

NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release
May 27, 2011 | 090-11

CONTACT

Quincy Almeida, Associate Professor
Wilfrid Laurier University
519-884-0710 ext. 2840 or qalmeida@wlu.ca

Kevin Crowley, Director, Communications & Public Affairs
Wilfrid Laurier University
519-884-0710 ext. 3070 or kcrowley@wlu.ca

World's leading Parkinson's researchers to speak at Laurier

WATERLOO – Some of the world's leading researchers on Parkinson's disease will speak at Wilfrid Laurier University Friday, June 3, for the Laurier 100 Symposium on Parkinson's disease.

The symposium begins with a reception at 2:30 p.m. in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall on Laurier's Waterloo campus. Presentations will begin at 3:30 p.m. and each speaker will present for about 30 minutes.

"All of our speakers have been working on ways to battle the effects of Parkinson's disease, and will present the most exciting research from their labs," said Laurier Professor Quincy Almeida, director of the Sun Life Financial Movement Disorders Research and Rehabilitation Centre (MDRC). "Researchers and clinicians from across Ontario, as well as Parkinson's patients and patient interest groups, will find this symposium both interesting and uplifting."

Speakers at the Laurier 100 Symposium on Parkinson's disease include:

- Dr. Simon Lewis (Australia): "Virtual reality and freezing: the real deal."
- Lilian Gobbi (Brazil): "Are multimodal exercises effective to decelerate the disease progression?"
- Meir Plotnik (Israel): "How coordination influences the symptoms of Parkinson's disease."

There will be a discussion period between 5 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

The Laurier 100 Symposium on Parkinson's disease is free and open to the public, but attendees should register by emailing mdrc@wlu.ca by noon on June 1.

About the MDRC

In 2005, Laurier opened the internationally recognized MDRC to help people suffering from basal ganglia diseases such as Parkinson's, Huntington's and progressive supranuclear palsy. A primary objective of the centre is to understand brain dysfunction associated with these disorders and then translate that knowledge into the development of inventions and rehabilitation strategies that improve patients' movement control.