Biographical Sketch for Board of Governors Staff Election

Catherine Maria Franz has been a member of the University of Victoria community since 2003, and currently fills the role of Occupational Health, Safety and Environment Consultant. In 2014, she received her Masters in Public Health, having focused on social policy in areas that included: environmental policy, healthy ageing, and foreign aid.

Catherine believes that engagement is an opportunity to shape the future. Over the years she has held true to this belief by participating within the UVic and wider communities in diverse areas. She was a member of the PEA Executive from 2008 to 2011, serving for two of those years as Chair. While on the Executive, Catherine cultivated effective working relationships bridging various groups on campus, and acted as a strong voice for staff. Catherine was a trustee for the University Long Term Disability Fund from 2011 to 2014. During her term as a trustee, she exercised a fiduciary responsibility while carrying out the duties of a trustee in accordance with the BC Act and regulations and the terms of the trust.

Catherine is also an active member in the community having worked with BC Healthy Communities and the Victoria Women’s Shelter, and she continues to volunteer with The David Suzuki Foundation, BC Search and Rescue, and Adventure Smart.

Catherine is committed to ensuring that UVic continues as a destination of choice for research, work and study, in a manner that supports and compliments the university’s strategic plan. Qualities that she would bring to the role include: a wide knowledge of campus activities and staff experiences; a strong sense of responsibility; experience representing staff while working with a variety of stakeholders; and is analytical with an ability to consider thoughtfully issues focusing on the impacts not only for today, but for the future.