Leadership and Service Award for Officers of Administration
– Teri Lynn Rowe

Thank you very much for selecting me to receive the Senate’s 2018 Leadership and Service Award for Officers of Administration. For the past 6 years I have had the privilege of serving on multiple search committees across campus including the one resulting in President Michael Schill; additionally I have served on:

- Policy committees throughout campus,
- The Senate Exec for the past 4 years,
- Chair and Co-Chair of the Faculty Advisory Council for the past two years,
- OA Council for 4 years; Chair for 2; working with people on the OA council dedicated to shared governance and improving the quality of employment for all 1,400 OAs employed by the UO.

These and other opportunities through service have allowed me to provide a voice from the OA and staff perspective. As I look back at the award winners for the past many years I see I am a good company and I am honored.

I wish to take this opportunity to encourage other Officers of Administration to participate in service opportunities as fully and completely as able. Taking on additional tasks outside of one’s normal duties can seem daunting and for others like myself that lean in the direction of “let’s just get this done”, the decision making process at the University can sometimes seem tedious and overwhelming. I know many people feel they work for a particular department or unit, but I encourage everyone to remember that we all work for the university and taking part in the critical dialogue across divisions is essential for the benefit of all constituents of the university.

By being part of the dialogue, one gains an incredible amount of knowledge and understanding on how decisions happen and a new insight on the collective wisdom that goes into the consideration and development of new policies and procedures. Across the board of all those who participate through shared governance, it is easy to see that everyone has good intentions and is aiming for a common goal of improving life for all those concerned or connected with the University. Clearly we have different interpretations of what that means and looks like, but in this electronic world where anyone can say anything at any time without the need to listen to others or wait for a response; it is only through personal participation that we are able to have meaningful dialogue and share what we know as well as truly listen to what others just might know.

I look forward to continuing to work with others committed to shared governance over the years to come and again, thank you very much for honoring me as the 2018 recipient!