

Session 2: See How They Run: Campaigning as a Ranked Choice Candidate

Session Panelists



In 2010, Doug McCullough was elected to the North Carolina Court of Appeals through the first use of ranked choice voting in the United States since the 1930s. He served until his retirement in 2017. Previously, he served on the NC Court of Appeals from 2001 to 2008. Other professional achievements include service in the U.S. Marine Corps, retiring as a Colonel in the Marine Corps Reserves; legislative counsel to New Mexico Senator Harrison Schmitt; counsel to the U.S. Senate; and Assistant U.S. Attorney in the eastern district of North Carolina.



Minneapolis City Council Member Linea Palmisano was elected in November 2013, and lived in the 13th ward for about 15 years. She has a long history of involvement in her community. Before her election to City Council, she served as board chair of the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council (LHiNC) and as an assistant track coach at Southwest High School. Additionally, she founded NAVIGATE, an immigrant college access program, served as a board member for the Linden Hills Farmers Market and successfully advocated for multi-modal transit improvements to in Minneapolis. Outside of her community activism, her professional experiences include 15 years of private sector experience in roles with IBM Global Services, UnitedHealth Group, and assisting a local small business in its first year of establishment in Minneapolis.



Grace Ramsey is the Director of Outreach at RepresentUs where she coordinates voter education outreach for state and national reform efforts. Grace began her career as an organizer with FairVote Minnesota's 2013 Rank Your Vote campaign, which focused on educating voters, candidates, and the media about ranked choice voting in Minneapolis' 2013 municipal elections. Through her work at FairVote Minnesota, Grace honed her passion for voter education and community organizing, leading her to join the FairVote team and, now, RepresentUs to continue this work on a national scale. Grace has served on ranked choice voting campaigns in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Oakland, Santa Clara, Santa Fe, and the statewide ballot measure passed in Maine in 2016.



After 35 years working in the statehouse to advance women's rights, civil rights, services for low income people and mental health consumers, Betsy Sweet ran for Governor of Maine in the 2018 Gubernatorial Primary. She came in a very close 3rd in a seven-way Ranked Choice Primary. She made history by co-endorsing one of her opponents, a strategy that attracted national and international attention. She also was a co-author of Maine's groundbreaking Clean Elections Act in 1996 and wrote and passed the first Family Medical Leave Act in the nation. She owns an advocacy firm and a counseling and coaching business.