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Bio

BIO

Despina is the Director of the Office of Technology Transfer and Strategic Partnerships in the organization of the SLAC Deputy Director for Science and Technology. She and her team help accelerate the translation of cutting-edge research into transformative technologies and solutions through the development and execution of tech transfer programs and strategic partnerships with industry, academia, and government sponsors. Before her current role, Despina served as senior director for Department of Energy partnerships in the quantum computing industry establishing important R&D programs between the private sector and the national labs. Prior roles in the private sector included management consulting for Accenture UK and engineering for a Silicon valley startup. Despina first joined SLAC in 2010 as a staff scientist at the Linac Coherent Light Source investigating materials science at extreme conditions. She later transitioned to strategic planning where she served as the director of strategic planning and investment for SLAC. Despina holds a Bachelor's in Physics from Imperial College London and a Master's in Electrical Engineering from the University of Michigan. She completed her PhD in High Energy Density Physics at the University of Texas at Austin, conducting research at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Publications

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