



Kate Tippin, Director of Marketing & Communications
Lazaridis School of Business & Economics
519-884-0710 ext. 2948 or ktippin@wlu.ca

Kevin Crowley, Director
Communications & Public Affairs, Wilfrid Laurier University
519-884-0710 ext. 3070 or kcrowley@wlu.ca

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Institute appoints leaders to advance Lazaridis' quantum vision through tech management expertise

WATERLOO – The [Lazaridis School of Business and Economics](#) at Wilfrid Laurier University has appointed [Mark Pecen](#) as chair of the [Lazaridis Institute for the Management of Technology Enterprises](#) and Kim Morouney as managing director and Lazaridis Professor of Executive Development.

“These two appointments will drive forward our ambition to address the need for more management talent and more globally competitive technology companies here in Canada,” said [Micheál Kelly](#), dean of the Lazaridis School. “With Mark’s and Kim’s leadership, the Institute will position Canada as a global leader in technology management education.”

Pecen is a world leader in the wireless industry, an author and editor of books and academic papers, and holds more than 100 fundamental patents in the areas of wireless communication, networking and computing. He was senior vice-president at BlackBerry, Ltd., where he founded the Advanced Technology Research Centre and developed much of BlackBerry’s wireless and networking patent portfolio. Currently, he is CEO of Approach Infinity, Inc., chief operating officer of ISARA Corporation, and chair of the European Telecommunication Standards Institute’s industry standardization group, Quantum Safe Cryptography, in France.

“I look forward to working with Dr. Morouney, her team, and our global advisory board to build this centre of excellence in the Waterloo Region,” said Pecen. “I have long believed in Mike Lazaridis’ vision that Canada will play a leadership role in the next quantum revolution. I agree with dean Kelly that the Lazaridis Institute can best help to achieve that vision by focusing on the next generation of technology leaders. We’re doing something unique here—and the timing is right for Canada.”

Morouney’s experience is in leading teams and driving for success in higher education. Her recent roles include director of Laurier’s renowned [Bachelor of Business Administration \(BBA\) program](#), associate dean for academic programs, and co-chair of Laurier’s multi-year, cross-campus integrated planning and resource management initiative. Morouney has developed software used for market research, and teaches communication skills, team dynamics and organizational design at the graduate level in the Lazaridis School. She has been involved in setting the direction and vision of the Lazaridis Institute since its inception.

“It is an honour to work with these incredibly talented companies as they scale — and to help them scale without having to leave Canada,” said Morouney. “Technology will increasingly drive our economy, so it’s imperative that we support Canada’s growth-oriented tech companies. The Institute provides that support with the [Lazaridis Scale-up Program](#); with the Tech Sales Apprenticeship program, our joint venture with Communitech; through leading-edge research in technology management; and by translating the lessons learned into new curriculum for our 6,000 business and economics students — the management talent for tomorrow’s tech sector.”

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The Lazaridis Institute for the Management of Technology Enterprises was created to support growth-oriented Canadian technology companies. Developed through investments by Mike Lazaridis and the Government of Ontario, the Lazaridis Institute is based at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Canada, part of the Toronto-Waterloo Region Tech Corridor. The Institute's [second cohort of 10 tech companies](#) begins the Lazaridis Scale-up Program in October 2017.

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