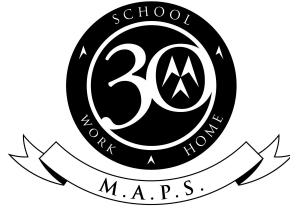


McMaster Association of Part-Time Students (MAPS)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Elaine Marion elected as MAPS President

The McMaster Association of Part-Time Students (MAPS) Board of Directors has elected Elaine Marion as President for 2009-2010, the organization's 30th anniversary.

Marion is MAPS' longest serving active member, having been elected to the MAPS Board on seven different occasions since 2001. She has served on MAPS' Executive Committee three times including one year as Vice-President (External), and two years as Treasurer.

Marion is well known in the greater Hamilton community for her work with the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton and her volunteering with the Board of Directors of Second Stage Housing. She

has also established grassroots environmental and animal welfare advocacy groups including *Glanbrook Residents are for a Clean Environment (GRACE)* which advocated for the protection of water wells from surface and groundwater hazards, *For a Safe Environment (FASE)* which successfully lobbied for the removal of nearly one million tires from an illegal dump, and *CAGED*, an animal welfare group.

This past year, in her role as Treasurer, Marion's leadership was instrumental in MAPS donating \$505,000 to the *Campaign for McMaster University* in order to establish the MAPS 30th Anniversary Bursaries, student financial aid exclusive for certificate and diploma students enrolled at the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE), a group of student represented by MAPS.

"I am thrilled to be leading MAPS as we celebrate 30 years of representing and advocating on behalf of part-time students", noted Marion. "We've come a long way since 1979, however, there are still areas in which we can do more – and encourage the McMaster University community to do more – in order to be mindful of the challenges unique to part-time students. I look forward to working with our Executive Director, Sam Minniti, to continue advancing the work of MAPS", added Marion.

Currently enrolled in Art History as a level III student, Marion has just returned from a noteworthy trip to Florence, Italy in April where she wrote a paper on a series of lesser known fresco on St. Francis of Assisi within the cloister of the Ognissanti church.

Marion's commitment to improving the part-time student experience coupled with her strong academic standing have earned her the Eleanor Dornbush Marples Prize in Art History. In addition, she is the recipient of the Gordon Raymond Community Contribution Award and MAPS Centennial Award, both of which were presented to her at last year's annual Awards Dinner.

Joining Marion on the MAPS Executive are:

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Vice-President (Internal): | Min-Ju Evans |
| Vice-President (External): | Candace Waterkamp |
| Treasurer: | Jeanette Button |
| Executive Councilor: | Ian Walker |
| Past President: | Allan Wong |

The remaining individuals of the 11-member volunteer Board are Grace Bisutti, Rose O'Connor, Eric Siu, Kate Pratas, and Violet Wakeman-Ajandi.

Established in 1979, and recognized by McMaster University as the sole representative body of part-time students, MAPS represents more than 10,000 students enrolled in part-time degree studies and students taking certificate and diploma courses through CCE.

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For further information:

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MAPS Executive Director

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