

Michael Holmes
Employee Resource and Culture Specialist
University Advancement

I'm an organizational communication professional now working as HR support staff in University Advancement. This is my second academic career; I was a faculty member for 25 years before a period of semi-retirement. I couldn't be happier than in my current role supporting the people who build and maintain UO's relationships with donors. My most relevant strengths are 1) understanding the university from multiple stakeholders' perspectives, 2) communicating effectively both in routine interactions and in intense conflict.

I've lost count of the number of university committees and task forces on which I've served. As a student, faculty member, and staff member my experience spans small (1200-student) to large (50k+ student) public universities. As an undergraduate I led statewide and national student organizations; as a faculty leader I've been a department chair, interim dean, and research center director; as a researcher I've designed and completed multi-million-dollar projects for media industry clients. As a staff member I'm active in my unit's social committee and diversity, inclusion, and belonging efforts. I'm particularly interested in how universities recruit and serve the needs of staff with visual and hearing impairments and those who are neurodivergent (e.g., ADHD and autism spectrum).