

Peter P. Sayeski, Ph.D.

Summary Essay for President of the UF Faculty Senate

In September of 2023, the *Wall Street Journal* ranked the University of Florida (UF) as the #1 public university in the country. I agree with this ranking, and I believe a large part of our collective success is due to the nearly 5,000 faculty that are spread across our sixteen colleges and numerous institutes. Whether you are engaged in research, the development of intellectual property rights, education, service, administration, or patient care, the Faculty Senate represents you. As Chair of the Faculty Senate, I will work to provide you with as many opportunities as possible for your professional success and, to minimize your academic burdens.

Beyond the mechanics of doing our daily jobs, it is important that faculty also have a voice at the table with our Administration when it comes to the distribution of the tens of millions of dollars that are being invested in our university. Moreover, faculty should have a strong voice about how various university curricula are being modified. Lastly, UF faculty are being buffeted by winds coming from the UF Board of Trustees, the State Board of Governors, and from Tallahassee. At all these levels, I would work to clearly articulate the faculty perspective and argue for encouraging tailwinds, rather than challenging headwinds.

In closing, I wish to see our university continue its positive trajectory and I pledge that I will represent you well. As such, I kindly ask for your vote for President of the University of Florida Faculty Senate.