

David Patterson

Candidate Statement - University Faculty Council

I am honored to be nominated to serve on the University of Tennessee, University Faculty Council (UFC). The opportunity to represent the faculty on this advisory board would be a continuation of my longstanding efforts to articulate and promote the voice of the faculty in the shared governance of this university. I have served as the Faculty Senate President, represented the campus as a member of the UT System-wide University Faculty Council, been a member of several Faculty Senate Committees including Faculty Affairs and the Appeals Committee, served as the chair of the UT-Office of Research and Engagement sponsored Academic Outreach and Engagement Council, and am presently the chair of the UT Graduate Council.

In the College of Social Work, I am the Cooper-Herron Endowed Professor of Mental Health Research and Practice and an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Medicine, Graduate School of Medicine, University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center-Knoxville. I am the founding Director of the Doctor of Social Work (DSW) in clinical practice and leadership program, having served in the position since 2010. For the past 16 years I have served as the PI/Director of the HUD and locally funded Knoxville Homeless Management Information System (KnoxHMIS), a community outreach research endeavor of the College of Social Work. The primary teaching focus of my 29-year academic career has been on clinical social work practice. A major concentration of my scholarship has been on homelessness and the application of information technology in service delivery to homeless individuals and families. Finally, I am a UMASS Center for Mindfulness Qualified Teacher with a daily meditation practice of more than a quarter century. These experiences have culminated in an ability to bring focus, attention, and kindness to challenging issues and interpersonal interactions. If elected, I will do my utmost to represent the entire UT-Knoxville faculty with fidelity to your wishes and abiding respect for your great work at this university in service of its land-grant mission.