

## Faculty Council election Profile--Shawn Donnelly

Faculty Council members work best when they can bring energy and experience into representing you. This happens at Council meetings with management of course, but also in everyday talks with colleagues, and with committees, directors, and other Councils. BMS is in a new phase of development, and is increasingly networked with other faculties. Looking out effectively for the interests of our staff and students requires an eye for detail, persistence, a great deal of communication and coordination, and an overview of how things really get done, to ensure you don't drop the ball. I bring all of these to the table.

I've been a member since September 2013 and chair since 2015. My style as chair has been to make sure that nothing and no one gets missed, to lead the Council to advise by consensus if possible (which happens most of the time) and by majority if necessary, and to do the legwork between the Council and other actors to make these deals possible. Those other actors involve the University Council, program directors, program committees, and the research institutes with which we work: IGS, CTIT and MIRA. Some items come from management, but some come from us and from you.

Some of the things I'm happy to have set in motion and achieved on the Council are:

- Successfully pushed for the introduction of a new promotion procedure based on international standards for staff outside the tenure track. I hope that this will make academic career development at BMS more comparable to reality outside the faculty and closer to the opportunities provided for tenure trackers.
- Together with the rest of the Council, successfully pushed for reduced bureaucracy and paperwork for all academic staff. Especially:
  - Moving from faculty for extensive Course, Module and Program Improvement Plans to streamlined plans that focus attention on needed improvements
  - Dropping plans for a Basic Qualification Examination (BKE) on top of the Basic Teaching Qualification (BKO) for all staff, and combining requirements for future staff

As chair, I've also organized the Council's input on Faculty strategy contending with financial constraints and the need for change and growth. These involved

- the appointment of new professors in the areas of Health, Energy and Higher Education
- the appointment of Program Directors
- the appointment of new members of the IGS Council, responsible for faculty research support
- the transition to English language instruction in Psychology and Communication, with particular attention to language training for staff who need it
- new arrangements on ensuring good cooperation between the Health Cluster at the TNW faculty and BMS

What to do in the future?

I hope for your support in finding a place on the new Faculty Council. I hope for an open, communicative and collaborative Council where I can bring my experience and energy to bear in your interest.