

BIO – DIANNE LISTER

Dianne Lister is currently Vice-President of External Relations & Advancement at Trent University in Peterborough.

Ms. Lister earned an Honours B.A. in English Literature from Trent University (1976) and an LL.B. from Osgoode Hall Law School (1980) in Toronto. She holds a Certificate in Magazine Journalism from Ryerson University, and has taken the Harvard-MIT Program in Negotiation. Dianne is a Certified Fundraising Executive (CFRE) and has been continuously recertified since 1995.

Prior to Dianne joining Trent University in February, 2006, Dianne was Principal of The Dianne Lister Group, a national consulting business for the non-profit and philanthropic sectors. Her company provided customized services to clients including designing and conducting organizational and fundraising audits, creating strategic and business plans, developing customized training associated with major gifts and campaigns, designing stakeholder engagement processes and providing ethics consultations.

Dianne was the President and CEO of The Hospital for Sick Children Foundation from 1993 to 2003 having served prior to that as its Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. This is the largest hospital foundation in North America and under her leadership; the organization grew its annual revenues from \$6m to \$50m, its asset base from \$100m to \$425m, and its annual donor base from 70,000 to 110,000. Together with the CEO of the Hospital, she supervised the Public Affairs unit for both organizations.

Other leadership experience in philanthropy was gained with the Canadian Cancer Society, Metro Toronto District and The Catholic Children's Aid Society where she served from 1984 to 1989, first in their Legal Department as Child Welfare Counsel followed by a role as Foundation Administrator.

In the past, Dianne has served on the Board of Cedara Software Corporation and as trustee of the Ivy Funds. Currently she is an active member of the international Association of Professional Fundraisers (AFP) and was the inaugural Chair of the Board of the AFP, Canadian Council (2001-2004). In January, 2008 Dianne will assume the position of Chair of the International Ethics Committee of AFP, and is the first Canadian to hold this position.

Dianne was the first Canadian to receive the "International Outstanding Fundraising Executive of the Year" Award given by AFP (2002). In 2004, Ms. Lister received the AMS/John Hodgson Award for outstanding leadership from the Ontario Bar Association, Charity and Not-for-Profit Law Section.

Ms. Lister continues to hold professional memberships in the Law Society of Upper Canada, the Canadian and Ontario Bar Associations, Imagine Canada and the Ethics Practitioners' Association of Canada.