

John R. Bender

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Addresses

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Personal Information

Born Sept. 25, 1948; married; one child.

Work Experience: Academic

September 2009-Present: professor of news-editorial, College of Journalism and Mass Communications, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Promoted to full professor in the spring of 2009, effective October 1, 2009. In January 2019, I was named to the William H. Kearns Chair in journalism. I teach undergraduate courses in basic and advanced reporting, communications law, history of the mass media; graduate seminars in media law, media history, mass media and government, government controls of information, and social controls of information; and undergraduate honors seminars in freedom of expression and movies, media and ethics.

July 1997 - September 2009: Associate professor of news-editorial, College of Journalism and Mass Communications, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Awarded tenure and appointed a full member of the graduate faculty in July 1997, teaching basic and advanced reporting, communications law, history of the mass media. Also served as executive director of the Nebraska High School Press Association.

August 1990 - July 1997: Assistant professor of news-editorial, College of Journalism, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Effective fall 1991, I became an associate member of the graduate faculty. I teach courses in basic news writing, history of the mass media, communications law, and social controls of information.

June 1986 - August 1990: Assistant instructor and graduate teaching assistant. I taught the

graduate-level Controls of Information courses for the 1989-1990 academic year. Before that, I was Dr. Paul Fisher's teaching assistant for the Controls courses. I also scanned publications for the Freedom of Information Center and wrote the FOI Notebook section of the IRE Journal. I was internship coordinator for 1986 through 1988, and I planned and put into effect the program MU used to evaluate interns, their preparation, and their work experiences. In addition, I taught a section of basic reporting in the fall 1986 semester.

January 1981 - May 1986: Assistant professor of journalism, Culver-Stockton College, Canton, Mo. 63435. I was the only full-time journalism teacher at Culver-Stockton, a liberal arts college with an enrollment of 800 and 20 to 25 journalism majors. I taught mass communications, reporting, advanced reporting, feature writing, copy editing, advanced copy editing, communications law, and senior seminar classes. I also taught one section of freshman English composition each semester, supervised the students who took journalism internships, advised the student newspaper, and served on faculty committees.

Work Experience: Newspaper

June-July 2000: Copy editor at the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. I obtained this position as a fellow in the ASNE Excellence in Journalism program for 2000. I worked on the night copy desk of the Journal Sentinel for six weeks, editing stories and writing headlines.

November 1977 - September 1980: Managing editor of The Morning Sun, 701 N. Locust, Pittsburg, Kan. 66762. The Morning Sun is a seven-day-a-week paper with a circulation of about 13,000. I supervised a staff of 13 full-time and several part-time employees. While I was managing editor, The Morning Sun received a first-place award for farm coverage, a second-place award and an honorable mention for news coverage, a second-place award for editorials, and an honorable mention for photography in the 1980, 1979, and 1978 Kansas Better Newspaper Contests. As well as supervising the news staff, I wrote editorials and edited the editorial page, prepared the newsroom's annual budget proposal and capital-expenditure requests, and conducted periodic reviews of employee performance. All copy at The Morning Sun was handled through a computer system. I devised and refined techniques for handling copy electronically, wrote formats for the phototypesetter and VDTs, and repaired and maintained the equipment.

November 1976 - November 1977: News editor of The Morning Sun. I edited copy, wrote headlines, laid out all news pages, and supervised the assistant news editor and the police-beat reporter.

September 1976 - November 1976: Assignment editor for The Morning Sun. I made assignments for the reporters and photographers, edited all local copy, selected the local stories for page-one play, and coordinated the day and night operations. I also wrote one feature a week.

September 1975 - September 1976: Assistant news editor for The Morning Sun. I assisted the news editor three nights a week and I was in charge of the news desk on the news editor's nights off.

May 1974 - September 1975: County reporter for The Morning Sun. I covered Crawford County government, a number of small towns and school districts, several public and private agencies, and local election campaigns.

Education

Bachelor of arts degree in sociology, Westminster College, Fulton, Mo., 1970. Class rank: 15th out of 95.

Master of science degree in journalism, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kan., 1977. Graduate g.p.a.: 3.75. My master's thesis was on the National Review's coverage of the 1960 presidential election.

Doctor of philosophy degree in journalism, University of Missouri-Columbia, 1991. Graduate g.p.a.: 4.0. My dissertation describes the development of professionalism in journalism and how it affected the coverage of crime news.

Languages

I fulfilled the language requirement for the Ph.D. degree by passing the examinations for fluency in Spanish in May 1988. I also have studied French, German and classical Greek.

Honors

- Omaha Press Club Foundation, 2019 Journalism Educator of Distinction, April 26, 2019.
- William H. Kearns Chair in Journalism. I was appointed to this professorship in January 2019.
- Common Cause Nebraska, By the People Award, September 2014, an award for representing the UNL Faculty Senate to speak in opposition to a proposal before the Nebraska Legislature to limit the availability to the public of information about finalists for the position of university president.
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln, James A. Lake Academic Freedom Award, April 2011.
- Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications, Law and Policy Division, Third Place Award for "Using Literary Works to Teach Mass Media Law," an idea for teaching media law, August 2009.
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College Distinguished Teaching Award, April 2007.
- Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska, Academic Freedom Award, November 2000.
- Nebraska High School Press Association, R. Neale Cople Friend of Journalism Award,

May 1996.

- University of Missouri-Columbia, Superior Graduate Achievement Award, 1990.
- University of Missouri-Columbia, F.G. Babcock Scholarship, 1986-87
- University of Missouri-Columbia, Frank L. Martin Scholarships, 1987-88 and 1989-90.
- University of Missouri-Columbia, Certificates of Merit as an outstanding graduate student teacher in 1987, 1989, and 1990.
- University of Kansas, Kappa Tau Alpha journalism honor society, April 1971.
- Westminster College, Solon E. Summerfield Scholarship from Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, 1969.
- Westminster College, Phi Alpha Theta international honor society in history, 1969.

Publications and Presentations

Refereed Presentations or Publications

"The Greatest First Amendment Victory Harry A. Blackmun Ever Lost: How the U.S. Supreme Court Decided *Gannett Co. Inc. V. Depasquale*," August 2009. A paper presented to the Law and Policy Division of Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications, Aug. 7, 2009, Boston, Mass.

"The Emergence and Characteristics of Journalists' Culture: 1880-1940," March 2008. A paper co-authored with Lucinda Davenport, Michael Drager and Fred Fedler presented to the History Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, Aug. 9, 2008, Chicago, Ill.

"Public Journalism's Incubator: Identifying Preconditions for Support," Oct. 11, 1998. A paper presented to Public Journalism: A Critical Forum, Second Annual Conference for the Center for Mass Communications Research, Oct. 11-13, 1998, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.

"Of Jellyfish and Community Leaders: Redefining the Public Figure in Libel Litigation," March 28, 1997. A paper presented to the Law Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, July 30, 1997, Chicago, Ill.

"Solid-Gold Photocopies: A Review of Fees for Copies of Public Records Established under State Open Records Laws," *29 Urban Lawyer* 81 (Winter 1997).

"The Public Figure Libel Plaintiff in Smaller Communities: Deciding Who Is the Big Fish in the Small Pond," a paper presented to the National Newspaper Association convention in Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 25, 1996.

"Occupational Role Models in Three Popular Women's Magazines from 1955 to 1987," a paper

co-written with Judith A. Shutts which was presented to the Popular Culture Association regional convention in Sioux City, Iowa, Oct. 14, 1995.

"Solid-Gold Photocopies: A Review of Fees for Copies of Public Records Established under State Open Records Laws," a paper presented to the Law Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, August 1994, Atlanta, Ga.

"Telling Their Own Stories: How Journalists Defined Themselves, 1890-1950," paper presented to Panel on Journalism and Media Culture of the American Culture Association, April 1994.

Other Presentations or Publications

"Local View: Panic and the Pandemic," Lincoln Journal Star, June 30, 2020. An op-ed piece on the recklessness of Trump administration officials who are downplaying the need to wear masks during the COVID-19 pandemic.

https://journalstar.com/opinion/columnists/local-view-panic-and-the-pandemic/article_a9876e97-b29a-5fc2-aa13-39b68e0bf480.html

"Justice Clarence Thomas attacks the First Amendment," Omaha World-Herald, March 3, 2019, p. 9B. An op-ed piece responding to a concurring opinion by Justice Thomas that suggested the Supreme Court should reconsider the actual malice rule from New York Times v. Sullivan.

Law for Media Professionals, Great River Publishing Co. I am sole author of this electronic textbook on mass media law for undergraduate journalism majors. The first edition of this book will be released in January 2019. I have plans to expand the textbook for subsequent semesters.

Writing and Reporting for the Media, 12th edition, Oxford University Press, published in the fall 2018. I am lead author for this textbook for college-level reporting and writing classes. It is one of the top three selling news reporting and writing textbooks in the country.

Confronting Hate, Considering Compassion, Oral Presentation, Confronting Hate, Considering Compassion, Abendmusik and Lied Center for Performing Arts, UNL City Campus Union, February 19, 2018. I was the moderator for this panel discussion.

"Local View: Two First Amendments at UNL?" Lincoln Journal Star, November 28, 2017, an op-ed column responding to the administration's removal of Courtney Lawton from her teaching appointment.

The Press and the First Amendment Today, a lecture I delivered to the Lincoln-Lancaster County

League of Women Voters meeting at The Graduate Hotel, November 2, 2017

“Secrecy has no role in executions,” Omaha World-Herald, December 19, 2016. An op-ed I wrote at the urging of Amy Miller, legal director of the ACLU-Nebraska, opposing legislation that would restrict the amount of information available about the procedures used in carrying out executions in Nebraska.

The Media and the Presidential Elections, April 11, 2017, a panel discussion of the role of the media in the 2016 presidential elections, sponsored by the Jeffrey S. Raikes School of Computer Science and Management.

40th Anniversary of Nebraska Press Association v. Stuart Decision, April 14, 2016. I joined several others in a discussion of the NPA v. Stuart case and the Supreme Court decision and its implications for press freedom generally and for coverage of criminal proceedings in particular.

“Through a Lens Darkly: Gordon Parks and *The Learning Tree*,” Nov. 8, 2015. A viewing and discussion, led by me, of the film "The Learning Tree" by Gordon Parks, African-American author, photography, and filmmaker.

Nebraska Rural Electric Association, Legal Affairs Seminar: Open Meetings and Open Records, Sept. 16, 2015. Presentation to executives of rural electric cooperatives in Nebraska on purpose, value and extent of Nebraska's open meetings and open records laws.

“What We Knew Then,” Lincoln Journal Star, May 19, 2015, pg. XX. An op-ed piece about the evidence that was available in 2003 showing that Iraq did not possess and was not developing weapons of mass destruction prior to the U.S. invasion.

http://journalstar.com/news/opinion/editorial/columnists/local-view-what-we-knew-then/article_b633ca82-d769-52f5-8b68-08705be60a8a.html

Panel member, Shadows of Liberty, Unitarian Church, May 21, 2014. A discussion of the movie Shadows of Liberty moderated by Amy Miller, legal director of ACLU-Nebraska, and Debra Brown, U.S. outreach coordinator for the movie, which explores how mainstream media have failed to inform readers and viewers about the conduct of government and big business.

Writing and Reporting for the Media, 11th edition, Oxford University Press, to be published November 2014. I am lead author for this textbook for college-level reporting and writing classes. It is one of the top three selling news reporting and writing textbooks in the country. The 11th edition represents a substantial revision of the earlier works both in terms of the material presented and the manner in which it will be presented. As lead author, I am responsible for writing six chapters, editing the copy of my two co-authors and preparing the instructors manual

and other ancillary materials.

“Privacy Law Basics,” Editors Workshop, Nebraska Rural Electric Association, March 11, 2014. A presentation to writers and editors of newsletters for NREA affiliates.

“Intellectual Property Issues Relating to News Stories Created and Published by Journalism Students For Academic Credit,” May 2012. This was my contribution to a report to the Federal Communications Commission on the contributions post-secondary journalism program can make to fulfilling the information needs of communities. The full report was prepared by Dr. Mary Kay Quinlan in collaboration with researchers at the University of Texas-Austin.

“Copyright Issues,” Editors Workshop, Nebraska Rural Electric Association, April 4, 2012. A presentation to writers and editors of newsletters for NREA affiliates.

“An Assessment of Selected VOA Amharic Programs,” a report prepared for The Office of Performance Review, U.S. International Broadcasting Bureau (Voice of America), Washington D.C., August 22, 2011. At the invitation of the VOA, I reviewed more than 60 Amharic language broadcasts (translated into English) for professionalism, thoroughness and balance and prepared a written report for the VOA Board of Governors.

Reporting for the Media, 10th edition, copyright 2012, published in 2011, Oxford University Press. I am the lead author of the latest edition of this textbook, one of the best selling reporting textbooks in the country. I wrote six chapters and edited the work of my two co-authors, selected art for the entire book and coordinated all of our work with the publisher in order to meet publication deadlines. I also wrote the instructor’s manual that accompanies the book.

“Heed Jefferson’s warning and safeguard free inquiry,” Omaha World-Herald, May 20, 2011, p. B7. An op-ed piece based on my acceptance speech for the James A. Lake Academic Freedom Award.

“Briefing on Libel and Copyright,” Editors Workshop, Nebraska Rural Electric Association, March 23, 2011. Presentation to editors and writers for newsletters for NREA affiliates.

“Copyright Basics,” May 2009, an invited presentation to the staff and management of News Link, 1845 S. 11th St., Lincoln, Neb. 68502-2211, a company that produces news letters and corporate magazines for a variety of clients nationally.

Moderator for “Censorship, Media and the Creation of History,” a panel discussion with Mickey Huff, of Sonoma State University in California, a Love Library Visiting Scholar, April 14, 2009.

Reporting for the Media, 9th edition, copyright 2009, published in 2008, Oxford University Press. I continued as lead author.

Panelist for a discussion of the movie “Secrecy,” along with Laurie Thomas Lee and Alan Peterson, sponsored by the ACLU-Nebraska, Nov. 16, 2008, Lincoln, Neb.

Panelist for a discussion of *Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier*, along with Peggy Adair, Mark Karpf and Alan Peterson, at the annual conference of the Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska, Nov. 15, 2008, Lincoln, Neb.

“Racist tone hurting country, not Obama,” Lincoln Journal Star, May 18, 2008, p. 3H. An op-ed piece on the racist tone of some opposed to the presidential candidacy of Barack Obama.

“Free speech embraced by conservatives, liberals alike,” Lincoln Journal Star, April 12, 2007, p. 5B. An op-ed piece on the First Amendment written for publication in conjunction with Journalism Week activities.

“Nebraska case guaranteed our right to information” Lincoln Journal Star, June 30, 1976, p. 9B. An op-ed piece reviewing the background, meaning and impact of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in the *Nebraska Press Association v. Stuart* case.

Reporting for the Media, 8th edition, 2005, Oxford University Press. I continued as lead author for the first edition published for Oxford.

“Primer on Communications Law,” Helps and Handouts from the Washington, D.C., Teach-In: A Workshop for High School Journalism Teachers, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications, August 4, 2001.

Reporting for the Media, 7th edition, 2001, Harcourt College Publishers. This was the first edition for which I was lead author.

Review of The First Amendment by Daniel A. Farber in Journalism & Mass Communications Educator 53/4 Winter 1999, 97-8.

“Sensible Solution to Library Access,” Omaha World-Herald, Dec. 9, 1998, p. 15. Op-ed piece responding to a column by Linda Chavez condemning a court decision on the use of blocking software by a public library.

"We have met the enemy and they could be us," Alumni News (UNL College of Journalism and Mass Communications), Winter 1998, pp. 15-16. A discussion of the implications of the the coverage of Princess Diana and her death for media law and ethics.

Review of Press and Speech Freedoms in America, 1619-1995: A Chronology by Louis Edward Ingelhart, in Journalism & Mass Communications Educator 52/3 Autumn 1997, 82-3.

Review of The Newspaper Publishing Industry by Robert G. Picard and Jeffrey H. Brody in Journalism & Mass Communications Educator 52/2 Summer 1997, 62-3.

Reporting for the Media 6th ed., 1996, Harcourt Brace. I am one of three co-authors with Fred Fedler, who started this textbook for beginning news reporting students in the 1970s. Fedler is retiring from this book, and starting with the seventh edition, I will become the lead author.

"Defining the Public Figure Libel Plaintiff," a presentation to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln conference on "Religion, Politics, and Civic Virtue" Oct. 19, 1996.

"Nebraska: Accessing Public Records," APME News, September-October 1994, pp. 43-44. A report on the Nebraska Public Records Law and how journalists can use it to obtain information.

"Fairness: A Report on the Town Meeting in Omaha, Neb." Report of a panel discussion over the Associated Press Managing Editor's proposed Declaration of Ethics. May 1994.

"Open records?" Nebraska Newspaper, February/March 1994, pp. 6-8. Report of a survey of Nebraska officials on what records they consider public under Nebraska law. Co-written with Richard Streckfuss.

"Nebraska FOI," a summary of Nebraska Public Meetings and Public Records laws for the 1994 Freedom of Information Committee Report to the Associated Press Managing Editors.

"Too many secrets burdensome," Lincoln Star, June 22, 1993, p. 8.

Testimony before Education Committee of Nebraska Senate on behalf of Nebraska High School Press Association in support of L.B. 1166, February 22, 1994.

"Some Loopholes in Nebraska's Open Meetings and Open Records Laws," presentation to Nebraska Pro Chapter of SPJ, March 20, 1993, in Grand Island.

"NBC News damaged itself, all journalism," Lincoln Star, Feb. 22, 1993, p. 6.

"Liability for PEG Access Channels," presentation to New Jersey State League of Municipalities Annual Convention, Atlantic City, N.J., November 1991.

"Access to Campus Crime Records," participant in a panel discussion at the regional conference of student chapters of the Society of Professional Journalists, April 1991, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"The Question of Obscenity," Americana Annual 1991. Review of various issues in the controversy in 1989 and 1990 about obscenity and the arts.

Access to Government Information in Computers. In The Reporter's Handbook: An Investigator's Guide to Documents and Techniques, edited by John Ullmann and Jan Colburn, 2nd ed. St. Martin's Press, 1990. An updated version of the article on "Computer Records" that appeared in the Fall 1987 IRE Journal.

Access to Public Information: A Resource Guide to Government in Columbia and Boone County, Missouri, Freedom of Information Center, 1984, 1990. I edited the 1990 revision of the original 1984 work, which describes the records kept by local government agencies and their availability to the public.

"FOI still a balancing act," Associated Press Managing Editors Freedom of Information Report - 1990, October 1990. Written with Mark Goodman. A report to the Freedom of Information Committee of the APME surveying developments in access to state and federal records and meetings and court proceedings and records.

"Excuses, Excuses," IRE Journal, Fall 1989, pp. 14-15. A review of some of the ways public officials try to avoid the requirements of state access laws.

"Access versus right to privacy," Associated Press Managing Editors Freedom of Information Report - 1989, October 1989. A report to the Freedom of Information Committee of the Associated Press Managing Editors, discussing 1988-89 developments in state open meetings and records laws, the federal Freedom of Information Act, and access to court proceedings and records.

"Pressures increasing to close death records," IRE Journal, Spring 1989, pp. 20-21. Review of

recent legislation and litigation closing death certificates and autopsy reports in some jurisdictions.

"The longest espionage case," IRE Journal, Fall 1988, pp. 25-26. A review and analysis of the federal prosecution of Samuel Loring Morison, who leaked classified information to a defense publication.

"How states compare." State Government News, October 1988, pp. 10-11. An overview of the different approaches some states have taken to public access to government meetings and records, written at the request of State Government News.

"Hotlines." IRE Journal, Summer 1988, pp. 15-18. A brief description of what FOI and First Amendment hotlines do and a state-by-state summary of the hotlines that are in operation.

"Libel and Privacy: Spotting the Danger Signals and Protecting Everyone's Rights." Lecture to Missouri Press Association Reporters' Workshop, June 18, 1988, University of Missouri-Columbia. A practical survey of libel and privacy law for beginning reporters.

"Is high school journalism dead?" IRE Journal, Winter 1988, pp. 18-19. A review of the Supreme Court's decision in *Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier* and of editorial reaction to the decision.

"Computer Records." IRE Journal, Fall 1987, pp. 12-16. The status of computer records under existing state open records laws and some of the issues raised by access to such records.

"Regulating Newsracks." presstime, October 1987, pp. 32-3. An analysis of court rulings on local ordinances restricting newsracks written before the Supreme Court decided the Plain Dealer case.

"Open records laws in Texas: playing tricks on reporters," IRE Journal, Summer 1987, pp. 19-20. An analysis of a Texas attorney general's ruling in an open records case as an example of how records that might appear to be public can be kept secret.

"Legal cloud looms over excerpting copyrighted film." IRE Journal, Spring 1987, pp. 19-21. A look at how copyright law was used in one instance to try to suppress criticism of the Strategic Defense Initiative.

"Public official goes to jail for violating open meetings law," IRE Journal, Winter 1987, pp. 22-23. A news report and analysis of a rare case in which a public official was criminally punished for violating an open meetings law.

"First Amendment Law and Philosophy." Lecture to a group of visiting journalists from Latin

America and the Middle East, July 24, 1986, University of Missouri-Columbia. An introduction to the First Amendment for journalists from other cultures.

"Press was ally of colonists in the Revolutionary War era." Quincy (Ill.) Herald-Whig, Dec. 16, 1985, pp. 6C-7C. An essay on the history of the First Amendment written at the request of the Herald-Whig.

"No disloyalty in criticizing U.S. foreign policy." Quincy (Ill.) Herald-Whig, Oct. 13, 1985, p. 4. An op-ed piece submitted in response to a column appearing earlier in the Herald-Whig.

Consulting Work

I assisted high school journalism teachers in proposing the Student Freedom of Expression bill that was introduced in the Nebraska Senate in the 1994 session. I helped draft the bill, solicited support from other organizations, and testified in support of the bill at a hearing before the Senate Education Committee. The bill was not passed out of the committee. A similar measure was reintroduced in the 1995 session of the Legislature. I coordinated the presentation of testimony in behalf of the bill at a hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee. I also receive telephone calls from journalists and citizens around Nebraska who have questions about the state's Public Meetings and Public Records Laws or about media law issues generally.

Military Service

I enlisted in the Army Reserve in 1970 and was discharged honorably in 1976 with the rank of specialist five.

Memberships and Activities

Present Memberships and Activities

Society of Professional Journalists: Nebraska Professional Chapter delegate to 1991 annual convention; vice-president for 1993-94; president-elect for 1994-95; president for 1995-96; and member of board of directors of Nebraska Professional Chapter, Nebraska Project Sunshine Chairman, co-advisor to UNL Student Chapter, and Region 7 freedom of information director. Member of the Associate Press Managing Editors Freedom of Information Committee, 1991-92 and 1993-94

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (member of the law and history divisions).

Manuscript reviewer for Communications Law and Policy.
Investigative Reporters and Editors.
Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.
League of Women Voters.

Past Memberships and Activities

Editorial board of the Southwestern Journal of Mass Communication; American Association of University Professors; Phi Kappa Psi; SEKAN Comprehensive Mental Health Services board of directors, 1974-75; Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce board of directors, 1977-78; Pittsburg YMCA board of directors, 1979-80; Crawford County Mental Health Center board of directors, 1979-80.

College and University Service

Search Committee—Journalism Dean

Appointed by EVC Richard Moberly to be a member of the fall 2019 search committee for finding a new dean for the College of Journalism and Mass Communications.

Search Committee—Journalism Faculty

Appointed by Dean Amy Struthers to be a member of the fall 2019 search committee for hiring two new tenure-track faculty in the Broadcasting/Journalism sequence.

Academic Planning Committee

Elected member of the APC, 2017-2020; vice-chair, 2017-2018; chair, 2018-2019.
Elected member of the APC, 2007-2010; vice-chair, 2008-2009; chair 2009-2010.
Appointed Faculty Senate Representative to APC, 2010-2011.

Academic Rights and Responsibilities Committee

Elected member of the ARRC, 2011-2014; chair, 2013-2014.
Elected member of the ARRC, 1998-2002; chair, 2001-2002.
Member ad hoc committee to revise ARRC procedures, 2001-2004.

Faculty/Academic Senate

Elected member of the Faculty Senate, 2010-2016.
Elected member of Faculty Senate Executive Committee, 2012-2015.
Elected President of UNL Faculty Senate, 2015-16 (president-elect, 2014-15, past-president, 2016-17).
Elected member of the Academic Senate, 1993-2007

Elected member of the Academic Senate Executive Committee, 1998-2001

Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska

Representative of UNL Academic Senate to AFCON, 1994-1997; president of AFCON, 1996-1997.

Representative of UNL Faculty Senate to AFCON, 2016-present; president-elect of AFCON 2019; president in 2020.

University Curriculum Committee

Representative of the Academic Senate to the University Commencement Committee, 1997-1998. Elected to three-year term as College of Journalism and Mass Communications representative to the University Curriculum Committee, 1996-1999.

Student Publications Board

Member, 1994-1996.

University Convocations Committee

Member, 1993-1997, chair, 1995-1997.

University Marshals Corps

College of Journalism and Mass Communications representative, 1993-present.

College Committees

Member at various times of Executive Committee, Graduate Policies and Procedures Committee, Curriculum Committee, Library Committee, Grade Appeals and Graduation with Distinction Committee, and various search committees and ad hoc committees.

Hobbies

Walking, weightlifting, cooking and baking, and photography.