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Humanitarians Stephen Lewis and Dr. James Orbinski share their experiences of leadership at Toronto event

TORONTO – Two of Canada's leading humanitarians, Stephen Lewis and James Orbinski, will share their unique views on leadership through an inspiring evening organized by Wilfrid Laurier University.

The event, part of Laurier's Conversations with Leaders speaker series, brings together influential individuals to discuss what leadership means to them. The conversation will take place Tuesday, March 25 at 5:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Club & Conference Centre in Toronto.

"Inspiring lives of leadership and purpose is at the core of what we do at Laurier," said Max Blouw, Wilfrid Laurier University president and vice-chancellor. "Through these conversations, we hope to investigate the various facets of leadership and inspire people to lead their own lives of leadership and purpose."

More than 150 people are expected to attend the event, which will be moderated by Avis Favaro, CTV medical correspondent.

Lewis served as the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa and is a former Canadian ambassador to the UN. Now as board chair of the Stephen Lewis Foundation and a distinguished visiting professor at Ryerson University, he continues to be an unflagging advocate in the battle against HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Orbinski led Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders, ultimately accepting the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of the organization. In 2012, he was named Laurier's Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) chair in Global Health at the Balsillie School of International Affairs in Waterloo. In this role, he continues to work to advance the health of people around the globe.

Lewis and Orbinski will draw on their decades of international humanitarian work to share the essence of what leadership means to them.

Laurier began Conversations With Leaders in 2012. The inaugural event featured renowned businessman, philanthropist and Laurier Chancellor Michael Lee-Chin in conversation with CBC business correspondent Amanda Lang.

Lewis and Orbinski will build on the inaugural event, providing a memorable discussion that will stay with attendees long after the event is over—two people, both leading incredibly inspiring lives and inspiring all those who hear their conversation.

Conversations with Leaders takes place Tuesday, March 25 at St. Andrew's Club and Conference Centre, 150 King St. West (Sun Life Financial Tower), 27th floor, Toronto. The event begins with a reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by the program from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person. To purchase tickets, or for further information, please visit www.laurieralumni.ca/conversations.

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