

Dr. Marlee M. Spafford

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Marlee Spafford is an optometrist with an MSc degree in physiological optics, and a PhD degree in theory and policy studies in education. Professor Spafford is the Associate Director at the University of Waterloo School of Optometry, where she has earned 7 awards for teaching excellence in areas such as communication, ethics, case analysis, and systemic disease. She is the Head of the Electrodiagnostic Clinic and a past Clinic Director at the UW School of Optometry. Her research program explores aspects of healthcare education, communication, socialization and equity and she has acted as a consultant for schools and colleges of optometry and veterinary medicine regarding professional gatekeeping issues such as admission interviews. A Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and an invited speaker at the World Conference on Optometric Education, Professor Spafford is a reviewer for several journals and a member of the editorial board of *Optometric Education*.