

**For Immediate Release
March 16, 2010 | 26-10**

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Laurier announces finalists for Outstanding Women of Laurier Award

WATERLOO — Wilfrid Laurier University has announced four finalists for the annual Outstanding Women of Laurier Award. The award will be presented at a luncheon Wednesday, March 31 at the Waterloo Inn Conference Hotel.

The Outstanding Women of Laurier Award recognizes a female Laurier student who combines athletic and academic achievement with an active commitment to leadership and the development of young athletes through community teaching or coaching. Since 2006, the event has generated more than \$195,000 for women's athletic programs, scholarships and Laurier's mentor coaching program.

The keynote address will be delivered by Carole Bertuzzi Luciani, a dynamic speaker and humorist who is well-versed in exploring women's issues and life lessons and who is also known as the "Moodivator." Daiene Vernile, anchor and producer of CTV Southwestern Ontario's current affairs program *Provincewide*, will host the event.

The finalists for the Outstanding Women of Laurier Award include (in alphabetical order):

Megan Gilmore: Gilmore is a third-year kinesiology and physical education student from Cambridge, Ontario who plays on Laurier's varsity women's volleyball team. In her first year, Gilmore was named the team's rookie of the year and also named to the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) rookie all-star team. Gilmore received an athletic scholarship for the past three years, and was recognized as a CIS Academic All-Canadian. For the past five summers, Gilmore has worked as a camp counsellor and instructor at a community volleyball camp. She also volunteers as a volleyball coach at E.C. Drury School for the Deaf, as well as at Jacob Hespeler Secondary School with the senior women's volleyball team.

Danielle Inglis: Inglis is a fourth-year sociology student from Kleinburg, Ontario who is a member of the varsity curling team, which won a silver medal at the 2009 winter World Universiade in Harbin, China. Two weeks later, the team went on to win a second-straight CIS championship in Montreal, earning a spot to compete in the 2009 Karuizawa International Bonsel in January, where they won a gold medal. This season, Inglis led the team to a bronze medal finish at the CIS championship and was awarded the Sportsmanship Award on the women's side and was also named to the CIS second all-Canadian team. Inglis has volunteered with numerous groups including the KW Granite Curling Club, the London Breast Cancer Spiel, the Elmira Curling Club and the Areva company in Port Elgin.

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Liz Knox: A fourth-year honours sociology student from Stouffville, Ontario, Knox is a member of the women's varsity hockey team. The team has won four OUA championships and two CIS silver medals and one bronze, giving Knox the opportunity to play on a national stage for the Canadian National Under-22 Women's Hockey team at the MLP Nations Cup in Germany. This season, Knox was named the CIS player of the year in women's hockey. Knox is also a coach for the Laurier Women's Hockey annual summer hockey camp and an assistant coach for an atom girl's spring hockey team. Off the ice, Knox has been asked to be a guest speaker at the Woolwich Girls Hockey Association year-end banquet and at Laurier's Healthy Hawk Day. She is an assistant instructor at The Zone Training, an assistant coach for the Waterloo Ravens midget AA women's hockey team and a summer volunteer at the Sun Life Financial Movement Disorders Research and Rehabilitation Centre at Laurier.

Brittany Shaw: A third-year biochemistry student from Kitchener, Ontario, Shaw is the captain of the Laurier swim team. Recently, Shaw qualified for her first Canadian Interuniversity Sports (CIS) championship in three individual events, and set personal-best times. For the past five years, Shaw has competed in various lifeguarding and lifesaving competitions, representing both Laurier and city teams. She has competed in countless regional, provincial and national meets and was selected as a member of the Canadian development team. In October 2010, the Canadian National team is travelling to Egypt and Shaw aspires to be part of that team. In addition to coaching and teaching swimming lessons to children 4-10 years of age, Shaw volunteers as a high school tutor for physics with the Students Offering Support (SOS) program at Laurier, and is an instructional assistant for first-year chemistry labs.

The Outstanding Women of Laurier Award luncheon Leadership Sponsors include: RBC, RBC Dominion Securities, Waterloo Inn Conference Hotel, M&M Meat Shops and Miller Thomson LLP.

For more information about the Outstanding Women of Laurier luncheon, or to purchase tickets online, please visit www.laurierathletics.com/owl.