

PERSONAL STATEMENTS FOR 2020 ELECTIONS

ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Sydney Everhart, Plant Pathology:

Personal Statement – Being actively engaged in my department, university, and profession, I feel strongly that the tripartite mission of the land-grant university is essential to meet the demands of our state and nation's economic, educational, and future needs. As a faculty member, I have a passion for scientific inquiry, analyzing data, and mentoring students to achieve their highest potential. Within my department, a major accomplishment was leading a team of faculty to propose a new M.S. and Ph.D. program in Plant Pathology, which provided me with an understanding of the important function and role of the APC in relation to academic programs. Leading a research lab and managing grants has given me experience managing personnel, budgets, and space, which is also relevant to a position on the APC. If you are interested in learning more about my research, teaching, professional experiences, and qualifications, please feel free to browse my website at <https://everhart.unl.edu>.

Joan Latta Konecky:

I have been with UNL for 30 years, and have had the opportunity to serve on a wide range of campus committees, including the Faculty Senate, Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Secretary of the Faculty Senate, Committee on Committees (Chair), Parking Advisory Committee (Chair), Academic Standards Committee, Intercollegiate Athletics Committee, University Student Judicial Board, and the Academic Rights and Responsibilities Panel.

I firmly believe in the importance of the faculty voice and involvement in the governance of the University. I also value the opportunity to work collaboratively with colleagues from different areas across campus, benefiting from their varied perspectives. I strive to provide a broad institution-wide outlook, with an openness to diverse opinions and creative problem-solving.

ACADEMIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES COMMITTEE:

ACADEMIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES PANEL:

Julian Atanassov:

I believe serving on the Academic Rights & Responsibilities Panel is an important duty and championing academic rights and responsibilities is an important part of our community. I have been at UNL for 5 years. I am an Associate Professor of Finance, and I am currently serving on the College of Business General Committee. Before coming to UNL, I was at the University of Oregon for 9 years, where I also served on various college and departmental committees. I believe my diverse experience would allow me to be an effective member of the Academic Rights & Responsibilities Panel. If elected, I would strive to make sure academic rights and responsibilities are fairly implemented and that there is sufficient focus on diversity and inclusion.

Andrea Bolland, School of Art, Art History, and Design:

I have taught art history in the School of Art, Art History and Design for 25 years. Much of my research involves early modern art literature and its relationship to humanist ideas. The long history of liberal arts education has thus informed my understanding of both the possibilities of, and problems within, the modern university. I am concerned with issues of fairness, procedure, and the principle of faculty governance. Over the years of my career at UNL, I have served on a number of committees that address these in various ways. I have been on the executive committees of both my School, and the Hixson-Lied College of Fine & Performing Arts, and have also had relevant experience serving on UNL's Graduate Council and the Student Conduct Board.

Alan Christensen, School of Biological Sciences:

I am interested in running for the Academic Rights & Responsibilities Panel because I am a firm believer in academic freedom, as well as the responsible conduct of research, teaching and service. It is important to protect both the rights and responsibilities of faculty at UNL. My relevant experience includes being the chair of the School of Biological Sciences Promotion and Tenure committee (for the last 5 years), membership on a Research Misconduct Inquiry Committee, the Research Council, the University Judicial Board, and the Governance and Rules Compliance Ad Hoc Committee for NCAA certification. I was also a Program Director for the National Science Foundation in 2009-2010 and 2011-2012. I have been tenured since 1996.

Mostafa Mashayekhi:

I have been a faculty member at UNL since 1990. During this period I have served on numerous committees, at the College of Business Administration, including the Scholarships, Honors and Awards Committee, the Gender and Minority Issues Committee, the Research Committee, the Assessment Committee, and the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.

I am very excited about the possibility of being able to serve on the Academic Rights & Responsibilities Panel. I ask to be elected because I am willing and more than happy to dedicate all the time and effort that would be required for providing a wonderful service. Further information about me is available at <https://business.unl.edu/people/mmashayekhi>.

Loukia K. Sarroub (Teaching, Learning, & Teacher Education):

As a UNL faculty member since 2001, I have been a strong advocate for faculty and faculty governance in my roles as chair of graduate programs in my department, chair of the College of Education and Human Sciences Tenure & Promotion Committee, chair of the UNL Research Council, and as the faculty representative on the UNL Faculty Compensation Committee, among several other committee leadership roles at UNL and elsewhere. I value highly thoughtful communication and transparency in decision-making processes as well as careful deliberation in order to enable intellectual integrity, engagement in fair and equitable outcomes, and considerate service in protecting the rights and responsibilities of faculty and students. Further information about my scholarship, teaching, and service is available at <http://cehs.unl.edu/tlte/faculty/loukia-k-sarroub>.

Scott Swenseth (Management):

The Academic Rights and Responsibilities of faculty is crucial to the mission of any university. As a long-term faculty member at UNL, I have served on, and chaired, multiple committees at the department, college and campus level, including as a member of the Faculty Senate. As a faculty member, and especially in serving on various committee, my awareness of academic rights and responsibilities and the need to protect them has continued to grow. If elected to serve on this panel I will work diligently to serve in a fair and impartial manner.