

Jeff Staiger, UO Libraries

The whole of my working career has been in education. I have been at the UO for 14 years, beginning as the librarian for Romance Languages and then adding Classics, English, and Philosophy to my profile. Before that I was on the academic teaching path. I am also a scholar and writer and, always still, a student. I thus naturally tend to see issues in the educational world from the perspectives of the full array of its constituencies. My rich and varied academic background has served me well in my capacity as a subject liaison, and it would allow me to bring an informed perspective to my work in the university senate.

If elected, I would be a staunch advocate for the library, as I was when I served on the Faculty Advisory Council from 2016-2018. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to the work of the wider academic community to issues such as support for collections, open access, and library instruction, which, while they may seem to be the particular concern of the library, are really fundamental concerns of everyone engaged in promoting the university's ends.

As a professional with a longstanding engagement with the humanities, I also place special emphasis on the central role of the humanities in higher education at a time when it can seem they are becoming marginalized. The case for the value of the humanities needs to be articulated in fresh, thoughtful ways that can invigorate the institutional conversation about the university's core mission. I believe it is crucial that the standpoint of the library be represented in that conversation.