

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



CEOs to discuss IPOs at Laurier Institute and MBA celebration

Panelists will include Toni Jenkins, Randall Howard, Tim Jackson and Trevor Matthews

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WATERLOO – Some of the area's top chief executives will outline the challenges and benefits of taking a company public during a panel discussion celebrating the Laurier Institute's 15th anniversary. The celebratory event, to be held in the courtyard of Laurier's science building from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on June 16, is being co-organized by the Institute and by MBA candidates as a forum where tomorrow's business leaders can interact with today's corporate executives.

Larry Wood, senior manager with PricewaterhouseCoopers will moderate the panel. He will ask area executives – including Tom Jenkins, CEO of Open Text Corporation; Randall Howard, chairman and CEO of Mortice Kern Systems; Tim Jackson, CFO and acting CEO of PixStream; and Trevor Matthews, vice-president Canadian Operations of Manulife Financial – to address a number of issues related to initial public offerings.

"Taking a company public is a strategic issue as well as a complex process – one that is particularly relevant to many local companies," explained Jan Varner, director of the Laurier Institute.

While the event celebrates the Laurier Institute's 15 years of success, it is also being organized to thank clients and supporters of the Laurier School of Business & Economics (SBE), and to offer the MBA class of 1999 a chance to network with local business leaders.

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"This is a great opportunity to showcase the talents of the students," notes Jeff Murphy, one of the MBA organizers. "It gives us a chance to show what we have to offer."

Since 1984, the Laurier Institute has offered open-enrolment and customized management-development programs to clients throughout the local business community. Affiliation with SBE allows the Institute to access a wealth of teaching experience and hands-on work experience.

More than 200 guests have been invited to the private event. Members of the media interested in attending should contact Julie Fisher at the number listed above.