

Candidate statement for UF Senate Chair: **Marc W. Heft**

As UF fully embraces “shared governance,” we need to work together – across our varied disciplines – and across different faculty and administrative roles. To that end, I believe I am prepared for this challenge -- it is what I have done for years.

While I am housed within the Health Science Center in the College of Dentistry, my perspective is grounded in a broader understanding – with an undergraduate degree in electrical engineering, a dental degree, and a doctorate in (experimental) psychology. Reflecting my multidisciplinary view, I hold appointments in the Departments of Clinical & Health Psychology, College of Public Health and Health Professions and Neuroscience, College of Medicine. Much of my research in aging and pain has taken a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approach involving colleagues from eight UF colleges over the years. I have found the opportunities for collaborations with colleagues from diverse disciplines and perspectives on areas of common interest productive and enjoyable. I have also found that this “team approach” provides a sense of community within a rather large campus.

I began my Senate term with an anticipation of a participatory process, a.k.a., “shared governance”. I was appointed to the Academic Freedom, Tenure, Professional Relations and Standards Committee and, then as AFTPRS chair, member of the Welfare Council. With greater involvement in the UF community has come greater understanding and appreciation for the diverse faculty and contributions that comprise the University of Florida. I look forward to the opportunity to provide Senate leadership during this era of transition.

Biosketch: Marc W. Heft

Marc W. Heft is Professor, Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery and Diagnostic Sciences, College of Dentistry and, also has adjunct appointments in the Department of Clinical & Health Psychology, College of Public Health and Health Professions and the Department of Neuroscience, College of Medicine. Prior to his appointment with the College of Dentistry in 1984, he served as Clinical Associate, National Institute of Dental Research and then, Senior Staff Fellow, National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania in electrical engineering, Dr. Heft received his dental degree at Penn and, subsequently, received both an M.A. and Ph.D. in experimental psychology from American University. Dr. Heft's scholarly contributions have been in pain research, aging and health services research. Much of his research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He has served on several university-wide and Health Science Center task forces on aging and chaired a task force on pain for Dr. William Luttge, founding director of the McKnight Brain Institute.

Dr. Heft is a Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science and a Fellow, Gerontological Society of America. He served as President of the American Association for Dental Research and recently completed a term as Secretary, Dental and Oral Health Sciences section (Section R), American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has served on the Program Advisory Board for the National Institute of Dental Research, as a member as well as ad hoc reviewer for several standing study sections of the NIH.

At UF, Dr. Heft has served on a wide variety of university committees and initiatives, including: the Faculty Senate - as a member (and chair) of the Academic Freedom, Tenure, and Professional Relations and Standard Committee, member of the Welfare Council, member of the General Counsel Search Committee, and member of the DSR Opportunity Fund Review Committee. He also served as a mentor for the University Minority Mentor Program, a member of the Community Advisory Board for WUFT-FM, and as a laboratory host for the UF Center for Precollegiate Education and Training program. Within the Health Science Center, Dr. Heft has served as a member of the Shands Hospital Medical Staff Operations Committee, member of the General Clinical Research Center Advisory Committee, member of the Advisory Committee for the Advanced Postgraduate Program in Clinical Investigation, and member of the advisory committee for the College of Nursing Biobehavioral Research Center.

He provides both didactic and clinical teaching in aging, pain and neuroscience.