



# Faculty Senate

## Faculty Senate: First Meeting of 2021-2022 Senate

Agenda for meeting of Thursday, April 22, 2021, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. (upon adjournment of 2020-2021 Senate Meeting)

Zoom Meeting for Senators and Guests:

<https://ucf.zoom.us/j/95383506879?pwd=RnRhUVpjWG1ud3NEcDZxRVpOTVp0Zz09>

Meeting will be recorded and streamed live at: <https://youtu.be/ASCppckpO1s>

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call via Qualtrics: [http://ucf.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8DontVdDdVVFgVg](http://ucf.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8DontVdDdVVFgVg)
3. Election of Officers for 2021-2022 Senate Year
4. Election of Steering Committee Members for 2021-2022 Senate Year
5. Election of Committee on Committees Members for 2021-2022 Senate Year
6. Other Business
7. Adjournment

Dr. Joseph Harrington, Pegasus Professor  
Department of Physics, College of Sciences

Candidate for Faculty Senate Chair

Bio:

Joseph Harrington earned his BS in Physics in 1988 and his PhD in Planetary Science in 1995, both from MIT. After a postdoc at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and nine years on soft money at Cornell University, he came to UCF in 2006 as one of five founding faculty in planetary science. The program established PhD and MS tracks in Physics in 2009. The young program's PhD alumni already hold multiple leadership positions around the world. Harrington developed four courses: PHZ 3150 Introduction to Numerical Computing, AST 4762 Astronomical Data Analysis, AST 5765 Advanced Astronomical Data Analysis, and AST 6165 Planetary Atmospheres. In Fall 2021 there will be 14 planetary/astrophysics teaching faculty, and the affiliated Florida Space Institute has eight senior researchers building CubeSats and managing Arecibo Observatory, whose staff astronomers are now becoming eligible UCF PhD advisors. He recruited three of the current faculty, two of whom expanded the department's diversity.

Harrington measures the composition and thermal structure of exoplanet atmospheres, including the first detection of an exoplanet's own emitted light, the first spectrum, the first separate measurements of day and night, the first detection of disequilibrium chemistry, and the first detection of an atmosphere with more carbon than oxygen, contributing to his nine papers in Nature and Science, including cover articles in both. He is also a leader in the open-source movement and worked on a National Academies committee that provided policy options now being implemented for NASA grant programs.

A Senator in 2011-2012 and since 2014, he is the incumbent Chair and serves on the Board of Trustees, three BOT committees, the University Budget Committee, and the Senate Steering and IT Committees. Promoted to Associate Professor in 2009 and Professor in 2013, he has won two Research Incentive Awards and Excellence in Research for the College of Sciences. He is in the Scroll and Quill Society and is a Pegasus Professor.

Candidate Statement:

This year, I worked to put the faculty perspective at the forefront of UCF decision-making. We have gained unprecedented access to top leaders, who listen to us. We took our faculty agenda directly to leaders and the BOT, shaping policy. Our COVID ad-hoc committees helped prevent death while preserving UCF's educational quality. Directly and through the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates, we made bold public statements on the university's unique role in diversity and race issues and on legislation suppressing student free speech. We built a new website, livestreamed, and recorded our meetings, streamlined meetings and procedures, and greatly improved Senate-Union relations.

In the coming year, I aim to solidify the Senate's budget, keep the benefits of our online meeting format as we return to in-person meetings, pick up the pace on diversity issues, improve UCF's support of faculty, and continue building strong relationships with the leadership, BOT, and Union so that the faculty voice continues to be heard.

### **Vice-Chair – Stephen King**

Dr. Stephen King received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Cornell University in 1990. He completed his PhD in 1996 at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He then moved to The Johns Hopkins University as a postdoctoral fellow to study intracellular transport and protein biochemistry in mammalian cells. King moved to the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2001 for his initial independent faculty position, where he continued his studies of molecular transport processes inside mammalian cells. His teaching at UMKC was to large classes (over 300 students) in lower and mid level biology courses. In 2011 King moved to UCF where the enhanced facilities and colleague base helped him to expand his research into developing a mouse model of a human peripheral neuropathy disease (CMT). He has been studying that CMT mouse model as a way to better understand the onset and progression of CMT, with the hopes of developing therapeutics in the future. King's research has been supported by the NIH and American Heart Association and been published in top journals in the field.

King's teaching at UCF includes PCB4529C Experimental Molecular Cell Biology, a dual lab and lecture course he developed, and that is now a core requirement in the new Molecular Cell Biology major in Biomedical Sciences. Other teaching is in a variety of critical thinking graduate courses for MS and PhD students.

King has also been highly involved in service to UCF, the College of Medicine, and the Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences. At the start of COVID pandemic, he was asked to chair the Faculty Senate *ad hoc* Health and Safety Crisis Response task force. He has been a member of the UCF Personnel Committee from 2015, serving as Chair of that committee from 2016 to the present. He has served in the faculty Senate since 2016 and was a member of the Senate Steering committee (2018 and 2020). Within the College of Medicine, he served as the Faculty Council Vice President in 2012, President in 2013, and Past-President in 2014. In the Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences he has served on numerous curriculum, admissions, and research committees at undergraduate, masters, and PhD levels throughout the years.

### **Candidate statement:**

I am excited for the opportunity to serve as the Faculty Senate vice-chair for the upcoming year. I believe that my past experiences in leadership positions within the Faculty Senate and elsewhere have been critically important in preparing me to help the Senate as we continue to navigate the uncharted territory of the COVID-19 outbreak and as we explore new opportunities for UCF beyond COVID. My core service approach is to work with all interested parties on the critical topics that face UCF. Accomplishments from the Faculty Senate committees I have chaired range from requiring lactation rooms for buildings, to initiating five-year reviews of vice-presidents and vice-provosts, to working with the administration to develop strategies to tackle the COVID pandemic, and more. By engaging all stake holders, I feel the Faculty Senate can both maintain our core faculty values and also help the University as a whole adapt as the world continues to change around us.

**Edwin N. Torres** currently serves as Associate Professor at the Rosen College of Hospitality Management at the University of Central Florida. Dr. Torres has been highly involved in various service activities at the university, college, and department level. At the university level, Dr. Torres served as Chair of the faculty senate's benefits committee for three years. He also served as Vice Chair of the personnel committee. Dr. Torres was involved in the investment committee which provided oversight for the optional 403(b) plan at the university. Furthermore, Dr. Torres was part of the faculty equity study group which was authorized by the faculty senate.

At the college level, Dr. Torres served as Chair of the Faculty Assembly at the Rosen College where he helped steer the process of amending the existing bylaws. He currently serves as the Chair of the faculty affairs committee. He also serves as the Assessment Coordinator for the Hospitality Management degree and a member of the college assessment committee. Within the Department of Hospitality Services, Dr. Torres has served as the Chair of the faculty search committee, Chair of the cumulative progress evaluation (CPE) committee, and Chair of the Instructor promotion committee among others. Seeking to contribute to both the academic and practitioner communities, Dr. Torres serves in three editorial boards and a member of several professional organizations including the Society for Human Resource Management, the Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education, and the Academy of Marketing Science.

Dr. Torres received a Bachelor in Science of Business Administration (magna cum laude) with double majors in Human Resource Management and Marketing from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez. He also received a Master's degree and a Ph.D. in Hospitality Management from Purdue University. His graduate work focused on attaining customer delight and service quality within the hotel industry.

Dr. Torres has worked as a Front Desk Manager for Marriott International, a Financial / Investment Advisor for Ameriprise, and a Quality Consultant and mystery shopper for multiple hotels both in the United States and internationally. He holds the Professional in Human Resources (PHR) certification awarded by the Human Resource Certification Institute. The PHR tests key HR competencies including workforce planning and employment, employee development, compensation and benefits, risk management, employee and labor relations, and business strategy.

Edwin Torres joined UCF in 2012 and ever since he has published a total of 39 scholarly articles (with the majority on high impact, top-tier journals listed in the Social Science Citation Index-SSCI), 27 conference proceedings, and 7 magazine articles, 1 case study, 2 book chapters. He is currently finishing a textbook on the topic of services marketing and customer service management. Dr. Torres is the recipient of 7 external and internal research grants and accrued 1,653 citations. Dr. Torres was awarded the Research Incentive Award (RIA) in 2021 and the Excellence in Research Award in 2020. His research focuses on consumer psychology, services marketing, and human resource management.

Over the past eight years, Dr. Torres has taught multiple classes at both the undergraduate and graduate levels on topics related to Human Resource Management, Guest Services Management, Training and Development, and Hotel Operations. He has taught in multiple modalities including face-to-face, web, video, and mixed mode. He has been involved in 11 thesis and dissertation committees. Dr. Torres is the recipient of the Teaching Incentive Program Award (TIP) in 2018.

## **Secretary--Patricia Farless, History Department**

A Senior Instructor, Patricia Farless has 25 years teaching experience at the University of Central Florida. She teaches courses in American History, American Women's History, American Legal History, Atlantic Revolutions and Professionalization of History Majors. Her research interests include US Women's Legal History, Constitutional History, 19<sup>th</sup> Century History, Women's History, Jacksonian America, the Civil War, and Reconstruction, and the Gilded Age and Progressivism.

She has served on numerous department, college, and university committees. The creator of the Pre-Law in the Humanities minor, she continues to coordinate and advise for the minor. Farless created the History Department Online Advising Platform and advises for the program for which she also received the UCF Excellence in Advising Award. She plays an active leadership role in the Florida Conference of Historians, organizing and hosting the conference at UCF in 2016. She has initiated an undergraduate research poster session that is featured at the conference each year since 2016. She also promoted and currently serves as editor of an undergraduate research journal and a separate SoTL journal.

Two years ago, Farless co-created a peer-focused, non-tenure earning faculty promotion workshop. Over these past two years, the workshop has assisted dozens of Instructors and Lecturers and Instructional Designers to polish, strengthen and put the finishing touches on their dossiers. This summer marks the 3<sup>rd</sup> series of workshops. The success rests on the shoulders of the workshop's peers who consistently devote their time to paying it forward, and to the support of FCTL and Faculty Excellence.

Finally, this year Farless resumed her previous role of GEP Coordinator. She was the department's first GEP Coordinator and has remained active in several university-wide advancement and pedagogical initiatives. She looks forward to working with the department's GEP faculty in their efforts to prepare UCF's FTIC students for their future major courses and professional lives.

## **Candidate Statement**

While newer to the Faculty Senate, I believe my leadership experience at the Department, College and University levels speaks to my ability to serve as Faculty Senate Secretary. I have been a full-time faculty member at UCF since 2000; I worked at UCF as an adjunct and Visiting Instructor dating back to 1995. In my service to UCF, I sought to create greater opportunities for students and colleagues. Central to this endeavor is a commitment to inclusivity and transparency. As your Secretary, I will work tirelessly to build on the success of my predecessors in their efforts to improve communication, transparency, and inclusivity in support of the Chair and Vice Chair as they seek to represent the Faculty Senate in its shared governance of the university. Indeed, as an officer, I will look for areas that need support and lend my voice and efforts to that endeavor.

### **Secretary – Kristine Shrauger**

Kristine Shrauger is a University Librarian/University Professor at the John C. Hitt Library. She holds a Master of Library and Information Sciences from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and an undergraduate degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Kristine has managed the Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery Services (ILL/DDS) department since her arrival at the University of Central Florida in January 2004. She has served as Chair of the Statewide Resource Sharing committee, which created UBBorrow, standardized and extended loan periods. Nationally, Kristine has served on several American Library Association committees, such as Sharing and Transforming Access to Resources Section (STARS) and most recently on the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services, Continuing Education Committee. Kristine has presented statewide, nationally, and internationally on topics relating to ILL/DDS, such as the UCF Faculty and Graduate Delivery Service as well as on collaborations with the UCF Libraries Special Collections and Digital Initiatives Departments. She also co-initiated the digitization of UCF print theses and dissertations which are outside of copyright restrictions.

Over the past eight years, Kristine has received two national grants and three campus-wide grants to create a database showcasing diversity within the family in picture books, graphic novels, and young adult books. There are currently 2,500 titles in the growing database which has become a highly valued tool among children's librarians and educators.

#### **Candidate Statement:**

I have served as Faculty Senate Secretary for the past year. This position transitioned into more than just secretary duties. In my role, I worked with an amazing team to overhaul the Faculty Senate website. I contributed by creating and organizing information, as well as getting a crash course on Wordpress and creating the Ad Hoc committee pages. That same team and I have looked for ways to educate faculty members by creating the first Webcourse, *Welcome to Faculty Senate*. I also served on the Ad Hoc Internal Communications Committee, By-Laws, Personnel, and I currently chair the Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Inclusion and Diversity. Additionally, as secretary, I assist the Faculty Senate Administrator with the Zoom Steering Committee and Faculty Senate meetings.

If I continue as Faculty Senate Secretary, I would like to create a series of Webcourses to guide committee members on expectations and responsibilities. I would also like to create a Chair Webcourse course to explain where to find information, the duties, how to set up meetings, and reporting out at meetings. I feel I have more to contribute to the Faculty Senate and would like the opportunity to finish these projects.