NEWS RELEASE



CONTACT

Rob Gordon, Vice-President: Research Office of Research Services 519-884-0710 ext. 3601 or rogordon@wlu.ca

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

APRIL 13, 2017 | 060-17

Laurier ranked as Canada's most efficient research university

WATERLOO – Research Infosource, an independent Canadian research, consulting and publishing firm, has ranked Wilfrid Laurier University as Canada's most efficient research university.

"This is a strong testament to our research efficiency and our emerging capacity strength as a research-intensive institution," said Rob Gordon, Laurier's vice-president of research. "As a university with a long tradition of meaningful scholarship, we are now working to maintain this efficiency as we scale up to being a comprehensive and research-intensive university."

Research Infosource, which bills itself as "Canada's source of R&D intelligence," released data on the publication efficiency of Canada's top 43 research universities on April 10. Publication efficiency is a standard measure of research output that refers to the ability of a university's researchers including faculty and students to turn research funding into peer-reviewed scholarly publications.

The firm tracked research funding from 2003-12 and research publications from 2005-14. The gap allowed for research to be conducted and published. During this period, the average research funding to generate a Laurier peer reviewed publication was \$36,000, the lowest of any university in the country.

In comparison, the least efficient Canadian university had an average cost per paper of over \$166,000, which is nearly five times higher than Laurier's.

Laurier has also improved its research efficiency over time. Between 2005 and 2009, Laurier generated 1,150 peer-reviewed publications with an average cost of \$41,200. Between 2010 and 2014, however, this was reduced to \$33,300 per paper.

Since the end of the study, Laurier has become an even more research-intensive university. In 2015/16, Laurier received 23 per cent more research funding than it did in 2014/15, representing a total of \$11.5 million in new funding. Between 2010/11 and 2015/16, Laurier increased its total external research funding by 35 per cent and also maintains success rates for competitive research funding programs that greatly exceed national averages.

"As an evolving comprehensive university that places a significant priority on research excellence and exceptional student engagement, we are well positioned for future success," said Gordon. "We are truly proud of our growing research emphasis and look forward to continuing to work with all of our communities to not only grow but maintain this momentum."

Learn More

- · Research at Laurier
- Laurier Research 2015/16 Annual Report
- Research Infosource news release