## Candidate Statement William D. Ramos Associate Professor, School of Public Health-Bloomington

Faculty governance is an essential piece of university culture and is engrained within our illustrious past and pivotal for its future. Throughout my 30+ years connected with the Bloomington campus, it has been a privilege to lend voice and actions to matters that have shaped the experience here through multiple leadership roles. Currently I serve as a member of the Bloomington Faculty Council (BFC) Executive Board and Co-Chair of the Student Affairs Committee (SAC) with hopes that this nomination will allow me to continue down a path of leadership as your President-Elect to BFC beginning in summer 2024.

The winds of change are upon us, and although it's certainly not the first time - nor will it be the last for "old IU" - history proves that strong faculty governance is key to successful, respectful, and logical evolution. This is where I hope to dedicate my time and talents to support synergy with faculty and administration to move us forward together. I am not one who fears change but commands that it be addressed with respect to the lessons learned from our past and well-thoughout with a voice from all stakeholders. I am inspired by the pillars of IU 2030; Student success and opportunity, Transformative research and creativity, and Service to our state and beyond, but as I've already expressed to leaders across campus, these cannot happen without the faculty and will not happen without structural changes to empower them. I also stand ready to address the growing challenges we are all well aware of such as increasing political influence, a need for better timing with communications, sustained transparency, and strategies for adapting to the impending enrollment cliff.

I have been a *Hoosier* my entire life having been born and raised in Gary, Indiana, which is also where my academic journey began at IU Northwest in the early 80's - then it was off to Bloomington where I have found a rewarding career and supportive community. It has been my good fortune to have held many different roles and ranks in and out of Indiana University. Cumulatively, they have provided me with a depth and breadth to see things from numerous vantage points and has nurtured a leadership style that involves an intense dedication to collecting information and then taking action based on what the moment warrants. Sometimes this might necessitate a swift response and action, while other instances may be best addressed with a long game approach as the most appropriate route. I believe we all start with respect and a hope to work synergistically toward a common goal, but I am also well aware that this will not always be the case.

In summary, it's my hope to be part of a sensible and efficacious future and to provide continued support and advocacy for the will of the faculty while also always keeping our student family top of mind.