

# NEWS RELEASE

## Wilfrid Laurier University



### **Record number of high school students make Laurier their top choice**

*Applications to Brantford campus up 35 per cent*

**For Immediate Release**

**Jan. 17, 2008  
06-08**

**Contact: Dr. Leo Groarke, Principal/Vice-President  
Laurier Brantford  
(519) 756-8228 ext. 5881**

or

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

BRANTFORD — The number of high school applicants who made Laurier Brantford their first choice among Ontario universities has increased 31 per cent this year, while the total number of applications to the Brantford campus is up 35 per cent.

According to the Ontario Universities Application Centre, 626 high school applicants have listed Laurier Brantford as their first choice for the 2008-09 academic year, up from 477 last year. In total, 3,157 applicants listed Laurier Brantford among their choices, up from 2,339 last year.

The increase is part of a positive trend for the entire university. Overall, 4,083 high school applicants listed Laurier as their first choice, up 10.1 per cent from last year. In total, 19,980 high school applicants listed Laurier among their choices, up 11.2 per cent from last year. The overall results put Laurier among the top three universities in Ontario in terms of total application percentage growth.

“I am delighted that the university as a whole, and Laurier Brantford in particular, continues to be such an attractive choice for students,” said Laurier president Dr. Max Blouw. “The increase in applications reflects Laurier’s strong reputation for providing students with an excellent education and one of the best university experiences in Canada.”

Laurier Brantford experienced an increase in first-choice applications for most of its programs, and many were ahead of Ontario-wide trends. For example, the number of first-choice applications for Laurier Brantford’s Concurrent Education program was up nearly 10 per cent, while system-wide first-choice applications for education were down nearly 20 per cent. Other first-choice increases for Laurier Brantford include Psychology (up about 90 per cent), Health Studies (up about 63 per cent), Criminology (up about 35 per cent), and Journalism (up 28 per cent).

“The increase in applications reflects our growing reputation, the work of a first-rate recruitment team, and the excellent student experience in Brantford,” said Dr. Leo Groarke, principal/vice-president of Laurier Brantford. “This is great news for the community because it supports our plan to strengthen Laurier Brantford’s presence in the city.”