

# NEWS RELEASE.

## Wilfrid Laurier University



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### **Maclean's survey showcases quality of Laurier students and University's reputation**

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WATERLOO – Maclean's has highlighted Laurier's overall high reputation and the exceptional quality of the University's student body in its annual survey of Canadian universities. For the first time, Laurier has captured a top-five place in every category of the magazine's national reputation survey.

For the sixth consecutive year, Laurier attracted the largest proportion of first-year students with a high-school average of 75 percent or more (94.2 percent). The 'average entering grade' of Laurier students (82.7 percent) was second nationally only to Mount Allison.

Laurier's president, Dr. Bob Rosehart, welcomed the results of the 1997 survey.

"You don't have to spend much time on campus to realize that Laurier is home to some of the country's brightest young minds," he said. "The significant improvement in the national reputation survey demonstrates that Laurier is becoming increasingly well known across Canada."

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Laurier finished in the top five 'reputational winners' with a strong fourth-place showing in the national reputational survey – a first for the University. Maclean's asked more than 3,500 high-school guidance counsellors, academic administrators and corporate CEOs across the country to rank the universities and the magazine then listed the top five. Laurier moved into third place in 'highest quality' and placed fourth in 'most innovative,' 'leaders of tomorrow' and 'best overall' categories.

Laurier also remained among the top five universities in the country in the 'overall ranking.' It placed fifth. The University was last ranked fifth in 1994 and had been in fourth place for the last two years.

Laurier's Vice President: University Advancement, Arthur Stephen, attributed the change to growth in first-year enrolments spurred by increasing demand by secondary-school graduates for places at Laurier. As well, he said, Ontario's universities are disadvantaged in the overall rankings because of their poor funding situation compared to the other provinces.

The survey reinforces not only the high reputation of Laurier students, but also their graduation success rates, as the University climbed from third to second nationally. Laurier also maintained its national ranking among the top four universities in the percentage of faculty holding social sciences and humanities research grants.

Maclean's Universities issue goes on sale on Monday, November 17.