

AG Rud for Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate

Biographical Sketch: At WSU since 2010. Professor and Dean, College of Education, 2010-2012; Distinguished Professor, 2013-present. Faculty Senate, 2013-present; Academic Affairs Committee (ex officio), 2010-12; Faculty Affairs Committee, 2014-present; Faculty Status Committee, 2014-present. Chair, President's Commission on Campus Climate, 2013-2014. Founding member of program committee of WSU's TECH-Ed conference, 2014-present; program committee of WSU's Leo K. Bustad Human-Animal Interaction symposium, 2013; program committee of WSU's Globalization, Diversity, and Education conference, 2013-present. Editor of *Education and Culture* (peer-reviewed international academic journal) for six years. Past or current editorial board member for 16 journals and ad hoc reviewer for 15 journals or academic presses. Series editor (four books per year) Social and Cultural Foundations of Education, Palgrave Macmillan Press, 2013-present. Ten books authored or edited with three in preparation, 105 articles, essays, and book chapters (56 peer-reviewed), 79 national or international peer-reviewed presentations. Served as a faculty senator (chair of senate educational policy committee), department head (three years), and associate dean (seven years) at Purdue University. Chair of the editorial board of Purdue University Press for three years.

Candidate Statement: A vibrant faculty senate is critical to the mission of a land-grant research university. As part of its regular work, the senate acts upon curricular changes and developments in educational policy. Much of the work of the senate occurs in committee, and thus to an outside observer, the full senate meetings may seem routine and perfunctory. But in our fractured and hurried lifestyles as twenty first century academics, even these senate meetings are times to come together across disciplines, and discuss matters of importance in an open forum.

Above all, the role of the senate chair is characterized by patient listening. The senate chair must be able to listen to discussion at senate meetings and around campus, and represent faculty interests to the president and provost. I listen well and believe in the importance of dialogue across difference. In addition to listening, the senate chair must create an environment for frank and open discussion. Finally, the senate chair must have his or her particular ideas, not obdurate or calcified opinions but thoughts and initiatives open for revision, and be able to express these ideas and to lead others in productive discussion or action around topics and concerns of broad interest.

The senate chair serves in that middle role between faculty and administration. He or she is not an administrator, and must take the roles and concerns of faculty as paramount to any action or decision. In my time as dean here, I developed, and continue to have, a good working relationship with President Floyd and Provost Bernardo, and am comfortable expressing myself to them on a range of topics. The chair of the senate needs to be politic but firm in raising issues with the president and provost and in representing faculty interests to the upper administration. She or he must endeavor to represent, or at least learn about, the entire university. I have visited each of our dynamic urban campuses about 15 times since 2010 and served on the search committee that recommended the hiring of Chancellor Netzhammer at WSUV. I firmly believe in the vitality and strength of our multi-campus university, and intend to be involved in any appropriate work as senate

chair that deals with our medical campus at WSUS as well as the new and growing campus in Everett.

As a philosopher of education, issues of ethics and values occupy me in my teaching, research, and service. My experiences at Purdue as chair of three grievance panels (involving a food service worker, a faculty member, and an athletic administrator respectively) help me understand the many personnel issues that confront faculty and staff at a large land-grant research university. I am keenly aware of the importance and fragility of the research enterprise, where lack of funding as well as research misconduct can compromise the hard work and endeavors of many people. I collaborated with an associate dean of the graduate school at Purdue to offer nine presentations and workshops over four years university-wide on research ethics and the responsible conduct of research.

As chair of the President's Commission on Campus Climate, I discussed and learned what faculty, staff, and students thought about life here at WSU, principally on the Pullman campus. As our report indicates, good work on becoming more civil and respectful of others has occurred and is occurring on campus, but there is more to be done to create an inclusive, supportive, and intellectual atmosphere here. We must continue to recruit and retain outstanding women and people of color in faculty and staff positions, but we must also provide an optimal and hospitable environment for everyone. As a white heterosexual male, I am used to navigating professional environments such as a land-grant research university with only the personal and typical concerns I may have about my professional attainments and abilities. It has been eye-opening and educative for me to listen to many others here who do not experience this environment as I do.

One of the continuing needs identified by the commission was a more robust discussion about what norms define being a member of the WSU community. I shout "Go Cougs!" along with many here at athletic events and other gatherings, but what beyond that constitutes our identity as citizens of WSU? What are we modeling for our students in teaching and in our professional relationships? We do model much that is good, but we need to be more reflective and vocal about community norms. For the vitality of WSU, we should continue discussion of campus climate issues such as drug and alcohol consumption, and the resulting frequent anti-social behavior, by our undergraduates and some visitors, as well as more specifically employee related issues such as bullying in the workplace and inclusive nondiscriminatory practices and procedures.

Another important faculty issue that should be discussed by this body is the status and roles of contingent faculty. Nationwide approximately two thirds of faculty members are off the tenure track (see <http://agb.org/trusteeship/2013/5/changing-academic-workforce>). We are a bit better with a headcount in fall 2014 of 55% of all WSU faculty ineligible for tenure. Much of our undergraduate instruction is done by contingent faculty who, in spite of often excellent teaching, frequently feel overworked and underpaid in relation to tenure track faculty. I don't have a solution for this vexing national issue, but I do think the faculty senate should discuss ways to possibly improve working conditions for all in an admittedly difficult fiscal environment for higher education in our state.

Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy for senate chair-elect.