

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



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Laurier introduces program with special events, offers, for book lovers

Waterloo (Sept 14) — Wilfrid Laurier University is courting book lovers with a new program offering invitations to book-related events and special privileges at its library, academic press, and campus book store.

Lorna Marsden, president of the university, will introduce "Friends of Books" at a day-long, public conference celebrating the 20th anniversary of WLU Press and at a "Meet the Author" event on Oct. 17.

For an annual fee of \$35, members will receive invitations to Meet the Author events sponsored by the book store, to a special series of lectures with opportunities to meet the speakers, and to other book-related events.

They will also have borrowing privileges and access to specialized, electronic data bases at the library; a 10-per-cent discount on books (except course texts) purchased at the book store; and a 20-per-cent discount on books purchased from the press. Tax receipts will be issued for donations greater than the \$35 membership fee.

Honorary patrons include Jack McClelland, Dorothy Shoemaker, Isabel Staal, and Edna Staebler.

"The university library, press, and campus book store are at the heart of learning, research, and the dissemination of new knowledge," says Marsden. "We're inviting book enthusiasts to take advantage of the special resources they offer and to participate in stimulating events with others in the community who enjoy books."

Established in 1974 to help offset the soaring costs and lengthy production times of academic books, WLU Press now publishes 15 to 20 scholarly books and 10 journals each year. The library has a collection of 1.2 million volumes.

Michael Snow will be a featured speaker at the conference, "Constructing Images", held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sept. 29. Neil Bissoondath, author of *Selling Illusions*, will speak at noon on Oct. 17. Both events will be held in the Paul Martin Centre.