

Faculty Senate April 2026 Chair-Elect Candidate Statement
Bill Sandel, Ph.D., School of Criminology and Criminal Justice

I am honored to be nominated to serve as the Chair of the Faculty Senate. Beyond my six years serving on Faculty Senate, I have served on a number of university committees, working groups, and task forces. Most recently I have served on the Faculty Concerns Committee and chaired the Committee on Honorary Degrees. I also serve as the academic representative on a legislatively mandated task force for the State of Missouri. Just as valuable, I have a background and experience working in Biology, Music, and Criminology departments. This has provided me with a unique perspective of vastly different disciplines. I understand that different units have their own priorities and challenges, but the Faculty Senate is where we come together to unite our voices.

During this time of uncertainty in higher education, prioritizing shared governance makes us stronger. At its heart, shared governance is about relationships. The relationship between the faculty and administration and between the Senate and individual units. I will work hard to further these relationships in order to foster an environment that will benefit our students, faculty, and staff. I will do my best to advocate for you and listen to your needs. Higher education faces many challenges, but our faculty have shown time and time again that we can rise to the challenge. I hope that through mutual respect and open communication we can continue to strengthen our university. I am honored to serve the faculty.