

2024 FACULTY REGENT ELECTION



John Farrar

Current NKU Position (including department and college) Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, College of Arts and Sciences

Biographical Statement (350-word maximum)

John Farrar has been at NKU since 2013, first as the Director of CINSAM and, since 2015, an Associate Professor in Chemistry and Biochemistry. He is an organic chemist and has taught organic chemistry and general chemistry at four different institutions since 1999. Additionally, Farrar served as Head of the Sciences Department (biology, chemistry, physics, and integrated science) for four years before coming to NKU. At NKU, he has served on the Senate Benefits (served as Project Grants subcommittee chair), Professional Concerns Committee (served as Secretary and Chair), General Education Committee, and Senate President (since 2020). As Senate President, Farrar serves or has served on various university committees such as the *Success By Design* Strategic Advisory Group, University Council, Budget Executive Committee, and the Academic Integrity Workgroup. Recently, he served as co-chair of the Academic Commons workgroup and the course waiver policy workgroup. Farrar also represented faculty on the COVID Response Team, the ARPA/CARES Act spending workgroup, the Hybrid U task force, the Academic Program Review task force, the Provost and EVPAA search committee, the CFO/VPAF search committee, and the Presidential Search Leadership Team (advisory board). Additionally, Farrar has served on statewide committees in KY and GA including the EPSCoR State Committee and NSF EPSCoR subcommittee, the Kentucky Undergraduate Research Council, the Kentucky Faculty Advisory Network, and the Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership. His leadership has also extended to public

comment on behalf of faculty to local media including *Link NKY* and *The Northerner*. In recognition of his service to NKU, Farrar was awarded the NKU Excellence in University Service Award in 2023.

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

I have enjoyed my service to Senate as chair of PCC and Senate President. I have been Senate President since 2020, which has been a time of upheaval and crisis at NKU. During this time, I have been an advocate for faculty, mostly quietly and behind the scenes but vocally when the situation required it. I viewed the Senate presidency as an opportunity for faculty leadership to build relationships with NKU administration and Regents. As a result, faculty have more of a voice in the leadership and governance of the university. I'm a strong believer in collegial governance (more than just shared governance)—we are colleagues who work together on the future of NKU, even if we disagree at times about specific methods or decisions. Therefore, I want to serve as Faculty Regent because I see it as the next step in my advocacy for faculty at NKU. I believe I have the broad perspectives necessary to be the strong advocate that is necessary.

Additionally, I enjoy strategic thinking, budget and finances, and policy work, and I have experience in these areas on and off campus. Obviously, this has served me well as Senate President, but these are also skills that will be important as a Regent. Regents have a primarily fiduciary responsibility and should not be involved in micromanaging the University. However, that responsibility requires asking difficult questions about decisions (both past and future), budget and finances, and policies. I have done that and will continue to do that as Faculty Regent.

Finally, I am committed to protecting tenure, collegial governance, academic freedom, and diversity. One role of the Faculty Regent is the education of other Regents on these critical issues from a faculty perspective. As Senate President, I've already had some of those conversations, and I look forward to continuing them as Faculty Regent.

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