Staff nominee statements for the Board of Governors [elect one]

Joel Best
Throughout my 15 years at the University of Guelph, I have held four different roles: an undergraduate student (B.Eng ’08), a graduate student (M.A.Sc ’13), a USW staff member (2010 to 2014), and now a manager in the School of Engineering. Each of these roles provided me with a unique perspective on what it means to be a member of the University community. I have gained a deep understanding and appreciation for how our exceptional staff and our state-of-the-art facilities combine to make this a place like no other, and a community I am extremely proud to be a part of.

My leadership experience includes a current position on the board of directors for the Guelph Community Health Centre, which provides critical supports for Guelph’s most vulnerable populations. Participating on this board has taught me a great deal about board governance, as well as the important role boards play in ensuring the long-term success of an organization. I believe my perspectives and experience would make me a valuable member of the Board of Governors. As a staff representative, I would work to ensure that the staff perspective is considered in all discussions about the University’s future and strategic direction.

Gerrit Bos
Thank you for your interest in this UofG Board of Governors election! I have been honoured to serve as a staff-elected member of the Board for the past three years. During this time I have actively participated, frequently spoken up and asked questions, and advocated for staff interests at every opportunity. If you elect me again, I will serve with the same energy and dedication.

I have chosen to run again to continue to advocate for staff interests including wellness, to push for preservation of our natural heritage such as the Arboretum, Brown’s Woods, and the Dairy Bush, to follow through on broadening of the role of internal members on the Board, and to keep a strong staff voice front and centre on the Board. If you have any questions about my nomination, why I chose to run again, or if you have a specific concern, feel free to contact me - I’d love to chat.

Thank you to everyone who has supported me. I deeply appreciate the confidence you have placed in me. Please vote in this election, and please honour me with your vote. Thank you!

Ruth Butlin
I’ve been part of the University of Guelph community since 2010, first joining CCS then graduating from the MBA program in 2013. Experiencing the University of Guelph culture and community from both a staff and student perspective has given me a good introduction to many facets of our diverse community. The University has helped me grow academically as well as professionally, and I would like to give back by serving on the Board of Governors.

I’m the Director of Enterprise Applications in CCS, and with my team help provide support for the Student, Human Resources, Financial, Research and Alumni systems. I sit on the Technical Advisory Board for the ARUCC Groningen and Student Mobility Project, working to advance student mobility by creating a national network for student data exchanges between Canadian schools. I’ve participated on a number of international working groups to improve the student experience, including Kuali, Internet2 and a number of student systems user groups in Canada and the US. I’ve worked in higher education since 1997 and my experience with a wide range of University processes and higher education challenges allows me to bring a broad staff perspective to the Board of Governors.