

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Students test skills in Ontario's only comprehensive science exam *Laurier offers \$5,000 scholarship for first place in competition that promotes sciences*

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Contact: Sheila McKee-Protopapas
Program Co-ordinator, Laurier Science Challenge
(519) 884-0701 ext. 2367

or Michael Strickland
Manager, Media Relations & Information
(519) 884-0710 ext. 3070

WATERLOO (Ont.) – The faculty of science at Wilfrid Laurier University is challenging Ontario's senior high-school students to test their math and science skills with Ontario's only comprehensive science exam. More than 300 students from 40 high schools plan to write the new Laurier Science Challenge on Wednesday, April 24.

The two-part examination tests the students' knowledge and problem-solving skills in biology, chemistry, kinesiology, mathematics, physics and psychology. The first part is multiple-choice and the second part consists of essay questions. The Laurier Science Challenge is designed to encourage teens to study mathematics and science, and to consider the possibility of a career in the sciences.

"Laurier recognizes the importance of stimulating interest in the sciences and the challenge is a great way to accomplish this," says program co-ordinator Shelia McKee-Protopapas. "Students must be encouraged to think about science as a future direction. We live in an increasingly technological society, and developing a good understanding in this area is the only way Canada will stay competitive."

The teachers working with the 323 students who will write the exam believe the challenge serves a number of useful purposes. Brian Tos, who has encouraged 13 students from Marshall McLuhan Catholic Secondary School in Toronto to participate, was intrigued by the comprehensive nature of Laurier's challenge.

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“It takes a very special student to address questions from a range of disciplines that includes biology and psychology,” said Tos. “I deliberately promoted this competition to students who are heavily into the sciences. They’ve demonstrated a strong interest, and this is a chance for them to see if they have the goods to succeed at a very competitive period – as part of the double cohort.”

Exam questions have been prepared by professors in the faculty of science and are designed to challenge beyond the high-school curriculum. The Science Challenge is open to Ontario students in their second-last year of high school.

The student who wins first place will receive a \$5,000 scholarship to Laurier from the faculty of science. The Science Challenge offers more than \$10,000 in individual and team cash awards and scholarships to students who demonstrate advanced aptitude in the sciences.

The exam will be given on April 24 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the participants’ schools, under the supervision of a challenge co-ordinator. A practice exam can be found on the Laurier Science Challenge Web site at <www.wlu.ca/science/sciencechallenge>.

CITY	SCHOOL	ADVISOR	PHONE
Bancroft	North Hastings H.S. 16 participants	Mr. James Burbidge	(613) 332-1220
Brampton	St. Marguerite d'Youville S.S. 3 participants	Mr. Roach	(905) 458-5541
Brantford	North Park C.V.S. 2 participants	Ms. Sandy Smith	(519) 759-2560
Brockville	Brockville C.I. 15 participants	Mr. Peter Atkinson	(613) 345-5641
Burlington	Nelson H.S. 9 participants	Mr. Paul Gianotti	(905) 637-3825
C.F.B. Petawawa	General Panet H.S. 1 participant	Mr. D. Rantz	(613) 687-2095
Cambridge	Southwood S.S. 5 participants	Mr. Doug McLusky	(519) 621-5920
Garson	Northeastern S.S. 11 participants	Mrs. J. Crabtree	(705) 693-5340
Gloucester	Cairine Wilson S.S. 10 participants	Mr. Thomas Holcz	(613) 824-4411
	Colonel By S.S. 26 participants	Mr. Alan Johnson	(613) 745-9411
	Gloucester H.S. 1 participant	Mr. Dave Burton	(613) 745-7176
Guelph	Centennial C.V.I. 16 participants	Mr. David Sutherland	(519) 821-0360
Hamilton	Westdale S.S. 3 participants	Ms. H. Moffat	(905) 522-1387
Huntsville	Huntsville H.S. 3 participants	Dr. Blair Carley	(705) 789-5594
Iroquois Falls	Iroquois Falls S.S. 9 participants	Ms. Sarah Squire	(705) 258-3921
Kitchener	Eastwood C.I. 4 participants	Ms. Karen Acton	(519) 743-8265
	Forest Heights C.I. 4 participants	Mr. Tim McIvor	(519) 744-6567

CITY	SCHOOL	ADVISOR	PHONE
Leamington	Cardinal Carter Catholic S.S. 8 participants	Dr. Nasr Saad	(519) 326-6622
Markham	Markville S.S. 1 participant	Mrs. Bev Gardham	(416) 712-6710
Mississauga	Mentor College 4 participants	Mr. Dan Rusciolelli	(905) 271-3393
Newmarket	Huron Heights S.S. 1 participant	Mr. Kelly Le Ber	(905) 473-1351
	Sacred Heart S.S. 16 participants	Ms. Kathy LeBlanc	(905) 895-3340
Oakville	T. A. Blakelock 12 participants	Ms. Kate Diell	(905) 827-1158
Ottawa	Brookfield H.S. 12 participants	Mr. Jean Miller	(613) 733-0610
Palmerston	Norwell District S.S. 10 participants	Ms. T. Cloutier	(519) 343-3107
Port Hope	Port Hope H.S. 7 participants	Ms. Rosanna Rossetti	(905) 885-6346
Richmond Hill	Bayview S.S. 6 participants	Ms. Brenda Forbes	(905) 884-4453
Scarborough	Albert Campbell C.I. 6 participants	Mr. Fred Obedkoff	(416) 321-7549
St. Catharines	Laura Secord S.S. 2 participants	Mr. George Munro	(905) 934-8501
St. Thomas	St. Joseph's H.S. 3 participants	Ms. Rachelle Frederick	(519) 631-2392
Stoney Creek	Cardinal Newman Catholic S.S. 7 participants	Mr. Gerry Fuchs	(905) 664-3383
Thornhill	Thornlea S.S. 9 participants	Ms. Linda Boore	(905) 889-9696
Toronto	Marshall McLuhan Catholic S.S. 13 participants	Mr. Brian Tos	(416) 393-5561
	Runnymede C.I. 5 participants	Mr. Anthony Hack	(416) 394-3200

CITY	SCHOOL	ADVISOR	PHONE
	University of Toronto Schools 23 participants	Dr. Frank Mustoe	(416) 978-6330
Waterloo	St. David's Catholic S.S. 10 participants	Ms. Sherilyn Van de Wynckel	(519) 885-1340
	Waterloo C.I. 5 participants	Mr. Herb Deruyter	(519) 884-9590
Welland	Welland Centennial S.S. 1 participant	Mr. G. Warriner	(905) 735-0700
Willowdale	Crescent School 23 participants	Mr. Stuart Cumner	(416) 449-2556