Candidate Statement for Faculty Senate President-Elect

Bio: Originally from Iowa working class roots, I and my three sisters became nurses; we have 132 years of collective nursing experience, and are first generation college graduates. My clinical background is primarily in mental health nursing. I hold undergraduate degrees in nursing (BSN) and psychology (BS), an MA in Nursing from the University of Iowa, 1986, and PhD in Nursing from University of California, San Francisco (1992), and postdoctoral fellowship (UCSF, completed 1994).

Current: After five years at University of WI-Milwaukee, I came to UTK in 1998. I am a Professor in the College of Nursing, teaching in the masters and PhD programs. A Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, I have international and interdisciplinary recognition. I am Co-Director of the UT Cooperating Site of the International Institute for Qualitative Methodology. I have obtained federal funding, including an NIH R01 grant. My scholarship is team-driven, and focuses on experiences and health consequences of marginalization, specifically, health disparities regarding African Americans, LGBTQ persons, women, persons with HIV, and persons with substance misuse) Additionally, my work includes studying thriving after adversity or trauma. My methods focus is critical narrative analysis and mixed methods. I increasingly value and seek interdisciplinary collaborations with other sciences, the humanities and arts, especially in renewing the conceptualization of health and increasing innovation in health care.

My leadership style is pragmatic and based on mutual respect and dialogue. I ask for advice from key players, mentors and folks at large in decision-making. I place a high value on democratic processes. Although I often hold definite opinions, and “put them on the table,” I am sought after for leadership and diplomacy. Recently, I was selected to head a faculty work group on improving faculty governance and building a new faculty organization in the College, which entails negotiating among many faculty subgroups, many voices.

University Service Highlights: Two terms as Faculty Senator, Research Council member for past nine years, former Chair of Research Council, former Faculty Ombudsperson.

Aims/Issues: There are many faculty priorities, but some areas I would emphasize going forward are:

- Interdisciplinary, inter-institutional and interprofessional collaboration
- Diversity and equity
- On-line offerings: Issues for debate, faculty resources, standards, and technological readiness
- Culture change advancing a top research/land grant University (students, faculty and staff)
- Academic freedom and “dissenting” scholarship
- Increasing campus wellness and quality of life: e.g., proactively addressing mental health stressors contributing to academic demise, alienation, bullying, incivility, shootings; promoting ergonomic and socially connected workspaces; providing virtual and actual contexts for faculty and administration socializing/networking.

I would be honored to serve as Faculty Senate President-Elect, and to work with incoming President Dave Golden and the Senate in collaboration with the Chancellor and Provost. Together, we can increase the influence, creativity and vibrancy of the Faculty Senate, which represents an outstanding, committed and talented faculty in these difficult yet opportunity-laden times.

Thank you for your support.

Joanne M. Hall