

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Wilfrid Laurier University appoints business and community leaders to board of governors

For Immediate Release

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WATERLOO – The Laurier board of governors recently welcomed business and community leaders Farouk Ahamed, Cal Bricker, Claire Duboc and Phil McColeman to the university’s governing body. The new board appointees will join University Chancellor Bob Rae and the existing board to bring Laurier into its second century.

“The range of expertise of our new board appointees complements that of our existing members to create a well-rounded board, familiar with both the private and not-for-profit sectors and well-positioned to implement the university’s strategic plan, the Century Plan,” says Laurier Board of Governors Chair Beverly Harris.

Farouk Ahamed, senior vice president, Ernst & Young Orenda Corporate Finance Inc. and partner, Ernst & Young LLP, brings financial expertise to his position on the board’s Audit and Compliance Committee and Pension Committee. He partners his business knowledge with leadership experience on community boards such as Freeport Health Centre, Social Planning Council of Kitchener-Waterloo (K-W) and the United Way of Kitchener-Waterloo and area.

Claire Duboc, who has extensive governance experience gained through her current position on the board of directors of the SickKids Foundation, as well as her involvement with

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the Canadian Paraplegic Association, Special Olympics Canada, and Laurier Women's Athletic Association, will serve on the board's Nominations Committee.

Cal Bricker, vice president of public affairs at Waste Management Canada, will also serve on the Nominations Committee and as a board member appointed to Senate. Bricker's background includes work experience in the Ontario government, at the University of Calgary and at Molson and Labatt breweries, as well as community service in Ontario and Alberta.

Phil McColeman, a Brantford native who played a significant role in the creation of Laurier Brantford, will serve on the Audit and Compliance Committee and Chair the inaugural Brantford Advisory Committee. McColeman owns a Brantford property management and real estate development business. He is the co-chair of this year's Brant United Way Campaign with his wife Nancy. He has also served as the president of the Lansdowne Children's Centre, chairman of the mayor's task force on Brantford downtown revitalization, and a director of the Chamber of Commerce Brantford-Brant.

All of the new board members are also Laurier alumni, something that, according to Harris, is particularly significant at this point in the university's history. "We welcome their perspective and passion as alumni as we approach our centenary year in 2011," says Harris.

Laurier's Century Plan focuses efforts on sustaining a student-centred environment, expanding the university's graduate and professional programs, furthering research intensity, increasing the school's international profile, and promoting teaching excellence.

In addition to the external board appointments, Laurier faculty member Dr. Peter Tiidus, professor and chair of Kinesiology and Physical Education, was Senate-elected to the board and will serve on the Employment Practices Committee. Dr. Joann Freed, professor and chair of Archaeology and Classical Studies was University Faculty Council-elected and will serve as a Nominations Committee member.

The board of governors works with the Senate and the university chancellor as the governing body of Wilfrid Laurier University. Its role includes strategic planning, regulatory compliance and accountability, university employment practices, resource allocation and the university pension plan. Board member appointments range between two- and three-year terms.