

# NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier  
University



## **Local students take top spots in university stock market challenge** *Teams from Dalhousie University sweep MBA version of TSE sponsored competitions*

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WATERLOO – Students from the city's two universities got a strong start in the world of finance and investment as they took the top three spots in the National University/College Stock Market Competition run by Wilfrid Laurier University. A team from Dalhousie University swept the MBA Stock Market Competition.

Laurier student Bryan Brenner took first place in the university/college competition with a portfolio worth \$353,531. Brenner focused heavily on Nortel Networks and BCE options in the eight weeks of trading, more than tripling his original, imaginary \$100,000. Robin Garth Wood of the University of Waterloo finished in second place with a portfolio of \$342,049 and Laurier's Paul Bruce placed third with \$260,539.

Brenner receives \$1000 for his first-place effort, Wood's second-place finish gets him \$500 and Bruce receives \$300. All of the students were enrolled in an introductory business course at Laurier.

"The options market was really strong this fall and all of the students benefited from it," said Sandy Rung, manager of Laurier's Business and Economics Teaching Aids (BETA). "It was an excellent financial climate to learn in and we're very proud of how well Laurier students placed."

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About 1800 students from universities and colleges across Canada took part in the fall competition this year. Aside from building a strong portfolio, students are required to hone their stock market skills by using a number of trading tactics.

Teams from Dalhousie University in Halifax took the top three spots in the MBA competition, beating out 20 other teams from Dalhousie and Laurier. Darlene Himick, Philip Beaver, Min Zhang and Laura Charlton grew their imaginary \$100,000 into \$122,160 in just nine weeks, trading mostly Nortel Networks and JDS stocks. Dalhousie will receive a \$5,000 prize from the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Laurier runs the MBA and university/college versions of its national stock market competitions twice each year, with similar competitions for high school students and senior investment students. The national MBA competition is now in its second year. Laurier business students began using an on-campus investment simulation in 1968 and participation in the competitions has since grown.

Sponsors for the competitions include The Toronto Stock Exchange, RBC Dominion Securities, the Investment Equity Traders Association of Toronto, Star Data Systems, Bell Canada, Sun Life Trust and Sun Microsystems of Canada.