Statement for Chair Elect of the Faculty Senate

John Leavey College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Goals

The current budget losses put at risk the core values of our educational and research missions, and faculty must lead the discussions about how to maintain and strengthen our quality through shared governance. As Chair of the Faculty Senate, I will:

- Facilitate the work of the Councils and Committees to put academic policy issues as the top priority
- Work closely with the administration to keep in sight the long-term goals and values of the University and find new ways to move forward
- Work with the new provost to bridge the gap between understanding the history of the issues at UF and the aims and goals of a top-10 public research institution
- Continue to educate the Trustees about our academic priorities, including improving the student learning environment through lower student/faculty ratios, improving the support for graduate and professional students, and retaining and diversifying our most valuable resource, the faculty
- Continue to expand the lines of communication between the Senate and all other units of the University

Qualifications

A member of the UF faculty for thirty years, I have been active in service to the department, college, and university throughout my career. Through my work over the past six years as member, chair or co-chair of multiple Senate committees and as a member of the Senate from CLAS for the last two years, I am well acquainted with the workings of the Faculty Senate. I am dedicated to having the faculty be fully engaged with shared governance.