

**United Faculty of Florida, UCF Chapter
Statements from 2015-16 Candidates for Vice-President**

Note that these statements are written by the candidates themselves and provided to the Nominations Committee. They have not been edited in any way. Candidates are listed in alphabetical order by family name.

Statement from Paul Leader (COS).

I believe that my particular experiences, with legal studies and coaching debate, would be valuable in the VP position. In particular, both bargaining and grievance essentially involve statutory interpretation (our bargaining agreement is essentially a long statute); and the application of those rules to particular factual situation. This type of work very much mirrors the activities of legal scholars--and the same can be said for debate coaching as well. Two issues that I would try to highlight: our new push for family-friendly policies (as it seems the time might be ripe with admin. for this issue), and the faculty freedom of expression issue--which seems to be an item of concern on the national level right now. Finally, as a communication scholar one of my teaching areas is professional and business communication. As a result, I think I would be an asset in terms of general planning, strategy, and execution for UFF-UCF's communication and outreach efforts.

Statement from Lee Ross (COHPA).

I have been an associate professor in the Department of Criminal Justice (since 2003) and have taught and conducted research since 1991. My interest in running for VP of UFF-UCF is to assume a more active leadership role in representing and protecting the interest of UCF faculty. As part of my responsibilities I seek to assist the president in the functions of the office while assuming major projects of the chapter. If elected, I promise to stay informed of union activities while advising various committees, including those related to membership, bargaining, and grievances. To that end, I would greatly appreciate your consideration and support.

Statement from Charlotte Trinquet (CAH).

My name is Charlotte Trinquet du Lys, I have been at UCF since 2005 and am an associate professor in the modern languages department, despite the fact that the administration did everything in their power to fire me in 2012. Thanks to our union, we grieved, arbitrated, and won! I am a first generation higher education graduate and hold an MS from France in Public Relations, an MA and a Ph.D from UNC-Chapel Hill in Romance Languages. I also have owned my company in Professional Organization since 2003.

Unity is strength, and strength is power. My vision is to break the walls around us, in our colleges, departments, offices, and build a strong and empowered inter- and multi-disciplinary community of scholars and educators. Without us, there are no students, and therefore no university. We are not replaceable as a community, unless we allow UCF to see us as individuals and keep us divided. Let's

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always remember that our place is at the top, and the admin is here to serve us, not the other way around. Together, we can bring education and scholarship back into our control.

I have no fear, and my mission is to help our union president, our active members, our community, and to have my voice serve us all.

Statement from Keri Watson (CAH).

A newly hired Assistant Professor of Art History in the School of Visual Arts & Design, Keri received her Ph.D. from Florida State University in 2010 and taught previously at Ithaca College, Auburn University at Montgomery, and the Savannah College of Art and Design-Atlanta.

Since joining UFF, Keri has joined the Membership and Communications committees as well as the Family Life Focus group. She looks forward to continuing work to help grow UFF's membership and to expand opportunities for influence and service on campus.

Keri's past community service experience includes working on the advisory boards of the Museum of the Earth in Ithaca, New York, the F. Scott Fitzgerald Museum in Montgomery, Alabama, the Alabama Council on the Arts, the Miccosukee Youth Foundation, and the Alabama Prison Arts + Education Project.

She is excited by the opportunity to serve UFF and would be honored to represent her colleagues' interests.