

083-1988
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Oct. 30, 1988

Richard Splane to speak at Laurier's fall convocation

Richard Splane, a distinguished Canadian social worker, will address about 470 graduands at the annual fall convocation of Wilfrid Laurier University at the Kitchener auditorium today.

It is 77 years to the day since the official opening of Laurier's forerunner, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary.

Splane will also receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. An honorary doctor of letters degree will also be conferred upon artist Woldemar Neufeld.

Donald Morgenson, a professor of psychology at Laurier for more than 27 years, will be honored as Laurier's outstanding teacher of 1987-88. He will receive a plaque and \$1,000 to spend for any purpose related to the development of teaching and learning.

A senior civil servant in Health and Welfare Canada from 1952 to 1972, Splane has been considered the principle architect of the Canada Assistance Plan, the basis for federal-provincial cost sharing for income security and social services.

He also played a critical role in the development of legislation enabling universal health care to be administered by

provincial governments and partially funded by the federal government.

A 1930 alumnus of Waterloo College School, Neufeld is well established as an artist in New York City, New England and the local area. He has maintained close ties with Waterloo Region and frequently features its scenes in his work.

The City of Waterloo recently acquired about 300 of his paintings to help establish a gallery in his name. The City, university and Conrad Grebel College currently have collections of his works.