

## NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release  
Nov. 24, 2011 | 169-11

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### Laurier to celebrate excellence in teaching

WATERLOO – The media and the Laurier community are invited to attend a wine and cheese reception Dec. 2 honouring excellence in teaching at the university, and featuring past winners of faculty and teaching assistant awards.

“The Heart of Teaching at Laurier: Celebrating Excellence” is being organized by Teaching Support Services. It will offer attendees an opportunity to reflect on what teaching means at an individual level. There will be creative opportunities to explore this idea, as well as a video showcase of award winners.

“I hope this event gives faculty and staff an opportunity to reflect upon what is at the heart of teaching and learning at Laurier,” said Jeanette McDonald, a co-organizer of the event and manager of Educational Development at Laurier. “In addition, I think it is a great opportunity for people to come together to recognize the importance of excellent teaching at Laurier, and celebrate those who have been acknowledged as outstanding teachers.”

Pat Rogers, the new associate vice president: Teaching and Learning, and Deborah MacLatchy, vice-president: Academic & Provost, will speak at the event. Many of the award winners will also be present, including Mercedes Rowinsky-Guerts, recipient of the 2008 3M National Teaching Fellowship; Kris Gerhardt, the recipient of the 2010 Ontario University Student Alliance (OUSA) Award for Teaching Excellence (Brantford); and Stephen MacNeil, the 2011 winner of the WLU Award for Teaching Excellence (full-time).

Laurier has been recognizing excellence in teaching since 1978. In fall 2007, the university unveiled Laurier’s Teaching Hall of Fame to give teaching a greater presence on campus. Each year Laurier faculty and teaching assistants are honoured for their dedication and commitment to teaching excellence and educational leadership. For more information about institutional, provincial, national and international teaching awards, please visit: [www.wlu.ca/edev/awards](http://www.wlu.ca/edev/awards).

“The Heart of Teaching at Laurier” reception will be held Dec. 2 at 2:30 p.m. in the Teaching Hall of Fame on the first floor of the Bricker Academic Building. Please RSVP by Nov. 29 to Mary Neil at [mneil@wlu.ca](mailto:mneil@wlu.ca).

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