

# 2026 CSWE Election: Candidate Statement

## Daniel Wallace, LCSW, DSW

*Undergraduate Faculty Representative – CSWE National Nominating Committee*

I am honored to be included on the 2026 CSWE election slate as a candidate for Undergraduate Faculty Representative to the National Nominating Committee. I seek this role with a strong commitment to advancing thoughtful, inclusive leadership within social work education and ensuring undergraduate faculty perspectives are meaningfully represented in CSWE governance.

As a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with a Doctorate in Social Work, I have professional experience spanning mental health, substance use, homelessness and housing instability, hospital-based care, insurance and court systems, and community-based practice. In addition to my academic role as a part-time social work professor, I maintain a small private practice caseload and serve in nonprofit leadership focused on mental health advocacy and systems-level impact. This integration of teaching, clinical practice, and organizational leadership shapes my approach to social work education and governance.

Undergraduate education is where professional identity is formed. In the classroom, I work closely with BSW students as they learn to translate social work values into ethical decision-making, clinical judgment, and systems awareness. Many of today's undergraduates are navigating complex personal, economic, and social stressors while preparing to enter an increasingly demanding profession. Faculty at the undergraduate level are uniquely positioned to support students' development while also preparing them for graduate education, licensure pathways, and direct practice roles.

If elected to the National Nominating Committee, I would bring a practitioner-educator perspective to the nomination process, with meticulous attention to identifying leaders who embody the diversity of social work programs, institutional settings, and practice environments. I am particularly dedicated to supporting leadership that comprehends the intricacies of undergraduate education, values interdisciplinary and community-engaged work, and demonstrates a sustained commitment to equity, transparency, and accountability.

My professional experiences across micro, mezzo, and macro systems have underscored the significance of intentional leadership development within our field. The work of the National Nominating Committee is crucial to shaping the future of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) and ensuring that its leadership aligns with the profession's values and the communities we serve.

It would be an honor to contribute my experience, perspective, and commitment to service as a member of the CSWE National Nominating Committee.

