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Laurier appoints accomplished public-sector executive to the role of vice-president, finance and operations

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University has appointed Deborah Dubenofsky to the position of vice-president, finance and operations, effective Aug. 1, 2016.

Dubenofsky has had a distinguished career in public service and public-policy advocacy, including senior executive roles in municipal and provincial government and in the private sector. Since Nov. 16, 2015, she has served as executive director and senior project lead for Laurier's Milton campus bid. Dubenofsky holds a BA from the University of Toronto and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Queen's University.

As vice-president, finance and operations, Dubenofsky will be a member of Laurier's executive leadership team. She will develop and steward administrative strategies and systems that support and advance the overall goals of the university. Her portfolio will include: financial resources, procurement, human resources, physical resources, environment and risk management, community safety and security, and a number of ancillary services. As well, she will be a key resource for the university's Board of Governors, Senate and supporting committees.

"Deborah Dubenofsky is a skilled senior leader who brings a wealth of public-sector knowledge and experience to Laurier," said President and Vice-Chancellor Max Blouw. "In this time of significant change and opportunity within the university sector, her considerable talents and insights will help position Laurier for ongoing success."

Dubenofsky, who will continue to lead Laurier's bid to establish a campus in Milton, said she is pleased to be taking on this new opportunity.

"I look forward to working with the talented individuals in the department as we continue providing high-quality expertise and service to internal and external partners in support of academic and research excellence," she said.

Dubenofsky takes over the senior administrative role at Laurier from Jim Butler, who is retiring Aug. 31 after 14 years as vice-president, finance and administration.

"I would like to thank Jim for his exceptional leadership and tireless service to Laurier," said Blouw. "His strategic guidance, prudent stewardship and remarkable talent for building relationships have strengthened the university and helped position it to thrive for years to come. Throughout his career in the post-secondary sector, Jim has been a proactive and positive influence for prudent financial and administrative management."

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