

Laurier appoints media scholar Abby Goodrum to role of VP Research

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University has appointed Dr. Abby Goodrum as Vice-President: Research, effective July 1, 2011.

Goodrum holds the Velma Rogers Graham Research Chair in News, Media and Technology at Ryerson University, where she also serves as Associate Dean for Research in the Faculty of Communication & Design. Goodrum is also the Director for Social Science and Humanities Research in the nationwide network of centres of excellence in Graphics, Animation and New Media (GRAND), and is a Senior Research Fellow at the Knowledge Media Design Institute based at the University of Toronto.

As Vice-President: Research, Goodrum will lead Laurier's Office of Research Services, providing vision, strategy and support for Laurier's overall research endeavours.

"We are delighted to welcome Dr. Goodrum to Wilfrid Laurier University," said Dr. Max Blouw, President and Vice-Chancellor. "She brings a valuable interdisciplinary research experience as well as great personal energy and proven leadership skills at a time when the breadth and depth of research being conducted at Laurier is growing significantly."

Goodrum holds degrees in Radio, TV and Film, and Library and Information Science from the University of Texas, and a PhD in Information Science from the University of North Texas.

The author of numerous publications, including a book and many book chapters, journal articles and conference papers, Goodrum began her professional career as a researcher with CNN. She began her academic career at Drexel University before moving to Syracuse University, and spent a sabbatical at the University of Waterloo as a visiting research professor in the Canadian Centre of Arts and Technology. She joined Ryerson in 2004.

Goodrum brings a strong background in scholarly research and grant-funded activity to Laurier, and has been instrumental in obtaining grants totaling more than \$30 million over the past six years.

"I feel privileged to be joining Wilfrid Laurier University as Vice-President: Research," she said. "Laurier has a well-earned reputation for excellence in teaching and research, and has strong synergistic ties with the community. I am looking forward to working with all of the highly talented faculty and students here as we expand our research horizons further."

Goodrum succeeds Dr. Paul Maxim, who has chosen to return to an academic career after a successful five-year term in administering and leading Laurier's Office of Research Services.

"Paul has made a tremendous contribution to advancing Laurier's research strategy," said Blouw. "I thank him for his excellent work and wish him well as he resumes his research and teaching activities."