

NEWS RELEASE

**Wilfrid Laurier
University**



Kieran Kelly to receive posthumous degree at fall convocation

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**Contact: Dr. Don Baker
Acting Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science
(519) 884-0710 ext. 3891**

**or Michael Strickland
Media Relations Officer
(519) 884-0710 ext. 3070**

WATERLOO – Kieran Kelly, the 21-year-old Laurier student who inspired 800 volunteers to join a search after he disappeared from a rave in Sauble Beach, will receive the degree he had been working towards at the time of his death. Wilfrid Laurier University will award the Bachelor of Arts in English posthumously at fall convocation ceremonies on October 31.

Laurier officials confirmed that Kelly had completed enough of his program to qualify for the degree. They also noted that he was a popular and respected member of the community who had touched many lives.

"The simple fact is that Kieran earned this degree, both academically and personally," explained David McMurray, dean of students and assistant dean of student services. "He was a good student and he was an active member of the Laurier community who contributed significantly to campus life."

Kelly's father Paul has given the family's approval to the posthumous granting of the degree. The family has been asked to decide who will accept the degree in Kelly's place.