Associate Vice-President (Student Affairs) Announcement

Dear colleagues,

After over 18 years of service as University of Guelph’s Associate Vice-President (Student Affairs), Brenda Whiteside has decided to retire this summer. Brenda has been AVPSA since April 2000, after serving as Acting AVPSA from June 1999 to April 2000.

Brenda’s passion for students and their well-being started long before her appointment as AVPSA. She began her career with the U of G as an Academic Counsellor in the B.A. Counselling Office then went on to the role of Secretary of Senate. From there she moved into her current role as AVPSA.

Brenda has made invaluable contributions to the University of Guelph and our thousands of students over the years as AVPSA. She has always put students first. Her enthusiasm, passion and genuine love for students has touched many of us – faculty, staff and students. One of Brenda’s favourite experiences during her tenure with the U of G is taking on the role of Beadle during convocation ceremonies where she has proudly supported and celebrated each and every student as they crossed the stage into their new journey in life.

In addition to her administrative roles, Brenda has served on many committees (internal and external) to the university. Anyone who has worked with Brenda knows that she works harder than most, is the first to take on responsibility and is not afraid to stand up for what she believes. These qualities have resulted in her recognition across Canada as one of the best AVP students in the country.

Whether you have known Brenda for a long time or a short time, such as myself, Brenda will be missed by faculty, staff and students. I know that we can count on her for support and encouragement in the months and years ahead. I am also sure you will be able to find her on a squash court here on campus after her retirement! Brenda Whiteside’s retirement will leave a large hole in the University community. She will be missed and hard to replace.

However, a search for the next Associate Vice-President (Student Affairs) will begin soon. More details will follow. We will be celebrating Brenda’s extensive contributions to University in the summer of 2018. Details will be provided closer to that time.

Please share this with members of your community as you deem appropriate.

With best wishes,