



Get to know University Councillor Mary Drinkwater, B.Ed'78, MPA'08:



B.Ed. '78; MPA '08 (Queen's U). PhD '14 (Univ of Toronto). Kingston, ON. Lecturer and Assistant Professor in graduate courses in Faculties of Education at OISE/Univ of Toronto, Yorkville University and Queen's University. Extensive scholarship in critical, decolonial and transformative education, including 3 published books. Member & Chair, University Council on Athletics-'75-'77; '91-'94. Member & Chair, Queen's Alumnae Association-Kingston branch-'00-'04; Member of Queen's Women's Basketball team, Track & Field team, Diving team ('73-'76); Alfie Pearce Trophy-'73; PHE '55 Alumne Trophy-'77. Past Chair CanAssist Africa Relief Trust. Current term to 2023.

1. Why did you select Queen's University?

One of my physical education teachers (& coaches) was a Queen's alumnus and she had strongly recommended Queen's!

2. Most memorable moment as a student?

Winning the PHE '55 Alumnae Trophy, in my graduating year, as top female athlete and academic....along with Dr. Robert (Bob) McCormick (who won the Jenkins Trophy for the top male athlete and academic!

3. What is your job?

Although 'officially retired', I continue to teach graduate courses in educational leadership, policy, equity/diversity, curriculum studies and comparative international education as a *Sessional Lecturer* at Queen's University, OISE/University of Toronto and Yorkville University.

4. What's the best career advice you've ever received?

Strengthen relationships, broaden networks, and strive to excel in whatever positions you take on....many of your paths will often connect and intersect as the future unfolds!

5. What's the career highlight you're most proud of?

Completing my PhD in Educational Leadership and Policy at OISE/University of Toronto and going on to teach in the graduate program in the Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education.

6. How do you spend your free time?

Sailing, Gardening and Quilting

7. What motivated you to stand for election for University Council?

Our Queen's PHE '77 class have stayed very closely connected over the years, and a few of them urged me to consider allowing them to put my name forward, when we were attending our 40 year reunion in Kingston! I had served the University, while I was a student, (as a member of the University Council on Athletics) and while I was an alumna (as the Program Chair of the Kingston Branch of Queen's Alumni). Since I was heading into 'retirement' and was returning to Kingston, I agreed that this would be a tremendous opportunity to share my knowledge, skills and experiences to both *support* and *give back* to Queen's University, which has given me so much!

8. What are some of your most memorable milestones/accomplishments as a Councillor?

Since I am just beginning my 2nd year, I was thrilled to be selected to join the *AGM Program Committee* and have really enjoyed the opportunity to work with this group to shape a very timely and very engaging AGM in November!

9. Your aspirations for being on University Council?

I look forward to joining additional committees, in particular, Dr. Anita Jack-Davies has just asked if I would be interested in becoming a member of the new *EDII Advisory Committee*. Equity, Diversity and Social Justice have been foundational elements of my teaching, research and scholarship for over 30 years. I would be honoured to join this team as an *ally*, *co-resistor* and *co-conspirator* in this important work, as the University moves forward in taking its place locally, nationally and globally as a *leader for the 21st Century*.

10. Do you have any words of wisdom for incoming Councillors?

Soak up your first AGM, make/take opportunities to talk to as many different councillors as you can, to learn more about their experiences and to broaden your understanding of the work of the Council.....find the areas that your are passionate about....and *jump in!!*

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