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## **Laurier selected to attend prestigious leadership conference in the U.S.**

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University has been selected to attend the Association of American Colleges and Universities' (AAC&U) Greater Expectations Institute. Laurier was the only Canadian university selected to join 20 other institutions for the AAC&U conference, titled "Leadership to Make Excellence Inclusive."

"Our attendance at this institute is a very purposeful Laurier leadership commitment to integrate our academic agenda with the co-curricular facets of student learning and development, all with a view to enhance student engagement and success," said David McMurray, Laurier's vice-president: student affairs.

"Over the next three years, Laurier plans to establish a formal academy for teaching, learning and student development that integrates more fully its many curricular and co-curricular initiatives."

A team comprised of members from Laurier's Waterloo and Brantford campuses will attend the conference, which takes place June 15-19 at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee.

Laurier's team leaders are: David McMurray, Lesley Cooper, acting principal/vice-president: Laurier Brantford, and Deb MacLatchy, vice-president: academic and provost. Team members include: Michel Desjardins, Ruth Cruikshank, Charles Morrison, Shohini Ghose, Andrew Welsh, Sybil Geldart, Gail Forsyth, Sandy Hughes and Dave Prang.

AAC&U's intensive five-day program will help the attending universities and colleges to improve their ability to increase the inclusion, engagement and high achievement of all their students.

Laurier's team will work together to create a Canadian benchmark model for integration and collaboration in academic and student affairs development, McMurray said.

Laurier inspires lives of leadership and purpose by combining academic excellence with an exceptional student experience. The work done at the conference will help improve Laurier's ability to create well-rounded graduates who engage with their communities and society.