

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Laurier Brantford and Mohawk College offer 2-by-4 programs

Unique partnership allows students to earn degree and diploma in four years

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BRANTFORD – Laurier Brantford and Mohawk College have today signed an agreement that will allow students to earn two designations in four years. The agreement creates 10 joint offerings – nicknamed two-by-four programs – by pairing Laurier’s bachelor of arts (BA) in contemporary studies with Mohawk programs that include graphic design, international business and native community care.

While university-college partnerships are growing common, this one is unique in its approach. Most simply combine the college and university versions of programs like nursing or business. This new one offers students the well-rounded education of a BA and practical knowledge and skills common to college programs.

“This agreement allows students to receive the benefits of two different types of education in very short time,” explained Leo Groarke, dean of Laurier Brantford. “The communication, analytic and other abilities developed by a university education, when combined with the job skills of a college program, add another level of marketability to a graduate’s resumé. We’re meeting the need that often forces students to seek two educations.”

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The two-by-four programs involve two distinct combinations. Beginning in the fall 2002, Laurier Brantford students will be able to take:

- Three-plus-one programs, where students earn a general BA in Contemporary Studies from Laurier and one of three one-year Mohawk diplomas in such programs as international business, human-resource management or small-business management.
- Two-plus-two programs, where students complete two years of study at Laurier Brantford and two years at Mohawk in accounting, graphic design, graphic arts and electronic pre-press, land and security administration, marketing, native community care or police foundations. Students again finish the four years with a BA and diploma.

Mohawk College is moving to allow its students to register for the same programs. The two institutions are also exploring the possibility of creating a third combination that includes such three-year Mohawk programs as broadcast journalism, radio broadcasting, television broadcasting, and graphic technology and management, as well as new one-year condensed programs in law and security management, and police foundations.

“Partnerships in education are providing students with an ever-increasing array of programs designed to suit growing and diverse needs,” explained Laurier president Bob Rosehart. “I’m pleased that Brantford’s two post-secondary institutions can come together to offer students options that exist nowhere else.”

The signing ceremony and reception was held today from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Laurier Brantford. Those scheduled to attend included Laurier president Bob Rosehart, Mohawk president Cal Haddad, Laurier vice-president: academic Rowland Smith and vice-president advancement Arthur Stephen, Mohawk vice-president: academic Shelagh Gill, Groarke and Mohawk dean of business and applied arts Louise Bockner.