

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Laurier to honour leader in education and equality of women

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WATERLOO – An early advocate of higher education and equality of women is returning to Wilfrid Laurier University to accept the university’s highest honour. E. Margaret Fulton will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree during Laurier’s fall convocation ceremony on Friday, October 29.

Laurier is honouring Fulton for her many contributions to education, university administration, women’s leadership and community work. She has held several posts at Canadian universities, including that of faculty member in Laurier’s English department from 1967 to 1974. In 1997, she received a Governor General’s award for outstanding contribution in promoting equality of women in Canada.

“It is our great pleasure to honour this outstanding person for her significant contributions in so many fields of importance in Canadian society,” said Robert G. Rosehart, Laurier’s president and vice-chancellor. “I find it particularly gratifying that a member of our extended community can serve as such a wonderful role model for our graduands.”

Fulton was born in Birtle, Manitoba in 1922. She taught in high schools in Manitoba and Ontario between 1942 and 1955, and graduated with a bachelor of arts from the University of Manitoba in 1955.

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From 1957 to 1960 she was a graduate student, teaching fellow and lecturer at the University of British Columbia. She received a master of arts from UBC in 1960 and doctorate from the University of Toronto in 1969.

Fulton has taught at several Canadian universities, including Laurier.

“From her professional beginnings as an elementary school teacher, through to her many post-retirement commitments as a public speaker to women’s groups and other organizations, Margaret Fulton has defended the rights of women, the elderly, ethnic minorities, Third-World populations and other disadvantaged people,” said James Doyle, professor emeritus at Laurier. “She has been especially committed to advocating the reform of educational, business, political and social institutions on the basis of co-operative, interdependent organizational principles.”

Fulton is also a former president of Mount St. Vincent University and dean of women at UBC. She was a director of several boards, including the International Council for Adult Education and the Women’s World Summit Foundation in Geneva. She is an officer of the Order of Canada and recipient of a Governor General’s Award in Commemoration of the Persons Case.

Laurier’s fall convocation ceremony begins at 1:15 p.m. in the Waterloo Memorial Recreation Complex.