

NEWS RELEASE



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Laurier President and Vice-Chancellor Max Blouw appointed for second term

WATERLOO – The Board of Governors of Wilfrid Laurier University has appointed Dr. Max Blouw to a second five-year term as president and vice-chancellor of the university. His current term began Sept. 1, 2007 and runs until Aug. 31, 2012; his second term will run from Sept. 1, 2012 to Aug. 31, 2017.

“Max Blouw has provided true vision and an exceptional level of strategic leadership during an important period in the university’s history,” said John Ormston, chair of the Board of Governors. “As Laurier celebrates its centennial, we are pleased and fortunate that Dr. Blouw will remain as president and vice-chancellor for another term to lead the university forward into its next century.”

Blouw joined Wilfrid Laurier University as president and vice-chancellor on Sept. 1, 2007 after a distinguished career in research and administration at the University of Northern British Columbia, and in teaching and research at St. Francis Xavier University.

A biologist with a keen interest in research, Blouw is active in national and provincial academic affairs. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and its Standing Advisory Committee on University Research. He is also on the Executive Committee of the Council of Ontario Universities and serves as co-chair of the College-University Consortium Council. Blouw is a past member of the Executive Council of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), and he served two terms as chair of the University Advisory Group to Industry Canada.

Since joining Laurier, Blouw has championed a number of strategic initiatives aimed at assessing the university’s values and strengths and establishing a vision to guide its future development. These initiatives include Envisioning Laurier, a new Academic Plan, the President’s Task Force on Multi-Campus Governance, and campus master plans for Laurier’s Waterloo and Brantford campuses.

During his first term, the university also added important new buildings to its Brantford campus, including the Research and Academic Centre. The university also announced plans to build the Global Innovation Exchange on the Waterloo campus — a state-of-the-art education facility that recently received Ontario government funding of \$72.6 million, the largest single capital investment in the university’s history.

“Laurier has an extremely bright future ahead of it, thanks in large part to its vibrant sense of community and the many talented faculty, staff and students who work so hard to make this university one of the best in Canada,” Blouw said. “It is a privilege to serve as president and vice-chancellor, and I welcome the opportunity to help the Laurier community move forward into its second century.”