

**Candidate Statement**  
**Dana Anderson**  
**Associate Professor of English**  
**Department of English**

IU's long legacy of faculty governance shows exactly what that governance can accomplish—what *we* can accomplish—when the following strengths define our cooperation.

- **Enfranchised faculty.** Faculty must know the importance of sharing their perspectives with the delegates who represent them; delegates must know how to bring those perspectives to the Council effectively; the Council must be confident in the diligence and expertise of the standing and elected committees that will study those perspectives; and the Executive Committee, the rallying point for all of this good faith, must advocate for the Council's convictions, and with absolutely zero regard for how (un)welcome those convictions might be to the minds of those whom it must persuade.
- **Informed faculty.** Real engagement in the questions of our future means real access to real information—information about our own positions and units, our campus, our system, and beyond. Sometimes the information we need is either inaccessible or unreliable; other times, and less innocently, it feels needlessly guarded, even intentionally obscured.
- **Unity beyond the issues.** Diverse and strong ideas bespeak a diverse and strong faculty. Our patient and generous treatment of these ideas, and of each other, is what allows us to act *together* in our own interests, especially at times when our interests will require negotiation and trust.
- **Prudent hope.** Being *wise* about the future should not mean being *wary*. We have a right to be involved, and our inquiry has a right to be protected. We can be realists without being fatalists, and we can be hopeful without fearing that it makes us somebody's fools.

I have served on the BFC in various capacities (and presently as secretary) during my 23 years in the Department of English, and I am grateful to be considered for this position. I don't know what crises are headed our way, but I do know the kind of spirited support for each other I hope to see as we rise together to meet them.

I also promise not to rename any major U.S. landmarks or to further undermine our coinage.