

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Orientation introduces new students to Laurier and Brantford *Four days of activities include barbecue and music in the park, as well as Shinerama*

For Immediate Release

August 30, 2001
61-01

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BRANTFORD – Laurier Brantford’s annual first-year orientation kicks off the start of the campus’s third academic year. The four-day program, which runs from September 5 to 8, mixes social events that help new students acclimatize to their new environment with academic sessions intended to ease the students into university-level studies.

“The first few weeks of university are full of unknowns, so orientation is designed to help ease students into a new and demanding life,” says Christine Dzus, orientation coordinator and third-year student at Laurier Brantford. “We’ve packed the four days with a good balance of useful information and fun. This is a great way for the students to get to know one another and make lifelong friends.”

Orientation begins on Wednesday with a series of academic sessions designed to outline the difference between studying at the secondary and university levels. Topics covered will include managing course loads, accessing available support services, and researching and writing university-level papers.

Wednesday continues with a barbecue and concert in the park. This social event offers all new students their first opportunity to interact with one another as well as faculty and staff. A local group – Jalapeno Jazz Band – will provide the music.

This year’s orientation also includes some joint activities with students from Mohawk College’s Brantford campus. Organizers hope to set the stage for further cooperation throughout the academic year and for group activities too large for either institution to mount on its own.

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Shinerama, an annual orientation event that raises money for cystic fibrosis research, will be held on Saturday. Students will shine shoes, cars, glasses, windows and anything else they can get their hands on from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lots of Sobeys in West Brant and Commisso's on King George Road. Started by Laurier students in 1961, Shinerama has grown into Canada's largest university- and college-student fundraiser.