

Collette Niland Candidate Statement

University Senate seat

Before we get into who I am, I want to chat about the challenges I am impassioned about that institutions of higher education are facing and about my hopes for the kind of university we want to be as the University of Oregon. We need to be more nimble, more innovative, more inclusive, more collegial, more communicative and more transparent. We need to work together to reimagine the institution to become a better place to work and to prosper, and that means better for faculty, better for OAs, better for classified staff and better for student employees.

We are operating in unprecedented times and under increasing scarcity and this, sometimes, leads us to pit groups against each other rather than finding common ground and ideating together to find solutions. I have spent my career designing transformative experiences for students and creating office cultures where teams know they are valued. Designing structures that empower, support and effectively resource units to accomplish our critically important educational mission takes a lot of voices and I am always looking for opportunities to contribute to that conversation.

My name is Collette Niland and I am currently the Associate Dean for Academic Advising and Students Experience at the Lundquist College of Business. I have a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and have spent over 30 years in higher education, including the last ten years at the University of Oregon. I am also a graduate of the University's Leadership Academy and use the skills I learned there on a daily basis! As it is for so many people I work with here, what I do is a calling and as such I am deeply devoted to ensuring the university is a healthy and vibrant place for all the members of its community.