

## **Bio for Marion Joppe**

Marion was born in the (former) East Germany and fled with her family to West Germany in 1960. As a young teenager, she emigrated with her family to Canada, where she attended high school and completed her Honours B.A. in Recreation and Leisure Studies at the University of Waterloo. After working and living in countries such as the Bahamas, Mexico, the UK, and Spain, she finally settled in France to pursue her graduate degrees. She obtained her PhD in Law and Economics of Tourism in 1983 from the Centre Des Hautes Etudes Touristiques, Université d'Aix-Marseille III in Aix-en-Provence. She then moved to Paris where she worked for tour operators, financial institutions, consultants and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, always working on tourism and hospitality related projects.

Marion returned to Canada in 1988, taking the position of Senior Tourism Policy Coordinator with the Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Recreation. In 1993 she took a secondment to the Waterfront Regeneration Trust, the first organization to implement an “ecosystem approach to planning”, bringing together people, ideas and resources to invest in the regeneration of watersheds and waterfronts along Lake Ontario.

In 1995, Marion joined the faculty in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management at Ryerson University in the heart of Toronto, considered one of the world's most diverse cities. In 2003, she was recruited by the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management at the University of Guelph to be its sixth Director. Founded in 1969 with strong support from the industry, the School of Hotel and Food Administration (HAFA), as it was known for the first 30 years of its existence, is Canada's oldest university-level program in Hospitality with proud alumni around the world. In the years that Marion led the School, the curriculum was reviewed and strengthened at the undergraduate and MBA level, a collaborative PhD program in Management was approved for launching in the fall of 2009, and a research-oriented MSc program in Hospitality and Tourism Management is awaiting final approval by the government. At the same time, the kitchen and dining facilities – both learning spaces for the students – were significantly expanded, a broader and more strategic Policy Advisory Board appointed, and industry relations strengthened both to provide students with more opportunities during their studies and upon graduation, and to engage faculty in research of direct relevance to industry and government partners.

Since stepping down as Director, Marion has assumed the first ever Research Chair in Tourism, and is building research partnerships to study productivity in the tourism industry and to bring e-commerce into the curriculum.

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/htm/marion-joppe.shtml>