

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Laurier Board of Governors reappoints two senior administrators

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WATERLOO – The Board of Governors of Wilfrid Laurier University has approved the reappointment of two senior administrators: Jim Butler, vice-president: finance and administration, and David McMurray, assistant vice-president: student services/dean of students.

“Laurier is fortunate to have two such high-calibre individuals continue in these roles,” said Dr. Bob Rosehart, president and vice-chancellor of the university. “Both of them are recognized in Canada for providing outstanding leadership in their fields.”

Butler, who began his first term as vice-president: finance and administration in August 2002, has been appointed to a second five-year term. During his first term, Butler played a lead role in the development of a clear budget presentation format; a debt-restructuring strategy that resulted in the university’s first bond issue; and changes that resulted in Laurier’s first official A stable credit rating.

“Colleagues both inside and outside the university comment on Jim’s strong work ethic and willingness to assume additional projects and responsibilities,” said Rosehart. “His calm demeanor and consensus-building management style have been most effective.”

Butler, who also serves as chair of the Council of Senior Administrative Officers of Ontario – Universities of Ontario, said he is looking forward to continuing his work at Laurier.

“I feel privileged to be able to serve Laurier for another term,” he said. “There are no shortage of challenges ahead for all universities in Ontario, but we will concentrate on providing improved services to the campus community, contribute to the quality and accountability agenda of the government, and ensure that the faculty and student experience is the best it can be.”

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David McMurray, who first joined Laurier in 1997, was appointed to another five-year term as assistant vice-president: student services/dean of students. He has been involved in student services for more than 30 years. He is a past president of the Canadian Association of College and University Student Services and has won the association's highest award, the Award of Honour, which recognizes a continuing and outstanding commitment to student services. Widely known for his expertise in student services, McMurray is frequently invited to teach and speak on the subject.

"David's commitment to students and his ability to provide senior administrative leadership have made him a tremendous asset to Laurier," said Rosehart.

McMurray said he is pleased to be a part of Laurier's student-focused approach to post-secondary education.

"The continued opportunity to serve Laurier is so rewarding and extremely gratifying," McMurray said. "I am grateful for the extensive support I have received, and place great value on our strong institutional community so vital to our student's success. In moving forward, I believe Laurier can soar by clearly carving out an inimitable niche in the student-centred education that is without equal amongst our peers."