

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Leo Groarke appointed to two-year term as Laurier Brantford dean
Program development, recruiting and reaching out to Brantford institutions at top of agenda

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WATERLOO – Leo Groarke, a philosophy professor who helped develop Laurier Brantford's unique program in contemporary studies before being named acting dean in May, has been officially appointed to a two-year term as dean of Wilfrid Laurier University's satellite campus.

"With his enthusiasm for teaching, dedication to students and interest in the philosophy of education, Dr. Groarke is a perfect fit for Laurier Brantford," says Rowland Smith, vice-president: academic at Laurier. "He played an integral part in developing the campus's curriculum and his past administrative experience will serve him well in his new role as dean."

With curriculum development and recruitment at the top of his agenda, Groarke hopes to achieve a number of goals during his term. He aims to reach out to other Brantford-area institutions, establish stronger relations with the Six Nations reserve, complete and expand the contemporary studies program, and raise the profile of the campus across Ontario.

"Laurier Brantford is a unique campus with a truly innovative program," says Groarke, who has been teaching for 20 years. "Our emphasis is on individual students and small classes, which is rare in universities today. The university has so much to offer and I'm delighted to have the chance to build on its impressive start."

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Groarke was appointed acting dean of Laurier Brantford in May. Before the appointment, he served as chair of the philosophy department and assistant dean of program development in the faculty of arts on the campus in Waterloo.

His current two-year term runs until June 30, 2002.