

Dr. Flint W. Harrelson is currently an Associate Professor of Animal Science within the Department of Agricultural Sciences as well as a Professional Animal Scientist. He received his Ph.D in Ruminant Nutrition from New Mexico State University in 2011 and was hired at Morehead State University in August 2012 as an instructor. In January 2014, he transitioned to an Assistant Professor and was tenured to Associate Professor in August 2019. Since starting at MSU, he has taught 13 different courses, conducted multiple applied research projects involving undergraduates, published 2 journal articles, received 2 external grants, and has actively served as a representative of the University in various community and professional settings. In addition, he has served on a variety of departmental, college, and university committees.

Some highlights of Dr. Harrelson's service and leadership opportunities with application to serving as Faculty Regent are listed below.

- Currently serves on the KY Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) Faculty Network
 - * This is the first ever board with faculty representing all public 4-year institutions and multiple KCTCS campuses with the purpose of guiding the CPE president on current issues happening on campuses across the Commonwealth. Only 1 faculty member per institution currently serves.
- 2019 Bluegrass Higher Education Consortium Academic Leadership Academy Fellow
 - * Worked with MSU colleagues on a Diversity Day program executed in Fall 2019, as well as presented about the event to other Fellow's from across the state. Also attended workshops regarding Accreditation and Budgets during the program.
- Served on the Provost Screening Committee in Fall 2017 & Spring 2018
- Served on Student Success sub-group of MSU Strategic Planning Committee – Fall 2017
- Have served for last 4 years on University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, including vice chair in 2017- 2018
- Serve on the advisory board for the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association
- Serve as an abstract reviewer for regional, national and international animal science meetings
- Served as a judge for graduate poster competition at an international animal science meeting

Why do I want to serve as Faculty Regent?

Though a relatively new faculty member, I believe that the Faculty Regent is a critical component to the Board of Regents, along with the entire campus community as they are the face of faculty to the Board. Personally, I believe that this individual must be able to communicate with the fellow Regents how the academic affairs of the University are being completed and must do this in a way which is relatable to those outside the academic landscape. It is my belief that my background and experiences have prepared me for this opportunity.

During my tenure at Morehead State University, I have seen how a change in both Regents and University Presidents have impacted the entire campus community. When I first started there was always discussions of how difficult the financial situation was, but no real numbers were shared with the campus as a whole. More recently, the budget situation has not gotten any better, but there has been more transparency and sharing of information with the campus community, which I believe benefits all of us. Though I have seen this improvement in transparency, I still see opportunities to expand upon it through not only the budgetary aspects but many other fronts as well.

I would like the opportunity to serve as the Faculty Regent in order to further communicate to the Board and the external constituents what it is that the faculty do on a day-to-day basis and be able to provide clarity as to how we serve our students. Generally speaking, the external Regents are mostly business-focused individuals with relatively little experience as to what faculty do besides teaching a few classes a semester. Helping to expand this knowledge is critical to assist them in understanding how faculty issues are generally not due to employees just being “complainers”.

To me, the Faculty Regent should be one of the main figures on campus working toward true shared governance, along with the upper administration and rest of the Board. One potential drawback to my experience is that I have not served on Faculty Senate. Though I also see this as a potential advantage in that up to this point, I have not been directly involved in the shared governance of the University. This allows me to view issues from a fresh perspective since I have not been directly involved in them previously. I also feel that through shared governance there may be ways to aid in strategically utilizing our resources, both financial and non-financial.

In conclusion, I am truly excited for the potential to serve as Faculty Regent to aid in the continued success of the University. Though I know we have some obstacles in front of us, there is also a tremendous amount of potential for us moving forward. As an Animal Scientist, I have had the opportunity to visit with livestock producers to aid them in making their operations more efficient and profitable; experience which I believe would serve me well if selected to be Faculty Regent.