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For Immediate release

Canadians on faculty still highest
as Wilfrid Laurier records 86 per cent

About 86 per cent of faculty members at Wilfrid Laurier University are Canadians, the highest percentage of all 15 Ontario universities.

Three years ago, when the figure was 78 per cent, it was also the highest in the province. Some universities had figures not much above 50 per cent then. That percentage figure has risen rapidly in recent years, partly because professors at some universities have taken out Canadian citizenship.

At WLU, the number of Canadian faculty members has been at or near the top in comparison with other universities.

"We've only gone abroad when we couldn't get qualified Canadians," said Dr. Neale H. Tayler, WLU president. Of 18 new appointments at the university in the 1978-79 year, two went to non-Canadians.

Dr. Tayler said it is sometimes necessary to hire outside Canada when a qualified Canadian to fill a specific post cannot be found. But an extensive search is always conducted first in Canada.

Across the province, a total of 73 non-Canadian professors, or 10.3 per cent of all new appointments were from outside Canada last year.