

NEWS RELEASE



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Laurier hosts Canadian Political Science Association conference May 16-18

WATERLOO – More than 600 political scientists from Canada and around the world will gather at Wilfrid Laurier University May 16-18 to discuss a wide range of topics, from the recent federal election to Canada's role in Afghanistan, as part of the 2011 national conference of the Canadian Political Science Association.

The conference will feature a variety of engaging formats for participants and journalists, including roundtable discussions, keynote speakers and the presentation of academic papers.

"With over 600 delegates from across Canada as well as from the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Europe and China, the 2011 Meetings of the Canadian Political Science Association will address a wide range of important and timely issues, including May's federal election, the recent international financial crisis and Canada's role in Afghanistan," said Laurier professor and programme chair Debora VanNijnatten. "The conference will also feature more than 20 plenary and keynote speakers across the 13 sub-fields of political science, including lectures on political participation, climate justice and women and political leadership."

Sample highlights include:

- *Is Parliament Broke?* A roundtable discussion Monday, May 16, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. featuring Jonathan Malloy of Carleton University, Peter Russell of the University of Toronto and David Docherty of Wilfrid Laurier University.
- *Canadian Foreign Policy–Afghanistan*. Papers and discussion, Tuesday, May 17, 8:45 to 10:15 a.m.
- *Global Governance of Agriculture and Food I*. Papers and discussion, Tuesday, May 17, 8:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.; and *Global Governance of Agriculture and Food II*, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- *Election 2011: Perspectives on the Campaign and Outcome*. Roundtable discussion Wednesday, May 18, 3:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. featuring William Cross of Carleton University, Barry Kay of Wilfrid Laurier University, Anna Esselment of the University of Waterloo, Frédérick Bastien of Laval University, and Joe Garcea of the University of Saskatchewan.

A full list of workshops, roundtable discussions and presentations can be found in the official program at: <http://www.cpsa-acsp.ca/conference-registration.shtml>

"I'm greatly looking forward to joining hundreds of political scientists from across Canada and around the globe at the annual CPSA meeting," said Graham White, president of the Canadian Political Science Association. "A great organizing team at Wilfrid Laurier University and friendly folks throughout the K-W region have set the stage for a great conference that will not only generate intellectual excitement but will also leave delegates with fond memories of a warm, welcoming community."

(more)

The 2011 CPSA national conference coincides with the centennial of Wilfrid Laurier University, which traces its roots back to 1911 and is named after Canada's seventh prime minister.

"We are thrilled to welcome all members of the Canadian Political Science Association to campus for their annual meetings and paper presentations," said Laurier Professor David Docherty, who helped organize the conference. "Hosting these meetings during the 100th anniversary of Wilfrid Laurier University is both an honour and pleasure. The team at Laurier has been working hard to guarantee that this will be a tremendously successful meeting of the CPSA and we are convinced all delegates will enjoy Waterloo's famous hospitality while participating in an intellectually stimulating set of meetings."

A media room will be provided for journalists. In order to obtain accreditation to attend all sessions, journalists are asked to sign in at the registration table in the Concourse, which is located in the Fred Nichols Campus Centre.

For directions to Laurier, visit: http://www.wlu.ca/page.php?grp_id=98&p=1614

For parking, members of the media can contact Kevin Crowley at 519-573-1084 or kcrowley@wlu.ca