

# NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier  
University



## **Discover Laurier offers students and parents look at university life** *Three-day intimate orientation helps students and families ease into life at Laurier*

**For Immediate Release**

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**Contact: Katherine Elliott**  
**Associate Dean of Students**  
**(519) 884-0710 ext. 3783**

**or Michael Strickland**  
**Manager, Media Relations & Information**  
**(519) 884-0710 ext. 3070**

WATERLOO – More than 200 first-year students and their parents will get a preview of university life this week when the University hosts Discover Laurier. The three-day orientation – designed to help families understand and experience university life – offers students and parents a sampling of the academic and lifestyle changes that lie ahead.

Held July 12-14, Discover Laurier involves students and parents in a variety of seminars and social activities. Students become immersed in the university experience by staying in residence, eating in the dining hall and attending classes. This smaller, more personal introduction to university life is an opportunity for both students and parents to quell any anxiety about the post-secondary transition.

“There is a very real correlation between better academic grades and attending orientation sessions like Discover Laurier,” says Katherine Elliott, Laurier’s associate dean of students. “Attending the orientation session gives students the chance to get a sense of comfort and community, which can go a long way in improving academic performance later in the school year.”

Participants move into residence on Thursday – then tour the community that will be home for the next few years. They also get acquainted with their designated ‘Purple Person,’ a Laurier student ambassador assigned to answer any questions.

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Students select from an array of activities, including seminars on topics that range from residence life and classroom competence to ‘tick-tock-time’ management and laundry 101. They also meet the dean of their particular faculty, and visit the athletic and social facilities. Parents can choose from seminar topics that include changing relationships and communicating with their university-bound children.

Students who attend Discover Laurier with a parent can win free tuition for the first term, courtesy of the Student Alumni Association. The Laurier Bookstore is holding a raffle for assorted residence-related items and donating the proceeds to Shinerama.

The cost to attend Discover Laurier is \$125-plus for students and \$100-plus for parents, depending on how many nights are spent in residence. All meals and coffee breaks are included.

Participants may register up to July 11. To register or to obtain more information, please call 519-884-0710, ext. 3886, or send an e-mail to [discover@wlu.ca](mailto:discover@wlu.ca).