

# NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier  
University



## **Philosophy conference will tackle a wide array of public issues**

*Sessions will cover ethics, political philosophy, the philosophy of science and metaphysics*

**For Immediate Release**

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WATERLOO – Should criminal punishment be about revenge or general deterrence? Should trees be protected because doing so is right or because it's in people's best interest? Should drug addicts be treated as victims of brain chemistry or people who have chosen addiction?

These are just some of the questions that will be discussed at the Ontario Philosophical Society's annual conference. The conference will this year be held at Wilfrid Laurier University between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday, November 6.

"The conference will cover a wide range of issues worth debating in public forums, from the nature of mathematics to the value of art," said Byron Williston, conference organizer and philosophy professor at Laurier. "The 26 sessions cover such relevant issues as ethics, political philosophy, the philosophy of science and metaphysics."

The keynote address will be delivered by Tom Hurka, a professor at the University of Toronto who regularly comments on issues of public concern in the Globe and Mail and on the CBC. His talk, entitled *The Best Canadian Philosophy Book: Bernard Suits and the Value of Games*, will focus on the relative value of work and play in the lives of people. He will deliver it at 4:30 p.m. in Laurier's Senate and Board Chambers.

The other 25 sessions will be held in various rooms in the Bricker academic building. The session titles include:

**The Justice of the Ordinary Citizen in Plato's Republic** by Andrea Veltman of York University from 9 to 10 a.m. in BA209,

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**Perception, Objectivity, and the Aesthetic Appreciation of Nature** by Glen Parson of Ryerson University from 10:10 to 11:10 a.m. in BA208,

**Three Dimensions of Environmental Justice** by Stephen D’Arcy of Huron University College from 11:20 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. in BA202,

**Public Reason and Disagreement** by **Mark Capustin** of the University of Guelph from 1:50 to 2:50 p.m. in BA 202, and

**Domination and Resistance in Nietzsche’s Theory of Pleasure** by Lauren King of Wilfrid Laurier University from 3 to 4 p.m. in BA 209.

Admission to the conference is \$5 for students and \$10 for non-students.

For more information on the conference and various sessions, please visit [www.wlu.ca/homepage.php?grp\\_id=57](http://www.wlu.ca/homepage.php?grp_id=57) and follow the links to the Ontario Philosophical Society Conference.