

## 2010 Academic Affairs Faculty Symposium

### *The New Normal in Higher Education: UGA After the Current Economic Crisis*

#### Break-out Groups Discussion

At this year's symposium, we will examine how instruction (both undergraduate and graduate), research, outreach, graduate education, university citizenship, and professional-personal life-balance have changed in our new fiscal and political environments.

Participants will explore the "new normal" by examining faculty member expectations, roles, recognitions and rewards in the context of funding issues and priorities; technological obsolescence and innovations; and faculty member and student civic engagement.

Our goal is for Symposium participants to propose ideas for maintaining and enhancing quality in each of the topic areas. Participants are assigned to one of five break-out groups.

Living in the New Normal, how can we sustain (and even improve) the quality of

- Graduate Education (*Facilitator: Fran Teague*)
- Instruction (*Facilitator: Chuck Kutal*)
- Research (*Facilitator: Mark Huber*)
- University Citizenship (*Facilitator: Trish Kalivoda*)
- Professional-Personal Life-Balance (*Facilitator: Chris Franklin*)

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#### The Charge to Break-Out Groups

- In Session One (11:00 a.m. on Friday), surface the issues regarding the topic.
  - How has today's environment changed (in some cases forever) the way we have approached the topic in the past (since we first entered the academy)?
  - How will the economic condition of Georgia and the nation affect the topic (at UGA) in two, five, ten years?
  - How have the ever-increasing (in number and frequency) technological advances affected the topic (for better or for worse)?
  - How can we address this paradox: our society's long-held view that higher education is a public good is decreasing at the same time that the expectation for higher education to solve intractable community problems is increasing?
- In Session Two (3:15 p.m. on Friday), brainstorm suggestions for how to address the points raised in Session One.
  - What are your recommendations for managing expectations, getting the job done, enhancing quality, diversifying funding, and rallying public support in the New Normal?
    - Recommendations may include those that are low-cost; those that will require long-range planning and funding; and those that involve policy changes.
    - Recommendations may be targeted to faculty members; UGA administrators; UGA students; state decision makers; and others.
- In Session Three (9:45 a.m. on Saturday), develop a group report to present at the closing session consisting of a set of recommendations (bullet points). Each presentation will be 10-15 minutes (with discussion). You may elect to provide a handout, or to display **one** PowerPoint slide. The group will elect a spokesperson to lead the presentation. The reports will be compiled and disseminated in the symposium proceedings.