

Statement of Interest and Qualifications for Vice Chair of the Academic Senate

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I am pleased and honored to be nominated by my colleagues to run for the position of Vice Chair of the Senate. I would welcome the opportunity to serve the Senate and the campus community in this important position leading up to the Senate Chair. I believe my service history on campus and my participation in the Senate over the last four years demonstrates my commitment to the Senate, my belief in shared governance and my commitment to the University.

I embrace the importance of service to the success of the campus. I'm completing my fourth year on the Senate representing the College of Education and I have been reelected for another 3 year-term. I served as Department Chair from 2008-2013, served on the Professional Standards Committee, the Program Planning Committee, served on an administrator review committee, as well as Graduate Studies and Research (this last year and next as chair) and the College of Education RTP committee. This past academic year, I was a member of two-campus wide search committees and the search committee for the Director of the COE's Ed.D. I believe the breadth of my service activities and the perspective offered by these experiences would serve the Senate and campus well.

For the past three years, I've served as Chair of the Organization and Government Committee, leading it through a highly charged experience when O & G conducted a hearing on the proposed reorganization of the College of Humanities and Arts. The committee understood this would set a precedent for the campus and in the spirit of shared governance; we worked hard to create a fair and objective procedural. Whether or not one agreed with the committee's conclusions, no one called the fairness, balance or objectivity of the hearings into question.

We live in perilous academic times. We are more of a state located rather than a state funded university. We are undervalued as a faculty and the CSU is undervalued as an engine of opportunity for the economic middle of the state. Legislators are intruding into the curriculum; the governor is demanding accountability in ways that may be counter-productive to student success. Change is inevitable, change is necessary and change is often good. However, the senate can and must serve a proper role to ensure that short-term solutions don't lead to long-term "academia" where we forget the very principles that made this campus and the CSU successful in the first place. I believe I have the ability and the temperament to balance the goals of the faculty and the goals of administration to achieve this outcome and would be honored to do so.