

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Student-driven program provides funds for the future

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An innovative, student-driven program is bringing nationally recognized scientists to campus to present lectures on a number of different topics, while at the same time, providing funds for laboratory and equipment upgrades.

Called STEP (Science and Technology Endowment Program), eight lectures presented by scientists from across North America, will range from cryogenics to drug addiction. The guest speakers will be hosted by undergraduate science students at WLU. The lectures are part of a program based on students helping students.

"We asked students to make a voluntary contribution to the program - \$100 from full-time, and \$50 from part-time students," third year psychology student Cheryl Limebeer said. "With all of the budget cuts experienced by the University, this is a way for students to look after their own education."

To date, approximately \$35,000 has been raised, half of which is earmarked for endowments. The remaining funds will be used for equipment, computer and software upgrades, the lecture series and a special fund for the development of individual science experiments.

Lectures will focus on each of the four departments: biology, chemistry, physics and computing and psychology. A schedule of lectures is attached.