

## Dr. Donna Ellis, Candidate Statement



It is my honour to stand for election for the ICED President-Elect/President roles for 2022-2025. I joined the ICED Board and Council in 2020 as the Network Representative for the Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network, which is based in the United States. I am nearing completion of a 3+ year term on the POD Network's Executive Committee, serving as President-Elect, President, and now Past President (until June 2022). The POD Network supports my nomination.

While on the ICED Board and Council, I have contributed my ideas and experiences to the Board's work on initiatives such as important revisions that include: 1) the Memorandum of Association to expand the meaning of "Nominating Networks", and 2) the Policies and Procedures for a more inclusive Board representation model that increases access to ICED leadership roles. I have also contributed to ongoing discussions on our flagship offerings: the biennial conference and our journal, *IJAD*. Although pandemic-related responsibilities for my university and the POD Network left no additional time to lead ICED initiatives, I am prepared to serve ICED in the presidential roles.

If elected, my main goal would be to work with you, our Member Network Representatives, in a consultative and collaborative manner to expand and deepen the connections amongst us as well as with new members who join our community. The pandemic has limited the community-building and idea exchanges needed for a strong network. At the same time, newer practices have expanded—such as online professional development and meetings—and educational development's scope and profile have been enhanced. Our field, our own Networks, and ICED can all take stock of both long-standing and emerging practices and decide how best to proceed.

In response to my focus on community-building and the opportunities from our changing context, here are some of my ideas that we could explore and pursue together over the next 3 years:

- Do a **Member Network needs assessment** to identify the most important member benefits for you and your organizations. Our contexts vary, as does how we engage in educational/ staff/ academic/ faculty development, so our current member [benefits](#) and [supports](#) require review and consideration of new ideas such as expanded professional development opportunities (e.g., webinars with *IJAD* authors and editors) and online networking (e.g., our current members' email list, a listserv available to all members, social media).
- Expand the value of our **website** by providing current, relevant information to our existing and prospective members as well as clarify the role of **social media** for our organization.
- Seek to **engage members from our individual Networks** through initiatives like the topical special interest groups that were approved by Council last year.
- Work with our Board members to determine a **sustainable structure** for undertaking organizational initiatives given our existing workloads and responsibilities.
- Encourage **new, emerging Networks** to engage and be part of our ICED community.

Finally, a little about me. For more than 25 years, I have been an educational developer at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada, where I direct the [Centre for Teaching Excellence](#). Here's a short [professional bio](#). I have published in *IJAD* and presented at ICED conferences (including the upcoming one in Denmark). During my POD leadership rotation, I focused on developing systems and processes to support POD members, improve transparency and inclusion, and bolster the organization's health. I also engaged in regular [communications with members](#) to convey support, highlight resources, and build community. If you have any questions for me, please contact me at [donnae@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:donnae@uwaterloo.ca). Thank you for considering my candidacy.