Board Members

The 2016-17 University of Guelph Board of Governors

Kevin Golding
Board of Governors Chair

Mr. Kevin Golding is the president of KPLG Advisory Services Inc. and formerly a senior executive with Maple Leaf Foods. He was appointed chair of the Board of Governors as of July 1, 2015, and his second two-year term will conclude on June 30, 2019.

Mr. Golding was first appointed to the Board of Governors in 2008, and in 2014 became vice-chair of the board. He has previously served as chair of the Board’s Governance & Human Resources Committee, and the Physical Resources and Property Committee. In 2012, he chaired the Campus Master Plan Steering Committee which led a major initiative to update and revise the University of Guelph’s Campus Master Plan. The updated plan has received a prestigious Ontario Professional Planners Institute award for excellence in planning achievement. In his previous 34-year career with Maple Leaf Foods, was also president of Rothsay, a rendering and biofuels business, and president of Maple Leaf Agri Farms, with locations across Canada.

Kevin holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from McMaster University. A long-time resident of Guelph, he is also the current chair of the board of BIOX Corporation (a bio-fuels company).

Laura Armstrong
Student

Laura Armstrong is an elected undergraduate student member on the Board of Governors. She is entering her fifth year of the
Bachelor of Arts and Sciences Program, minoring in Ecology, Psychology and Geography, with a certificate in Environmental Conservation. Previously Laura has been involved with the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences Student Association, acting as a liaison to other colleges, and she just completed a term as the Vice President of Communications for the College of Biological Sciences Student Council. She has also served on various other committees on campus such as the Information Technology Student Advisory Committee. Laura is passionate about improving campus services through student input.

After graduation, Laura hopes to pursue a career in the environmental studies or scientific communication fields. She hopes to build on her communication skills through her involvement with the Board of Governors and the student community.

Graham Badun is currently President and Chief Executive Officer of AlarmForce, a security alarm monitoring company with branches throughout the U.S. and Canada. Graham was the founder of Westport Partners, a Toronto-based advisory firm focused on the real estate services sector in North America. Prior to starting Westport, Graham was Group Chief Executive Officer of Brookfield Residential Property Services, a division of Brookfield Asset Management where he worked from 1998 until 2012.

Graham received his BA in Political Studies at Queens University, and an MBA from Ivey Business School, Western University.

Gerrit Bos is a staff-elected member of the Board of Governors. He has been on campus since 1980 – including his time as a student graduating
Gerrit Schoenmakers
Board Members

with a B.Sc in Engineering in 1987, and then almost 30 years as an employee of the University of Guelph. He served as a Staff-Alumnus representative on the Board of Governors from 1995-2000, and as a member of the executive of the Professional Staff Association from 1993 to 1995. In 2014, Gerrit graduated with an M.A. (Leadership) from the University of Guelph. Currently Gerrit is the Information Technology Security Officer, in the Office of the Chief Information Officer. In 2013, he completed the Certificate in Security Management from ISACA (formerly known as the Information Systems Audit and Control Association) and in 2015 received accreditation as a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) Associate with ISC2, an international nonprofit membership association focused on cyber security and safety.

Nancy Brown Andison
Board/Alumni

Nancy Brown Andison is a retired Partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers and an Executive of IBM Canada. A graduate of the University of Guelph (Bachelor of Science in Agriculture) and Queen's University (MBA), Nancy is also a graduate of the Chartered Directors Program (C.Dir) at the DeGroote School of Business at McMaster University.

Nancy's career has focused on consulting and project management, including systems implementation services to public sector agencies in Ontario and Canada. Nancy’s consulting experience includes work in public policy, business strategy and transformation, finance, human resource management, and all aspects of information technology.

She has served on the Board of Directors of the Ontario 4-H Foundation, Farm Radio International (FRI), City of
Shauneen Bruder
Board of Governors Vice-Chair
Alumni

In her role as Executive Vice President of Operations for the Royal Bank of Canada, Shauneen Bruder oversees operations related to all personal and business clients in Canada. In addition, she is a member of the Group Operating Committee charged with oversight of day-to-day management of RBC globally. Shauneen joined RBC in 1984, and has held a variety of roles, including Executive Vice-President of Business and Commercial Banking, Chief Operating Officer of the Global Wealth Management division, and President of RBC Centura Banks headquartered in North Carolina. A certified director (ICD.D), she is a director of various RBC subsidiaries and also serves on the boards of a number of not-for-profit organizations, including the Shaw Festival and Pine River Institute.

Shauneen has served as Chair of the both the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian American Business Council. She serves as Honorary Consul for Luxembourg in Toronto, and is the Chair of the Ontario Chapter of the Institute of Corporate Directors. She is a recipient of the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal and has been recognized by the Women's Executive Network as one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women.

Shauneen holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Guelph (1980) and was Gold Medalist of the Queen's University MBA class of 1984.

Sonia Chwalek
Student

Sonia Chwalek is an elected undergraduate student member on the Board of Governors, and is
Sonia Schwalek a Bachelor of Science elected representative to the University Senate. She is completing her Bachelors of Science in General Biological Sciences, with an interdisciplinary academic focus in human health, nutrition, and ecology.

Most recently, Sonia served two terms as the Communications & Corporate Affairs Commissioner for the Central Student Association (CSA), an autonomous, not-for-profit organization representing the over 20,000 undergraduates at the University of Guelph. In this capacity, she acted as the official spokesperson and liaison for the CSA. This included communications development, administration of the CSA Board of Directors and Executive Committee, internal and external committee involvement, assistance with CSA campaigns, services, events, and University, municipal, provincial, federal level lobbying.

Sonia stands for free, accessible, quality education, and the systemic changes necessary to ensure everyone’s needs and potentials are equitably met. She supports marginalized communities in their fights for self-determination and liberation.

She encourages you to contact her at schwalek@mail.uoguelph.ca (email address) if you have any questions, concerns, or feedback.

Nancy Croitoru

Nancy Croitoru is an experienced CEO and Board Director. Most recently she was President and CEO of Food & Consumer Products of Canada (FCPC), Canada’s largest association of companies that manufacture and distribute food, beverage and consumer packaged goods. She also had global responsibility as co-chair of the Consumer Goods Forum (CGF) Global Liaison Group, an alliance of Consumer
Goods Associations around the world, working together on global initiatives and providing strategic insight and support to the global Consumer Goods Forum. In 2013, Nancy was named one of the top 25 Women of Influence in Canada. Nancy was recently appointed to the Ministerial Advisory Board of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, reporting directly into the Federal Minister of Health. As well she sits on the Board of Governors for the University of Guelph and the Board of Directors for the Ontario Telemedicine Network (OTN). Nancy is a graduate of McGill University.

Mary Deacon is Chair of the Bell “Let’s Talk” mental health initiative, the largest-ever corporate initiative of its kind in Canada supporting new mental health research, workplace best practices, improved care and access, and anti-stigma programs including Bell “Let’s Talk” Day - a national day of conversation about mental health that takes place each year.

Over her twenty-five year career Mary has held a series of senior positions in the not-for-profit sector including almost a decade as the inaugural President of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) Foundation. CAMH is Canada’s largest mental health hospital. She continues to serves on several boards, and is also a member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on Mental Health.

Mary holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Guelph, and is a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Foundation for Canada. In 2015 Mary received an honorary doctor of laws degree from the University of Guelph for her pivotal leadership role in Canadian philanthropy, most notably in the
field of mental health.

Mary serves on several boards and is also a member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on Mental Health.

Earl Ellis is the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for Best Buy Canada and sets the tone and direction for the organization on everything from capital allocation and controls to operational efficiency and accountability for results. Responsible for the Accounting, Financial Planning & Analysis and Tax functions, he plays an integral role in the development of strategic growth plans, and provides analysis of and sound guidance around the achievement of the company’s financial vision and goals.

With over 20 years of progressive experience in finance, internal audit and treasury, Earl is known for his ability to build, coach, and inspire engaged and effective teams across diverse function. A passionate and creative leader, he proactively identifies opportunities, drives innovation, and transforms strategic plans into tangible results.

Prior to joining Best Buy Canada, Earl held senior finance positions with multinational consumer-packaged food and retail companies, including the roles of Vice President of Financial Planning & Analysis for Canadian Tire and Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for the Campbell Company of Canada.

Earl holds a Chartered Accountant designation and sits on the Finance Committee, Pensions Committee and Board of Governors for the University of Guelph, where he received his Bachelors in Economics. He also serves on the Board of Directors for Toronto-based Grace Kennedy Foods.
Paul Gallagher has worked in a number of leadership roles, most recently as Chief Financial Officer of Wittington Investments Limited, and as Vice-Chair of Wittington Properties Limited. Wittington owns a number of public and private companies including George Weston Limited, one of North America’s largest food processing and distribution groups, which operates under the Weston Food, Loblaw and Shoppers Drug Mart banners.

Previously Paul held roles with Avana Capital Group, Fairwater Capital, Oxford Developments, and PriceWaterhouseCoopers. He currently serves as a Director of Sinai Health Systems where he is Vice Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee, and Vice Chair of the Investment Committee. He is currently chair of the Bridgepoint Foundation and is past President of the Board of the Children’s Aid Society of Toronto. He has also served on the boards of Rostland Corporation, Artez Interactive, Palletronix Corporation, Pace Integration, Ryerson Oil and Gas, and Northern Geophysical Company of America.

A graduate of Lakehead University’s Bachelor of Commerce honours program, he is a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) and a graduate of the Director’s Education program of the Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD.D).

Paul Gibson is the President of White Tower Group, comprising firms focused on human capital strategies, talent search and HR services. Strategic services include organizational design, coaching, executive search and a broad suite of HR services. The group has broad expertise in family and private businesses, solving the unique concerns of changing and growing entrepreneurial enterprises.

Paul’s professional experience
includes executive Human Resource leadership roles for diverse firms such as Mattamy Homes, Fidelity Investments, Palliser Furniture and Noma Industries. In addition, he has led operating and marketing functions as President of Commercial Centres with Mattamy, accountable for the development, construction, leasing and management of a portfolio of commercial and retail centres. Paul’s industry experiences include financial services, manufacturing, retail, construction, import, technology, real estate, packaging, printing, consumer goods, and the automotive industry.

A Certified Director through the Institute of Corporate Directors, Paul serves on the Boards of Proceco Ltd. and Mohawk Shared Services Inc. He has served as a Board Director or Advisor for a variety of organizations such as West Park Healthcare Centre, The Goodman School of Business, The Salvation Army, Halton Learning Foundation, Burlington Art Centre, Storytellers School of Toronto, The Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, and Special Olympics and Boy & Girls Clubs of Ontario.

Paul is a former instructor in strategic human resource management for Ryerson University, a past Director of the Human Resource Professionals Association, a past member of the Special Experts Panel on Employee Relations for the US-based Society of Human Resource Management, and has been a chair & speaker at numerous conferences as well as a commentator on human resources related matters for CBC Radio.

Sally Hickson (PhD Queen’s 2003) is a faculty-elected member of the Board of Governors. She currently serves as the Director of the School of
Fine Art & Music in the College of Arts, where she is Associate Professor of Art History. Previously she served two elected terms on the University Senate and served as a member of the Board of Undergraduate Studies, as well as on a committee to review academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Now an ex-officio member of Senate, she is currently a member of the Senate Board of Graduate Studies, and the Graduate Admissions & Progress Committee, the Board of Governors representative to the Senate Research Board, and she serves as the College of Arts representative to the University’s Research Ethics Board.

From 2010–2013 she was President of the Universities Art Association of Canada (UAAC), and she is a former member of the Board of Directors for Hospice Wellington. She is the author and editor of two books, and several articles on Renaissance art and theory, and a winner of the College of Arts Teaching Excellence award.

Bill Hogarth served as the Director of Education at York Regional District School Board for 16 years. He is a collaborative senior leader who, in periods of both expansion and consolidation over the past forty years in two school boards, has had a broad range of experiences, including expertise in developing and implementing strategic plans, policy development, working with Ministry regulations, as well as in the development of curriculum and professional development programs.

He was a founding director of the Community Alliance for York Region Education in 1997, a community-based organization that leveraged considerable business and government support for programs and
Peter MacGowan is a partner with Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP where he has practiced corporate and banking law since joining the firm in 1990. He is a graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College (OAC ’81) and of the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto.

After graduating from Guelph, Peter competed as an oarsman with the Canadian National Rowing Team, including at the 1984 Olympic Games. He subsequently served as an infantry officer with Her Majesty's Canadian Armed Forces for five years.

Andrew Marsh founded Richardson GMP, Canada’s leading independent wealth management firm, and was part of the team that built the firm from the ground up. Beginning his career in the financial industry over 25 years ago, Mr. Marsh started in investment analysis, then worked directly with clients as an investment advisor, and eventually his career moved to executive leadership with the launch of GMP Private Client in 2004. He served as Managing Director, National Sales of both GMP Private Client and Richardson GMP before being appointed as...
President and Chief Executive Officer of Richardson GMP in 2010.

Mr. Marsh is a graduate of the University of Guelph (BA, Management Economics 1990) and is an active mentor and contributor to the University’s College of Business and Economics. He is also a member of the Canadian Advisory Board for “Right to Play Canada”, a charity dedicated to helping children worldwide through the power of play.

Wendy Millar recently retired as the Executive Vice President and Chief Risk Officer for Personal and Commercial Banking at Bank of Montreal (BMO) Financial Group. For more than thirty years, she held various leadership roles across BMO in corporate, enterprise risk and portfolio management, and in the personal and commercial banking group. Her experience includes work in commercial banking, product management, retail and commercial credit risk, in addition to managing the Bank’s high risk consumer and commercial accounts.

Wendy has been a board member of the Children’s Aid Foundation, and of Interac Association, as well as serving in various board positions on subsidiaries for BMO. Wendy is a graduate of the University of Guelph’s BA and MA programs in economics.

David Mirvish, a Canadian theatre producer, art collector and lifelong supporter of the arts, is the eighth chancellor of the University of Guelph.

As a long time arts patron, David Mirvish is an internationally renowned collector of modern art and a supporter and developer of Canadian theatre productions and emerging visual artists. He owns and operates Toronto’s
Royal Alexandra Theatre, Princess of Wales Theatre, Ed Mirvish Theatre (formerly the Canon Theatre) and Panasonic Theatre. He also operated the renowned Old Vic theatre in London, England. Mirvish Productions has produced plays and musicals for these and other venues throughout Canada, on Broadway and in London’s West End, and presented more than 500 touring productions in Toronto. For many years he also operated the David Mirvish Gallery and an associated bookstore, supporting contemporary art and Canadian artists. He has served as a trustee of the National Gallery of Canada and the Royal Ontario Museum.

Chancellor Mirvish has been named to the Order of Ontario and to the Order of Canada, the country’s highest honour for lifetime achievement, and has received honorary degrees from several universities. Chancellor Mirvish is also an ex-officio member of the University of Guelph Senate.

Coral Murrant is a faculty-elected member of the Board of Governors. She earned both her BSc and PhD degrees from the University of Guelph. After postdoctoral stints at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and the University of Rochester in New York, she returned to the University of Guelph as a faculty member in 2000 and is now a Professor in the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Science. Coral has an active research program investigating tissue blood flow regulation, as well as scholarship in the area of teaching and learning in the area of evidence-based course design. She is the recipient of the University of Guelph Faculty Association Professorial Teaching Award, and the College of Biological Science Award for Excellence in Teaching. Coral
has served two terms on the University of Guelph Senate and served on committees such as the Senate Committee for Open Learning, the Senate Honours and Awards Committee, and the Standing Committee on Internal Review - a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Quality Assurance - where she continues to serve as an internal reviewer as part of the University’s Institutional Quality Assurance Process (IQAP). In 2012, and subsequently in 2014, Coral was elected by her fellow Senators to serve two year terms as the “Member-at-Large” to chair the Senate Priorities and Planning Committee. Coral also serves as Convocation Marshall for the University.

Neil Parkinson

Neil Parkinson is a Fellow of Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario (FCPA, FCA) and a member of the Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD.D). Neil is a consultant to KPMG’s Canadian insurance practice, based in Toronto, where he served as a partner from 1988 to March 31, 2016, and as leader of the practice from 2004 to 2015. He is deputy chair of KPMG’s Global Insurance Contracts Technical Topics Team and a member of the Canadian Accounting Standards Board’s Insurance Accounting Task Force, and served as the chair of the Insurance Auditors Advisory Committee for the Superintendent of Financial Institutions Canada from 2009 to 2016. Neil has chaired and co-chaired CICA task forces on audit matters related to actuaries, and served as accounting adviser to the Canadian Institute of Actuaries task force on reinsurance. He has also served as a volunteer, director, treasurer, board chair or president of several community and national organizations, including Prostate Cancer Canada.
Thomas Sasso is a PhD candidate in Industrial/Organizational Psychology at the University of Guelph, where he also received his master's degree. His research is dedicated to understanding and improving the experiences of diverse and marginalized populations in workplaces, with particular emphasis on LGBTQ+ individuals. He co-founded the Sexual and Gender Diversity Research Lab with a focus placed on improving inclusive and accessible education and research. In addition to his research experience, Thomas has worked as an organizational consultant to support individuals and improve workplaces. In his spare time, he has been actively involved in his communities, serving on the board of directors of a number of community organizations, and as a member of the advisory board for See Different, a program of the Canadian Centre for Diversity and Inclusion that develops inclusive leadership among high school students.

Byron Sheldrick is a faculty-elected member of the Board of Governors. Byron joined the University of Guelph in 2006 and currently is the Associate Dean (Academic) of the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences. He was the Chair of the Department of Political Science for nine years, and is an ex-officio member of the University Senate. Over the years, he has served on a number of Senate committees, and has chaired the Senate Committee on Student Petitions. He previously taught in the law department of Keele University in the United Kingdom and in the politics department of the University of Winnipeg. His research interests include law and politics, human rights, and social movements. His teaching interests include law and public
administration, Canadian politics, and he has taught in the graduate program in Political Science, as well as in the Masters in Leadership program.

Irene Thompson is a staff-elected member to the Board of the Governors, and is the Director of Student Housing Services at the University of Guelph. She is a 33 year member of the Guelph campus community who prides herself in being actively engaged in campus life. She has served in leadership roles on the Professional Staff Association including in the position of Chair. Irene is a member of the Ontario Association of College and University Housing Officers where she has served as President and in other Executive Committee roles. She is an active committee member and a regular presenter at the annual conference and professional development workshops. Irene is a strong believer in life-long learning and has recently completed her MBA in Hospitality and Tourism and is now officially a Guelph Alumna. Irene is a community volunteer and has been a member of the United Way of Guelph Wellington Dufferin United Way Campaign Cabinet and Board of Directors for over ten years.

Dr. Franco J. Vaccarino began his term as president and vice-chancellor of the University of Guelph in August 2014. Described as a builder and a visionary, he brought to Guelph a track record as a proven administrator with remarkable academic achievements, an entrepreneurial spirit, and a powerful commitment to community and societal engagement.

A distinguished researcher and teacher, he has focused on emerging areas of study and innovative experiential learning opportunities. He is an
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internationally recognized and widely published researcher and scholar, with more than 100 academic publications.

In 1984, Dr. Vaccarino joined the University of Toronto Scarborough as an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology, where he later served as chair. He was also graduate chair of the tri-campus Graduate Department of Psychology and head of the Department of Psychiatry’s neuroscience program.

Dr. Vaccarino became principal of the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) and vice-president of the University of Toronto in 2007, and was reappointed in 2012. He is credited with the significant expansion of UTSC’s campus and faculty, and with the development of new and emerging areas of scholarship and experiential learning opportunities. During his term, UTSC hired dozens of professors, expanded interdisciplinary academic and research programs, and built a new science complex, instructional centre and aquatics facility, among other substantial infrastructure projects.

He has received honours from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology and the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS). In 2014, he was named a Fellow of the CAHS, considered one of the highest honours for individuals in health sciences in this country. He has served as executive vice-president (programs) and vice-president (research) at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, and as vice-president and director of research, Clarke Institute of Psychiatry, both in Toronto.

Dr. Vaccarino’s studies of the
neurobiology of stress and motivation are considered a model for bridging the neural and behavioural sciences. In 2004, he served as principal editor of the World Health Organization’s “Neuroscience of Psychoactive Substance Use and Dependence” report, the first comprehensive WHO report on the biology of substance dependence. A frequent speaker at major international conferences, Dr. Vaccarino discussed the neurobiological underpinnings of substance abuse and how the brain changes with alcohol and drug dependency during a panel held by the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA) in late 2014. In 2015, he was one of two principal editors of a national report on the effects of early and frequent marijuana use during adolescence released by the CCSA.

Dr. Vaccarino has taught and mentored an exceptional group of students and researchers, many of whom have gone on to develop significant and successful careers in science and academia.

Dr. Vaccarino holds a B.Sc. from the University of Toronto and an M.Sc. and a PhD in psychology from McGill University. He was a post-doctoral researcher at the Scripps and Salk institutes in California.

- Board = Board Appointed
- LGIC = Lieutenant Governor Order-in-Council, Government Appointment
- Alumni = University of Guelph Graduate
- * = Subject to approval by the provincial government.

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Source URL (modified on 08/24/2016 - 13:41): https://www.uoguelph.ca/secretariat/board-of-governors