

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Dr. Bruce Arai appointed Dean of the Brantford Campus

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BRANTFORD — Dr. Bruce Arai has been officially named the Dean of the Brantford campus of Wilfrid Laurier University. His four-year term begins July 1.

Arai, who began at Laurier Brantford as associate dean in 2003, has served as acting dean since 2005. During this period, Arai has taken a lead role in campus development, with a focus on expanding the academic offerings of the campus.

“Bruce Arai has been a key figure on the campus for the last five years,” said Dr. Leo Groarke, Principal/Vice-President of the Brantford campus. “He has played an especially important role in the development of new programs and has been an important catalyst in our relations with the city and with Mohawk College. I’m delighted he will become Laurier Brantford’s third dean.”

Arai earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Calgary before moving on to graduate work in sociology, first at the University of New Brunswick and later at the University of British Columbia, where he received his PhD. His research focuses on the sociology of work, the sociology of education, and environmental sociology.

One of his goals for Laurier Brantford is to continue to develop new and innovative programming to help the campus remain a desired destination for students from across the province and the country.

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Dr. Bruce Arai appointed Dean /2

“One of my top priorities is continued program development,” said Arai. “We currently have a nice combination of practical and theoretical programs, and an expanded academic mission will allow us to continue to establish ourselves as a quality institution.”

Laurier Brantford has continually expanded since opening in 1999 with 39 students. Applications increased more than 35 percent this year, the largest increase for an Ontario university. In 2008-09, the campus population is expected to top 2,000 students.

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