

PERSONAL STATEMENTS FOR 2016 ELECTIONS

ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Bloom, Ken: I'm honored to have the opportunity to stand for election to the APC. UNL will soon be entering a new era of academic leadership, and it will be as important as ever for the faculty to play a strong role in guiding the direction of the university. I hope to apply my wide range of experiences to this problem, and I will always be eager to get input from my colleagues about how we can help them meet their goals in research, teaching and service. You can learn more about me at <<http://www.unl.edu/physics/ken-bloom-bio>>.

Dahab, Mohamed: Professor of Civil Engineering with research and teaching expertise in Environmental Engineering especially in the development of sustainable systems for environmental management including water and wastewater infrastructure; energy recovery from waste; and in the use of natural treatment systems for water quality improvement. He is a licensed professional engineer in Iowa and Nebraska; certified in Environmental Engineering by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers; and Fellow in the Water Environment Federation. He is a life member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Water Works Association, and the Water Environment Federation. More at: engineering.unl.edu/civil/mohamed-dahab/

Sollars, Patricia: I joined the UNL faculty in Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences in 2008, and because I am actively committed to the principles and values of shared governance in academia, I have served as a member of the Faculty Senate since 2010. I am also currently at the end of a three-year term of service on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. As a member of the Executive Committee, I have had the opportunity to become directly involved with the administrative teams that are working to ensure that the University's efforts to increase both enrollment and retention are sustainably supported. I have served as the Faculty Senate liaison to the Enrollment Management Council and the Academic Scheduling and Policies Advisory Group, and during the 2015-2016 academic year have been working with the Director of Undergraduate Programs to oversee the 5-year review of the University-wide ACE Program. I believe that these experiences will be immediately beneficial to effective service on the Academic Planning Committee during the upcoming term. Perhaps equally important, though, has been my recent experience with an Academic Program Review – an experience that drives my hope that by serving on the APC, I can help to ensure that these unit reviews are maximally beneficial at all levels, from faculty, staff and students through the upper administration

ACADEMIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES PANEL:

Garza, James: I am interested in joining the Academic Rights and Responsibilities Panel as I strongly believe in faculty rights, diversity, and in good university governance. I am also deeply concerned about the future of public universities, seeing them as vital to democracy and freedom of speech. I have been at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln since 2001 and hold a joint

appointment as an Associate Professor in the Department of History and the Institute for Ethnic Studies, and serve as Associate Director of the institute. My research focuses primarily on the history of Mexico, specifically the late nineteenth century. My current book project examines the environmental transformation of Mexico City during the Porfirian Era (1876-1911) and how this project affected the capital city and the indigenous communities in the basin. I teach courses in Latin American and Mexican history as well as Latina/o Studies.

Fech, John: I have long been a proponent of academic freedom and faculty governance and has served in various roles in the Faculty Senate over the years.

Katz, Wendy: I am an Associate Professor of Art History who has been at UNL for 18 years. My previous University service has been on the Teaching Council and a few ad hoc committees; I have also served on my Department's and College's Executive Committees. For the last two years, I have served on the Faculty Senate's Academic Rights and Responsibilities Committee, where I realized the importance of having a broad and diverse pool of faculty willing to serve on its panels. If elected I will do my best to give all grievances and concerns a fair hearing and full consideration. For more information go to <http://arts.unl.edu/art/faculty/wendy-katz>.

Lewis, Ronald: Safeguarding faculty rights, and ensuring faithfulness to its responsibilities, is key within an open and progressive academic environment. Although joining the faculty at University of Nebraska-Lincoln only two years ago, through over 25 years of experience in academic positions overseas and at another land grant institution, I have been entrusted with serving on Promotion and Tenure and other academic review committees. I have approached those responsibilities with care and commitment. If elected to the Academic Rights and Responsibilities Panel, I believe I can offer a fair-minded and thoughtful contribution to that panel. For more information go to: <http://animalscience.unl.edu/ron-lewis>.

Lu, Suping: I have been a faculty member at UNL for over 20 years, and over the years I have served on a number of university-wide committees, including Research Council and the Academic Rights and Responsibilities Committee. My service on ARRC and, in particular, my role as its chair for one year provided me with valuable experiences to get familiar with the mission, policies, procedures and function of the committee. I am more than happy to serve on the Academic Rights and Responsibilities Panel, if I am elected, to advocate and ensure that faculty rights and responsibilities are fairly protected and carried out.

Russo, Sabrina: My interest in the Academic Rights and Responsibilities Panel stems from the desire to contribute to maintaining high academic standards across disciplines at UNL and at the same time providing fair process for all. I will work to exercise my best judgement in service to UNL and the scholarly endeavor that is entrusted to us as faculty. <http://russolab.unl.edu/>

Shea, Patrick: Nearly 35 years as a UNL faculty member (tenured full professor); previous service on the ARRC and ARRP; currently serving on the Senate and APC; multiple previous terms as Senator, Senate Executive Committee member, and Secretary; P&T committee service in two UNL departments and for the UNMC College of Public Health; currently Lead Mentor for Junior Faculty in the UNL School of Natural Resources (SNR); previously served as SNR

Associate Director and Vice Chair of the UNMC Department of Environmental, Agricultural and Occupational Health; AAUP member and a strong advocate for all faculty; strong supporter of academic freedom and tenure, academic rights and responsibilities, and the role of faculty in university governance.

Steffen, David: I have a commitment to fair and objective evaluation of rights and responsibilities which are inseparable. Faculty do not have access to the systems of Human Resources support when breakdowns in fairness and objectivity occur. I am interested in learning more about the committees role in the university system and then hopes to share with faculty what resources are available when then are affected by others ignoring responsibilities and violating rights of faculty.

Wilson, John: I have served on the Academics Rights and Responsibilities Committee in the past and willingly accept that responsibility again, if elected. Protecting the rights and addressing the concerns of all faculty members has to be a priority for any University and the ARRC is responsible for investigating concerns or problems related to academic freedom and tenure, grievance, and professional conduct.