

Kelly McCusker Candidate Statement – Faculty Assembly Secretary 2026

I'm nominating myself for Secretary of the University of Colorado Denver's Faculty Assembly. As a Principal Instructor and faculty member at Auraria Library for over 11 years, I have pursued many opportunities to support faculty within the library and across the university. For the past four years I've been secretary of CU Denver's Budget Priorities Committee (BPC) where I've participated in reviews and discussions around the university's budget. I represented BPC and the Library on the Budget Allocation Review Committee to review and update the budget model and ensure faculty perspectives were included in the new model. I was also a member of Faculty Assembly from 2016-2020. Currently, I'm the chair of the Auraria Library Faculty where I lead discussions and votes related to faculty issues including bylaws, evaluations, and committee representation. I've always been a strong advocate for open communication between administration and faculty and for this reason, I chaired the Library's State of Shared Governance Task Force. This task force resulted in better communication between library administration and faculty and the creation of a Faculty Advisory on Budget Committee, which I am the inaugural chair of. Outside of my leadership and service work, I'm currently participating in CU Denver's Women's Leadership Program which has provided opportunities to learn from and meet with university administrators. I believe my experience representing faculty on a variety of committees and working with administration within the library and campus will be a strong benefit to the work of the Secretary of Faculty Assembly.