

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Laurier celebrates teaching excellence with teaching Hall of Fame

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**Contact: Sandy Hughes, Director: Teaching Support Services
(519) 884-0710 ext. 4104 or shughes@wlu.ca**

**or Kevin Crowley, Associate Director: News and Editorial Services
(519) 884-0710 ext. 3070 or kcrowley@wlu.ca**

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University has established a teaching Hall of Fame to recognize its highest teaching award recipients and celebrate the school's commitment to teaching excellence. Laurier officials and provincial government representatives will open the Hall of Fame at a ceremony on November 23, 2007.

“Laurier has a strong reputation for teaching,” said Sandy Hughes, Laurier's director of teaching support services. “Teachers are advocates of intellectual life, as well as mentors to their students. Excellent teaching requires thought, commitment and practice, and it's wonderful to have a public place to recognize those who have excelled in this regard.”

Photos of Laurier's national, provincial and institutional teaching award recipients from the past three decades will line the Hall of Fame in the main corridor of the Bricker Academic building.

Laurier will honour its most recent teaching award recipients at the ceremony: Catherine Black, Thomas Fleming and Shirley Lichti, who each received the province's Leadership in Faculty Teaching (LIFT) award in September, and Carol Duncan, the winner of the 2006 Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Association (OCUFA) award.

In addition to the LIFT and OCUFA recipients, the Hall of Fame will showcase Laurier's 3M National Teaching Fellows. Nearly 30 institutional teaching award recipients will also take their place in the Hall of Fame, beginning with the school's first Laurier

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Outstanding Teacher Award winner, Jim McCutcheon, who received the award in 1978 (the award later became the Wilfrid Laurier University Award for Teaching Excellence).

Laurier's reputation for teaching excellence was supported in recent university rankings. Laurier tied for the highest marks in its category for "quality of teaching" in the Globe and Mail's University Report Card published in October, and received an "A" in the "faculty members' knowledge of subjects" and "class sizes" categories.

The teaching Hall of Fame ceremony will take place Nov. 23 in the Bricker Academic building at 3:30 p.m.