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For immediate release

Fees up average of 15.2 per cent
for fall at Wilfrid Laurier University

Most first-year students at Wilfrid Laurier University will face fee increases of 15.2 per cent when they enter general and honors arts, science and music courses and first year business programs this fall.

Fees will increase by \$135 in most areas bringing the first-year fee for most courses to \$1,025 as compared with \$890 last fall, Dr. Neale H. Tayler, president, said.

Last month the Ontario government announced increases of 12.2 per cent in the standard (formula) fees which it sets for various programs in the 15 provincial universities. Each institution has the right to charge up to 10 per cent above those standard fees.

"In an effort to maintain financial stability but keeping in mind student abilities to pay, we have kept our fee increases to about three per cent above the 12.2 per cent and not moved to the full 10 per cent for most programs at Laurier this year," Dr. Tayler said.

In announcing the standard fee increases last month, the government also said it would increase benefits under the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) to allow for rising fees.

Part-time students will face a 15.1 per cent increase, or \$27 a course, boosting course fees from \$179 to \$206. At the Orillia campus fees will increase by \$26, from \$184 to \$210.

Some foreign (visa) students will face the stiffest increases in line with government action last month. First-year visa students will pay fees of \$2,771 to \$4,471 depending on the programs in which they are enrolled.

Graduate fees also will increase at Laurier by an average of 15.2 per cent in most areas.

Fees will represent 23 per cent of the cost of educating a student at Laurier in 1982-83.

Room and board fees are also going up by an average of 17.4 per cent at Laurier in order to accommodate cost increases and to reduce deficits in these areas.

The deficits appeared over the past two years when the growth in room and board fees lagged behind inflation rates.

Beginning this fall students will pay \$1,215 for a room in residence, up \$175 from last year. The five-day meal card in the dining hall will total \$1,210, up \$185.