

I have been a Faculty Senator for a total of 17 years since 1981 in 3 different Universities. At UTK, I have been an elected Senator from 2005-2008. In addition, I served as Secretary for 3 years from 2010-2012. At UTK I have served on Faculty Affairs Committee, the Information Technology Committee and the Appeals Committee. On the latter I chaired and finalized one case. I have also been one of the Faculty Senate representatives on the Traffic and Parking Committee since 2005.

Highlights of my work with Faculty Senates at other universities includes writing the first Faculty Manual for Clemson University's Senate and then serving as its first official editor. I also served as chair of the Policy Committee, the Commission of Undergraduate Studies and the Student Administrative Disciplinary Committee. In the latter I had the "interesting" opportunity to serve on a committee hearing involving 4 football players accused of a sexual assault.

At James Madison University I served as member and Chair of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee. This Committee would be the equivalent of a combined Undergraduate and Graduate Commission at UTK.

In all this experience one of the most important lessons I have learned is the importance of listening. Listen to the Students, listen to the Faculty Senators and listen to the Administration. Talking and working out solutions depends on people listening to what is both said and not said. Everyone involved cares about the University. Keeping that in mind helps not only to solve problems, but even more importantly, it helps prevent them from happening.

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