

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Laurier moves from 7th to 5th in the *Maclean's* Annual Rankings *WLU top Ontario university in its category and second in the country in reputation*

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WATERLOO- Wilfrid Laurier University has taken top spot for the first time among Ontario's universities in the **Primarily Undergraduate** category of the *Maclean's Annual Rankings of Universities*, and is second overall in the country in the reputational ranking.

"We're absolutely elated with the university's performance this year," President Bob Rosehart said. "We're extremely strong on the national scene and we're the top Ontario university in our category."

Laurier finished fifth overall in the **Primarily Undergraduate** category, up two spots from last year's seventh place ranking. The university is Ontario's top performer in key student-related categories such as *Average Entering Grade* and *Proportion of Students with (entering averages of) 75% or higher*. Laurier also improved in *Student Services as a Percentage of Budget*, and retained its second place finish overall in *Scholarships and Bursaries*.

The university had its best-ever showing in reputation, finishing second overall in the country. In the individual reputational categories, Laurier finished third in *Highest Quality*, third in *Most Innovative*, third in *Leaders of Tomorrow*, and second in *Best Overall*.

Laurier's strong reputational finish is gratifying, but not surprising, Rosehart said. "Laurier is known across this country for the quality of our students, for the quality of our academic programs, and for the involvement of our students in the community. Today's rankings by *Maclean's* reflect Laurier's strengths and special qualities, as did the new rankings released by the *Globe & Mail* just last month."

Rosehart said it's also good to see that efforts being made to improve the Library situation at Laurier are reflected in the numbers. "We've improved in both budget and acquisitions in that area," he said, "and with the renovations currently underway, we're ensuring our students will have access to outstanding Library services and materials."

Laurier's ranking in the *Faculty with PhDs* measurement shows the university is doing extremely well in a competitive market when it comes to attracting new faculty members, Rosehart noted. "We hear a great deal these days about how hard it is to recruit good faculty, but Laurier is doing particularly well in this area," he noted.

"This past year has not been without its challenges," Rosehart concluded. "You can't be the fastest-growing university in Ontario without facing challenges. But these rankings clearly show that the Laurier community has achieved a great deal and has much to be proud of."