



August 2017

Dear Colleagues,

To those who are joining our faculty, welcome! To the rest of you, welcome back!

I hope your summer was both relaxing and productive. As Chair of the Faculty Senate, I look forward to working with faculty and Senate members, administrators, Deans, the newly appointed Provost, President Julio Frenk, and the Board of Trustees for what I expect to be a very exciting and productive year.

Senate meetings are open to all faculty members, and I encourage you to attend. The first meeting is scheduled for **3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 30, in the Faculty Club on the Gables campus**. The dates and location of Senate meetings and the list of your senators are posted on the Senate website (<https://fs.miami.edu>).

Senate actions affect nearly all aspects of your life at UM. It is a legislative body through which the faculty shares in institutional governance. The Faculty Senate must approve changes in the *Faculty Manual* and other legislation, and concur in the establishment of new departments, centers, degrees, majors, minors, tracks and programs. Through the Senate and its committees, the faculty participates in such matters as the establishment of academic policies, and provides input on the University budget, including faculty compensation. The Senate also conducts the periodic faculty evaluations of chairs, deans, and the Provost.

In addition to its legislative role, the Senate, its leadership, and its committees work to ensure that the University's rules are applied fairly and to assist individual faculty members who feel that their rights or interests are being infringed upon.

We have a listserv for all full-time faculty members and a limited number of senior administrators to share news and to discuss matters of general interest and importance to the University. I encourage you to join the more than 600 faculty members who have opted-in to our listserv by sending your email request to FacultyListAdministrator@miami.edu from your University e-mail address.

I wish you well as we begin a new year, and I hope to see you at the Senate. If you have any questions, please contact the Senate office, your Senators, any of the other Senate Officers (First Vice Chair, Linda Neider; Second Vice Chair, JoNel Newman; and Secretary of the Senate, Robyn Hardeman), or me.

Cordially,
Tomás Salerno
Chair, Faculty Senate

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