Debbie Martin

Debbie Martin knows McMaster University from the ground up: She has had 25 years of experience as a staff member in roles ranging from administrative assistant to senior administrator. Now she is seeking support to represent non-teaching staff on the University’s Board of Governors.

A Bachelor of Commerce degree from the DeGroote School of Business in hand, Debbie began her career at McMaster in 1993 as an administrative assistant at the medical school. Over the next few years, while working full time, she earned her Master of Business Administration degree, also from DeGroote.

Her roles since have included program administrator for the Undergraduate Medical Program, manager of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and manager of major gifts for the Faculty of Health Sciences, and these positions have given her exposure to the responsibilities and concerns of staff at all levels.

Since 2012 she has been assistant vice president and chief administrative officer of the Faculty of Health Sciences. She oversees several areas within the Faculty, including operating and research finance, facilities, health and safety, and biosafety, as well as stewardship and development of the Faculty’s donors, friends and alumni.

In this position, she has been involved in the implementation of several initiatives across campus, including Mosaic and the Uniforum project. Through these projects and her role on several central campus committees, such as the TMG Committee and most recently as a stakeholder in the Research Finance Review, she has been a representative of the Faculty while also understanding the need to balance the interests of the entire campus. She has developed a reputation for being trustworthy, honest and open-minded.

One of the highlights of Debbie’s career was the opening of the David Braley Health Sciences Centre in Hamilton’s downtown. She was a vital member of the team that worked on the land acquisition, the funding plan, and all its design and construction, and she continues to be involved in the operations of the building.

Having been at McMaster for her entire career, Debbie appreciates the role of staff on senior governance committees within the University. She is keen to be engaged in issues that affect University staff, understanding that their needs and interests are often different, although complimentary, to the academic needs.

She is very excited about the opportunity to represent all non-teaching staff on the Board of Governors, and would appreciate your vote and support!