



Kevin Crowley, Director
Communications and Public Affairs
519-884-0710 ext. 3070 or kcrowley@wlu.ca

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Laurier appoints new director of government relations

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University has appointed Maria Papadopoulos, an experienced government relations professional and policy advisor, to the position of director of government relations.

In this position, Papadopoulos will play a key role in continuing to raise Laurier’s profile among government decision-makers. She will also advise Laurier on legislative matters affecting the university, and identify partnership opportunities that will allow the university to continue delivering high-quality educational and research programming.

“Maria brings to Laurier extensive experience and deep connections in government that will enable her to quickly and effectively advance the university relationships, and to bring expert and informed advice as a member of the senior management team of the university,” said Max Blouw, Laurier’s president and vice-chancellor.

Papadopoulos, who holds a bachelor’s degree in history and political science from York University, has worked in the areas of public policy and government administration in Ontario for 13 years, where she served as the chief of staff to the government house leader and senior advisor to the minister of energy. Most recently she was the senior policy advisor to Finance Minister Charles Sousa and to Dwight Duncan, former finance minister and deputy premier. She was also government relations advisor at York University.

“I look forward to working with Wilfrid Laurier University to promote and advance the goals of the students, faculty and staff,” said Papadopoulos. “Laurier has a proud and rich tradition, and I am honoured to be part of the team.”

As director of government relations, Papadopoulos will be based in Laurier’s Toronto office, which is located in the heart of the city’s financial district at King and York streets.

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