



QUFA Executive Election 2022 **CANDIDATES' STATEMENT**

Nominee for Vice President

Mary C. Olmstead (Cella)

Professor

Psychology

Candidate's Statement

I am interested in joining the QUFA executive as Vice President. I have been an active member of QUFA council for the last four years, serving as a representative from Psychology. During that time, I sat on the Nominating Committee, acted as an alternate Council Chair, and was co-chair of an ad hoc working group to address the increased workload related to student accommodations and considerations. These experiences confirmed for me that work conducted by QUFA executive, staff, and councilors has a direct impact on the day-to-day working conditions of QUFA members. This became even more apparent during the pandemic when effective advocacy by QUFA executives ensured that the university developed health and safety policies using evidence-based decision making.

As QUFA Vice President, I would work to sustain and extend communication with university administrators, emphasizing our collective responsibility to support all members of the Queen's community. I think it is important to increase awareness of QUFA activities, particularly among adjunct, pre-tenure, and newly-tenured faculty. This is driven by my concern that mounting administrative demands are encroaching on research and teaching responsibilities, and may negatively impact the career trajectory of our younger faculty.

My involvement in other aspects of university governance provides me with the skills and perspective to pursue these goals. Currently, I am serving a 3-year term on Senate, participating in the University Student Appeal Board, and sitting on the Senate Agenda and Summer Action committee. My prior administrative responsibilities at Queen's have included Curriculum Committee, University Animal Care Committee, and Associate Head of Teaching and Learning, among others. I have also served on a number of national and international grant review panels, including chairing committees for the NSERC Discovery Grants, Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships, and New Frontiers in Research Funds.