<u>NEWS RELEASE</u>

Wilfrid Laurier University



Contact: Julia Ann Easley

WLU Information Officer (519) 884-1970 ext. 2070

Oct. 8, 1991 046-1991

Researcher to speak about sustainable society at Laurier

An internationally respected researcher in the area of sustainable society will speak at Wilfrid Laurier University on Friday, Oct. 25.

Dr. Lester Milbrath, director of the research program in environment and society at the State University of New York at Buffalo, will speak on how we can move towards a society that can be sustained without taxing the environment too much and still offer a high quality of life.

"People need to move beyond sorting their garbage and affect greater change by getting involved in politics and promoting community education about the environment," says Milbrath, also a professor emeritus of sociology and political science.

He has conducted extensive research into the relationship between environment and society in the areas of environmental perceptions and values. His most recent book, *Envisioning a Sustainable Society: Learning our Way Out*, explores the predicament of Western civilization caused by its attempt to dominate and distance itself from the planet's life systems.

Milbrath has also written about citizen participation in environmental policy decisions, on conceptualizing and measuring quality of environment and quality of life, and on planning for environmental futures. He is interested in the strategies necessary to make sustainable society a universal goal — a radical shift that would require changes in the workforce, production, and the uses of science and technology.

His lecture will begin at 2:30 p.m. in Rm. 3-201 on the third floor of the Central Teaching Building.