

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Next president named for Wilfrid Laurier University

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June 27, 1997
45-97

WATERLOO, Ont — Dr. Robert (Bob) Rosehart has been appointed president and vice chancellor of Wilfrid Laurier University effective September 1, 1997, for a five-year term. The announcement was made today by Jerry D. Young, chair of the University's board of governors.

Dr. Rosehart will be the fifth president of Wilfrid Laurier since the University joined the provincial system in 1973. He will succeed Dr. Lorna Marsden, who accepted an appointment as president of York University earlier this year.

Said Mr. Young in making the announcement: "Dr. Rosehart has an excellent blend of leadership skills and academic credentials that will lend themselves well to the unique environment at Laurier. He has an excellent grasp of the issues that confront postsecondary education and possesses the ability to lead the University superbly."

Dr. Rosehart has been president of Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario, since 1984. Major initiatives he has directed have included the development of the university's academic and strategic plans, several capital expansion projects, and a long-range plan for Lakehead's buildings and grounds. He presided over two successful fundraising campaigns that generated a total of \$32.4 million for Lakehead.

"We are very pleased that Dr. Rosehart has accepted the challenge of leading Laurier into the next century," said Betty Sims, chair of the University's presidential search committee and immediate past chair of the board of governors. "He brings to the position extensive leadership experience in postsecondary education. His open, friendly style will contribute to the strong sense of community that is a Laurier trademark, and his advocacy skills will help sustain Laurier's position among the best universities in the country."

(more . . .)

Dr. Rosehart holds BSc, MSc, and PhD degrees in chemical engineering from the University of Waterloo. He was a professor of chemical engineering at Lakehead during the 1970s prior to beginning his administrative career as dean of Lakehead's University Schools in 1977. His interests are in economic development, science and technology policy, and government policy. He has served as an environmental and public policy consultant to both the federal and provincial governments.

Dr. Rosehart is a member of the Secondary School Reference Group of Ontario's Ministry of Education and Training, and was one of the founding members of the Ontario Premier's Council. He serves on the Committee on Government and Community Relations of the Council of Ontario Universities, and chairs the Ontario Commission on Inter-University Athletics. He has served on the board of directors of the Ontario Energy Corporation and of Rainy River Forest Products Ltd.

He and his wife Rita have three children.

Wilfrid Laurier University provides undergraduate and selected graduate programs in arts and science, business and economics, music, and social work to some 5,600 full-time and 2,150 part-time students. The exceptional quality of its student body and a reputation for excellence in teaching and research have defined Laurier as one of Canada's leading universities.

Wilfrid Laurier University



Founded 1911

To: Members of the Laurier Community

From: Jerry D. Young
Chair, Board of Governors

Date: June 27, 1997

I am pleased to inform you that Dr. Robert G. Rosehart has been appointed Laurier's next President and Vice Chancellor by the Board of Governors, effective September 1, 1997, for a five-year term.

Dr. Rosehart has been President of Lakehead University since 1984. Major initiatives he has directed have included the development of the university's academic and strategic plans, several capital expansion projects, and a long-range plan for Lakehead's buildings and grounds. He presided over two successful fundraising campaigns that generated a total of \$32.4 million for Lakehead.

Bob Rosehart is known as a personable, hands-on president, strongly supportive of students, faculty, and staff. He is a respected advocate for the smaller universities in the province.

He holds BSc, MSc, and PhD degrees in chemical engineering from the University of Waterloo. He was a professor of chemical engineering at Lakehead during the 1970s, prior to beginning his administrative career as Dean of Lakehead's University Schools in 1977. His interests are in economic development, science and technology policy, and government policy, and he has served as an environmental and public policy consultant to both the federal and provincial governments.

Dr. Rosehart takes on the leadership of Wilfrid Laurier at the conclusion of a very successful fundraising campaign and as the University looks forward to a dynamic and challenging future. The members of the search committee are confident that with the depth of his administrative experience and the breadth of his skills, he will lead the University effectively into the next century.

I would like to thank the members of the search committee for their many hours of hard work. I know that you will join me in congratulating them.

Search committee members:

Betty Sims, Chair	Jim Balsillie	Dr. Andrew Berczi	Dr. Tupper Cawsey
Michael Clarke	Dr. Joyce Lorimer	Joel Lynn	Dr. Bill Marr
Les Protopapas	Dr. John Tibbits	Dr. Jannah Mather	Prof. Michael Purves-Smith
Dr. Houston Saunderson	Diane Wilkins	Kathleen Woodcock	

Let us welcome Bob Rosehart and his family to the Laurier community.

Dr. Rowland Smith, Vice-President: Academic, will serve as Acting President through the month of August following the departure of Dr. Lorna Marsden on July 31.

Office of University Advancement

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