATO the best Learning in Retirement Organization (LIR) in the Midwest.

Sybil Better - Secretary

Sybil did graduate work in medical sociology at UW-Madison. She subsequently lived in several different states where she held positions as a sociology instructor, an allied health program coordinator, an evaluation researcher, a health planner, and a budget analyst. In 1986, she returned to the UW-Madison as a member of the academic staff. She was a special assistant to the UW-Madison Chancellor and the Medical School Dean dealing with health policy issues at the time of her retirement in 2003. Sybil has participated in a variety of PLATO courses. She has been a member of the Board since 2012 and is currently serving as Secretary as well as being a member of the Curriculum Committee. In her spare time, Sybil enjoys the theater, travel, reading, and volunteering in a variety of capacities.

Tim Otis - Treasurer

Tim has been a member of PLATO for 8 years. During that time he has coordinated a number of classes and for the last 2 years has served as Treasurer and chaired the Fund Development and Finance Committees. Tim also served as President of PLATO from 2011-13. Prior to his retirement in 2005 he was the Executive Director of the Mental Health Center of Dane County, where he worked for almost 30 years. Before moving to Madison in 1976 Tim was an assistant professor of Psychology at Denison University (7 years), and also was Executive Director of a Drug Treatment Program in the Columbus, Ohio area (4 years). Tim appreciates and enjoys the energy and contributions of PLATO members, and the opportunities to work with them in making PLATO an outstanding and unique organization.

Scott Kolar – President-elect

Scott grew up in the suburbs of Philadelphia. After graduating from Jacksonville University, he served for 9 years in the US Navy as a Naval Flight Officer. He earned a masters degree in Management Information Technology from Boston University and then worked in the information technology industry for over 20 years while his wife, Mary, pursued her career in the Navy. Scott and Mary moved to Madison in 2008. They were drawn to Madison for the wonderful quality of life. Scott has been a PLATO member since 2009. Scott chaired the Website Redesign Taskforce in 2010 and has been an At-large member of the Board of Directors since 2013. He is on the Communications and Finance Committees. Scott has been a leader in developing PLATO's website and continues to advocate for using technology to advance PLATO's mission.

John Koch – At Large

John retired in 2003 from a position as librarian at the UW-Madison Steenbock Agricultural and Life Sciences Library, where, among other things, he coordinated a one-credit course in library research methods, taught workshops on geographic information systems, and answered email reference questions about cranberries from around the world. He previously worked at other libraries on the UW-Madison campus. John has been a PLATO member since 2007, and a member of the Curriculum Committee since the fall of 2013. As a member of the Curriculum Committee, he works on keeping the PLATO website current with course information. In the summer of 2014, John coordinated a three-session course on British broadcast comedy from *The Goon Show* through *Monty Python's Flying Circus*.

Patricia Herrling – At-Large

Patricia is a retired librarian from the UW-Madison and a certified Brailist, transcribing print into braille for the blind and visually impaired. She has also been the library coordinator for Braille Library & Transcribing Services, Inc. (BLTS) in Madison for the past 6 years. Patricia has been a PLATO member since she retired and has taken several PLATO courses throughout those years. She also co-coordinates a course held in the fall of each year on the Sacred Feminine in various religions. Patricia is a member of the PLATO Communications Committee and is currently the editor of the Persimmon Newsletter. She is also a new member of the PLATO Website committee. Her hobbies include reading, walking and knitting.