

Bruce MacLennan, Associate Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Candidate Statement, Faculty Senate President-Elect

I received my BS (with honors) in mathematics from Florida State University in 1972 and my MS and PhD in computer science from Purdue University in 1974 and 1975, respectively. After receiving my PhD I went to work for Intel as a Senior Software Engineer, but in 1979 I decided to return to academia to pursue my interests in teaching and research. I joined the computer science faculty of the Naval Postgraduate School, where I was a tenured Associate Professor and for one year the acting department chair. In 1987 I came to the University of Tennessee as an Associate Professor in the Dept. of Computer Science (now Electrical Engineering and Computer Science).

I have published three books and about 75 refereed articles and book chapters. In 2007 I was invited to be the founding Editor-in-Chief of the *International Journal of Nanotechnology and Molecular Computation*, a position from which I have just retired. Over the past five years I have delivered four invited international presentations.

Within the Dept. of Computer Science I have served as chair of the Undergraduate and Graduate Committees, and was a member of the Arts and Sciences Dean's Advisory Council. Since 2010 I have chaired the Assessment Committee in the Dept. of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science, and since 2008 I have served on the College of Engineering Curriculum Committee. Because I believe firmly in the importance of multidisciplinary studies, I also served on the University Studies Steering Committee from 2005–2011 and on its Executive Committee 2005–2010. I've taught interdisciplinary courses for University Studies and the Chancellor's Honors Program as well as in my own department. Recently I've been appointed to the Executive Committee of the interdisciplinary neuroscience major.

In 1997 I was elected a Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Studies of the Collegium Budapest for my work on the evolution of language and communication, and I was University Studies Interdisciplinary Scholar of the Year for 2005–2006. This year I was honored to receive the Alumni Outstanding Teacher Award and to be part of the team that received the Chancellor's Citation for Success in Multidisciplinary Research.

As an advocate of shared governance and academic freedom, I served as president of the UTK chapter of the American Association of University Professors and was an at-large member of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee from 2004–2006. In 2008 I was elected to the Senate, serving on the Appeals Committee. Since 2011 I have chaired the Appeals Committee and served on the Executive Committee.

I believe that the fundamental role of the university is to guide society into the future. We do this by advancing science and the humanities through our scholarship, but especially by educating future generations to think critically and creatively and to reflect on themselves and their relation to others. To accomplish these goals, we must exercise, model, and teach independent thinking, which is why academic freedom, faculty self-determination, and shared governance are essential for a university to fulfill its function. We are obliged to reaffirm and to defend these values continually. Therefore, if I am elected, I will strive to promote a vibrant, robust, and resilient Faculty Senate focused on effective shared governance.