

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Open house offers look at academic excellence and community *Day includes look at opportunities to study abroad and renovated athletic complex*

For Immediate Release

**March 09, 2006
20-06**

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WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University will promote academic excellence and community spirit, the two hallmarks of the Laurier experience, during its annual open house on Friday March 17. The day will showcase Laurier's newly renovated athletic complex and services offered by our international office.

Potential students and their parents can learn about academic programs, admissions, financial aid and student life. Laurier faculty, employees and students will staff information booths, participate in information sessions and offer guided tours of campus and residences. The university will again be offering a very popular session on successfully making a transition from high school to the postsecondary level.

"Starting university can be challenging for students and their families," said Lise Pedersen, senior liaison officer. "Many students are away from home for the first time, they are enjoying new freedoms, they are responsible for their finances and their marks usually go down. Two current students will offer their top 10 tips to help new students and their families cope with all the changes."

The day will begin in the concourse at 9 a.m. Visitors can pick up a schedule of the day and a campus map, and join hourly campus tours.

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Academic sessions for arts, science, business, economics, kinesiology and psychology begin at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. The faculty of music will host an open house from 9 a.m. until noon and feature a concert at 10 a.m.

Laurier international will highlight its services for international students as well as opportunities to study abroad. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., staff will join international and exchange students in answering questions about exciting opportunities outside Canada.

A new addition to this year's roster of events is a day-long athletics open house. Coaches and student athletes will discuss competitive programs. Visitors can tour the new \$4.3 million addition to Laurier's fitness facilities, and also learn about recreational and intramural programs. Athletics and Recreation will display the university's well-earned sport successes, including the Vanier Cup.

From noon to 3 p.m. visitors can meet with residence representatives at Macdonald House and tour all residence buildings. A student-life fair in the concourse will feature campus clubs, services and organizations that support and enhance life outside of the classroom.

Laurier is again offering popular sessions on academic success. Two students – one a fourth-year communications major and the other in third-year business and chemistry – will offer tips on how to make a successful transition to university. They and a representative from Laurier's learning services department will highlight the services available to students in their first year and beyond. These sessions will be held in the senate and board chamber at 10:45 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

For more information, including locations and times for all events, or to register for Laurier's March 17th open house, please visit www.chooselaurier.ca.