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Laurier to graduate 2,250 students at its 2009 spring convocation

WATERLOO –Wilfrid Laurier University will be holding its spring convocation ceremonies June 3 to 10.

As of June 2, approximately 2,250 students had met all program requirements and qualified to graduate. Laurier expects to confer 222 graduate degrees, 2,003 undergraduate degrees and 25 diplomas. On average, 80 percent of Laurier graduands attend convocation ceremonies. Laurier will hold six ceremonies in Waterloo and two at Laurier Brantford.

"Convocation is a moment of great pride for our whole community as we celebrate the academic success of our students," said university registrar Ray Darling. "Many of our students will treasure this milestone for years to come."

Honorary degree recipients include Louise Fréchette, former United Nations deputy-secretary-general; David Anderson, former federal cabinet minister; Heather Reisman, founder and CEO of Indigo Books & Music Inc. and Audrey Ronning Topping, author and photojournalist.

The following ceremonies make up Laurier's spring convocation:

Wednesday, June 3, 10 a.m., Laurier Athletic Complex, Faculty of Education and Faculty of Music

- 68 Bachelor of Education degrees, 52 Honours Bachelor degrees and four diplomas for the Faculty of Music
- Board address: Laurier Board of Governors chair Beverly Harris

Wednesday, June 3, 2 p.m., Laurier Athletic Complex, Faculty of Graduate Studies, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary

- 10 doctorate degrees; 212 master's degrees
- Honorary Doctor of Laws degree: Louise Fréchette, former United Nations deputy-secretary-general

Thursday, June 4, 10 a.m., Laurier Athletic Complex, Faculty of Science

- Faculty of Science Honours and General programs: biology and psychology
- 114 Honours Bachelor of Arts degrees, 48 Honours Bachelor of Science degrees and 31 General Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees
- Teaching Award of Excellence (part-time category): Prof. John Stephens, psychology
- Honorary Doctor of Science degree: David Anderson, former federal cabinet minister

Thursday, June 4, 2 p.m., Laurier Athletic Complex, Faculty of Science

- Faculty of Science Honours and General programs: chemistry; biology & chemistry; biology & mathematics; kinesiology & physical education; mathematics; physics & computer science
- 65 Honours Bachelor of Arts degrees, 81 Honours Bachelor of Science degrees and 34 General Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees.

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- Convocation address: Honorary Doctor of Science degree recipient David Anderson, former federal cabinet minister

Friday, June 5, 10 a.m., Waterloo Memorial Recreation Complex, School of Business and Economics, Faculty of Arts (General program)

- 222 Honours Bachelor of Business Administration degrees, 50 Honours Bachelor of Arts degrees (economics), 20 General Bachelor of Arts degrees (economics) and 21 diplomas, 267 General Bachelor of Arts degrees and one General Bachelor of Science degree, Faculty of Arts.
- Distinguished Governor Award: Gerald McGrath
- Honorary Doctor of Laws degree: Heather Reisman, founder and CEO of Indigo Books & Music Inc.

Friday, June 5, 2 p.m., Waterloo Memorial Recreation Complex, Faculty of Arts (Honours program)

- 607 Honours Bachelor of Arts degrees and one Honours Bachelor of Science degree
- Teaching Assistant Award of Excellence: PhD candidate Lisa Funnell, English & Film Studies

Wednesday, June 10, 10 a.m., The Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts, Brantford, Honours and General Bachelor of Arts programs

- 176 Honours Bachelor of Arts degrees, 78 General Bachelor of Arts degrees
- Honorary Doctor of Letters degree: Audrey Ronning Topping, author and photojournalist

Wednesday, June 10, 2 p.m., The Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts, Brantford, Laurier-Nipissing Concurrent Education students; Nipissing Master of Education and consecutive Bachelor of Education students

- 92 Bachelor of Arts (Laurier)/Bachelor of Education (Nipissing) degrees, 15 Master of Education degrees (Nipissing), and 77 consecutive Bachelor of Education (Nipissing) degrees
- Board address: Brantford mayor Mike Hancock