

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Discover Laurier offers new students a glimpse of university life *Orientation prepares incoming students and their families for post-secondary transition*

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Contact: Glennice Snyder
Manager, Liaison Services
(519) 884-0710 ext. 3100

Jamie Shea
Discover Laurier Co-ordinator, Liaison Services
(519) 884-0710 ext. 3518 or discover@wlu.ca

WATERLOO – First-year students and their parents will get an early look at university life when they attend Discover Laurier on Friday, July 15. The one-day orientation offers insight into the changes and challenges common to making the transition from high school to higher education.

Participants can attend a variety of seminars that will cover such topics as academics, residence life, community activities and financial concerns. The day will also include self-guided campus tours and a residence open house.

“Discover Laurier allows first-year students and their families to better understand what the next few years will bring,” said Jamie Shea, co-ordinator of Discover Laurier. “By becoming familiar with the Laurier community, students will make a quicker and smoother transition to campus life, which helps them focus on academic success from the very beginning of September.”

This year organizers are emphasizing how to achieve academic success with sessions featuring deans, professors and academic advisors from the faculties of arts, music and science and the school of business and economics. The academic sessions will offer practical advice on the necessary skills for becoming a successful university student.

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To get a head start on the school year, students will learn how to purchase their textbooks online and staff members from the registrar's office will be on hand to work out any last minute problems.

A student services fair will acquaint students with services offered by the co-op office, the accessible learning office, athletics and recreation, the writing centre, campus security, the library, health services, counselling services, the chaplains' office, student awards, career services, the bookstore, the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union as well as Grand River Transit and the cities of Waterloo and Kitchener.

The event is free, though participants are encouraged to register. Students who register in advance at www.wlu.ca/discover will be eligible to win a prize valued at \$250 from the Laurier bookstore.

Information packages, including a schedule for the day and a campus map, can be picked up in the concourse between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Parking is free all day for visitors to Discover Laurier and volunteers will help newcomers navigate the campus.

Students and parents interested in sampling residence living can arrange an overnight stay by contacting Hotel Laurier at (519) 884-0710 ext. 2771. They can also sample campus cuisine by lunching at the dining hall.

For more information about Discover Laurier, call (519) 884-0710 ext. 3518 or email discover@wlu.ca.