

2014 Status of Women Committee
Award of Distinction
CITATION FOR DR. MELANIE CAMPBELL

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Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations
Union des Associations des Professeurs des Universités de l'Ontario



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CITATION FOR MELANIE CAMPBELL WINNER OF THE 2014 STATUS OF WOMEN AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Dr. Melanie Campbell is a member of the University of Waterloo's Centre for Bioengineering and Biotechnology, and the Waterloo Institute of Nanotechnology. She is a Professor of Physics and Astronomy and cross-appointed to the School of Optometry and Vision Science.

Her nomination letter, submitted on behalf of the Status of Women and Equity Committee of the Faculty Association of the University of Waterloo, noted the following:

Dr. Campbell has advanced the position of academic women by providing organizational, policy, and educational leadership. The fruits of her labours in any single one of these categories have significantly improved the profession by improving the status of women. Her sustained dedication and distinguished leadership across all three of these areas, while...developing and maintaining a career as a world-class physicist, provide evidence of a truly outstanding contribution to the status of women in the academy.

We cannot fully recount the full scope and range of Dr. Campbell's achievements but some of the highlights include:

- Presidency of the Canadian Association of Physicists during which she advocated for and championed women physics students across Canada through, among other initiatives, the Best Student Presentation Competition and the Best Presentation By a Female Student award;
- Active service over a decade to the Faculty Association of the University of Waterloo as a Director, Vice-President and member of the Faculty Relations Committee. She also was the lead negotiator for the development and implementation of parental leave and spousal accommodation policies;
- Service on the University Day Care Advisory Committee and as President and member of the Board of the Paintin' Place Day Care at the university;
- Leadership on the Scholarships and Fellowships Policy Committee of NSERC to establish the NSERC Women's Faculty Awards, facilitating the entry of women into faculty positions and improving the representation of women in science and engineering;



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- Providing continual mentoring and support to women in Physics, especially to undergraduate and graduate students. As evidence of this support, 56% of Dr. Campbell's students, throughout her career, have been women, double the usual average;
- Leading by example by being the first women graduate student in Applied Mathematics at Australian National University, the first women NSERC University Research Fellow, the first person to take a maternity leave as a CSIRO Postdoctoral Fellow.

As Dr. Campbell has said "I want to put policies in place so other people don't have to be the first."

In recognition of this pioneering spirit of leadership, we are honoured to present Dr. Campbell with a Status of Women Award of Distinction.