

2024 FACULTY REGENT ELECTION



Sandra Spataro

Current NKU Position (including department and college)

- Professor, Management Department, Haile College of Business
- Program Director, Master of Business Leadership and Innovation (MBLI)

Biographical Statement (350-word maximum)

My experience at NKU: More than 12 years after starting here, I'm still incredibly grateful to be a part of the NKU community. What drew me here originally remains what I find most compelling: a collegial faculty who puts student first (FIRST!) while still placing high priority on research and service. In my time at NKU, I've taught in undergraduate, graduate, and executive programs; I've served on multiple search and RPT committees; I'm a faculty mentor within my college; I've served on or led various committees within the college; I've overseen multiple program re-designs and (re)launches; I've served on lots of university committees, including as a faculty senator, Grad Council member, and University Strategic Plan implementation committee member. I actively participate in NKU community events and seek out opportunities to serve our region.

My education: My BA in Economics and MA in Sociology are from Stanford University. My Ph.D. is in Organizational Behavior from the University of California, Berkeley (all schooling true to my California roots! 😊)

My teaching: Here at NKU, I've taught classes in Leadership, High Performing Teams, Negotiation and Conflict Management, Creating High Performing Organizations, and Organizational Behavior. It's a privilege to teach the "people" side of business to our students.

My research and writing: My research examines status and influence processes in organizations,

demographic diversity, and organizational cultures; in recent years, I'm also writing on management pedagogy. My work is published in leading journals in Management and Psychology. I've also published two books: "Unstuck: A Tool for Yourself, Your Team and Your World" (2004), co-authored with Keith Yamashita and "Dare to Inspire: Sustain the Fire of Inspiration in Work and Life" (2019) co-authored with Allison Holzer and Jen Grace Baron.

My work in industry: Before academia, I worked for seven+ years at Oracle Corporation in Silicon Valley – a wild ride that still informs my research and teaching. In 2013, I co-founded a consulting firm, InspireCorps, that specializes in developing leaders, teams, and organizations to thrive. We offer executive coaching and training to improve overall organizational effectiveness.

Why I want to serve as the Interim Faculty Regent (350-word maximum)

I've been in the interim Faculty Regent role for just a few months now. In this very short period, I've tasted how important and meaningful it can be for faculty to have an active voice on the BOR. My desire to represent NKU's faculty has grown in this time. It would be my honor to continue in the role. The reasons I wanted to be interim regent are below – they still hold as well.

Faculty governance is a cornerstone of successful university operations. That carries more meaning now at NKU than it has in a long time. As faculty, we need representation and active involvement in all major decisions for the university. The need for strong oversight is of course also paramount(!). We are at a time in our evolution as an institution of higher learning where we need to adapt to a changing environment. I'm all for innovation and new ideas, but I know we will only be successful innovating if we do it while staying true to our highest values and greatest strengths. We are a teaching institution, first. We are great at meeting our students where they are and advancing their learning. We form strong relationships with our students and get to know and appreciate them as whole people. How we offer our educational service in the marketplace can take many forms, but we have to stay true to who we are.

I see the role of Faculty Regent as a call to advocate for both NKU and our faculty as we navigate our next phase of evolution, advocacy I am committed to bring with enthusiasm and heart. I want to carry forward and engage the Board of Regents in our faculty's highest priorities and opportunities. I want decisions made in overseeing the university to consider faculty perspectives and the reasons for them. We are a diverse, engaged, talented group that provides a vital – VITAL! - function at NKU. We need to be heard and consulted.

Webpage (an optional link to a webpage maintained by the candidate)

None of my own. Here is my [LinkedIn profile](#) where I like to post about leadership and related topics.