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JUNE 10, 2015 | 111-15

## Admission confirmations rise more than 21% at Laurier

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University continues to be a top choice for students as the total number of applicants who have accepted an offer of admission for first-year study in 2015-16 rose more than 21 per cent over last year.

As of the June 1 deadline for confirmations, the total number of students who had accepted an offer of admission from Laurier was 4,232 — up 756, or 21.7 per cent, over the same time last year, according to data provided by the Ontario Universities' Applications Centre (OUAC).

Confirmed acceptances were up across the university, including the Faculty of Arts, which rose 22.9 per cent.

Applicants who apply for first-year studies through OUAC fall into three categories: Canadian students applying directly from high school (known as 101s); Canadian students applying after a year or more away from high school (105s); and international students (visa). Confirmations from 101 students comprise the largest of these groups and Laurier saw a 9.1 per cent lift over 2014 confirmations in this category, representing 3,727 new students accepting a Laurier offer for September. Sizeable increases from non-high school and international visa students account for the overall increase of 21.7 per cent.

"These numbers show that Laurier is offering the kind of relevant programming and exceptional student experience that today's students are looking for, despite a decline in university-age demographics and intense competition among post-secondary institutions," said Deborah MacLatchy, vice-president: academic and provost. "We are extremely pleased that we hit or exceeded our targets across all faculties and locations. Students clearly see value in learning to think critically, conduct research, and acquire knowledge, all within a stimulating environment that fosters personal development."

Increases were well distributed between Laurier's campuses in Waterloo and Brantford. The number of students who have accepted an offer for Laurier's Waterloo campus is 3,621, up 21.3 per cent; the number who have accepted an offer for Laurier's Brantford campus is 611, up 24.1 per cent.

Last week, the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) released a report that shows Ontario university graduates have the best labour-market outcomes and highest incomes of any educational attainment group, and they have experienced the highest employment growth over the last decade.

"Data consistently show that Ontario's university graduates are securing good, well-paying jobs soon after graduation, and that they are out-earning their peers with other levels of education," said Max Blouw, COU chair and president of Wilfrid Laurier University. "A university education remains one of the most enduring investments a person can make."

To find out more about Laurier, visit our website at [wlu.ca](http://wlu.ca)