NEWS RELEASE



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Laurier to celebrate accomplishments of more than 1,400 graduates during Waterloo campus fall convocation

WATERLOO – More than 1,400 students will graduate from Wilfrid Laurier University during Waterloo campus <u>fall convocation ceremonies</u>, taking place Oct. 25 and 26 at Lazaridis Hall.

As of Oct. 22, 949 undergraduate students, 405 graduate students and 84 students in diploma programs were qualified to graduate from Waterloo campus programs.

Two accomplished Canadians will receive honorary degrees during Waterloo convocation ceremonies. **Judith Da Silva**, an advocate for Indigenous rights and ecological justice from Grassy Narrows First Nations, will receive an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree during a ceremony taking place Oct. 25 at 9:30 a.m. **Ira Gluskin**, a business leader and philanthropist, will receive an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree during a ceremony taking place Oct. 26 at 1 p.m.

Edmund Pries, an assistant professor in Laurier's Global Studies and Religion and Culture programs, coordinator of the university's Social Entrepreneurship Option and academic director of C3 Innovation Labs, will also be honoured. Pries will be recognized as Laurier's 2019 Teaching Fellow during a convocation ceremony taking place on Oct. 25 at 1 p.m.

The Laurier Teaching Fellowship program honours faculty members who have made exceptional contributions to teaching and learning and established an exemplary record of achievement in educational leadership. Teaching fellows pursue individual programs designed to enhance teaching quality and promote teaching excellence. Pries will examine the learning outcomes and impact of two experiential learning program options offered in Laurier's Faculty of Arts: social entrepreneurship and community engagement.

In Brantford, the board of the **Grand Valley Educational Society** will be awarded the Order of Wilfrid Laurier University during a convocation ceremony taking place on Oct. 29 at 2:30 p.m. at the Sanderson Centre for the Performing Arts. The society was instrumental in the creation of Laurier's Brantford campus and securing \$2 million in donations to renovate a former city library into the first Brantford campus building, the Carnegie Building. Laurier's Brantford campus is celebrating its 20th anniversary this academic year.

As of Oct. 22, 1,438 students qualified to graduate from Waterloo campus programs and 136 qualified to graduate from Brantford campus programs. Among all graduating students, 1,052 are earning undergraduate degrees, 432 are earning graduate degrees and 90 are earning diplomas.

All convocation ceremonies are ticketed events. For those unable to attend, live streams of the ceremonies will be available. View a <u>complete convocation schedule</u> for fall 2019.

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