

NEWS RELEASE



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Laurier Brantford to graduate 337 students at its 2011 spring convocation

BRANTFORD – Wilfrid Laurier University's Brantford campus will hold its spring convocation ceremonies June 21 and 22 at the Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts, and incorporate new community elements into the ceremony.

Laurier Brantford will confer approximately 337 undergraduate degrees and bestow an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree to H. Fisk Johnson, Chairman and CEO of SC Johnson, a company known for social responsibility and environmentalism.

Laurier Brantford will also bestow a Distinguished Governor Award to John C. McCutcheon. The award, which recognizes retiring and retired members of Laurier's Board of Governors who have given outstanding service to the university, will be presented June 22 at the 2:30 p.m. ceremony.

A joint ceremony with Nipissing University for the Laurier-Nipissing Concurrent Education program will take place Tuesday, June 21.

For the first time, graduates, faculty and administration will take part in a convocation parade across campus to the Sanderson Centre. The parade, led by a piper from the Paris Port Dover Pipe Band, will allow members of the Brantford community to experience the traditions of a university convocation and share the special day with graduates. In addition, a traditional Aboriginal thanksgiving will be delivered during the ceremony by Hubert Skye, a member of the Cayuga Nation, Snipe Clan of the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory and Faithkeeper at the Cayuga Longhouse.

"Convocation marks a milestone in the academic journey for our students and we want to take every opportunity to celebrate," said Lesley Cooper, acting principal/vice-president of the Brantford campus. "The City of Brantford has played a role in their education, and this is a way to acknowledge the support the community provides our students and campus."

Laurier Brantford's spring convocation ceremonies:

Tuesday, June 21, 2:30 p.m. (all Laurier/Nipissing BA/B.Ed. programs)

- 62 Bachelor of Arts (Laurier) and Bachelor of Education (Nipissing) double degrees and 20 Master of Education (Nipissing) degrees

Wednesday, June 22, 10:30 a.m. (Leadership and Contemporary Studies, single program)

- 75 Bachelor of Arts (honours) degrees and 70 Bachelor of Arts (general) degrees
- *Honorary Doctor of Laws degree recipient: H. Fisk Johnson*

Wednesday, June 22, 2:30 p.m. (Contemporary Studies, combined program, Criminology, Health Administration, Health Studies, Human Rights/Human Diversity, Journalism, English & History, Law & Society, and Psychology)

- 130 Bachelor of Arts (honours) degrees