

Statements are available from candidates for the following positions:

- Faculty Council Div IV
- Faculty Council Committee on Finance, Compensation and Work Related Policies
- Faculty Council Committee on Research, Service, and Faculty Development
- The Faculty Handbook Committee
- The University Strategic Planning Group

Jean Feerick

English

Nominated for Faculty Council Div IV

I have been a member of Faculty Council for the last year and a half, having come to JCU in 2013, after teaching for 10 years at an R1 institution. My field is early modern English literature, especially Shakespearean drama, but I teach broadly beyond this area of specialty and am a strong advocate for the role of the humanities in public life, having years ago worked for the National Endowment for the Humanities. As a member of Council, I've enjoyed being part of a renewed effort to think deliberately about collaborative governance at JCU in response to the HLC's mandate, as well as to work in creative and interdisciplinary ways to enhance JCU's profile both regionally and nationally. I think this can be achieved by strengthening its core identity as a liberal arts school, while also creatively shaping new programs that build on our areas of expertise. I currently serve on the Exploring the Natural World Sub-Committee, which is an indication of my commitment to fostering interdisciplinary exchanges and collaboration across the university, both between the arts and sciences but also between CAS and Boler. I'd like to continue to serve on Council so I can remain an active contributor to the changes that I see as a vital part of JCU's future success.

Cecile Brennan

Counseling & Exercise Science

Nominated for Faculty Council Committee on Finance, Faculty Compensation and Work Related Policies

Ensuring that faculty are compensated equitably and are provided a work environment that is supportive of their personal and scholarly development is crucial for an institution's viability. In times of economic uncertainty and increasing competition for resources, it is even more essential for faculty to have confidence in how issues related to compensation are being determined. A strong, engaged, collegial faculty grows naturally out of an equitable, supportive, and transparent institutional environment. The work

of this committee helps to achieve a positive work-environment. If elected to this committee, I would work towards achieving transparency and equity for faculty by examining John Carroll policies as well as policies at comparable institutions.

Paul Nietupski

Theology and Religious Studies

Nominated for Faculty Council Committee on Research, Service, and Faculty Development

Paul Nietupski seeks to include his research projects into JCU classrooms. His ongoing research fields include social, political, and religious perspectives on communities in northeastern Tibet, and on texts and topics in medieval Indian Buddhism. He teaches a "Team Taught" course on the Silk Road from TRS and AH perspectives. Next year he will also teach courses on the phenomena of pilgrimage in world religions.

Roy Day

Physics

Nominated for the Faculty Handbook Committee

The importance of the Faculty Handbook cannot be overstated. It is the faculty contract, enumerates faculty rights and responsibilities, and contains the university's commitment to academic freedom. The strength of the handbook does not lie in the text of the document but rather in the way it is respected by both the faculty and the administration. I am concerned that in this sense our handbook is weak. Many faculty have mixed feelings about the handbook because it often appears to obstruct meaningful and needed change. The administration has taken advantage of this and violated the handbook without consequence. If I am elected to the handbook committee I will work to try and achieve handbook that will unite the faculty. I believe that the administration will be much more respectful of a handbook that has overwhelming faculty support.

I have extensive experience working with the handbook and studied it in detail. I believe I know its strengths and its weaknesses. As chair of the Rank, Tenure and Promotion Committee I led an attempt to pass a handbook amendment. As RTP chair I vigorously protested administration actions that were clear violations of the handbook. I have participated in an AAUP workshop on faculty handbooks and discussed handbook issues with colleagues from other institutions. I believe I would bring a valuable perspective to the handbook committee.

Cecile Brennan
Counseling & Exercise Science
Nominated for University Strategic Planning Group

Higher education in the United States is at a pivotal point. As costs continue to rise and the available pool of traditional-age students decreases, universities are being forced to examine how they allocate their resources and how they fit into the educational environment—especially their immediate environment. In the Cleveland area there are numerous small colleges and universities, as well as large state-supported universities, competing for students. On the east-side of Cleveland alone there are three small Catholic colleges. If John Carroll University is to survive in this extremely competitive environment much more attention must be given to identifying programs, both undergraduate and graduate, that fit with the University's mission, draw on our strengths and fill an authentic educational need. In addition, creative ways to collaborate with other institutions in our area must be sought out.

In order to accomplish these goals, our thinking needs to expand beyond traditional approaches, and our actions cannot be constrained by structures and hierarchies that may have been useful in the past, but now act as constraints on our flexibility and ability to respond quickly in a rapidly changing environment. Being a member of the University Strategic Planning Group would afford me the opportunity to address these challenges both collaboratively and in a proactive manner.