

# NEWS RELEASE

## Wilfrid Laurier University



### **Laurier business dean named one of Canada's 100 Most Powerful Women**

**For Immediate Release**

**Nov. 25, 2008  
106-08**

**Contact: Megan Harris, Manager, Marketing and Communications  
Laurier School of Business and Economics  
519-884-0710 ext. 2948 or [mharris@wlu.ca](mailto:mharris@wlu.ca)**

**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)**

WATERLOO — Ginny Dybenko, dean of the Laurier School of Business & Economics, has been named to the prestigious Top 100 listing of Canada's Most Powerful Women for 2008.

The list is selected by an independent advisory board on behalf of the Women's Executive Network, a Toronto-based organization dedicated to the advancement of executive-minded women in the workplace.

"This is well-deserved recognition for Dean Dybenko," said Laurier president Dr. Max Blouw. "Ginny has brought a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the Laurier School of Business & Economics. Her dynamic personality and innovative approach have made her a tremendous asset to the university and our students."

Dybenko received her award Tuesday at a summit event in Toronto sponsored by the Women's Executive Network.

"We are pleased to welcome Ginny Dybenko as one of Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 in the Professionals category," said Pamela Jeffery, founder of the Women's Executive Network. "As the first female dean of the Laurier School of Business & Economics, as well as a teacher and a mentor, she is a shining example of the vision and leadership the awards were created to promote."

"It's a tremendous honour, one that I share with the Laurier School of Business & Economics," said Dybenko. "The world of business education is a very competitive marketplace. I think the Top 100 award reflects positively on Laurier for having the insight and willingness to invite someone with corporate experience and connections to serve as dean."

Dybenko joined Laurier in 2006 after 30 years of senior business experience, primarily in innovation-related roles in telecommunications. She held a number of executive positions within Bell Canada, including president and chief executive officer of Bell Advanced Communications.

– more –

Just prior to joining Laurier, Dybenko served as vice-president of partnerships, marketing and communications for a high-tech start-up, responsible for expanding the reach and influence of a successful software firm operating around the world.

At Laurier, Dybenko has been an energetic force behind numerous initiatives, including the creation of a new MBA in Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

“Canada must do more to become globally competitive in science and technology, and a big part of that is the management of innovation,” she said. “Laurier’s MBA in Innovation and Entrepreneurship addresses this challenge directly.”

Dybenko has also been a champion for the promotion of technical programs for youth, serving on the Youth in Motion Educational Foundation, notable for its Top 20 Under 20 scholarship competition. She is a member of the Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce board of directors and the board of Waterloo North Hydro, and is a former member of the Board of Governors for the University of Western Ontario.

Dybenko holds degrees in mathematics from the University of Western Ontario (BA) and the University of Waterloo (Master of Mathematics), a diploma in Operations Research from the University of Toronto and an Executive Business diploma from Queen’s University.

#### **About the Laurier School of Business & Economics**

The Laurier School of Business & Economics is the largest English-speaking business school in Canada, with more than 4,500 students enrolled in full-time, part-time, graduate, undergraduate and diploma programs. Laurier is noted for innovation, its co-op program and commitment to teaching excellence. Laurier graduates currently have the distinction of holding the highest qualifying average in Certified Management Accountant (CMA) exams, as well as the highest mark ever received, and have won the prestigious CA Gold Medal award for the highest overall mark across Canada, four times since 1993.