

## **Paula Burns, PhD, MBA, MAEd, BSc**

Dr. Burns joined NAIT's executive as Provost and Vice President Academic in 2010, after spending two years as Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs. She has a passion for learning and leadership, and extensive experience in academic administration, organizational development, change leadership, teaching, and curriculum and faculty development.

Dr. Burns is an accomplished educator who began her career in education as a faculty member in Respiratory Therapy at The Michener Institute in Toronto. She has held several coordinator positions in both full-time and continuing education programs, and has developed and directed a Centre for Learning and Innovation.

Throughout her career, Dr. Burns has provided leadership for academic programming and curriculum and faculty development, including serving as a vice-provost responsible for these areas. She led the implementation of an Academic Innovation Strategy for The Michener Institute as well as the development of NAIT's Academic Plan. She also created the Faculty of Undergraduate Studies within NAIT's academic structure.

In addition to her local accomplishments, Dr. Burns has facilitated the development of two National Competency profiles, including one for Medical Laboratory Technologists across the Caribbean. She has also consulted internationally in the areas of curriculum development and change leadership.

Dr. Burns is passionate about the connection between personal development and leadership, and is active in teaching and facilitating in leadership development and change leadership, including coaching and mentoring leaders through a worldwide leadership training academy.

Dr. Burns has a Masters in Education from Central Michigan University and a PhD in Curriculum, Teaching and Learning from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. She has also completed an MBA in Executive Management with specialization in Leadership from Royal Roads University in Victoria, B.C.

As Provost and Vice President Academic, Dr. Burns is NAIT's senior academic and research officer, and senior student services officer. She is responsible for program development, implementation and evaluation, including degree development, academic planning and institutional research. She also provides strategic leadership for the efficient and effective delivery of all educational programs and related services offered to students, and champions student success by overseeing all academic programs and services. Her portfolio also includes applied research and enterprise development.

The Provost and Vice President Academic also assists the President and members of the Executive Team in ensuring that NAIT achieves its mission and vision.