



Elections 2015

Biographical Note

Name: Donna Kotsopoulos

Institution: Wilfrid Laurier University

Position sought: Director, Institutions

Nominated By: Self-Nomination
Penelope Ironstone, Canadian Communication Association

Highest Degrees: Western University, PhD, Educational Studies, 2007
Western University, Master of Education, Educational Studies, 2004
York University, Bachelor of Arts, Mathematics

Current Positions: Associate Vice-President: Research (Acting), Wilfrid Laurier University
Associate Professor (tenured), Faculty of Education & Faculty of Science,
Department of Mathematics, Wilfrid Laurier University

Current Research

Donna studies mathematical cognition and learning across the lifespan. She has an emerging research interest in post-secondary policy – particularly organizational change and prioritization. Her research is funded by the SSHRC and NSERC. Her research has resulted in social innovation and the successful trademarking of the [LittleCounters®](#) program.

Brief Bio

Dr. Kotsopoulos is currently the acting Associate Vice-President: Research at Wilfrid Laurier University. She is also the Director of the Mathematical Brains Laboratory, Co-Editor of Fields Mathematics Education Journal and Chair of the New Faculty Orientation Committee at Wilfrid Laurier University. She serves on the executive of the Canadian Mathematics Educators Study Group and as Chair of the University Senate Committee on Research and Publication as well as sitting on the Integrated Planning and Resource Management Committee. Dr. Kotsopoulos is also chair for a second consecutive term of the Senate Finance Committee.

She is a former Graduate Coordinator and Associate Dean of the Faculty of Education and has served on the Board of Governors and Senate and a number of committees, including the Senate Committee on Instructional Development, Psychology of Mathematics Educators, Strategic Research Task Force, Board of Governors Finance and Investments Committee, Board of Governors Development Committee, Senate Executive, Senate Promotion and Tenure Committee and Senate Honorary Degree Committee.

Dr. Kotsopoulos has served on the Boards of the Accelerator Center and SHARCNET as well as on the Council of Ontario University Research Administrators (OCUR). She is a member of the Senior Women Academic Administrators of Canada, the Center for Women and Science (WLU), the Fields Cognitive



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Science Network, the International Society for the Learning Sciences (ISLS), the Canadian Mathematics Educators Study Group (CMESG), the Psychology of Mathematics Education – North American Chapter (PME-NA) and the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT).

Dr. Kotsopoulos is fluent in both English and Macedonian and is functional in French.

Statement of Intent

Over the last decade there has been a growing chasm between humanities and social sciences and natural sciences research. This chasm is particularly reflected in the shifts in funding envelopes and in the public discourse about what matters to Canadians. A recent example is the \$1.5 billion dollar investment in science, technology, and innovation funding announced in the last federal budget which essentially overlooks the important perspectives found in the humanities and social sciences. My research, teaching, administrative leadership, and personal disposition is best characterized as distinctly interdisciplinary – valuing and incorporating perspectives from the humanities and social sciences and the natural sciences. I am committed to the value of interdisciplinary dialogues. I believe that my interdisciplinary viewpoint and experiences add an important perspective that can be potentially useful in supporting and advancing the Federation’s mandate. I would welcome the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

