NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Laurier open house to showcase academics and community spirit Full day – including transition session – helps prepare students and parents for university

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WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University is adding two demonstrations of photonics and a session on studying psychology to its annual spring open house. Prospective students and their parents can learn about these and other programs, along with various aspects of life on campus, when Laurier welcomes all visitors on Friday, March 18.

The day involves a mix of information sessions, booths and open houses – all designed to provide information on topics that include academic programming, student life, admissions and financial aid. Two years ago, the university added a session on making the transition from high school to university and organizers expect it will again be among the day's more popular events.

"Being away from home for what may be the first extended period of time can prove stressful on students and parents," said Glennice Snyder, manager of liaison services. "We introduced the transition session to help both parties better understand what they can expect in a range of areas, from managing personal finances to coping with a possible drop in marks. Two senior students help set the stage for what families can expect in the first year."

The high school transition session will begin at 2:30 p.m.

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For most visitors, the day will begin in the concourse, where they can pick up a campus map and schedule of the day's events. Campus tours will begin at 9:30 a.m. and leave from the concourse every hour.

Laurier's faculties of arts and science, the school of business and economics, the department of kinesiology and physical education and the psychology department will run information sessions at various times and locations. Program information will also be available from academic information booths that will be staffed from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The faculty of music provides similar information during an open house from 10 a.m. to noon.

The faculty of science has added a demonstration from its new photonics program to the list of events. Visitors can learn about this emerging science – which describes the principles, properties and theories of protons as well as the sophisticated technologies associated with various aspects of light – from 10:30 to 11 a.m. or from 1:30 to 2 p.m.

Visitors can learn more about admissions, residence and financial aid during a general information session that begins 11:30 a.m. and is repeated at 1:30 p.m. An information session on co-operative education for all students will begin at 11 a.m. and will be repeated for students applying to business or economics at 1:30.

A residence open house, involving all residence buildings, will run from noon to 3 p.m. Visitors can also learn about Laurier's non-academic activities during a student-life fair that runs in the concourse from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

For more information about Laurier's March break open house, including locations and times for all events, please visit www.chooselaurier.ca.

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