

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Laurier marks official opening of Faculty of Education

For Immediate Release

September 25, 2007

62-07

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WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University will officially mark the grand opening of its Faculty of Education with a reception and tour on Wednesday, October 3, from 3-5 p.m. in the Science Building Courtyard.

The reception will include remarks from Laurier’s new president, Max Blouw; vice-president and academic dean of St. Jerome’s University, Myroslaw Tataryn; MPPs John Milloy and Elizabeth Witmer, and the directors of education from each of the four partnering boards of education.

“Midwest Ontario has waited a long time for a Faculty of Education,” said Lynne Hannay, interim dean of the Faculty of Education. “This milestone represents a great deal of work from individuals at Laurier, St. Jerome’s University, and the Waterloo, Waterloo Catholic, Upper Grand and Wellington Catholic District School Boards.”

The Faculty of Education’s model is unique in Ontario. The staffs of 15 area schools from the partnering school boards help to educate the teacher education candidates. Students began visiting these professional development schools two days a week at the end of August.

“Our faculty has worked very hard to design a program that will assist students in becoming active learners who will eventually become leaders in the educational system,” said Hannay. “We will continue to develop courses that reflect the needs of our partnering school districts and local teachers.”

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Laurier announced its Faculty of Education, in partnership with St. Jerome's University, in July, 2006. It recently received and fulfilled its conditional accreditation requirements from the Ontario College of Teachers. The faculty received 2,700 applications to fill seventy-one available spots in the program's first year.