

Candidate Statement
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Over the past two years, I have had the privilege to serve as the Parliamentarian and Secretary of the Bloomington Faculty Council, and to work alongside and, most importantly, learn from my colleagues on the council and across the campus. I applaud the effort and commitment I continue to witness of the faculty to shared governance and to the betterment of this institution, as without you we would not be able to address the current challenges and pressures impacting Indiana University and higher education more broadly.

I am honored to have been nominated for the second time by my BFC colleagues for the position of President-Elect. I am a non-tenure track faculty member, but my background at IU has provided me with a unique perspective for understanding the needs and challenges facing our academic and campus communities. I began my time at IU almost fifteen years ago as a full-time minimum wage employee in a campus mailroom. Since then, I have worked as a support and professional staff employee in campus enrollment management. I also received both Master's and Ph.D. degrees from IUB. While I have always understood the interconnected nature of the various campus communities, my time on the BFC has made particularly evident how even seemingly minute decisions made by the council can transcend faculty concerns and impact the academic and professional lives of all campus stakeholders.

Shared governance is critical, and for it to be most effective it must be collaborative and transparent. I believe that the BFC leadership and council members must engage with all campus and university faculty governance bodies to ensure that their actions are intentional and to mitigate the unintended consequences of the council's decisions. Collaboration also should extend to all campus governance groups so that we as the faculty understand and address campus issues impacting other campus stakeholders, such as the Staff Council, the IU Student Government, and the Graduate and Professional Student Government. The connection between all governance bodies is apparent when considering recent issues around academic freedom, open inquiry, and expressive action on our campus.

We need to work to ensure that the policies passed at both the campus and university-levels align and coalesce to function as intended without impediments to our core values as faculty, and to be the voice when there are campus and university actions taken that infringe upon the rights of the campus community. Just as we as faculty must be collaborative and transparent, it is crucial that the BFC and its leadership hold accountable campus and university administration to do the same. As we confront this period of expeditious change on our campus due to internal and external pressures, the BFC must continue to ensure that the voice and concerns of the faculty, staff, and students are at the forefront.