

February 9, 2024

## Letter of Intent

Please accept this as my letter of intent to serve as President of The University of Alabama Faculty Senate, should that be the will of the Senate.

Over the past 22 years of service at UA, I have seen the faculty, staff, students, and campus grow to new heights and achieve many great things. I started my career in Computer Science at the UA College of Engineering and helped build the largest center on campus, the Center for Advanced Public Safety (CAPS). In 2017, I accepted an opportunity in Management Information Systems within the College of Business in conjunction with a Deputy Director role with the Institute of Data & Analytics (IDA). These opportunities have allowed me to become well-versed in the inner workings of two of the largest colleges at UA, especially in a research context. **I have been a student, staff, and now a faculty member at UA, and it is through these combined experiences that I can better understand the diverse needs of these constituents.**

I was one of the founding members of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) committee within the Culverhouse College of Business, which has now morphed into a cornerstone component of the college. The committee is responsible for the many DEI initiatives, the most notable being new college administrative DEI positions and a fundamental reengineering of faculty/staff hiring and student recruitment. We have a long way to go, but the mission is essential to working towards a more diverse and equitable environment where all can feel included.

In 2017, I also had the opportunity to become part of the UA Faculty Senate and serve as the Information Technology (IT) & Strategic Communications Committee co-chair. I have leveraged my knowledge and experience in IT to work with the Office of Information Technology and the Office of Strategic Communications to improve campus-wide security, accessibility, and overall technology features in my co-chair role. Serving three consecutive terms in the Faculty Senate and as a committee co-chair, I have had the opportunity to learn from the Faculty Senate leadership, the Provost, and others in UA administration.

In 2021 and again in 2022, I was elected Vice President of the Faculty Senate, and I was able to assist with key items such as General Education reform and paid parental leave. Since I was elected as President in 2023, a new UA childcare facility was approved by the Board of Trustees, which was the culmination of the work put in by many in the Senate. I also launched the SOI task force to examine new ways in which faculty teaching can be examined and helped advocate for a new subvention program to offset publishing costs.

If I am re-elected President, I will continue to guide the Faculty Senate under fairness and consideration for all points of view while championing causes that impact faculty and the university as a whole.

Sincerely,



Matthew Hudnall  
Faculty Senate President  
Deputy Director - Institute of Data & Analytics  
Associate Professor of Management Information Systems