

President and Vice-Chancellor Advertisement

Wilfrid Laurier University is renowned for its extraordinary learning environment and highly personalized educational experience. As a leader in higher education for more than a century, Laurier is a student-focused community where faculty and staff pride themselves on building meaningful relationships with students and supporting their individual paths to success. The Laurier experience is truly transformative, an ethos embodied in our institutional proposition: Inspiring lives of leadership and purpose.

As a comprehensive university with more than 19,000 students, Laurier has grown rapidly in research intensity and graduate programming. Today, Laurier's research environment consists of more than 500 researchers in nine faculties forming a highly interactive and interdisciplinary academic community. Continuing to increase the Faculty of Graduate and Postgraduate Studies, which currently has 1,500 full-and part-time graduate students remains a priority for the institution, while at the same time preserving our well-earned reputation for undergraduate teaching and learning excellence. Our Brantford campus is home to more than 3,000 students and presently occupies 21 buildings in the downtown core of the city.

Our multi-campus, multi-community emphasis is a critical part of our identity. Laurier currently has campuses located in Waterloo and Brantford. A third campus is being explored in partnership with the Town of Milton, Ontario. Laurier's Faculty of Social Work is located in Kitchener and the Lazaridis School of Business & Economics offers a part-time MBA and a Master of Finance program in Toronto.

Laurier has worked hard to remain a top choice for high-quality students. As a result, we continue to attract an increased number of applications in a highly competitive market. The number of Ontario high school students who have accepted an offer of admission for full-time first-year studies at Wilfrid Laurier University has increased for the second straight year, rising 7.4 per cent over 2015. We accomplish this through a commitment to academic excellence, the ongoing development of innovative and relevant programs, and a highly supportive and diverse community. The successful leadership of these efforts requires an individual with a wide range of skills and a keen understanding of the forces shaping contemporary Canadian society.

Laurier is a leader in integrated and engaged learning, which connects academic programming and co-curricular activities. An example of this experiential approach is our highly regarded cooperative education program, which offers options in Arts, Business, and Science and is the largest business co-op program in Canada. Laurier offers graduate students the opportunity to participate in the ASPIRE program, a professional skills development training program designed to enhance post-degree success. This program was the winner of the 2014 Canadian Association for Graduate Studies/Educational Testing Service Award for Excellence and Innovation in Enhancing the Graduate Student Experience.

In 2015, Laurier was recognized by LinkedIn for having the highest per capita participation in volunteerism by its students and alumni, a testament to the University's ability to inspire lives of leadership and purpose. Along with their high levels of participation in clubs and athletics captured in the first-ever Canadian university co-curricular record, Laurier students have embraced courses in entrepreneurship and social innovation. This spirit was recognized in

2016 when Laurier was designated as an Ashoka Changemaker campus, a prestigious international recognition of student and faculty commitment to making the world a better place.

Laurier is committed to partnerships and collaborations aligned with our academic priorities. The University supports 23 research centres and institutes that serve to stimulate research, attract research funds, and enhance the research experience of faculty, students, postdoctoral fellows, and visiting scholars. Laurier has also hosted WLU Press, an award-winning academic press, since its formation in 1974.

A Leadership Opportunity

Laurier is seeking an inspiring leader who will position the University for continued long term success in fulfilling its mission of achieving excellence in learning, research, scholarship, and creativity and challenging people to become engaged and aware citizens.

Accountable for the teaching, learning, and research mission and operations of the University, the President and Vice-Chancellor is the chief executive officer of the University, reporting to the Board of Governors and serving as an ex-officio member. In collaboration with the Laurier community, the President will continuously strengthen academic program quality and reputation, and advance the strategic priorities of the University to clearly articulate and communicate a shared identity across the institution and stimulate cross collaboration. The President will demonstrate and promote responsible and transparent decision-making at the University and ensure the University's reputational and financial health by managing risk and aligning resources, funding, and investments with strategic priorities. As chief ambassador of the University, the President will expand existing and create new partnership opportunities for Laurier by actively engaging with external stakeholders and will strengthen and promote Laurier's growing reputation as an exceptional comprehensive multi-campus university.

The ideal candidate is an energetic, inspirational, and collaborative leader with a strategic mindset and an unwavering commitment to academic and research excellence. The ideal candidate will possess a doctoral degree, a distinctive record of academic achievement, and a successful track record of administrative leadership experience in a university or similarly complex organization. The new President will appreciate and effectively communicate the value of a comprehensive institution, serve as a highly visible champion of Laurier's values and culture, and operate successfully within Laurier's student-focused, community-oriented, and collegial community. A confident, articulate, and compelling communicator, the new President will be a relationship builder who is able to engage a wide variety of external stakeholders and position the University strategically to attract students, faculty, and support. The President will possess a demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusivity and a proven understanding of aboriginal perspectives and communities.

Wilfrid Laurier University is committed to equity and values diversity. It welcomes applications from qualified women and men, including persons of all genders and sexual orientations, persons with disabilities, Aboriginal persons, and persons of a visible minority. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

To obtain a copy of this job posting in accessible format, please contact Human Resources at Laurier at 519-884-1970 ext. 2007.

This is a five-year renewable term position offering competitive compensation and benefits. To learn more, please call Anna Stuart, Stephanie Sykes, or Laura Godsoe at 1-866-822-6022 or email laurierpresidentialsearch@kbrs.ca. To apply go to www.kbrs.ca/Careers/11219
