

# NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier  
University



## **University concludes weekend bargaining with WLUFA**

*Laurier presented several proposals to address salary disparity and workload concerns*

**For Immediate Release**

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**Contact: Jim Butler**  
**Vice-President: Finance and Administration**  
**(519) 884-0710 ext. 2480**

**or Michael Strickland**  
**Manager, Media Relations & Information**  
**(519) 884-0710 ext 3070**

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University remains committed to reaching a fair agreement with the full-time faculty members and librarians represented by the Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty Association. The university presented its latest offer Sunday afternoon.

“We’ve made progress on a number of key issues and we’re hopeful that with continued negotiations, we’ll be able to resolve the remaining major ones – salary and workload,” said Jim Butler, Laurier’s vice-president of finance and administration. “Over the course of the summer, we’ve tried to design proposals that address the union’s concerns, without having a negative impact on the university’s financial viability, the collegial governance system at the university, or the quality of the students’ education.”

The university commissioned a statistical study that compared faculty salaries at Ontario universities in disciplines comparable to Laurier’s. The analysis revealed that Laurier’s salaries compared favorably with those of other universities, with the exception of the assistant professor’s level.

The university’s bargaining team tried to address this discrepancy by proposing a specific salary adjustment for assistant professors. In addition, the university has proposed further adjustments for all faculty and librarians.

The university has also put forward proposals to address the faculty association's workload concerns. Laurier is the only Ontario university to have committed to a student-faculty ratio in its collective agreement. This has resulted in the hiring of 110 new faculty members during the life of the last three-year agreement.

Laurier's last three-year agreement with the faculty association, which represents 465 full-time professors and librarians in Waterloo and Brantford, expired in June. Part-time faculty ratified a new three-year agreement last year.