

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD 2015

Professor Megan Crawford



Megan has served the Society in several prominent capacities, including Chair, Vice Chair, Immediate Past Chair and Council member and as Conference Chair. In the latter position she has led, and continues to lead, the development of BELMAS's annual conference as a major international focal point in our field. She has encouraged and enabled new forms of conference participation that have contributed to the liveliness and attractiveness of this annual gathering, which is so important for the Society's profile and influence.

In terms of raising the profile of BELMAS, her networking skills are sometimes nothing short of astonishing. Megan has also contributed her experience and wisdom to the implementation of Council decisions through her membership of the Executive. She has devoted time and energy to the Society through all these roles and in other ways, including membership of the EMAL Editorial Board and the delicate task of representing BELMAS on the Board of Commonwealth Council for Educational Administration and Management (CCEAM).

Megan has a distinguished record in both teaching and the practice of leadership. Her teaching work includes pioneering work in the application of IT to the NPQH and LPSH programmes in the late 1990s. Megan's value as a teacher has been recognised internationally: for example, she was invited to be Visiting Professor at the University of Calgary (2007 – 2011).

Megan has undertaken significant work in school governance. Her exceptional work in this regard has been recognised through the award of Governor of the Year, East of England, in 2009, in respect of her involvement in setting up a new secondary school; and she became a National Leader of Governance in 2012. Her involvement extends internationally, with her strong and effective support for the Canadian Association for the Study of Educational Administration (CASEA) and CCEAM being warmly commended.

Megan has a strong record in public service. She was Trainer for The Work Foundation from 1999 to 2003 and a member of the 'Education and Employers Taskforce – Expert Group on School Governance' (2010 – 2011).

Megan has a track record of academic publications from the early 1990s, which includes solo authored books, edited books, book chapters and refereed articles. She is a partner in the *International Study of the Preparation of Principals* project, begun in 2005, which includes colleagues from the Universities of Calgary, Simon Fraser, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, California State and Texas, and has resulted in multiple publications and a book.

There is a liveliness, responsiveness and innovative feel to BELMAS these days for which Megan should be given considerable credit. As a practitioner, academic, university leader and BELMAS stalwart, Megan is widely admired and she fully deserves to receive the BELMAS Distinguished Service Award.