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Dr. Suurtamm began her career as a secondary school mathematics teacher and department head. She is currently Director of Teacher Education and an Associate Professor of Mathematics Education at the University of Ottawa. Her teaching and research areas include mathematics teacher practice, assessment, and qualitative research.

She has been the Principal Investigator of a number of research projects that examine the complexity of mathematics and mathematics teaching. She recently served as the Canadian representative on the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Board (NCTM) of Directors, Co-chair of the International Congress on Mathematics Education Topic Study Group on Assessment and currently is a member of the Ontario Ministry of Education Curriculum Council. She has won several teaching awards, including one award for secondary teaching and three university teaching awards.