

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Clicker technology finds its way into Laurier classrooms

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WATERLOO – Laurier has adopted a new student response system called i>clicker that will be implemented in classrooms for the coming fall semester. Student response systems – commonly known as “clicker technology” – represent an evolving in-class student polling technology which will allow faculty to poll their students with multiple-choice questions to keep the students engaged in the material or determine whether students understand concepts during lectures.

The new i>clicker system is designed to create an engaging and inviting learning environment that will maximize active learning in the classroom, and can also be used to award participation marks, take attendance or track changing opinions. Individual results from i>clicker sessions can be posted by instructors and viewed by students on WebCT, Laurier’s online learning management system.

“Clicker technology provides an innovative approach to keeping students engaged in the classroom, especially large-enrollment lectures,” says Sandy Hughes, director of teaching support services. “The i>clicker system is useful to help pace student learning and get input and feedback from students.”

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Over the past two years, Laurier has experimented with clickers from several companies, and a committee was formed over the past months to review the various clicker technologies and choose one system to be adopted at Laurier. Having only one system will help to reduce the cost to students and allow for better support to both faculty and students.

The unanimous decision of the committee to adopt i>clicker was based on a number of considerations, including the following:

- Cost
- Ease of use for both faculty and students
- Reporting capabilities of the system
- Integration with WebCT
- Compatibility with a variety of software programs

For more information, visit the educational development website at <http://www.wlu.ca/edev>.