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## Morgenson named Laurier's outstanding professor of the year

When Donald Morgenson is teaching psychology, other professors sometimes pause outside his classroom door just to listen.

It's one of the quiet ways his teaching excellence has been recognized over his more than 27 years at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo.

At Laurier's fall convocation on Sunday, he was honored as the university's outstanding professor of 1987-88. He received a plaque and \$1,000 to spend on any purpose related to the development of teaching or learning.

He was selected by a university committee which considered nominations from alumni, students, faculty and administrators. Recipients are expected to excel in such areas as classroom instruction, course design, supervision, research and development of innovative teaching methods.

Barry McPherson, the dean of graduate studies and director of research and instructional development, said Morgenson "brings psychology to life with a passion and a concern, and his interest

and knowledge in the subject entices the student to learn and to enjoy learning."

In 1986, Morgenson was named Canadian Professor of the Year by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, a Washington-based organization that has 2,800 educational institutions as members.

The 60-year-old professor's classes are in high demand and he receives scores of 6.7 to 6.9 out of seven on student evaluations. He is frequently named as honorary class president by the graduating class.

"The appropriate metaphor for teaching is touching," Morgenson says. "And we just don't touch the students. We try to touch everyone in the community. Psychology especially is something one must give away."

In addition to serving as a consultant to several social agencies in Waterloo Region, he is on the executive or board of organizations such as Amnesty International, Oxfam, Big brothers and the John Howard Society.

Born in Rochester, Minn., Morgenson holds a bachelor of arts degree from St. Olaf College, a master of arts degree from Pennsylvania State University and a PhD from the University of London.

He joined Laurier in 1960 and has served as department chairman and dean of students from 1962 to 1964.