



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

Thank you, President Morehead.

Good afternoon, fellow members of the University Council. As UGA's representative to the University System of Georgia Faculty Council, I would like to update you on a key outcome from a recent two-day, in-person meeting with Chancellor Sonny Perdue and University System staff.

Chancellor Perdue and members of the USGFC discussed salary inversion and compression across the System. The Chancellor expressed interest in collaborating with a newly formed USG Faculty Compensation ad hoc group, of which I am a member. Our charge is to review compensation across the System for faculty, teaching assistants, and student workers; assess whether USG salaries are competitive both within the System and relative to other U.S. institutions; and examine the feasibility of standardizing salary scales by rank, institutional sector, and location. As this work begins, the Chancellor indicated openness to offering annual merit raises to help address salary erosion and retain top faculty.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your representative. I will continue to provide regular updates, and I encourage you to share any concerns with me so that I can carry them forward in Faculty Council conversations.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Derrick Lemons

Professor and Department Head of Religion

UGA Faculty Representative to the USG Faculty Council