

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
FACULTY SENATE



The John Knoblock  
Faculty Senate Office

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Dear Colleagues:

As we begin a new academic year, I am delighted to welcome you back to the U. Our University has made considerable strides forward in the past few years and has an even more promising future. The pandemic challenged us and highlighted the fact that shared governance is essential to the continuing health of any strong university. As we move forward, there is an even greater need for faculty to have a collective voice at the table of governance.

Your individual role in the governance process is set forth in the *Faculty Manual*, which incorporates the *Faculty Handbook*. The *Manual* may be found on our web site: <https://fs.miami.edu/faculty-manual/index.html>. These documents set forth your rights and obligations and are a crucial part of your contract with the University.

Active engagement, your voice, and your wisdom are essential to the ongoing work of the Faculty Senate. The Senate is the legislative body through which the faculty shares in institutional governance. In this role, Senate members must approve changes to the *Faculty Manual*, enact other vital legislation, and concur in the establishment of new schools, departments, centers, institutes, programs, degrees, majors, minors and tracks. Through your Faculty Senate, and its standing committees, faculty participate in such matters as the establishment of academic policies, the standards for faculty promotion and compensation, University budgets, and the review of chairs, deans, and the Provost.

Senate committees are strongly committed to ensuring that all constituents of our community are treated with respect and dignity in an environment in which equity prevails. Thus, several Senate committees participate in the adjudication process on issues related to rank, salary, and conditions of employment; tenure decisions; and allegations of unprofessional conduct.

The faculty within each school or college elects its own senators for terms of three years. In addition to me, the current annually elected officers are Helen Bramlett (First Vice Chair, from the Miller School of Medicine and the College of Arts and Sciences) and Scotney Evans (Second Vice Chair, from the School of Education and Human Development).

Our Senate culture is one that actively embraces diversity in all its various forms, including diversity of opinions. We encourage you to attend Senate meetings, which are open to all UNIVERSITY FACULTY and to share your voice on issues that you feel are important. The dates and locations of Senate meetings and the list of elected Senators for each School or College are posted on the Senate website at <https://fs.miami.edu>. Our first meeting is Wednesday, August 31 and will be conducted through Zoom.

We also have a listserv for all full-time faculty and administrators to share news and to discuss matters of general interest and importance to the University. You can join this listserv by completing the information at the link: <https://listserv.miami.edu/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=allfaculty&A=1>.

Finally, if you have any questions or need any assistance, please contact the Senate Office at (305) 284-3721 or at [facsen@miami.edu](mailto:facsen@miami.edu). You should also feel free to e-mail me directly at [senate.chair@miami.edu](mailto:senate.chair@miami.edu).

Again, welcome to the start of a new academic year. It is an honor to be a member of the faculty at the University of Miami and to serve you in the role of Senate Chair.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "JoNel Newman".

JoNel Newman  
Chair, Faculty Senate

JN/II