

# Hawks reclaim top OUA standing



“I’m so proud of how far we’ve come and how hard we’ve worked. It’s extra special with this group of girls.”

— Veteran Laurier forward Devon Skeats following their OUA finals win

Two Laurier players celebrate after beating the Queen’s Gaels 2-0 in game three of the OUA final. The Hawks move on to the nationals in two weeks in Fredericton, NB. JODY WAARDENBURG LEAD PHOTOGRAPHER

**SHELBY BLACKLEY**  
SPORTS EDITOR

In the past when the Wilfrid Laurier women’s hockey team won the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) championship, it was a done deal early in the season.

Until a few years ago, Laurier finished atop the OUA and tore through the playoffs without much competition.

But this year, it was an unfamiliar situation.

The Hawks were seeded second in the OUA for the first time since head coach Rick Osborne joined the team and for the first time since the OUA moved into division one. They had lost plenty of games and had to work twice as hard to keep up with the growing competition.

So when the Hawks won the OUA championship Sunday night, it was

that much sweeter.

“It feels really, really good. We’ve got such quality veteran players on this team and no one would know how hard they work,” Osborne said, sporting the gold medal around his neck. “And what we put them through to get to this point in the season. The veterans, [Devon] Skeats and [Candice] Styles who have stuck around have taken everything I’ve thrown at them for five

years.”

Laurier had a year off the top of the podium last year after winning the championship in 2011.

“It feels amazing,” fifth-year Skeats, who was named the player of the game, said after hoisting the cup. “We’ve had such a history with Queen’s so it feels extra special ... I said it at the beginning of the game, I’m so proud of how far we’ve come and how hard we’ve worked.

It’s extra special with this group of girls.”

The Hawks capped off a challenging provincial journey with a 2-0 win Sunday night against the Queen’s Gaels in game three of the series. After dropping the first game in overtime, Laurier put on a defensive clinic, blocking shots with their bodies, playing the systems

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Inside

**Settling in**

Students’ Union presidential-elect, Sam Lambert, prepares for the big transition in May

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**Power of opera**

Popular Aboriginal opera *Giinwiden* comes to Laurier for the annual Aboriginal Awareness Week

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Bid chosen for light rail

The Region of Waterloo approve a contract with GrandLinq

CONNOR WARD

STAFF WRITER

Construction plans for the Light Rail Transit (LRT) in Waterloo Region are in motion.

A \$532 million bid proposed by the consortium GrandLinq to build, design and construct the coming LRT—known as ION—was approved at a meeting of regional council’s planning and works committee on Tuesday.

Council has not yet ratified the decision.

An additional \$901 million is allocated for operating and maintaining the train line for the duration of the 30-year contract. The provincial government is also contributing \$300 million while the federal government is adding \$265 million to the project.

Altogether this brings the final numbers to a \$1.9 billion project for the Region of Waterloo to finance

over the next 30 years.

“This is a great step forward,” said regional chair Ken Seiling.

The cost-effective proposal, which fit comfortably within the \$818 million capital budget allocated for LRT, was deemed a success by councillors.

“There was a scoring system made up of two components: technical and financial. GrandLinq had the highest technical scores and the lowest costs,” said regional councillor Tom Galloway.

GrandLinq is a registered Ontario consortium. It consists of many different companies who have formed a partnership for the Region of Waterloo LRT project. These companies include Aecon, Canada’s largest publicly-traded construction company, infrastructure investor Meridiam and a popular global transit operator, Keolis.

Galloway described the group as having “extensive experience in

public transit and other projects around Canada and the world.”

However, tensions surrounding ION emerged upon the decision.

Four councillors —Cambridge mayor Doug Craig and Waterloo mayor Brenda Halloran, as well as regional councillors Jean Haalboom and Claudette Millar—voted in opposition to the LRT contract.

Craig told council members that he believes that the project has made Cambridge residents feel isolated and angry, to the point where some believe that Cambridge should no longer be a part of the Region.

“It’s a very serious situation,” said Craig. “Nobody around the table really picks up on the comments. They think they can be dismissive of us.”

His opposition stems from the fact that Cambridge will not get LRT under phase one of the plan. However, they are slated to have

Local, page 6



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Editor's choice  
*Milloy not re-running*  
News, page 3



Editor's choice online  
*How polite is Laurier?*  
thecord.ca

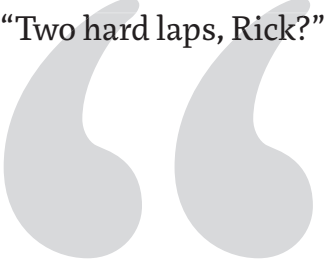


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This week  
in quotes

“Two hard laps, Rick?”



— Women's hockey rookie Jessica Prevette to head coach Rick Osborne immediately after winning the OUA championship

The Cord's new  
Editor-in-Chief



Congratulations to Visual Director **Kate Turner**, who has been hired as The Cord's 2014-15 Editor-in-Chief!

Turner, who started at The Cord in her first year in 2010 as a volunteer photographer, will begin her term as Editor-in-Chief on May 1. After volunteering, she quickly moved up to become the Lead Photographer in 2011, a Photography Manager in 2012 and eventually to the position she currently holds, Visual Director, in 2013.

Interested in a position on the editorial board next year? E-mail [kturner@thecord.ca](mailto:kturner@thecord.ca).

Photo of the week



JODY WAARDENBURG LEAD PHOTOGRAPHER

Snowboarders and skiers took in some fun in the Quad on Friday at a Red Bull sponsored event.

Vocal Cord

Do you know how to file your taxes properly?



“I just go somewhere else and get someone else to do it for me.”  
—Serene Hussein  
fourth-year, religion and culture



“I'm not sure what I'm doing with my life right now.”  
—Canny Chiu  
second-year, BBA



“It's a lot more complicated than I expected.”  
— Danny Kim  
second-year, BBA



“I don't know anything [about taxes] so when I leave school I'm not sure what I'm going to do.”  
—Sarah Zoschke  
fourth-year, English



“My dad files my taxes for me and he goes through an accountant.”  
—Nicole Ranieri  
fourth-year, kinesiology

Compiled by Ashley Denuzzo  
Photos by Ryan Hueglin

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In 2013, the Canadian Community Newspaper Association awarded The Cord second place in the campus community newspaper category.

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Colophon

The Cord is the official student newspaper of the Wilfrid Laurier University community.

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Preamble to The Cord constitution

The Cord will keep faith with its readers by presenting news and expressions of opinions comprehensively, accurately and fairly. The Cord believes in a balanced and impartial presentation of all relevant facts in a news report, and of all substantial opinions in a matter of controversy.

The staff of The Cord shall uphold all commonly held ethical conventions of journalism. When an error of omission or of commission has occurred, that error shall be acknowledged promptly. When statements are made that are critical of an individual, or an organization, we shall give those affected the opportunity to reply at the earliest time possible. Ethical journalism requires impartiality, and consequently conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest will be avoided by all staff.

The Cord has an obligation to foster freedom of the press and freedom of speech. This obligation is best fulfilled when debate and dissent are encouraged, both in the internal workings of the paper, and through The Cord's contact with the student body.

The Cord will always attempt to do what is right, with fear of neither repercussions, nor retaliation. The purpose of the student press is to act as an agent of social awareness, and so shall conduct the affairs of our newspaper.

Quote of the week:  
“They would throw her back!”  
—Senior News Editor Lindsay Purchase re: if Graphics Editor Lena Yang was kidnapped





John Milloy, MPP for Kitchener Centre, was first elected in 2003.

RYAN HUEGLIN FILE PHOTO

# MPP won't seek term

John Milloy announces he will not be running for re-election

ASHLEY DENUZZO  
LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR

After 11 years of service in office, John Milloy, the Liberal MPP for Kitchener Centre, has announced that he will not be running for re-election.

"I'd like to explore some other opportunities," Milloy told The Cord in an exclusive interview. "I also have a very young family and it's getting tougher and tougher to maintain the Toronto, Queen's Park, community life."

Milloy is married and has two sons, ages eight and three, whom he believes have made "considerable sacrifices" to allow him to work in politics.

"I'm away a lot and I think it's maybe time for a change that will allow me with more time for my family."

Milloy is also the government house leader and was appointed minister of government services in May.

He has assumed a key position in the community since he was first elected in 2003 and has fought for a number of transformational local initiatives.

This includes the University of Waterloo's pharmacy school, the Communitech Hub, the redevelopment of Grand River Hospital,

Wilfrid Laurier's incoming Global Innovation Exchange building and lobbying support for the Perimeter Institute, amongst others.

Milloy believes one of his greatest achievements was the arrival of GO trains in the Kitchener community.

"I was absolutely delighted to have GO trains finally come here," he said.

"I'm very supportive of the rapid transit program."

For whoever assumes Milloy's roles, they will be walking into a position where there is a lot of talk on regional growth and adaptation.

According to Milloy, many of Kitchener-Waterloo's challenges are "around growth."

"As the community continues to grow there will continue to be demands on infrastructures and some other related issues," he said. "I think that's something that representatives will have to deal with for years to come."

Students and post-secondary institutions in the area have also been a major focus for Milloy.

In 2007, Milloy was named as minister of training, colleges and universities and in 2009 he was given additional responsibilities as minister of research and innovation.

He has worked closely with students from both K-W's universities and colleges.

"I've had such a great relationship with the students," he said.

"I had the privilege of being the minister of training, colleges and universities twice and I was able to bring a lot of that first-hand experience from our institutions to that role."

Milloy wants to thank the students in the Region for their support throughout his years in office.

"I've always enjoyed them," he said.

"It was so great to hear first-hand from people with classroom experience."

Milloy's next step is yet to be determined. His announcement was very deliberate in timing, as a new provincial budget to be released in the coming months may trigger a spring election.

"I wanted to give notice to the community, to people who might want to run," Milloy added.

What Milloy has learned during his many experiences in the political sphere is the importance of community involvement and a governmental presence.

He believes it's crucial.

"It's been a big part of my job," Milloy said.

"At the end of the day what you have to be most proud of is the work that you've done and your community."

# Lambert prepares for Students' Union role

BRYAN STEPHENS  
LEAD REPORTER

Since being elected president and CEO of the Students' Union for 2014-2015 in February, Sam Lambert has been busy trying to prepare for the position.

Lambert explained that he has been meeting with current Students' Union president Annie Constantinescu and her team about the transition into the role, and what he should be expecting looking into next year.

His term will begin May 1.

"It's an interesting time. As Annie is still the president, she still has a lot to do. I have more so been focusing on building my team. Budgeting is coming up and that's where the majority of the responsibilities is resting on the current team's shoulders, focusing on wrapping up their initiatives and hoping to fulfill what they set out to do in the beginning."

Lambert spoke further to his thoughts on dealing with the Student Union's debt issue.

"I think last year's management team really set it up well in terms of making the necessary cuts, and some difficult cuts, while still maintaining student services and programs," he said.

"So going forward, I think it's not about just making cuts in order to sustain that, it's about making sure we are financially stable going forward."

Another part of what Lambert has had to do in the past few weeks has been putting his team together. He has hired his vice presidents that he will be working with in the upcoming year and overall is very pleased with how it turned out.

"I think there are some diverse personalities, but we all interact well together. Overall there is a lot of knowledge surrounding the organization and its departments, and what we can do to improve them moving forward."

Sam Deeming, a fifth-year



HEATHER DAVIDSON PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER  
Lambert recently selected his executive team for 2014-2015.

biology student, was hired as VP: finance and administration. Looking at the position, Deeming thought she was a good fit.

"It was something that I had kind of thought about. I felt I was a very qualified candidate for and it was something that no matter who won, I would fit the position really well," she said.

Deeming has been a part of the hiring and recruitment team for the past three years, an executive for two, as well as the professional development and training coordinator.

It's from these experiences that Deeming feels that she is a good fit for the position.

"I have a lot of experience on the hiring side and the training of volunteers side, which is something that I'm very passionate about," she said.

"So that is something that I feel is very beneficial to the role."

Rick Camman is a fourth-year political science student who was hired as VP: university affairs. He applied to the position after gaining a better idea of the responsibilities

"... it's about making sure we are financially sustainable going forward."

—Sam Lambert, Students' Union president-elect and incoming CEO

during the Students' Union election campaign period.

"I didn't necessarily approach any of the candidates directly about the position. I kind of asked them my own personal questions that were unrelated. But reading their platforms and analyzing them, I could kind of get a sense of what their expectations were, and the debate really did answer some good questions I had about the position."

Looking toward his term in office, Lambert has a specific vision of what he wants to accomplish in his year as president.

"Relationships are the most important thing in any business. It's about who you know and how you interact and support one another," he said.

"So I think focusing on relationships within the university, with student affairs, with the City of Waterloo and Brantford, strengthening those relationships is what will take the Union to the next level, both financially and supporting students with what they want to do."

## Students' Union executive team for 2014-2015

Sam Deeming  
VP: finance and administration

Rick Camman  
VP: university affairs

Tom Ebeyer  
VP: clubs and associations

Heather Gaffney  
VP: programming and services, Waterloo

Darcee Carnes  
VP: programming and services, Brantford

Matt McLean  
VP: chair of the board and chief governance officer



# Ethics of sharing notes in online forums

MARISSA EVANS  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

Students sharing notes is not anything new. But with the increasing popularity of note-sharing sites where students can post and access notes in a more public setting, certain responsibilities — that students may or may not be aware of — are incurred.

OneClass, as an example, classifies itself as an educational community that provides notes, tutorials and study packs to students from universities in Canada, the United States, Australia and New Zealand. Its terms express that its purpose is for students to contribute “self-created lecture notes, materials and works” for other users to access.

Shereen Rowe, university secretary and general counsel, explained that if the notes truly are “self-created” they probably don’t infringe on copyright. But when it comes to note-sharing sites, there is an extreme grey area.

“What needs to be really clear is that students can’t post material that they don’t own the copyright on,” she said.

“The biggest problem with any note-sharing site is that students, as I understand it, often post materials where there is copyright and it is owned either by the faculty member who created the notes or in some



LENA YANG GRAPHICS EDITOR

cases from publishers where material that is posted comes from a textbook or a published source that the faculty has used.”

In its terms, OneClass puts the responsibility on students for ensuring that their notes don’t contain copyright infringement. Simply by submitting content to the site, users are agreeing to the claim that they are the owner of the material in their notes. By the time of publication, OneClass had not responded to a request for an interview.

However, as Rowe pointed out,

it’s not the university’s responsibility to police what resources students are accessing online.

Deborah MacLatchy, VP: academic and provost, explained that the university only becomes involved if they are notified that some misconduct may be going on.

“My personal opinion is there’s no substitute to going to class and being a participant in the process,” said MacLatchy.

Bruce McKay, associate professor of psychology, related trying to control such sites to playing a game

of “whack-a-mole,” as note-sharing sites will continue to pop up regardless of action taken against them.

“Rather than deal with these sites, what we need to deal with is the demand for the sites,” he said.

He explained that it comes back to courses students are taking. If a course is structured in a way that requires simple memorization and regurgitation, students will access these sites because they cater well to that style of learning.

“But if the courses are more than that then sites are useless. So rather

than play that whack-a-mole game and getting these sites down whether they are legal or not, having properly designed courses that don’t rely purely on just recall of information as the only form of learning, that would be a way to deal with it.”

Another problem with the sites, McKay explained, is that many of the notes posted for his course, Drugs and Behaviour, contained mistakes.

“You’re really running the risk of reading someone’s garbage basically, and using that on your tests and incorporating it in your essays.”

Jeremy Hunsinger, an assistant professor of communication studies at Laurier, encourages his students to share their notes with each other.

“I don’t mind them sharing online,” he said. “I’d rather they build the personal relationship though. You learn better from other people than their notes.”

Ultimately, however, he said he doesn’t have a problem with sites like OneClass.

In the end, Rowe explained, it’s the responsibility of all members of the university to ensure copyright legislation and university policy is followed.

“Students need to be careful before they just transfer material to a site like that. There may be the need to consider whether they’re entitled to do that.”

# Ideas put to the test

VIRGINIA TREMAINE  
STAFF WRITER

Cory Scurr will be representing Wilfrid Laurier University at the provincial Three Minute Thesis (TMT) competition in April. He won Laurier’s competition this past Tuesday.

“Friends ask me, family ask me, colleagues ask me, ‘what are you studying?’ [and when I tell them] they kind of look at me with this dry, blank stare on their face. So this was a challenge to myself to prove that what I’m studying can be digested and enjoyed,” said Scurr.

Scurr, a PhD history student, won with his thesis Cold War Warrior? Diefenbaker and Canadian-Soviet Relations. He was one of thirty students who participated in the competition, which took place in the Paul Martin Centre.

TMT involves the participation of Laurier masters and doctoral students, who are given just three minutes and a single PowerPoint slide to present their research to a panel of non-expert judges.

“It’s a professional development opportunity for graduate students,” explained Michael Bittle, communications coordinator for the faculty of graduate and postdoctoral studies who organized the event. “Public speaking is a skill that academics and non-academics think is an essential skill.”

This event began in Australia in 2008 as a way for graduate students to showcase their research and quickly grew to be an annual contest held by universities globally.

“This is the second year we’ve had it at Laurier,” said Bittle. “This year has been similar to last year in that I’m impressed with the diversity of the work done here at Laurier.”

The winner of the contest



RYAN HUEGLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Masters and PhD students took part in three minute thesis contest.

received a \$1,000 prize, the runner-up received \$500 and the two honourable mentions received \$250 each. In addition to the winner, the runner up also has the opportunity to represent Laurier at the upcoming provincial competition, which this year is being hosted at McMaster University.

“You’re going against the best researchers in the province,” said Bittle. “There are so many people doing so many types of different research that are all important in their own ways and that’s why TMT is so important. It gives the community a chance to engage in that research where they normally wouldn’t have that opportunity.”

In the years coming, Bittle shared that he would like to see the competition grow.

“I’d like to see an online component, maybe like a ‘people’s choice’ sort of idea. These are things we

are thinking of to try to bring in the community.”

Three of the panel judges were active members of the community and only one judge was a Laurier professor.

“We want to expand graduate research beyond the walls of Laurier,” commented Bittle. “We have absolutely wonderful quality of graduate research here and this is an opportunity to celebrate that research.”

“It was a variety of competition,” shared Scurr. “There were five or six people who easily could have won and gone to McMaster; the competition was solid.”

The runner up to Scurr was Scott Mitchell, a masters of science: biology student whose thesis was Zombies in Bacterial Genomes. Honourable mentions were Janice Edwards, a PhD history student, and Alanna Riordan, a masters of science: kinesiology student.

# Darling moves on

BRYAN STEPHENS  
LEAD REPORTER

After six-and-a-half years as registrar at Wilfrid Laurier University, Ray Darling will be assuming the same position at the University of Waterloo (UW).

“The position will be the same in title; however, because of the larger size of the school I will have a lot more students to attend to at Waterloo,” said Darling.

Ken Lavigne, who was the previous registrar at UW, retired on Jan. 10 of this year. Darling will assume the position on Mar. 17. Looking at the position, Darling sees it as a “natural progression” for himself.

“In many ways I see it as a promotion. UW has a much larger portfolio; I will have more staff to look over and more departments to report to. I think it’s a good progression and I accept the challenge of having more responsibilities.”

Darling began his position as registrar at Laurier back in 2007, following his time working at the University of Guelph. When he originally came to Laurier, he didn’t know what to expect from the school or working environment.

“When I first came to Laurier, I wasn’t too sure what I should have expected from the university. However, I quickly found that I would be working with a great group of staff, and the students were a pleasure to work with as well.”

Looking back at his time at Laurier, Darling says what he will miss most will be the people.

“I had the great pleasure to work with a fine group of colleagues and team at Laurier. I can speak very

“I am very thankful for my time spent at Laurier, it has truly been a pleasure.”

—Ray Darling, former registrar at Laurier

highly on the experience of working with such a strong team that helped make my job such a joy.”

Darling also taught a few classes at Laurier, which he described as a “pleasure” and something that he hopes he might have the opportunity to do at UW within a few years.

Overall, the past weeks have left Darling with mixed emotions.

“When I was driving to Brantford last week, it struck me that that would be the last time I might be down there and see the team there. As much as I am looking forward to the new position, it’s little things like that which remind me of how incredible my time has been here over the past several years.”

While Darling is leaving to assume more responsibility in his new position, he still appreciates his time at Laurier.

“I am very thankful for my time spent at Laurier, it has truly been a pleasure. I learned a lot from my time being registrar and teaching some courses here, and I’m looking forward to what the future can hold.”





Laurier in brief

Exploring lack of climate change action

On March 6, Tom Rand will be visiting Laurier to give a lecture entitled, “Waking the Frog: Breaking our Paralysis on Climate Change.” Rand is a senior cleantech advisor at the MaRS Discovery District in Toronto. His talk will discuss the reasons behind the lack of activity being engaged in by the global economy to combat climate change.

Laurier startup company wins competition

The Laurier Entrepreneurship Competition was held this past week, awarding \$5,000 to the winning team, Vidhub. Vidhub is a startup software company that developed a tool that enables video producers to collaborate online. The company is the creation of a team from Laurier that is led by co-founder Shubhagata Sengupta. In addition to the \$5,000, they also received \$3,000 worth of video services to be put toward marketing their business.

Celebrating Aboriginal culture

March 1-9 is Aboriginal Awareness Week at Laurier. The week is filled with events taking place at both the Waterloo and Brantford campus that encourage the community to celebrate and learn about Aboriginal culture. Events include talks, lunches, crafts, performances, a radio documentary and educational sessions.

Prof recognized by prestigious award

A Laurier professor has been awarded the 2014 3M National Teaching Fellowship. Carol B. Duncan is associate professor and chair of Laurier’s department of religion and culture. Regarded as the top teaching honour in Canada, it recognizes excellence in the classroom and educational leadership.

Tech helps Haiti

ERIKA YMANA  
STAFF WRITER

In Canadian universities, many professors are battling against the use of technology in the classrooms, deeming devices such as cell phones an impediment to learning. But in Haiti, cell phones are being used to improve student learning.

Wilfrid Laurier University and BlackBerry are working together to provide electronic devices, as well as training on how to use these devices, to improve teaching and student development in Haiti.

Steve Sider, assistant professor in the faculty of education at Laurier, began the Digital Mentoring Project three years ago. The project entails working with Haitian principals by giving them BlackBerry devices (smartphones and tablets) to enable communication domestically and internationally with other educators in Canada.

“The essential philosophy is that by equipping school principals with resources that they need and with a community to help them develop their leadership skills, they will then equip their teachers,” explained Sider. “Teachers who are equipped with new ideas, new concepts, collaborative problem solving, are going to teach in a different way ... So that will eventually trickle down and support student learning. That’s the big goal — we want to improve student learning.”

Sider’s development of the project came from his experience with executing professional development in the Dominican Republic as well as being an Ontario school principal.

The realization that Haitian principals had devices and could benefit



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Laurier and BlackBerry have teamed up in an effort to use cell phones to improve education in Haiti.

from further instruction on how to fully utilize them is what led him to the project idea.

“Over the next couple of years I went back [to Haiti] once a year, twice a year, just to do face-to-face workshops ... It was one of those ‘aha!’ epiphanies. Every principal bringing a cell phone to these workshops, how can we connect principals? It was out of that that we started talking about being connected beyond traditional face-to-face times,” said Sider.

Rob McBride, BlackBerry director and WLU alumnus, first read about the project in a Waterloo Region Record article about Sider, who was asking for old cell phones from the community.

“Steve, at the time, was looking for donations, so I worked with the resources I had at BlackBerry so we can get devices that aren’t old and

broken down. So we’re able to get some refurbished units and that number’s grown over the past two years,” said McBride.

McBride’s ability to fluently speak Haitian Creole — from volunteering in Haiti for two years — and his expertise in BlackBerry devices enabled him to provide effective training to the principals.

Sider and McBride explained that they both have a passion for education advancement and bettering the lives of other people, which drives their motivation for this project.

“It’s important that we reach out to a country like Haiti and third world nations and make sure they’re aware of what technology can do to help advance education to help advance progression,” said McBride.

“We live in a global village. If our world is getting smaller, then I don’t only need to be concerned about the

child in my backyard, but also the children in other parts of the world,” said Sider.

A trip to Haiti is scheduled in May with a group consisting of six WLU bachelor of education students, educators from school boards, a representative from the ministry of education, Sider and McBride.

According to Sider, the trip has two purposes: WLU students will be working with Haitian high school students in conversational English lessons and the remainder of the group will be focusing on leadership development and technology training.

Beyond the goals he has set for improving student learning through the project, Sider hopes that Canadian principals will develop a more global mindset and increase collaborative efforts between Haitian principals.

Changes in sight

The first-year experience task force is moving toward their final report

ROBERT CONTE  
STAFF WRITER

The first-year experience task force produced and circulated a draft report of its activities, mandate and goals to several student communities earlier this semester to collect feedback from students and faculty. According to co-chairs David McMurray and Deborah MacLatchy, the feedback was positive.

“It’s a real, holistic, in and out of the classroom view,” said McMurray.

The task force began in Dec. 2012 and its goal is to assess the first-year experience of students at Wilfrid Laurier University and how that experience can be improved, both in and out of the classroom. According to the draft report it brought to senate on Jan. 13, the task force’s focus is on what they consider to be the four pillars of student success: academic achievement, accepting responsibility, community engagement and health and well-being.

“It looks at the first-year student as a whole person; it’s not just their time in class that’s important,” said MacLatchy.

The task force will assess co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, as well as time in the classroom to ensure that all aspects of the first-year experience are positive ones. The draft report stating these goals was sent to the faculty

divisional councils, library council, multi-campus senior student affairs teams, academic advisors’ group and the Students’ Union, who agreed with its principles.

“The next steps are what’s key from this point on. How do we make the consensus points achievable? How do we all contribute to make sure we can accomplish the goals set out in the report?” said MacLatchy.

The draft report suggested reformulating the inactive senate student life committee as the senate committee on student learning. This revised committee would be responsible for implementing the recommendations set out by the first-year experience task force.

It also outlines 14 consensus points detailing how the four pillars of student success can be achieved. This includes teaching students how to time manage, creating an environment of personal and academic integrity and supporting them in investigating career development opportunities.

“We have been very strategic about moving some key areas forward. We need to take a look at the strategies used by other universities and see if they are appropriate for Laurier,” said MacLatchy.

“Our thoughts now are geared toward the final product that we will be giving to senate,” said McMurray.

The final report will go to senate on Apr. 15.



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LOCAL

Local Editor  
Ashley Denuzzo  
adenuzzo@thecord.ca

# Students’ info leaked by UW

ASHLEY DENUZZO  
LOCAL AND NATIONAL EDITOR

56,000 student applicants to the University of Waterloo had their personal information inadvertently exposed as a result of a technology glitch discovered in mid-February.

Now, the university has some apologizing to do.

“We were very sorry that any applicant data was exposed,” said Nick Manning, director of media relations and issues management at UW. “Information security is a high priority for us.”

UW was informed by a prospective student on Feb. 18 that it was possible to view details from other students’ applications in their online student information system.

While the issue was discovered on Feb. 18, information had been open since Feb. 11. The university issued a mass e-mail to students on Feb. 21, explaining the incident.

According to Manning, due to an administrative error, a self-service option that should only be made available to staff had accidentally been turned on.

“Meaning that about 8,000 of our 56,000 applicants in the system were able to use the search function to look at other records,” Manning explained.

For each of those records, an existing applicant could potentially

view as other applicants’ information, such which high school they attended, test scores and prior academic achievements.

However, according to Manning, no names were exposed in the glitch, only applicants’ ID numbers.

“All of the applicants could only be identified by their ID number,” Manning assured. “There was no financial, contact or health information potentially exposed.”

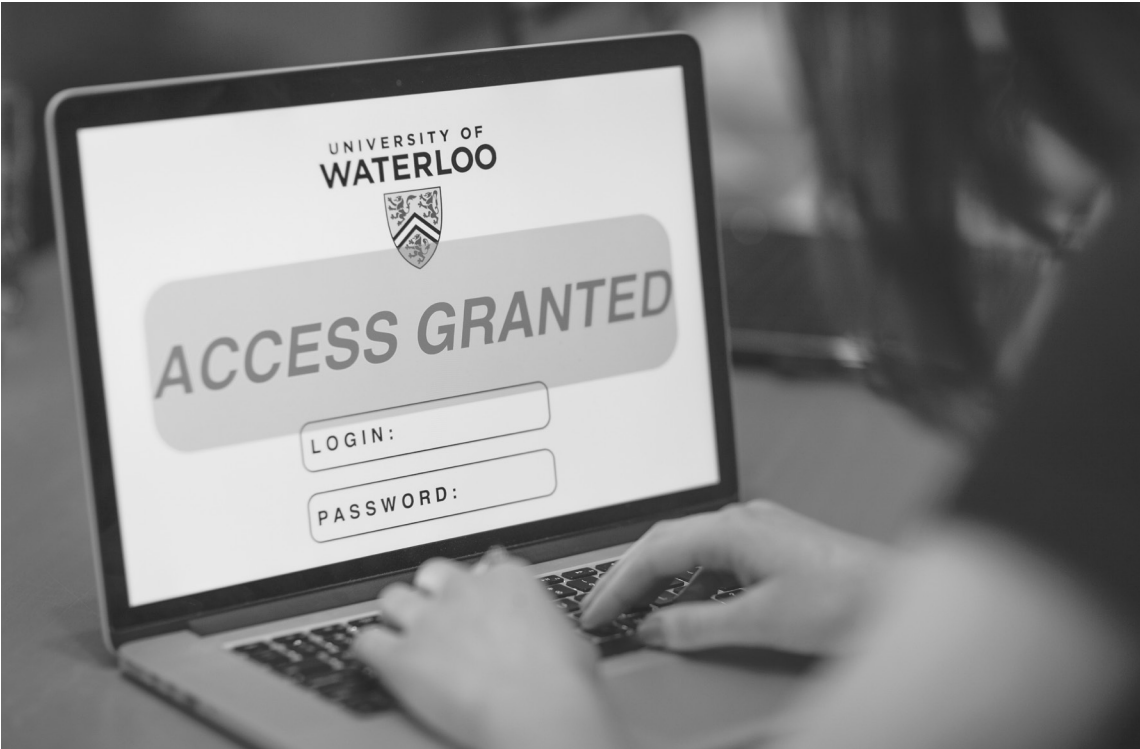
However for a number of graduate students applicants, the glitch potentially leaked the name, institution and e-mail address of their referees. As a result, an additional 8,000 referees who were in the system also had their information exposed.

Within 30 minutes of being notified of the glitch, Manning said the school’s information technology department fixed the issue. In addition, UW also put new oversight procedures in place to make sure that there are further checks made to any changes within the system.

The school will continue to monitor the online database to make sure that another incident does not occur.

They also contacted Ontario’s Information Privacy Commissioner, who issued an e-mail statement to The Cord explaining that they were “presently looking into the incident.”

The privacy lapse also affected



RYAN HUEGLIN PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER  
UW received word that up to 56,000 applicants’ personal information became accessible by others.

applicants for joint programs affiliated with UW, including Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Guelph.

Jessica Lalonde, a student at Laurier Brantford’s campus, had only just applied for the tri-university history master’s program when she received the news of a possible identity breach.

“I wasn’t even going to apply to the program initially and then I finally did and I was like ‘oh of course the second I apply to it something bad happens,’” she said. “They reassured me it was limited exposure and I think they did what they

could.”

Lalonde said that the incident would not have an impact on her decision to accept admission.

Manning also noted that a majority of the applicants were generally co-operative and understanding.

“The vast majority of people who got back in touch with us were very grateful that they were informed and maybe wanted to know how their application was progressing,” he said.

According to Kevin Crowley, the assistant vice-president of communications, public affairs and marketing at Laurier, 126 graduate students

at Laurier were affected by the data error.

“Both schools take the security of data very seriously,” he said. “It’s unfortunate that it happened in this case, but I believe that UW acted as quickly as they could on it.”

Manning stressed that upon a thorough analysis of the database, no unusual activity occurred within the system over the period.

This means that there is no indicator that anyone viewed another student’s online profile.

“To the best of our knowledge we are confident that there was no unusual activity,” Manning said.



HEATHER DAVIDSON FILE PHOTO  
A new proposal was drafted in Kitchener that would see reduced restrictions and more locations.

# New rules for food trucks

DAINA GOLDFINGER  
STAFF WRITER

Citizens of Kitchener-Waterloo may soon see new food trucks emerging in various locations around the area.

A new proposal was drafted requesting reduced restrictions and a larger variety of location choices for food trucks.

Berry Vrbanovic, councillor for the City of Kitchener, brought forward the proposal to the finance and corporate services committee. It was unanimously agreed upon on Monday.

“It is a multi-phase proposal,” explained Vrbanovic. “It looks at the possibility of creating food truck areas in some parks in the city and it looks at the possibility of creating a food truck zone in our innovation districts.”

Vrbanovic originally decided to take the initiative of changing food truck laws when he realized that there was a large demand for food trucks in the Kitchener community.

“We are looking at doing more

than what was in place. I think people see it as another exciting food offering that adds to the community’s vitality,” Vrbanovic added.

However, there has been some controversy with the proposed law changes.

A representative of SWAT Food Trucks told The Cord that the proposed law is a step in the right direction, but believes that it does not take into account the thriving global food truck market.

Café Pyrus, another Food Truck in the Kitchener core, has an alternate perspective.

“I do support the loosening of laws,” said Tyson Reiser, owner of Café Pyrus. “What I like about the food trucks is that I want to see more people downtown, and if food trucks can be utilized in a way to do that, then that is very supportive.”

According to Vrbanovic, the report will be brought back to the committee on Apr. 28, in order for the law to be implemented hopefully this upcoming summer.

“The work that needs to be done

in the downtown area will likely take a little longer, but it may not. The info will come later in the year or early next year,” Vrbanovic added.

Reiser continued, “I think we have an incredible opportunity to utilize food trucks if we set up the parameters around the bylaws that will support increasing foot traffic.”

With an increased amount of food trucks, it is very possible that foot traffic will grow in the K-W downtown core, which is something that can add vitality to the city.

Vrbanovic addressed the concerns of competition between brick and mortar establishments and food trucks. He assured that food trucks would become increasingly popular as the laws are further loosened and developed.

“Any time you have additional offering there is competition. In many successful entertainment districts across North America it is when you give variety of choice that it makes businesses more successful and vibrant. I think in time that is what is going to happen here.”

# Transit in final approval stages

—cover

improved bus service and phase two would see ION extended into downtown Cambridge.

A press release detailing an impending lawsuit against the Region over the LRT was also issued on Tuesday. Stop Light Rail, a group led by a Waterloo business, announced its intention to seek an injunction to stop any work affiliated with the LRT.

The group has gathered more than 2,400 signatures on an online petition to stop a LRT from coming to the region.

However, regional council sees the LRT decision in a more positive light.

“The contract that council [considered] today fits within the \$818 million capital cost that was developed in 2011,” said Region of Waterloo chief financial officer (CFO), Craig Dyer.

“Put another way, we’re currently on budget.”

With the conformation of Grand-Linq as the builder and operator of the Region of Waterloo’s LRT system, the Region can soon start move forward, making concrete moves

towards construction.

The regional council will be asked to make a final selection for builder/operator on Mar. 19.

Utility work and other project will begin as early as September of this year. Actual construction will commence in 2015.

“Most of the land we needed has been acquired, and utilities have been getting relocated along King Street,” said Galloway.

King St. will be closed to facilitate construction in the midtown area all the way to Kitchener’s north end. It will likely be closed for eight months.

“We’re very pleased to see that the bidding process has been successful,” said Tim Mollison of the transportation advocacy group TriTAG.

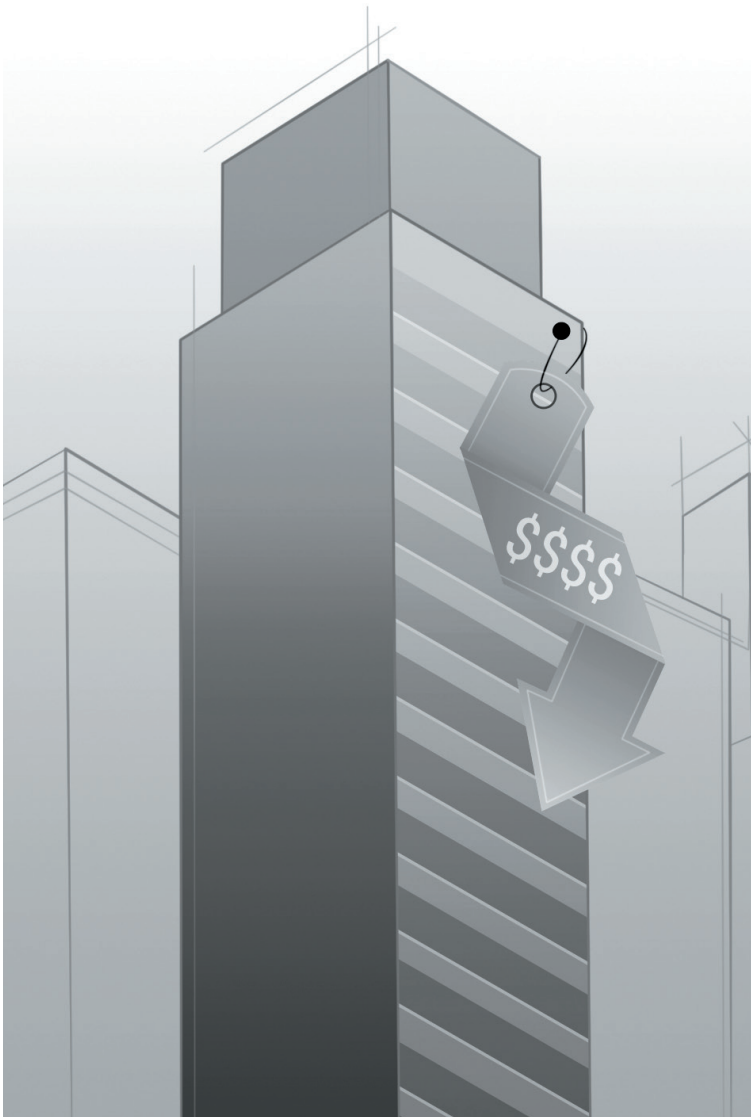
“It looks like it will come in on budget and on time, and we really look forward to the opening of the LRT.”

All eyes are set on the grand opening of the Region of Waterloo’s LRT system in 2017.

With many of the steps necessary to start actual rail construction completed, the construction process is following the schedule as planned.







LENA YANG GRAPHICS EDITOR

# Cities consider housing issues

LAURA BUCK  
LEAD REPORTER

Kitchener Mayor, Carl Zehr, joined with other municipal representatives from across Canada to discuss ways to fix the affordable housing shortage—a substantial barrier to national growth — at a meeting in Ottawa last week.

Issues with transportation infrastructure were also addressed.

Zehr and other members of the Big City Mayors’ Caucus (BCMC) are asking the federal government to invest in long-term planning to address affordable housing shortages and outdated infrastructure.

He wants to ensure this is a priority in the Region of Waterloo.

Mayor Zehr spoke with The Cord and addressed several of the BC-MC’s concerns in regard to the 2014 federal budget.

“For affordable housing there was essentially one paragraph that spoke to the matter,” Zehr said.

“The budget did not address the crying need for additional housing and the improvement of the current housing across the country.”

Zehr said that \$1.7 billion worth of agreements with the federal government for affordable housing in Canada will be discontinued in coming years.

He believes that the federal government, at minimum, should be maintaining the current level of funding towards affordable housing.

“The federal government is basically stating that the mortgages they had guaranteed are maturing and that’s roughly 30 years later and therefore that money isn’t required anymore,” he added.

Zehr continued to say that in terms of mortgages, “these are buildings that have now aged and are in desperate need of additional money to keep them in good condition.”

Gregor Robertson, chair of the BCMC and mayor of Vancouver, contends that the national housing dilemma and aging traffic infrastructure are holding Canadian cities back.

“Canada’s cities are engines of economic growth and our meeting

focused on securing federal commitments to protect affordable housing funding and to reduce traffic gridlock with new federal investment in transit,” Robertson added.

Claude Dauphin is president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the organization that houses the BCMC.

He is also greatly concerned with the growing number of Canadians who have been waitlisted for subsidized housing.

“The high costs of housing puts home ownership out of reach for an increasing number of moderate and low-income earners,” Dauphin shared.

“At the same time, affordable housing waitlists continue to grow long and there is an increasing need for subsidized housing and emergency shelters.”

Dauphin urged the federal government to work with all levels of government to develop a long-term plan to ensure the availability and sustainability of affordable housing for those most in need.

Mayor Zehr noted that there are many residents within the Waterloo Region who depend on access to subsidized housing.

“The federal government cannot, in our opinion, arbitrarily opt out of the housing responsibility,” Zehr shared.

According to Zher, while Waterloo Region exhibits a healthy and growing economy, concerns around housing and aging infrastructure must be addressed —and soon — to avoid future impediments to growth.

“We have continued in this Region to find ways around the problem,” Zehr explained.

“It is not something that is going to cause an immediate halt to the economy, because we have a robust economy.”

“We’re grateful, of course,” he added, “but the need is much greater and there has to be some reference to the sustainability of these funds and not just on a project-by-project basis.”

“This is an economic issue and the federal government has a stake in it,” said Zehr.

# Gesture robots now a reality

Local companies collaborate to create motion-controlled tech

MITCH CONSKY  
STAFF WRITER

Robots have been featured in countless novels, movies and TV shows.

Now, thanks to a partnership between two local companies, Clearpath Robotics and Thalmic Labs, gesture-controlled robots will no longer be science fiction.

Gesture control robots are operated by human motion, meaning that robots can move according to simple body gestures.

In other words, your hands become the remote.

The new gesture robot is being called Husky, which uses Thalmic Lab’s Myo Gesture Control software.

Myo is basically a wristband that operates as a motion detector for signal control transmissions.

Its creator, Thalmic Labs, released the Myo Alpha developer unit to Clearpath Robotics for testing.

This collaboration hopes to push the limits of mechanical control.

“What’s exciting about this project specifically is that products that are used were designed by companies that came out of the startup world in Kitchener-Waterloo Region,” said Meghan Hennessey, marketing communications coordinator for Clearpath Robotics.

“It’s really exciting to see two startup companies come together to build something that’s interactive with one another,” she added,

Clearpath uses a software system called Robot Operating System (ROS), which integrates Thalmic

“It’s really exciting to see two startup companies come together to build something that’s interactive with one another.”

—Meghan Hennessey, marketing communications coordinator for Clearpath Robotics.

Labs’ gesture control armband with one of Clearpath’s atomist robots, the Husky.

Together, they have demonstrated how robotics can be controlled through human motion.

According to Hennessey, the gesture-controlled robot is going to be marketed towards the everyday consumer.

“The applications that are really noted are using the gesture control to turn on the TV while lying on your couch without having to look for the remote,” she said.

She also explained that they also intend to bring Myo to the industrial sector, for use at construction sites and for heavy lifting. Hennessey believes that the combination of the Myo and the Husky can work to

revolutionize the labour required for construction or any other physically demanding jobs.

“The Myo armband allows for a high level of fidelity and ease of use,” she said. “It essentially eliminates having the joystick or any type of remote control.”

“So you can use your arm movements to effortlessly move things around.”

However, Hennessey is particularly looking forward to the impact that Myo might have on the local companies, referring to it as a “stepping stone.”

“Now we can show people how we can move robots with our body movement,” she said.

“The next step is being able to make robots that can move by themselves. It’s a really interesting way of showing how our technology can escalate from one innovation to another.”

Hennessey elaborated on the partnership between Clearpath and Thalmic Labs, explaining that the reason why they collaborated initiatives was because the two companies’ founders graduated from the mechatronic engineering program at the University of Waterloo together.

“It’s kind of a cool, small world that brings everyone together,” Hennessey said. “They’ve really stayed in the loop together and have been big supporters of the startup community.”

Clearpath and Thalmic Labs will be furthering their journey of robotic developments.

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# Distracted drivers to face higher fines

CAROLINE LI  
CORD NEWS

Ontario motorists who are caught using a cellphone or other prohibited device while driving will soon face fines of up to \$280.

Chief Justice Annemarie Bonkalo of Ontario Court of Justice has approved an increase in distracted driving fines from \$155 to \$255.

This increase is set to start Mar. 18 and will include surcharges, bringing fines up to a possible \$280. Currently, tickets that are \$125 encompass a \$30 surcharge, whereas \$225 tickets will bring an additional \$55.

“People don’t think it’s a big deal to take a few seconds to look away,” said Linda Wolf, an Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) constable. “They think nothing bad will ever happen and it’s only a matter of time because it’s gambling whenever they do this.”

According to Wolf, this “gambling” has led to an increase in distracted driving charges from 16,000 in 2012 to 19,000 in 2013.

78 OPP investigations of fatalities affiliated with distracted driving in 2013 served as an indicator for the significance of the problem.

“To compare, that number is greater than the alcohol-related fatalities and speed-related fatalities that same year,” she added.

Drivers who fight the ticket in court may face fines of up to \$500.

Anna Paolella, a representative for Bas Balkissoon, MPP for Toronto and Scarborough, believes fines will deter people from distracted driving and that commuters will become more aware of the increase.

“It will be like when they first



PHOTO AND MANIPULATION BY WILL HUANG STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Drivers who are caught using cell phones or other prohibited devices will be subject to new fine increases as large as \$280 per ticket.

introduced the bill for tickets — it was on billboards,” she said.

Balkissoon introduced a private member’s bill in October 2013 to penalize distracted driving with fines from \$300 to \$700 and demerit points. According to Paolella, Balkissoon’s commitment to preventing distracted driving was actually driven by a personal incident, when a distracted driver hit and killed a woman in his riding who was boarding a bus.

While young people are often

stereotyped as the most common perpetrators of driving while using electronic devices, distracted driving is not limited to any sex or age.

“Distracted driving is not just an issue for young people and it does not relate to more men or women it is men and women of all ages that are in the driving age group from 16 to whatever,” Wolf added. “We haven’t identified any particular age group or sex that is texting more than any other.”

Not all see the increased fines as

a good idea, however.

Second-year Wilfrid Laurier University student Hussein Pradhan believes that the government “is just looking for ways to get money.”

“They don’t care about our safety as they claim they do,” Pradhan added.

Other officials argue that the issue is of extreme importance.

“Clearly the lawmakers recognize that this is a priority for the community and that people stay off their phones,” said Shaena Morris, staff

sergeant for Waterloo Regional Police Services. “The fact that they are increasing the fine certainly speaks to the importance of the issue within the province and that distracted driving kills people.”

Those who endanger others on the road due to distracted driving can also be faced with charges of up to \$2,000 for careless driving and upwards of six demerit points.

Other penalties may also be in affect, including license suspension, criminal charges and jail time.

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# Taxes untapped by students

**CONNOR WARD**  
STAFF WRITER

As soon as the snow melts a new storm of receipts and forms is upon us — tax season is quickly approaching.

The deadline for Canadians to file personal income tax is Apr. 30 and many students miss out on the opportunity of untapped expenses.

Jeel Shah, a first-year student at Wilfrid Laurier University, believes that the main issue at hand is lack of knowledge about the process.

“I think students might not know about how to file a return or might not know about it period,” he said.

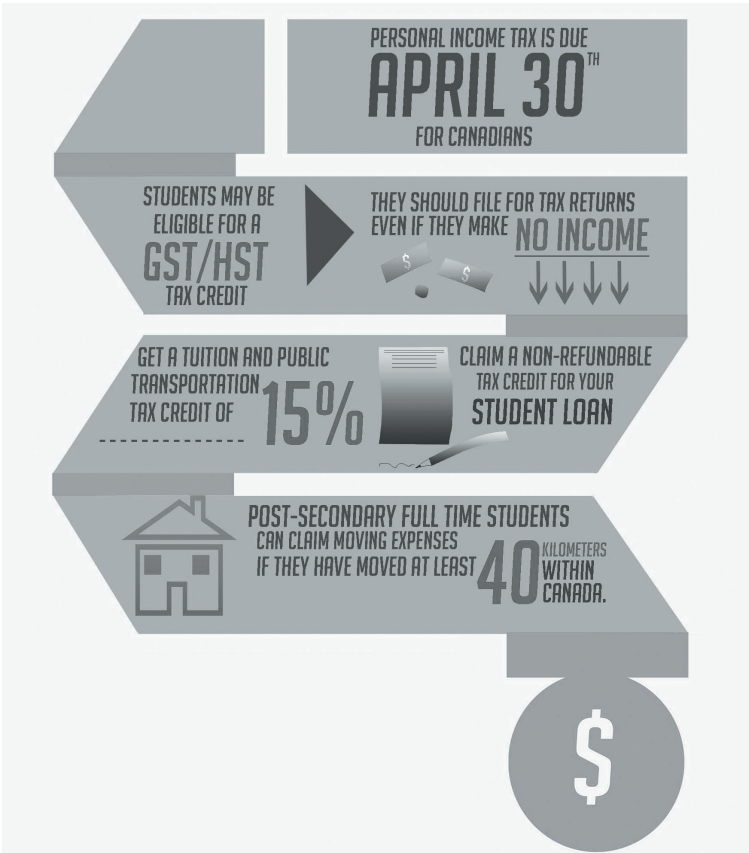
Shah, speculated that there is a lack of knowledge available for students on tax returns, as many don’t file because they either are uneducated or don’t know where to go.

Reasons for why students neglect their tax returns are also rooted in not properly understanding the benefits of filing. In addition, some claim it is time consuming or irrelevant to their student status.

However, according to Ling Chu, an associate professor of accounting at Laurier, there are many tax refunds and credits that both the federal and provincial governments offer that are worthwhile.

“A student without any income should file a tax return as they may be eligible for a refundable GST/HST credit and can only receive the refund by filing a tax return with the CRA,” said Chu, who specializes in taxation. “Refundable tax credit means that you can actually receive a cheque from the CRA.”

She went on to list the many expenses incurred by students, including tuition and textbooks, student loans, public transportation and even daycare — all of these could earn tax refunds.



JESSICA MITRA GRAPHICS ARTIST

Students can pick up an official school tax form, a T2202A, showing that they are indeed a student and detailing how much tuition they have paid.

“If you don’t plan to claim the tuition tax credit this year, then hang on to these slips so you can use them in the future,” said Chu. Students can also attain tax credits on future incomes using these slips that their schools offer them.

According to Canada Revenue Agency communications manager Keith Brooks, the process of filing a return is actually quite simple.

“First thing you have to do is gather the information pertinent to your situation, so income tax T4s from employers or bank statements or rent receipts,” he explained.

“You need to gather information slips to file a return,” Brooks went on to mention that for students, filing online could be a very time and money-neutral option.

“Look at whether you would file electronically or on paper,” Brooks said.

“A number of these are free, particularly for students.”



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**Dear WLUSU,**  
Proof that your hiring system doesn't work is all around you. STARR lets too many good people fall between the cracks. Between the assailants of Foot Patrol and the terrible turnover rate that most committees and services have, maybe it is about time we gave the hiring processes over to the Services and not HR and got rid of STARR, sorry STAAARRR, all together.  
Sincerely,  
A Pissed Off WLUSU Member and WLUSU Services Volunteer

**Dear Foot Patrol,**  
I do love your service, you make me feel safe. But recently, not so much. I used to love the boys in blue and love the women too. You walked me home in the thickest of storms and walked me places that wore down your shoes. It saddens me that someone is there, that tarnished your 20 year reputation so fair. While I haven't the slightest fear of the dark, and yes before you question, I have been stuck up in the park. Solve the issue you have at hand, find this person or thing, whatever you want to call it. Correct it, solve it, make these students feel safe. But until that day when the issue is solved, Foot Patrol I am sorry, but I won't need you at all.  
Sincerely,  
Poet Borden, Another Scandal to Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Name

**Dear Life,**  
I have applied to be a don for three years now and have been rejected every time. I have had similar positions over the years and know I would do an excellent job. So, when I read on the front page of The Cord last week that a don had been charged for theft, all I thought was "you should have hired me."  
Sincerely,  
I am awesome, too bad you can't see it.

**Dear Laurier,**  
If a Residence Life Don can be a thief, a Foot Patrol volunteer can be a predator or stalker. Maybe police record checks wouldn't be a bad idea.  
Sincerely,  
Wouldn't want anybody I know

using Foot Patrol anymore

**Dear Life,**  
I would appreciate it if WLUSU put doors on the bathrooms in the 2-4 lounge.  
Sincerely,  
Everyone can hear me shitting

**Dear Life,**  
Why are there ants in my apartment IN WINTER?  
I hate you little ants.  
I know I shouldn't, and I know you just want to eat the crumbs that fall from my table. But you are just everywhere now!  
I warn you now little ants, if my Landlord doesn't get rid of you soon, I will become a much, much worse hostess.  
Sincerely,  
Getting the Bleach

**Dear Life,**  
What an amazing Hawk Weekend! So much love for all the first years, Dons, OCAs and REAs that are still rubbing paint off their faces, letting their voices recover and getting much needed sleep. Everyone who was involved made the 5th Annual Hawk Weekend an absolute blast! Great work IRC Laurier and FYLPs! See you next year!  
Sincerely,  
A Proud Golden Hawk

**Dear Life,**  
I'm a staff member as well as a Laurier alumna, and I have one thing to say to WLU students: I'm jealous of your sweatpants.  
Sincerely,  
Business Attire

**Dear Life,**  
All of this stuff about criminals working in positions of trust has me pissed off. Statistically you know both a rapist and a thief. You've sat in classes with them, eaten meals near them, heck you've probably partied with them.  
It's a reality of life right now. So stop trashing Foot and Residence for these controversies. There is literally nothing they could have done in either case to make 100% sure they wouldn't have happened. Police Checks are only 100% verified for three years before they are issued. Residence Life and Foot Patrol do everything they can to make sure students are safe. Bad people are still going to do bad things.  
Sincerely,  
Get over yourselves

**Dear Life,**  
I wasn't the girl who complemented your scarf, but I wish I was.  
Sincerely,  
I would like a jellybaby

Summer sublet

**41 Columbia Street West, Waterloo**  
Great location for WLU and UW students! I need a sublet for one room in a spacious four bedroom apartment from the beginning of May until the end of August 2014. \$450/month (negotiable). E-mail [gillianl-lopes@gmail.com](mailto:gillianl-lopes@gmail.com)

Research study

A study is being conducted by a Wilfrid Laurier University student, Michelle Heersink, under the supervision of Dr. Nancy Kocovski (with co-investigator, Ms. Kyla Denomme). The researchers will be looking at factors associated with quality of life among people with epilepsy. You are invited to participate in this exciting research, as there is limited information in this specific area. We

are looking for approximately 120 individuals with epilepsy who are between the ages of 18 and 65 years old. For your participation, you may be entered into a draw to win a \$50 gift card. If you have any questions or comments regarding this study, or your participation in this study, please contact the student researcher, Michelle Heersink, at [heer3480@mylaurier.ca](mailto:heer3480@mylaurier.ca).

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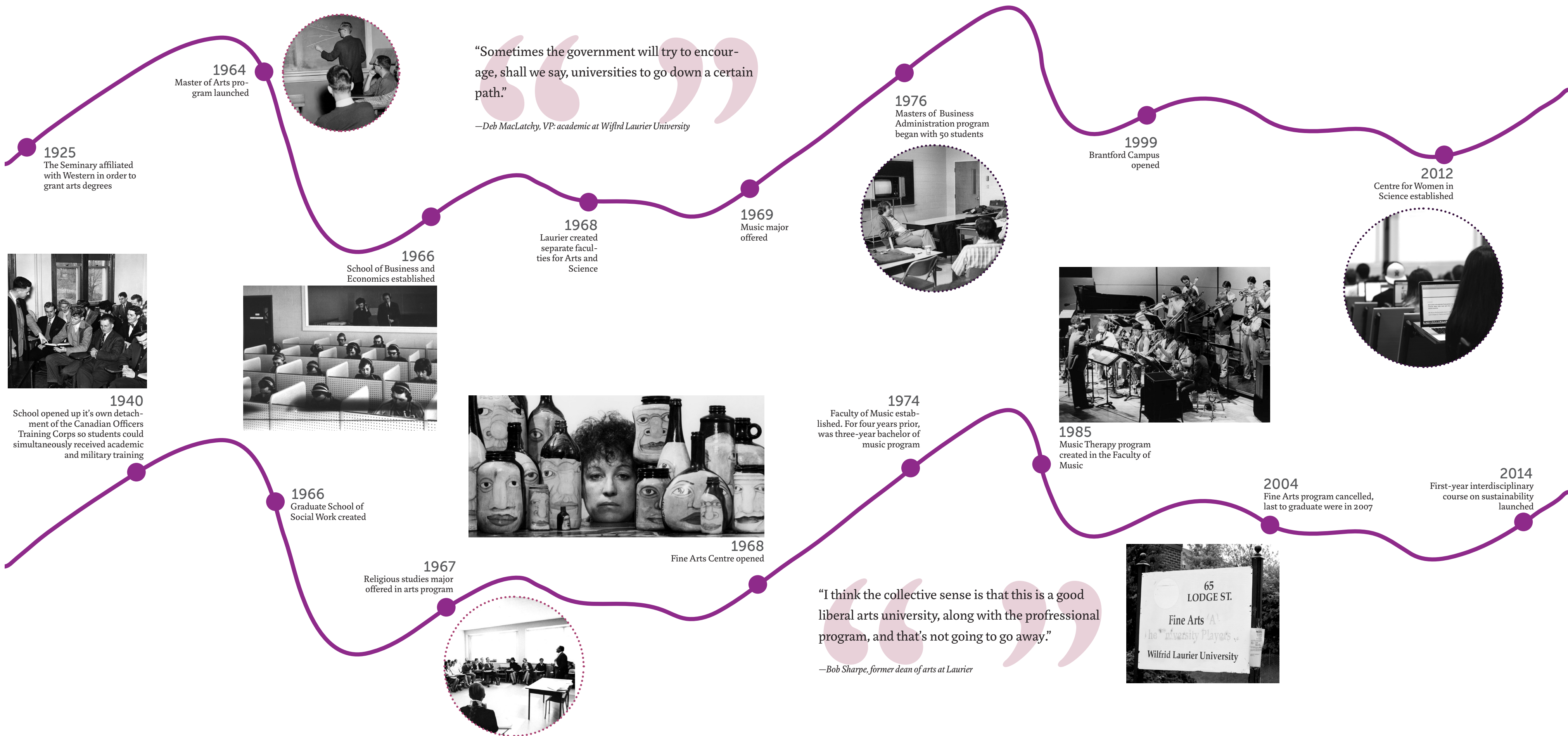
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# Tracing Laurier's academic roots

Editor-in-Chief Justin Smirlies and Senior News Editor Lindsay Purchase explore the ever-changing nature of the Laurier classroom

The way in which universities deliver their courses and programs will always be in flux — and Wilfrid Laurier University is no exception. As a university that is now seen as a comprehensive establishment rather than a primarily undergraduate one, as it has been known for many years, Laurier has experienced a fair number of changes in its faculty, department and program structures.

Even with the core faculties of arts, science, the school of business of economics (SBE), music, graduate studies, and a few more, Laurier faces some challenges to remain relevant to industry employment, but also as an institution that offers a widespread collection of courses and programs.

As a two per cent cut to the university looms for the next year's budget and the province places downward pressure on universities to differentiate, there is no doubt that the academic nature of Laurier of ten, or even five, years down the road will look dramatically different than it does today.

“Sometimes the government will try to encourage, shall we say, universities to go down a certain path,” explained Deb MacLatchy, the VP: academic at WLU. “For example, a number of years ago, it was identified that there was a need for strategic resources to be placed into the STEM disciplines, so in science, technology, engineering and math areas.”

She added, “It is a challenge to sort of stay the course and be true to yourself as an institution,

while at the same time understanding that there's external forces on you as well that you have to respond to in some way.”

These cuts will be distributed across the university as a whole, including services and other non-academic related departments, but some fears have arisen about its impact on the arts faculty in particular. In May of 2012, for example, anthropology was reduced from a department to a program.

“We're having to always sell this idea in the face of a lot of external messaging about the questionable relevance of the arts degree. I really think that's an overstated argument and I think it gets into different ideologies that dominate our popular culture,” said Bob Sharpe, former associate dean of arts and associate professor of geography.

Laurier has clearly put an emphasis on business and sciences in recent years, especially with the on-going development of the Global Innovation Exchange (GIE) building, which will house the SBE faculty and the department of mathematics. Especially with the growing size of SBE at Laurier, some may perceive the university as becoming primarily a business-orientated institution.

Particularly on the Waterloo campus, the university's faculty structure has shifted through the years, including the largest move to establish the science faculty as its own entity in 2000. Music, which is well-known nationally as a renowned music

program, became a faculty in 1974. And in 1999, the Laurier Brantford campus was established to further Laurier's course and program offerings. There are still hopes for Laurier in the near future to establish a Milton campus as well.

“[On the Waterloo campus] arts is still the largest, but science and business aren't too far behind. I think from that point of view, we're pretty well balanced,” continued MacLatchy. “I think just because you build a reputation in certain areas, I think excellence in anything, whether it's your music program or your global studies or business or kinesiology or wherever that excellence is found, it actually supports a perception of the whole university as being excellent and it's not just focused on that one area.”

Despite the fact that visual arts programs such as fine arts were discontinued in 2004, MacLatchy hopes that the university could adopt more artistic-orientated offerings in future. But, like most things at a university, that all comes down to whether or not resources are available.

“Developing new programs is one of the things that we love to do,” said MacLatchy. “But at the same time, we've got to be able to scrutinize ourselves, reflect enough on what it is that we have done to be able to say, ‘well, that was a great idea at the time and it served a group of students at the time, but we can't continue to do that going forward.”

## A new form of delivery

More specifically, faculties such as SBE and arts at Laurier have to make adjustments to how they deliver their information, which has impacted some of the course material. New developments in technology in the past decade has put an increasing emphasis on online learning at Laurier.

According to Kim Moroney, the associate dean of business: academic programs at Laurier, the courses in the SBE programs haven't necessarily changed much the last 20 years Moroney has been at the university, but a lot of them are more international and technological in scope.

“If you're looking back as well as looking forward we used to have a course called international business,” explained Moroney. “Now, every course that we teach, from finance to marketing, is international in scope. We're really intensifying that change.”

She noted that approximately 20 years ago there was only one course that dealt with e-commerce whereas now all courses have digital components to it. However, Moroney isn't completely sold on the idea of online-only learning — face-to-face communication is vital for the industry.

“I personally don't think that we're going to move entirely away from face-to-face communication. Even in global business, people realize that you can

do a great deal of work virtually, but when it comes to building relationships you do have to spend time with the other people face-to-face,” she added.

Innovation in developing new programming has extended beyond adding technical components to courses, however. In the arts faculty, professors have responded to declining admissions by expanding existing departments and creating new types of classes.

“If there's any sort of key, overarching rubric that characterizes the really good things happening in the faculty of arts it would be its active innovation to respond to external changes and internal changes within the university,” said Sharpe.

For example, over the last several years, arts has begun to offer different ‘options’ that allow students to specialize, such as the Muslim studies option, and has seen expansions to existing programs like film studies and women and gender studies.

The faculty of music, “the last show standing curricularly” in terms of creative disciplines at Laurier, has also taken steps to make itself more adaptable to student needs, according to Carruthers.

“The most significant change is we need to respond to the kind of students that come into our program and the kind of expectations that those students have. And that's something that's constantly evolving,” he said. “Not only is the world of music changing in interesting and dramatic ways,

the world is changing in interesting and dramatic ways. So I think it's important that any faculty ... be responsive to student need.”

This kind of adaptability will likely be vital as universities adjust to the changing demands and funding allotments from the province in the near future.

## What the future holds

With the university currently negotiating its Strategic Mandate Agreement with the province and determining its academic priorities internally through the Integrated Planning and Resource Management (IPRM) process, Laurier is at a critical time of self-reflection that will determine its programming focuses for years to come.

For dean of music Glen Carruthers, the key is finding balance among different faculties, rather than overemphasizing strategic areas of focus.

“There may be an emphasis on particular disciplines now and for the next several years, but that doesn't mean it's going to be that way forever. We need to be poised to do all kinds of things, not all simultaneously, but we need to be ready to respond to market demand,” he said.

Contrary to popular rhetoric that the current squeezing and slashing of university budgets makes this a particularly challenging time for post-secondary education, Carruthers believes that it will help Laurier to determine what is at its core as an

institution.

“Yes, there are constraints on the post-secondary sector. But constraints cause us to focus, they cause us to work as a group to decide what really is important.”

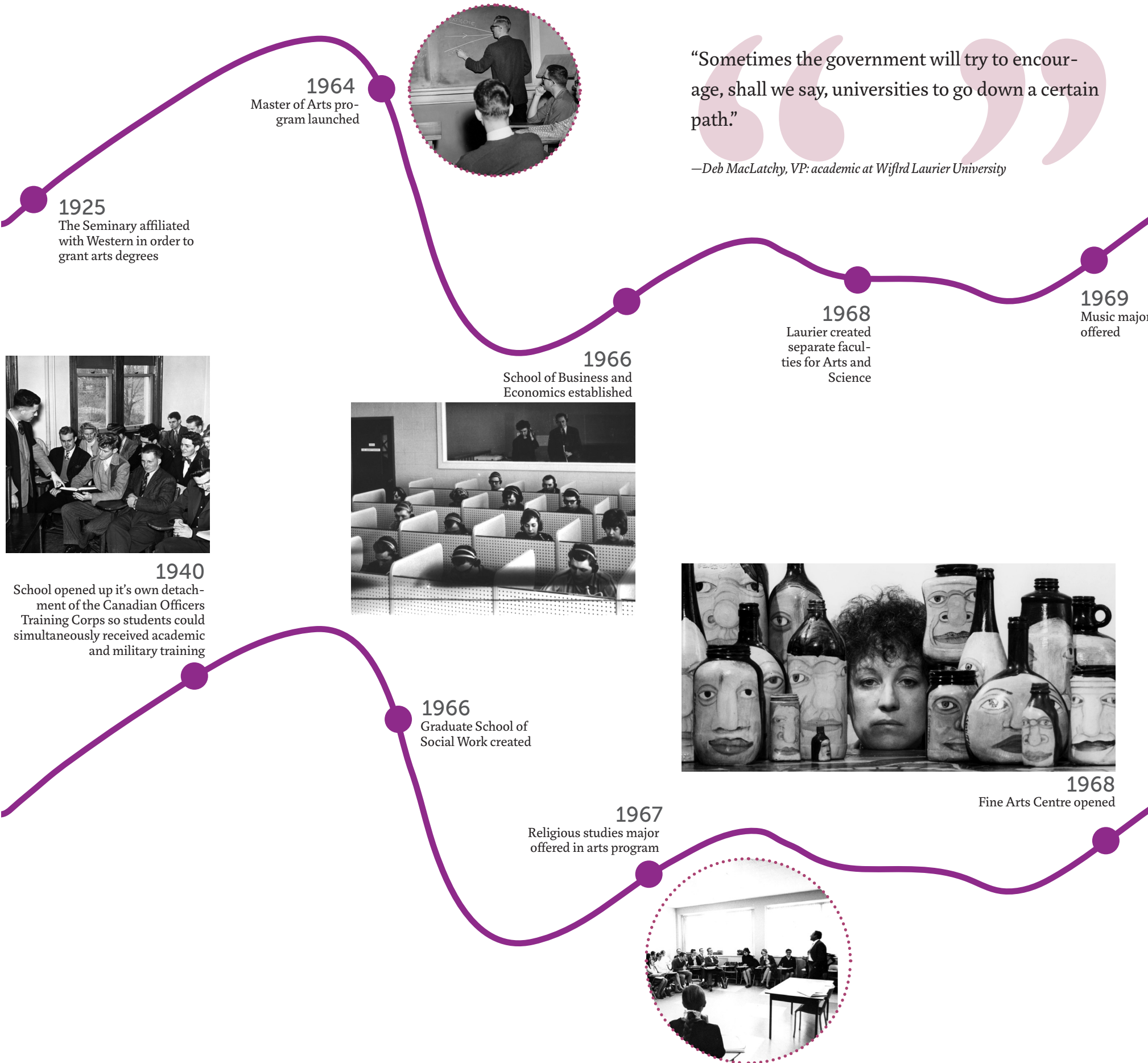
Broadening the scope of programs and adding a more interdisciplinary approach is also a factor for undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral programs at Laurier. According to Joan Norris, the dean of graduate and postdoctoral studies at Laurier, this will be a focus for future programs.

“That's really the result of how the fields themselves are developing. So I think that we have more of an opportunity here for more of that,” Norris explained, adding that she is awaiting the approval for interdisciplinary PhD programs such as biological and chemical sciences.

Sharpe, who is the co-chair of the IPRM and has been at Laurier since 1985, thinks that in spite of changes, the university will be able to maintain its focus on liberal arts and program interdisciplinary as key values.

He added, “I think it's overall a really good exercise to get a vision of the university and where all the faculties fit in and how they complement each other and how they do have real strengths here ... I think the collective sense is that this is a good liberal arts university, along with the professional program, and that's not going to go away.”





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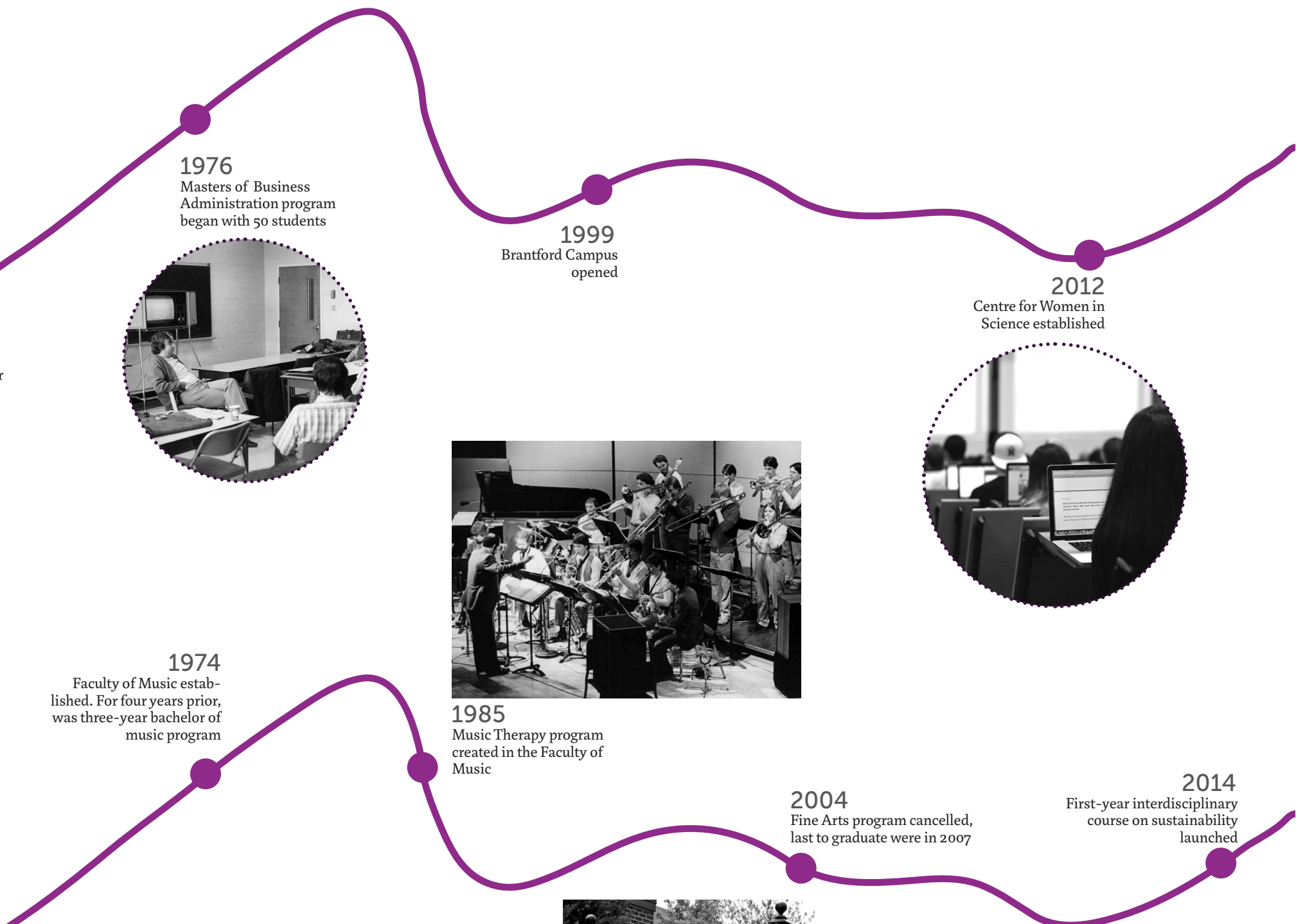
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She noted that approximately 10 per cent of courses were only one course that dealt with business, whereas now all courses have a business component. However, Morouney isn't completely sold on the idea of online-only learning — communication is vital for the industry.

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# ARTS

Arts Editor  
Cristina Almudevar  
calmudevar@thecord.ca

## Pixar in concert

Select film scores enchanted Centre in the Square

SPENCER DUNN  
STAFF WRITER

Long associated with excellent plot-lines, Pixar films are often forgotten for being accompanied by some of the best musical scores in film history. On Wednesday Feb. 26, the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony took on some of our favourite movie scores in “Pixar in Concert.” After seeing this one-night-only performance, it will be tough to ever forget again.

The stage was set with a large screen that was displayed behind the musicians. Snippets from each of the movies were projected onto the screen and the conductor, local composer Evan Mitchell, had a smaller screen in front of him to ensure that he was conducting in sync with the films.

The band had to be perfectly timed to emphasize the impact of the music in the movie, and they were perfectly en pointe. Mitchell said after the band played music from *Finding Nemo* that the click counter had been accidentally turned off and he was conducting “blind;” something as small as this can have a major impact on a performance relying so much on synchronicity.

The symphony played music from 13 of the 14 major Pixar movies, with *Monster’s University* being the only excluded film. Each film showed the range of music in Pixar films. *Toy Story*, *Finding Nemo*, *Ratatouille*, *A Bug’s Life* and *Wall-E* were just some of the many excellent Pixar films highlighted in this excellent performance.

A feeling of intense nostalgia was certainly present throughout the show, as the audience was made up of parents who enjoyed these movies with their kids and young adults who came to reminisce about the movies from their childhoods.

Every piece was performed perfectly, with only the *Brave* sequence being a little distracting. The screen was just slightly too dark to see the action presented in Pixar’s Scottish tale, but the music was excellent. There were a few moments of desynchronization, when the symphony did not match the exact film, but Mitchell was cautious of this and the group had clearly practiced getting themselves back on track.

The Walt Disney Company put the show together and sent out a set score to various symphonies in many cities across Canada and the United States. Due to the copyright laws surrounding these scores, the performance package has to be purchased from Pixar in order to be performed.

Pixar has been rewarded heavily for their musical work; between the 13 films showcased in the show the studio, which is a subsidiary of The Walt Disney Company, has won three Academy Awards and ten Grammys.

The music paired with the movie clips worked especially well and in true Pixar fashion, both humour and emotion were highlighted perfectly.



JODY WAARDENBURG LEAD PHOTOGRAPHER

## Aboriginal culture honoured

ANDREA NELSON  
CORD ARTS

*Giwwedin* is a riveting and beautiful tale that captured the audience this past weekend at Wilfrid Laurier University, even for those not already fans of opera. *Giwwedin* is told from the perspective of a 150-year-old First Nations woman and speaks to the history of First Nations people in the Temiskaming region of Northern Ontario.

The performance was devastating, funny and held a powerful message about honouring the First Nations history and knowledge. The score, the singing and the acting spoke volumes to the history and culture of First Nations people.

This is the second production of *Giwwedin*, as a contemporary opera, the first being on stage in Toronto three years ago.

“The composers, when they saw our performance ... and our interpretation was vastly different

from—in some ways—from the original production in Toronto,” stated the director, Anne-Marie Donovan.

“It’s a way of growing the piece that we brought out different things and they brought out things and we brought out other things because we never saw their production,”

One of the interpretations was the choice to use paintings of the land, spirit world and psychiatric ward for projections in order to achieve the evocative, deep imagery in *Giwwedin*. The opera, a recent release, introduced an intimidation factor for was some of the opera students because they were unfamiliar with the piece.

“I think what was intimidating for me was that I had nothing to go on in the start,” admitted Kendra Dyck, who played Mahigan.

Despite the challenges associated with performing a contemporary opera, all of the singers performed wonderfully on the opening night.

*Giwwedin* is full of beautiful melodies and the performance drew on powerful emotions.

“Noodin-kwe comes in singing with her son [in the spirit world after her death] and there are just some beautiful melodies, especially at the end it kind of sounded like a creepy hymn,” said Dyck, reflecting on a favourite moment.

The students skillfully drew on their talents and aboriginal culture to bring the performance together.

The opera class was incredibly involved; the students are able to participate in making sets, costumes and being a part of the promotions.

“They built the canoe, which is actually a [usable] canoe,” stated Donovan.

In preparation for *Giwwedin*, the cast consulted extensively with the local aboriginal community, who taught them about their history and culture. One of the First Nations students at Laurier is a traditional dancer and she came and taught

three singers how to dance.

“Before we even started rehearsals we had a meeting with Spy Dé-nommé-Welch and Catherine Magowan [the writers of *Giwwedin*] and the entire production team and they were all telling us ‘this is OK, we are behind you every step of the way, if you have any questions always ask,’” said Dyck.

*Giwwedin* was part of the opening weekend for Aboriginal Awareness Week. They were honoured that 50 tickets were purchased by attendees of an aboriginal conference for the Saturday show. Additional tickets were offered to Elders and those who helped out in the surrounding community.

*Giwwedin* was an incredible performance. It was so relevant to our modern history and current reality. The cast and crew of *Giwwedin* performed so well and truly honoured aboriginal history and culture.

It was a performance worth seeing.

## USS: Introspection and energy

CRISTINA ALMUDEVAR  
ARTS EDITOR

Attending a USS live performance is like entering an alternate and energetic universe where the only goal is to have as much fun as humanly possible.

On Thursday Feb. 27, Ubiquitous Synergy Seeker, commonly referred to as USS, graced The Wax in Kitchener with their enthusiastic presence to promote their latest album *Advanced Basics*, their latest release since *USS Approved* in 2011.

The creation of this album varied from their prior work due to their campaign with PledgeMusic, a Kickstarter-esque website, called #Lets-getweird. There were various exclusive incentives such as an acoustic Skype concert or a USS bowling party. The band reached 201 per cent of their chosen goal.

“The money that we raised with the pre-order has allowed us to have a little bit more of a stress-free time writing, recording and producing but it’s also ultimately what has led to us being able to comfortably financially be able to go out on the road for the last month and a half to play these shows,” said turntablist Jason “Human Kebab” Parsons to The Cord.

“Touring is unrelenting and it’s financial hemorrhaging at times ... [the fans] trusted us enough that we were going to deliver a product that they would be drawn to and fall in love with says something,”

This is not the band’s first time playing in Kitchener, however it was under different circumstances.

“The first time I played here in Kitchener, there was no one at the show [except the bartender, the sound guy and the three guys in the other band] and now there’s going



HEATHER DAVIDSON PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Toronto’s Ubiquitous Synergy Seeker played in Kitchener last week.

to be 600 people here,” said Ashley Buchholz, vocalist and guitar player.

“We’re going to create a vortex and enthusiasm and anyone who has asked the universe politely to bring them exactly what they want. The secret ingredient is enthusiasm ... everyone’s going to walk away from here ten steps closer to the

person they truly want to be.”

Self-actualization is a common theme surrounding *Advanced Basics*—Buchholz describes this album as his “I’ve had enough” moment.

“This album was the ‘I’ve had enough’ of being disappointed in who I am and it’s a grand illusion that we look up to these musicians and actors like they’re the

happiest people alive, they’re the f\*\*king saddest people on earth ... That’s the incredible irony of the whole thing, everyone is looking up to these people and wish that they were them, meanwhile, myself included [in the hero worship] ... I have low self-everything and I’ve had enough,” reflected Buchholz.

Though Buchholz admits to “low self-everything,” on stage he comes off as confident. Parsons and Buchholz feed off of each other’s energy and the energy of the audience. As per every USS show, it was a wild and unpredictable time.

One of the most memorable aspects of the night was when Buchholz and Parsons noticed that young children were dancing along directly in front of the stage. They decided to bring them up onto the stage, exclaiming shock that such young kids were at their concert on a school night.

USS played songs from their recent albums, which may have alienated fans who are more familiar with their older work. Despite this, the set was excellent. There were no major sound issues and all voices and instruments were perfectly in tune.

The intense energy on-stage translates to intense energy into everything that Buchholz and Parsons are involved with—including the band and in their personal lives.

“Essentially, where we’re at in our lives, as individuals, and what is coming out in what produced itself in our album is that we are silly people but the music is dead serious. There’s a certain time where you have to face some stuff that you’ve been running away from or you haven’t been able to look in the eye. That’s the stuff you think about before you go to bed,” said Buchholz.

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# Living for dance

CARA PETICCA  
STAFF WRITER

As a child, Moore’s first exposure to dance came from his sister. When she was a young dancer, his family frequented the dance studio which she attended. Despite this regularity, Moore admitted he considered dancing to be feminine.

“I [assumed] that’s what girls do,” he told the Cord.

Instead, Moore immersed himself in sports like hockey, soccer, football and rugby. It was not until Moore’s mother decided to register him in an all-boys dance class at the studio his sister was enrolled in that he began to dance on his own. Eventually, breakdancing became a pivotal activity in his life.

“[Soon] I did not have time for hockey, I didn’t have time for soccer. It slowly started to transition over to dancing,” Moore explained.

On his journey into dancing, Moore was fortunate enough to be the student of two incredibly inspirational dancers, such as Snapp, who is a well-known street-dancer in Toronto with a crew called The Moon Runners.

“Snapp was very fluid with waving and movement,” Moore described as his hands move effortlessly to demonstrate.

Alternatively, another motivating figure was Jesse Catibog, who



JESSICA DIK STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

made an appearance on *So You Think You Can Dance Canada* in 2008. It was these two dancers who shaped Moore’s direction and dancing preferences. Moore noted that his present style “is a mix between [breakdancing and hip hop].”

Coming to Laurier meant leaving these inspirations behind and beginning a new chapter. Kyle discovered the club Fashion in Motion, an outlet for dance on campus.

Fashion in Motion challenged Kyle with “different styles like jazz and contemporary because [he] had never tried this type of dance before.” His passion for dance only expanded with this new knowledge.

“It’s why I decided to become a choreographer for Fashion in

Motion this year,” he said.

Moore dedicates every Sunday to instructing his fellow peers. As if his co-curricular record was not impressive enough, Moore became part of ALIAS, a dance crew on the Laurier campus.

He now draws inspiration from his fellow dancers.

Although his love for dance has not subsided, Moore acknowledges challenges in maintaining his devotion to dance.

Because of this, “the biggest challenge is finding time to practice, train and get better. It’s hard to improve with school, clubs, other commitments and work. You kind of have to give something up to keep doing it at your full potential.”

# No surprises here

*The Oscars were more of the same old*



SPENCER DUNN  
STAFF WRITER

The 86th Academy Awards, on Sunday March 1, went on with very few surprises. Ellen DeGeneres hosted for the second time and, as usual, brought the energy all her own to the biggest night in Hollywood.

In one of the highlights of the evening, she handed out pizza to the audience, and then made them tip.

The unwitting pizza deliveryman, who thought he was delivering to the backstage crew, received a \$1,000 tip from the star-studded front rows of the Dolby Theatre. DeGeneres also took a selfie with some of Hollywood’s biggest stars that was retweeted so much it shut down Twitter.

The show was long, as usual, and there were no surprises with the winners. Gravity took home most of the technical awards and ‘The Big Four’ acting Awards went to the well-deserving Jared Leto, Lupita Nyong’o, Cate Blanchett and Matthew McConaughey.

Each of these actors had excellent speeches. It was only McConaughey’s speech that had people reeling. This was his moment to discuss the issues presented in *Dallas Buyers Club* and thank the real Ron Woodroof but instead said that him

ten years from now was his own hero. Although McConaughey deserved the Oscar, he certainly is the same old Matthew. Nyong’o, on the other hand, made a heartfelt speech, thanking everyone for her success and stating, “No matter where you are from, your dreams are valid.” Leto managed to thank his mother, his brother, his former band 30 Seconds to Mars and he even had time to discuss many of the issues presented in *Dallas Buyers Club*.

Leonardo DiCaprio was denied an Oscar again, but with a category as stacked as it was, it is no surprise that *The Wolf of Wall Street* actor didn’t come away with his long-awaited award.

John Travolta somehow managed to have the spotlight this year when he introduced Idina Menzel. Menzel sang the Oscar-winning song “Let it Go” from *Frozen* and John Travolta somehow pronounced her name “Adele Dazeem”.

*12 Years a Slave* took home the honour of Best Picture and is the first movie about slavery to win best picture. It’s also the first time a movie with a black director has won the accolade.

Blanchett, Nyong’o and Leto all appeared on DeGeneres’ live show the next day, Oscars in hand. This broadcast was the highest rated since 2005, and the highest rated entertainment event since the *Friends* finale.

No word yet on who will host next year, but with the success of this years show, it will be no surprise if Ellen is asked again.

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PUBLIC OPINION AND THE FRAMING OF ISLAM

CHRIS COCHRANE, PhD

MONDAY, MARCH 10 | 10 AM | PAUL MARTIN CENTRE

A number of recent controversies have emerged in Canadian politics about the integration of Muslim minorities. Critics of accommodation often frame their positions as a defence of tolerance against intolerance, and of equality against inequality. Islam, from this perspective, poses challenges for the integration of Muslims in Western societies. Chris Cochrane’s presentation addresses this argument in an analysis of public opinion evidence regarding the attitudes of, and about, Canadian Muslims.

CHRIS COCHRANE is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto and the University of Toronto-Scarborough (UTSC). Cochrane studies ideological disagreement and its implications for political decision-making and party competition in Canada and elsewhere.

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# Friendship to relationship

Developing feelings for your close friend of the opposite sex can be risky business

SCOTT GLAYSHER  
STAFF WRITER

Everyone has best friends in university.

Maybe you met them in elementary school and you've been friends forever or maybe they were on your floor in first year.

Either way you slice it, everyone has friends that they are extremely close with. More than likely, these friends are the same gender as you. Girls have a ton of girl friends and guys have tons of guy friends.

But everyone, no matter who you are, has an extremely close friend of the opposite sex.

You two get along really well, you connect on a deeper level and you probably hang out more than you should. All good, right? Not so much.

What happens when you start to catch feelings for your best friend? Do you ask them out? Do you do nothing? Do you change schools all together? Finding the answer can be tricky.

Fourth-year economics student Deanna Scharpf claimed that, "If you know that there is some type of sexual attraction, whether you're playful and flirty or somewhat touchy with them, it's probably inevitable and it will happen anyway." This is obviously the best-case scenario.

If both parties already have some pre-conceived notion that a hookup is going to happen, a genuine romantic relationship will happen organically.

But what if you aren't sure if the

"You have to be prepared for a fall out though, it should be a choice not made lightly."

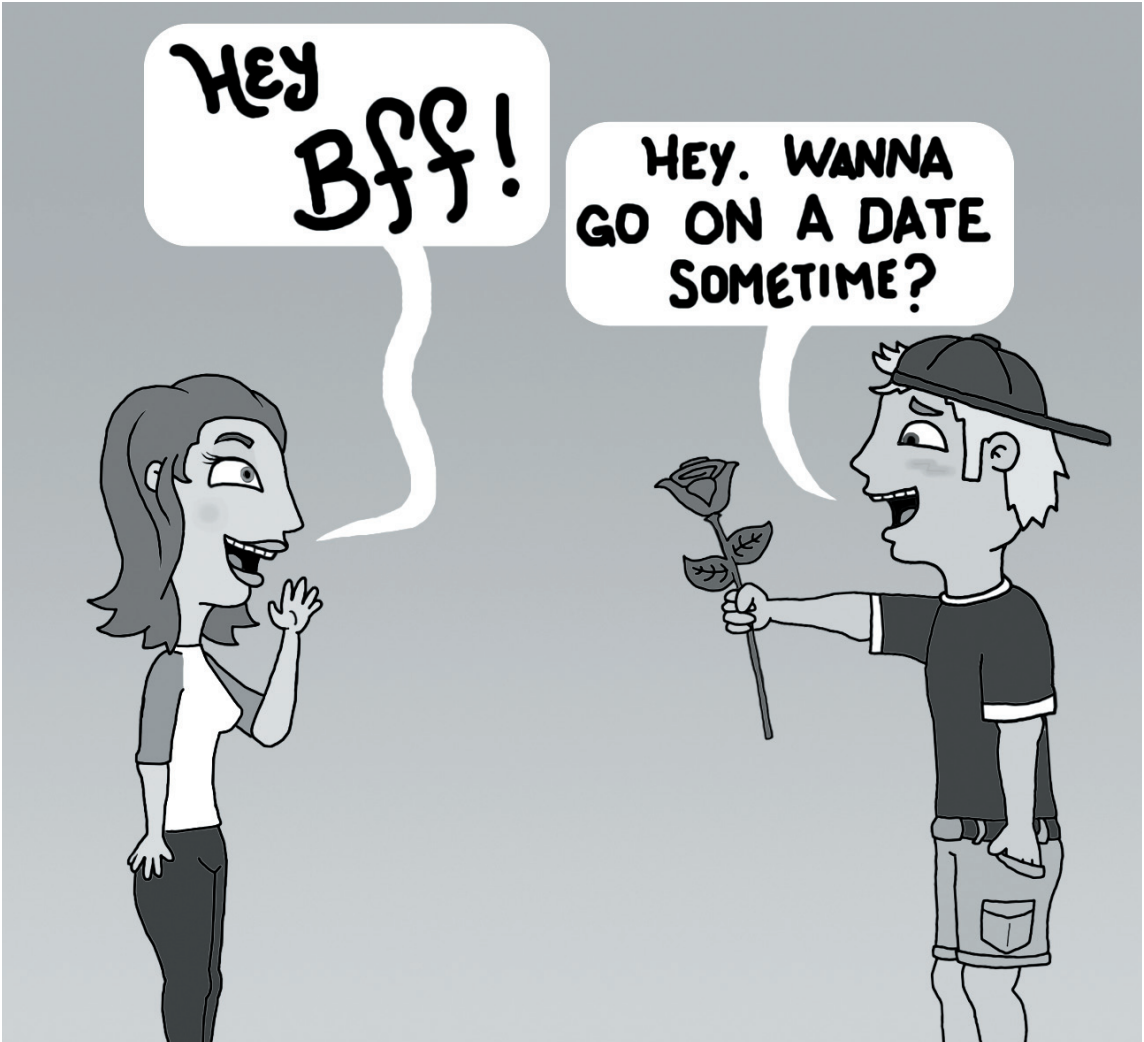
—Barbara Tavares, third-year communications student at Wilfrid Laurier University

feelings you have are legitimate? Should you ask your best friend out on a "real" date to figure it out?

Usually best friends will grab coffee, go to lunch, go to pre-drinks together and find other ways to spend time with one another. This is textbook friendship mode.

But how do you ask your best friend out in order to get them into dating mode? This can sometimes be a slippery slope.

Asking your best friend out on a romantic date can go one of two ways. It can either be a tremendous success and you both live happily ever after or things will get awkward and you will inevitably lose a close



JACOB LINDGREN GRAPHICS ARTIST

friend.

Third-year women studies student Chantel Hamel said, "You might as well go for it. If not, you will always wonder 'what if'."

But on the other hand, you also do not want to force an attraction that is not reciprocated. The relationship should be natural.

"You should always let it happen organically, if you ask them out it could get awkward or catch them off guard," second-year kinesiology student Kerrigan Brown said.

So what do you do? If you find yourself hopelessly in love with your best friend, it is best that you gauge

the situation for yourself.

Weigh out the advantages and disadvantages. If you desperately want to take your friendly relationship to the next level, then go for it and don't look back.

Yet, if you feel that you might lose a close friend if you ask them on a romantic soirée at the Bauer Kitchen, your best bet would be to refrain.

All in all, you have got to be prepared for the worst-case scenario. There may be the possibility that romantically pursuing your best friend will not work out the way that you hoped it would.

You have to be mentally prepared

when deciding to ask out your best guy or girl friend.

"You have to be prepared for a fall out though, it should be a choice not made lightly," explained third-year communications student Barbara Tavares.

Tavares is right. Making the drastic jump from friends to lovers is quite the leap, so you've got to make sure you know what you want and that it's worth the risk.

There is nothing worse than getting rejected, making things awkward and then losing a close friend in the long run. But hey, you only live once.

# Investigating how polite Laurier really is

As part of a social experiment, The Cord searched for students on campus who willingly helped strangers



ALANNA FAIREY  
LIFE EDITOR

Whoever said that chivalry was dead did not go to Wilfrid Laurier University.

Something as simple as holding the door for someone who is carrying a number of books is one of the most beautiful forms of politeness, yet this is something that is not often practiced in everyday life.

Because of this, many people say that general courtesy for one another is dead.

However, there are those who are always polite and go out of their way to hold a door open for someone or help pick up their dropped books.

These helpers are seldom ever met with a simple thank you from the person they just helped. It is sometimes a losing battle when being polite.

Curious to see on which end of the spectrum Laurier falls under, The Cord's video team and I decided to conduct a social experiment to see just how polite Laurier really is.

The results from this experiment have continued my faith in humanity.

**The Science Atrium**

There were a few trial and errors with this first stop.

Originally, our subject Mahdri Vorster was going to walk by the steps alongside the wall and then drop her books to see if anyone would help her pick them up.

She dropped her books and notebooks and though people glanced over, she was too far from the crowd for anyone to help her pick her things up.

Vorster went into this social experiment already believing that Laurier was an inherently polite school, as she had seen many acts of kindness during her time at Laurier. Because of this, she assumed that she would have more of a positive reaction from her peers.

"It didn't surprise me that people would react to such an occurrence," Vorster said, "But it did surprise me that not that many people looked up from the book dropping incident."

Deciding that we weren't going to give up, we decided to try one more time in the atrium.

I decided to be the subject just in case someone would get suspicious of Mahdri dropping her books again. Instead of walking along the walls, I walked through the desks with my notebook and papers in my hand.

I purposely crashed into the edge of a desk, leading me to drop my notebook while also sending my papers everywhere.

Since I was much closer to the students studying, I got much more of a reaction.

One girl didn't hesitate for a moment and she helped me grab my papers, handed them to me and offered a polite smile.

"I was surprised to see people actually move out of their chairs to help someone else when it is easy to make it look like you're too busy to lend a hand," Vorster commented when she observed the second attempt.

It was refreshing to see that there are polite people here at Laurier.

**The FNCC**

To further this experiment, the video team and I decided to take this experiment outside and see if people would offer to help chase after papers blowing in the wind.

As I was walking up towards the Fred Nichols building, I was rummaging through my notes. Given the fact that it was already naturally windy outside, I did not have to pretend to lose my notes.

I dropped my notebook on the first try and since by some miracle only one of my papers blew away, one person stopped to grab it for me. As I continued onwards, I purposely stumbled so that I would drop my work to the ground.

Just as I was bending down to grab my work, a girl had walked up to me and asked if I needed any help to which I said yes.

This girl got down on her knees and she helped gather my notes and listened to me as I explained that I was flustered because of midterm season. It was a relatable feeling.

After this girl helped me grab my work and helped me get up, she told me that she hoped that I had a better day and to keep my head up.

This girl exemplified what it means to be a polite Laurier student; she took that extra step to make sure that I was helped as well as leaving me with a kind remark and well wishes. She definitely put me in the best mood for the rest of the day!

A member of our video crew asked their friend Joey Sea to do the same experiment again, as more students had begun to frequent the quad and the terrace.

When Sea dropped the notebook, the wind picked up all of the loose notes and papers, resulting in them scattering everywhere. This led to a number of strangers from different groups stopping to chase the papers and give them back to Sea.

The lesson here is that Laurier is full of students who are polite and willing to help out their peers and even strangers.

If there is an opportunity where you can make someone happy by just holding the door open for them or helping them when they drop their work, always take that chance. You could make someone's day so much better. Stay golden, my friends!

Want to see the full video?

Check out thecord.ca and see the results for yourself!



# The art of wearing animal prints correctly



ALEXA KANG  
STAFF WRITER

One of the biggest trends seen in contemporary fashion is animal print. Whether it is worn as a scarf, or a dress, styling animal prints are a fun way to add sass to an outfit. However, there is an art to wearing animal prints. If you wear it wrong, you could end up accidentally leaving the house looking like Snoo-ki in her early *Jersey Shore* days. This kind of look should be avoided at all

times. Sometimes it's fun to channel our inner Scary Spice, so here are five ways for you to do so.

**Combine with casual staple pieces**  
Animal prints can be a little overbearing. This means that incorporating them in your everyday attire can be tricky.

However, this is also not an impossible look to pull off. The trick is knowing how to style it so that it works. By pairing an animal printed scarf with casual everyday pieces like a pair of jeans or a graphic t-shirt, this helps to upgrade your monotonous school outfit to an exotic and effortless street style look that will certainly make all of your peers jealous.

**Layer with neutral tones**  
Layering animal prints with vivid colours can sometimes be an eye-sore. Depending on the intensity of the print, you should tone it down. The best way to do so is to stick with neutral and faded colours like black, beige or taupe.

**Combine with other patterns**  
If you're going to mix and match two different animal prints, the best way to accomplish this task is to match the accessories to your desired print. The key here is to use a minimal amount of print. Hints of animal prints on accessories such as purses, shoes or scarves can do a lot for an

outfit and can be a very overpowering statement. Similar to bright colours, mixing different prints and patterns can be awkward. If you're going to mix and match two different prints such as leopard print with tiger print, make sure they are muted to avoid a chaotic look.

**Make the print the focal point**  
If you're choosing an animal printed shirt or pant, make it the centre of attention. The neutral tones and muted patterns mentioned above will help to accomplish this dramatic and stunning look. Nowadays there are an array of bold coloured prints that are


sometimes easier to match with than those bland and typical brown and gold patterns. Coloured animal prints are powerful, so again it's best to wear black or white tones at the base of the outfit.

**Go big or go home**  
Animal prints are a fun way to dress up an outfit, so why not go all out? There is nothing like seeing someone rocking an oversized leopard print coat to inspire you to make a trip to the mall and buy the exact same one. It's a stylish, effortless look suitable for both night and day, depending on how adventurous you are. Animal prints are a trend that shows how fun you are. Don't be afraid to be bold.



HEATHER DAVIDSON PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

Animal prints are a fun and effortless way to make an outfit pop, but the trick to wearing exotic prints is to know just how to accessorize without going overboard.



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# EDITORIAL

Opinion Editor  
Dani Saad  
dsaad@thecord.ca

## Fine hike not enough to deter distracted drivers

In today’s world we have the need to be in constant communication and unfortunately that extends to when we are behind the wheel. The government has approved a raise in the maximum fine for drivers caught using a cell phone or other prohibited device. An increase in the maximum fine is admirable and a good start, but not enough to deter distracted drivers.

The number of distracted driving charges has increased by several thousand, from 16,000 in 2012 to 19,000 in 2013. Clearly, the fine structure in place, even with the upcoming changes in legislation, is not keeping drivers off their phones and other devices. The number of fatalities associated with distracted driving was greater than alcohol and speed related fatalities in the aforementioned years.

The government should take the next step in their deterrence strategy and introduce a punishment structure based on a combination of fines and demerit points, which could be arranged to target repeat offenders. If distracted drivers are caught once, there should certainly be no confusion as to the law and thus a more serious consequence upon a second offense is reasonable.

How important is the message you are sending? Or the car selfie you are posting to Facebook? It can wait and certainly is not worth a life. Hopefully it is not worth a hefty fine either, but the system appears to be failing thus far. Driving can be boring and traffic can make you look for any sort of escape, even if just for a few seconds. Humanity survived traffic and long drives without phones for many years. We should stop coming up with new ways to make the roads more dangerous and instead focus on eliminating distraction from the driver’s seat.

Yes, the government likes any reason to collect money, but if we are going to take issue over government revenue, this is not the collection method to take issue with. Saving lives makes sense and should face no opposition. If we are reckless and careless to the point of endangering our own lives and the lives of others, we cannot react with frustration if the government steps in with legislation.

## LRT incentive for businesses, good for region’s residents

After much consideration, the budget for Waterloo Region’s Light Rail Transit (LRT) system has been finalized and a contractor has been selected to move forward with construction of the massive project. The final budget pegs the overall cost, including construction, operation and maintenance, at \$1.7 billion over the next three decades.

There has been some debate as to whether the LRT is necessary or in the region’s best interest. However, that debate should now be put to rest as it is moving forward as a certainty. With elections coming up and the LRT’s potential as a divisive issue, this development should be a non-issue once campaigning begins. The community needs this and, excluding the King St. closures required for construction, both residents and businesses will benefit in the short and long term.

The proposed transit corridor will improve service for KW residents and improve travel to Cambridge. Businesses will be attracted to the area, even more so than before, as time-efficient mass transit can deliver employees to work safely, economically and on time.

There is a strong desire to improve connectivity between KW and Toronto, and the LRT will contribute to an improved transit connection. Connectivity to Toronto and within KW is important for future entrepreneurs and existing businesses.

In addition, the LRT contributes greatly towards the future of KW as a tech hub to rival the notorious Silicon Valley. As businesses migrate to KW and the residential demographics change accordingly, local public opinion will be increasingly favourable of the LRT.

If you would like a say in the future of the LRT, contribute the discussion in a forward-thinking way and influence the next stages of development. It will be a long process, and although the region is confident construction will be on schedule, there are still several years for residents, tech companies and small business owners to have their voices heard.

*These unsigned editorials are based off informal discussions and then agreed upon by the majority of The Cord’s editorial board, including the Editor-in-Chief and Opinion Editor. The arguments made may reference any facts that have been made available through interviews, documents or other sources. The views presented do not necessarily reflect those of The Cord’s volunteers, staff or WLUSP.*



JOSHUA AWOLADE GRAPHICS ARTIST

# Curbing our obsession with TV’s most powerful males



JUSTIN SMIRLIES  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

There have been many altercations that I’ve experienced where I’m left walking away wishing that I said something a lot smoother and conniving. For some reason, there was a strange desire in me to use words to deliver the utmost sense of power upon my combatant.

Instead, I usually grunt, throw my hands in the air and shuffle away — arguably the better outcome in hindsight. I’m also usually not wearing a suit or looking super suave either.

With the emergence of shows — and their popularity — such as *House of Cards* and *Suits*, as well as the already extremely popular *Breaking Bad*, *Boardwalk Empire*, *Mad Men* and *Dexter*, there seems to be a strong trend in television shows nowadays that champion the antihero. These antiheroes have complex personalities, troublesome upbringings and are usually cutthroat in their demeanor, with many not initially willing to oppose these characters.

Admittedly, I loved every moment of *Breaking Bad*, but couldn’t help but hate Walter White as the show progressed — maybe that was the point, as he did, in fact, “break bad.” However, I can’t see many people viewing the same of Harvey Specter of *Suits* or Frank Underwood of *House of Cards*. Instead, and this is just my opinion, many may view these figures as the quintessential male — and that’s problematic.

Wear the slickest suit. Get all the women. And subtlety insult all your foes

“  
I feel like there’s a real desire for many people to become the alpha-male in a more corporate and “white-collar” setting.

and make them feel weak or stupid. All traits that no human should have, yet we’re drawn to watching these characters unravel on screen.

This trend of troubled, yet successful men has made its way to film as well, with release of *The Wolf of Wall Street* in December, for example. Regardless of what you think the end message was, the film inadvertently glorified debauchery and the complete disregard for others. These male characters in these shows and films have one focus: power.

I know a lot of young adult men and women enjoy these shows on a regular basis. There has been a strong emphasis on fashion as well as the idea of “corporate culture.”

Granted, I’ve never worked in a corporate or political setting, but I think that the environments these shows — which are typically digested through binge watching — have are setting up an unrealistic notion of what it means to be in a position of authority, and what it also means to deal with others around you.

The figures that we sometimes champion nowadays aren’t necessarily just athletes or celebrities themselves, but these fictional characters that television,

or Netflix, has been brought to the forefront.

Especially with how television has become a hotspot for up-and-coming, as well as veteran, actors and actresses, television shows are receiving a luxurious treatment from the public that they haven’t received in a really long time.

I know it’s television, and it’s good television because of the complex nature of these characters. I also know it is good television because of the lack of realism that these shows employ — good writing and dialogue comes from conflict, and it’s usually fictional.

And don’t get me wrong; I enjoy most of the shows mentioned above (aside from *Suits* and *Dexter*), but media literacy is still important even at ages where you’d think you wouldn’t be influenced by it anymore.

It always frightens me when I have friends who look up to these characters and how they are so “boss.” Most of the time I know they’re half joking, but I feel like there’s a real desire for many people to become the alpha-male in a more corporate and “white collar” setting.

Again, I could be reading too much into it and am probably more cynical than I should be. However, it’s impossible to ignore what many of these characters stand for in these shows. These characters are not the idols of today’s society and we should never strive to ever be like them. Instead, we should dissect the characters and what they mean, and what we can learn from that.

Back to my *Breaking Bad* example (without giving away too much), the series ends with some form of closure and a true lesson for the viewers — all actions, big or small, have consequences. I’m not saying every show should have that message, but having some sort of human element to these characters, including the ability to fail, can make some of these series a lot more tolerable.



# The motivation behind gossip

We need to understand the reasons for gossiping and how we can avoid doing it



AVRIELLE BROWN  
OPINION COLUMNIST

I’m sure we can all agree that we have all gossiped or started a rumour about an individual or a group of people before. Many of the conversations that we hear other people having or even conversations we have ourselves seem to be filled with discussions about others.

This week, I found myself questioning those I have come in contact with as to why gossiping is something that is so widely done.

No one likes to be talked about yet everyone finds himself or herself talking about someone at some point in their lives. One common reason that seems to be continuously brought to my attention is the fact that not many like to shed light on their own personal situations.

It always seems easier to talk about another person’s struggles as opposed to talking about our own. Transparency is not a go to approach when we are talking about ourselves in conversations.

Will gossiping and the spreading of rumours ever really stop? No one likes it but we all do it. Maybe not intentionally, but it happens because we tell a close friend who may tell another close friend and before you know it everyone knows what Jerry



LAILA HACK GRAPHICS ARTIST

did on the weekend (For the record Jerry doesn’t exist).

What if we decided to dispel rumours? The second someone tries to negatively talk about another individual we could respond, “You know, I really am not interested in talking about another person in that manner.” I brought this suggestion up to a group of people and they all agreed it would just make the conversation awkward and probably result in no conversation at all. I think it is just so comical that responding to that kind of conversation in a morally upright way could spark

that reaction.

It makes me wonder if those that are constantly talking about other people can’t find anything better to talk about.

Also, could it be that another reason we choose not to respond in that manner is because it actually sparks our interest? Our first instinct isn’t necessarily to run as far as we can away from someone who is about to tell us some juicy gossip about another person. Why are we so very interested in another person’s mess when we all have our own stuff to figure out?

No one is perfect but when someone does things in a completely different way than us, all of a sudden it is something up for discussion. The person being talked about could be doing the same exact thing we are doing, but because our situation is hidden we take pride in hearing about that individual. After doing some research there were two interesting facts that stuck out to me about the psychology of rumours.

According to my research, rumours are most prevalent when they already appeal to our current biases about an individual or a group of people. If someone confirms our negative thoughts about an individual, it is easy for us to get caught up in whatever that person may be telling us.

Secondly, we are very eager as individuals to believe a negative rumour about someone we are already envious of. To analyze, I think this really emphasizes the character of some individuals. Why is it that we care so much about elevating ourselves at the expense of putting others down?

I’m sure there are some out there who do not religiously gossip and spread rumours. Maybe this is a tad bit unrealistic, but how amazing would it be if we lived in a world where negative slander about others was not so common? Maybe we should all go a day without talking about another person in our conversations. This way we would be able to see if maybe the issue lies within us and not those we find ourselves talking about.

# Letters to the Editor

RE: Admin address foot patrol allegations

To whomever submitted their thoughts through Dear Life, and to anyone who has experiences of a Foot Patroller - you are valid. Your experiences, your thoughts, your issues are all completely valid. You are so brave in stepping forward and disclosing your story in a way that was necessary for you. We sincerely hope that you are able to seek the spaces and services, whether on campus or not, that will aid in your healing process.

These stories and posts are not accusations. They identify the evidently large gaps of grey matter currently present at Wilfrid Laurier University between the processes and programming in place. These include things like the hiring processes of Foot Patrol, and the outlets of Dear Life as an anonymous site. Both of us, Cassandra and Ethan, are dedicated to working with Wilfrid Laurier University’s staff, faculty and students to continue in identifying these gaps, create visibility, be accountable for these concerns, and move onto a preventative model that addresses gender-based violence at this campus.

We are committed members of Laurier’s new Gendered Violence Action Group. We are in the process of implementation and framing our ideas to engage with this necessary work on campus. Our primary concern is student safety. You deserve the right to awareness and access of an outlet just as active as Dear Life, one that solely concerns itself as a medium of gender-based violence support.

These are extremely sensitive concerns and evidently the language being used in The Cord and through other opinion articles needs to be discussed. The ways in which some of the journalism has articulated and conveyed these concerns is problematic because we are now facing a very hard and complex investigation of Foot Patrol.

Do you wonder how the visibility of this story may now cause this Foot Patroller to remain in the “shadows?” In other words, fall back into the grey matter we are just beginning to question. This form of calling out an anonymous submitter of Dear Life has extreme consequences for the spiritual and mental safety of them. It is not the fact that somebody used the avenue of Dear Life to raise a concern, it is the fact that the journalism used to cover this concern has created a complex and vulnerable state of inquiry. We have indirectly created an unsafe space.

Laurier administration, faculty, staff, and fellow students are dedicated to supporting, advocating and finding ways to address these issues. If you need any assistance, contact the Dean of Students Office at 519-844-1970 ex 3704 for Leanne Holland-Brown, the Mental Health Student Support Team Leader, Adrienne Luft at ex. 2196, and/or the Crisis Services of Waterloo Region at 519-744-1813 (toll free at 1-866-366-4566). These caring individuals are here for you, for us and for all Laurier students and community members.

–Cassandra Mensah & Ethan Jackson

**Letter policy**  
Letters must not exceed 250 words. Include your full name and telephone number. Letters must be received by 12:00 p.m. noon Monday via e-mail to letters@thecord.ca. The Cord reserves the right to edit for length and clarity or to reject any letter.

# Gaining experience, losing ourselves



DANI SAAD  
OPINION EDITOR

I’ve learned a few certainties throughout my time at Laurier, one of them being that everyone is important and the work they do is not only important, but more important than yours and critical to the continuation of life as we know it. We all compete to be the most involved, do the most good and have the most comprehensive resumes but in doing so we lose ourselves and our ability to remove ourselves from our work. More importantly, we are losing perspective.

For the first three years of university, with the exception of a few isolated incidents, I was largely removed from campus life. I worked in a variety of undesirable jobs, pursued my degree, and watched with confusion and a sense of separation at the happenings on campus. When I ran for president of one of our larger on-campus organizations, many wondered who the heck I was. Questions about my identity were quickly followed by “who does this guy think he is?” which were as expected but far more amusing. I hadn’t been involved in much of anything, how could I know about student issues and advocate for students accurately? Fair enough.

But then, with the help and guidance of others, held my own. Turns out being a student is the only non-negotiable pre-requisite for understanding the student experience.

Since then, I have had several



LENA YANG GRAPHICS EDITOR

exciting positions in both on and off campus organizations. Those two weeks of campaigning were challenging and enlightening but I was fundamentally the same person I was prior to the election. A few more people knew my name but besides that, my intelligence and capabilities were the same. But nonetheless, I used that experience as a platform to move forward.

I have been given several chances I probably did not deserve, often against the better judgment of those in control. People have taken a chance on me and there is no way to express thanks than by providing a chance to someone else.

No work we do, especially if requires campaigning, is an egoless exercise. We only apply to jobs because we think we can do it best. However, it is worth the effort to not let ego impede our human interactions or the volunteer and work experience of future candidates. The

hard truth is that a lot of the work we do, while noteworthy, can be done by others. The organizations we work for will live on beyond our time with them and more than likely, someone in the near future will do the job better than you.

This is the time when the stakes are just low enough that we can give people a chance based on potential and capability and instinct. Future leaders have to start somewhere and this is the time when opportunities for growth and a guiding hand in the right direction can be offered. Failure is always a possibility but that is true of anyone, no matter the experience or qualifications.

Typically, no organization crumbles due to the failure of one person, and the potential upside far outweighs re-opening hiring or going with your second choice.

It is fine to take your work and the organization seriously, but taking yourself seriously can be dangerous,

particularly if it impacts your priorities and sense of self. Instead of bringing individuality and personality to roles, people are allowing their personality to be shaped entirely by the work they do. For better or for worse, I think I will come out of this year as I began it, albeit with a few more skills, friends and ambitions.

Do not get wrapped up in the celebrity culture of student volunteerism and do not mistake positions of some importance to be positions of authority or wisdom.

The hyperbole of importance coupled with the general hysteria surrounding student involvement is a major deterrent for those on the outside looking in. We have our entire lives to get caught up in our work, lose our humanity in favour of efficiency and pretend to have all the answers. Let’s use our time here to experiment, learn and be humbled by the extraordinary amount and quality of opportunities before us.



# The implications of a pro-EU Ukraine



**MOYOSORE AREWA**  
OPINION COLUMNIST

Protests began in Ukraine's capital city, Kiev, after its president, Victor Yanukovych, went against his word by improving ties with Russia at the expense of developing ties with the European Union. Although an agreement was eventually reached with the protesters, Yanukovych was ousted by an act of parliament after he fled the country.

The first action of the interim government — led by Oleksandr Turchynov — was to publicly revise Yanukovych's decision and declare intentions to align with the EU. As expected, the pro-Russian factions of Ukraine were less than comfortable with these developments, and in response, they gathered in thousands to protest and oblige Vladimir Putin, President of Russia, to intervene. And he did just that.

On February 28, six days after Yanukovych's ousting, unidentified military men occupied Crimean institutions, including several key buildings and the airport; Turchynov would eventually deem this an invasion by Russia. The first unambiguous indication of Putin's intentions, however, came two days later, when the Russian Senate unanimously gave Putin the permission to take military action in Ukraine, should the need arise.

There are many viewpoints on what the implications of Ukraine's possible alignment with the EU will be. Some genuinely believe that a determined Russia can be stopped from annexing Crimea, while others think the threat of secession is a real one. Nonetheless, and with full consideration of realpolitik, there is no doubt in my mind that Ukraine will suffer in the hands of an unforgiving Putin if it decides to align with the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

As Ukraine is divided into pro-Russian and pro-EU factions, the Russian forces surround Crimea demanding a Ukrainian surrender.

EU at the expense of strengthening ties with Russia.

First of all, Putin generously offered Ukraine a \$15 billion aid package in exchange for its allegiance with the Russian Federation. Additionally, Ukraine receives several billions from Russia in the form of discounted energy prices and favourable debt payback plans.

Kiev's alignment will most likely incite Putin to scrap all the unconventional benefits it offers Ukraine. On the other side of the river, not many EU member states — popularly Poland, Finland and Spain — are completely on board with creating a bailout plan for Ukraine. This does not come as a surprise, considering countries like Spain, Portugal and Greece are still in need of favourable bailout plans to speed up recovery from the 2008 financial meltdown.

There is an added air of

scepticism because Ukraine has a reputation for corruption and misappropriation of aid funds. Should Kiev go forward with aligning with the EU, its money problems will not be solved; instead, it would have to endure a frustrating and possibly endless period of economic stagnation, characterized by the Western-inspired adjustment process.

Secondly, and as we have observed in the news in the last couple of days, Putin and pro-Russian Ukrainians would not sit back while the interim government institutes pro-EU policies. Kiev's alignment with the EU would do very little to curb the secessionist cries from Russian populated cities like Crimea.

There is little Kiev, the EU or NATO can do to stop the negative consequences of secession. Russia, for one, is very keen on annexing

Crimea, possibly because it plans on maintaining its naval base, which gives it a strategic advantage on international fronts; or more sensationally, with the aim of protecting the Russian citizens in the region.

Whatever the reason might be, the threat of secession is a real one, and Ukraine (whatever is left of it) cannot afford it.

The EU, US and Russia all know this. Much of Ukraine's viable economic activities come from the Eastern, pro-Russia parts of the country, and without them, Western Ukraine will slump deeper into an economic crisis, albeit it might have a stable and pure democracy.

Kiev cannot unconditionally align with the EU because of the pro-Russian factions of the country; it cannot unconditionally align with Russia because of the pro-EU factions of the country. It seems then that,

like most disputes in international politics, a middle ground must be reached. Ukraine is undoubtedly in a dismal economic and political position; hence, it is need of foreign assistance.

Russia alone cannot absorb Ukraine's calculated \$35 billion in aid, and assuming Putin is a pragmatic man, he would recognize that help from the West would go a long way in springing Ukraine up from the gutter.

A likely solution, although highly theoretical, would be for Kiev to accept Western assistance along with the adjustment requirements that comes with it, while assuring pro-Russia Ukrainians and Russia itself that it would not become a Western puppet.

A good way to do this would be to reinstall Yanukovych as president of Ukraine.



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SPORTS

Sports Editor  
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Laurier women’s hockey returns to the CIS national championship platform after a minor stint away last year. Before their 2-0 win over Queen’s, Laurier last won in 2012.

PHOTOS BY **HEATHER DAVIDSON** PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER AND **WILL HUANG** STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Laurier’s Smith takes home series MVP

—cover  
and allowing rookie goaltender Amanda Smith to play an almost perfect series.  
“There’s nothing that makes my heart warmer than two shutouts to finish off the playoff series. I love those zeroes on the board,” Osborne smiled.  
Smith was named series MVP after stopping all 77 shots she faced in the final two games. She was named the OUA athlete of the week Monday afternoon. After being pulled in game two against the UOIT Ridgebacks in the first round, and not playing game two against the Toronto Varsity Blues, Smith made a statement in this series.  
“She had to battle [Toronto goalie] Kesteris and [Queen’s goalie] Dodd-Moher, two fifth-year

goaltenders that are outstanding athletes and goalies. And if anyone thought there was a big edge for the opposition, it was in that position,” Osborne said.  
“And you know what, that position ended up being the MVP of the series.”  
“I’m so proud of these girls right now,” Smith said after winning her first OUA championship. “I couldn’t think of a better group of girls to spend this with. They were laying everything on the line. You know what, we wanted it and we just did everything we could and we were laying our bodies out there. It’s just amazing.”  
A team with eight rookies and a rookie goaltender made a leap for their 11th provincial title in program history. Included in the rookies is

dual-athlete Jacky Normandeau, who became the first Laurier athlete to win two OUA championships in the same year.  
“It’s just unreal. It’s more than anyone can ask for. The two teams, all of the girls are amazing and it’s so great to know all of them. There was so much hard work from everyone and it paid off.”  
And fourth-year captain Laura Brooker laid her body on the line for another game, blocking shots and taking hits from the pesky Queen’s Gaels. Brooker joins a line of elite captains who have led teams to championships.  
“Years before with the captains, you see them do it and you hope one day to do the same, so raising that cup with the C on my jersey, and doing it for Skeats and the ones that

are graduating, it feels amazing.”  
And with the top seed out of the OUA, Laurier now sets their sights on the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) national championships in Fredericton, New Brunswick next week. The final two conferences in the CIS will finish their playoff play this week.  
And while they’re playing, the Hawks will be working.  
“I need to get them refocused and frame the next two weeks for them. We did everything we could to prepare for this game, but I have a two-week plan in place also,” Osborne smiled. “We need to enjoy the moment and feel really good. We beat a hell of a team down there ... And now we have to get ready for the next task at hand, which is getting ready for our first shift at nationals.”

“There’s nothing that makes my heart warmer than two shutouts to finish off the playoff series.”

— Rick Osborne, Laurier’s head coach of the women’s hockey team

Dell joins Ti-Cats  
Veteran reflects on final year with Hawks

**DREW YATES**  
STAFF WRITER  
Fifth-year Isaac Dell knows what it means to deal with difficult situations.  
Last summer, the Wilfrid Laurier running back was offered to sign with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats at the end of their training camp, but opted to be released by the team after receiving a concussion last June, his second in a three-month span.  
“The team doctor and I came to a mutual agreement that it would be best for my health to take the summer off of football and just focus on recovering,” Dell explained.  
“I took about two weeks off and basically did nothing. And then I started doing physiotherapy, where the physiotherapist worked on my neck and upper back, and it seemed to be a lot of the symptoms I was having weren’t necessarily directly related to a head injury as much as my neck. Working on my neck and relaxing really helped.  
“Eventually I got back to work and had a bit of a regular summer and I was able to recover fast enough to play in my last season at school.”  
Dell was drafted 37th overall in last May’s draft, but he returned to the Hawks last August.  
And after his final year with Laurier, Dell signed with the Ti-Cats for the upcoming season — and is injury free.

Despite having to stay back a year, Dell made the most of it, and came back to play one last year with Laurier, while also tying up some loose ends with his education.  
“Initially I was pretty disappointed that I wasn’t able to play with Hamilton, but I just tried to look at it in a positive manner and I was able to come back and finish up my education sooner than expected,” he said.  
“If I played with Hamilton it would’ve taken me an extra couple years to finish my undergrad.”  
“So I was able to come back and play one final season of university ball and focus on my education and get that out of the way.”  
Finally, he was faced with the decision of whether or not he should follow through with playing a summer season of football, or take the longer route and attempt to fully recover from his injury.  
Dell weighed his options before making his decision.  
“I think that at the time when I was in the situation of — should I try and struggle through the recovery process and play that season last year — I looked at the current longevity of my career and realized I was still young and if I took my time to recover and did it properly that I would potentially have an opportunity to come back, so I think it just means that I made the right decision,” he said.

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# Last chance for Hawks basketball

Women’s basketball has one more chance to qualify for CIS nationals in the OUA bronze medal game

**SHELBY BLACKLEY**  
SPORTS EDITOR

WINDSOR, Ont. — After a triumphant win against the Western Mustangs a week earlier, the Wilfrid Laurier women’s basketball team headed to Windsor Saturday for the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) West final just wanting to play spoiler.

They were going against the No. 1 nationally ranked Windsor Lancers, who were also the defending national champions the past three years, for a chance to play in the OUA final.

And the Lancers had everything to lose.

But a too big, too athletic Lancer team shut the door on any upset, sending the Hawks home with a tough 86-58 loss to swallow.

“They’re a great team, they’re ranked number one in the country for a reason,” fourth-year Whitney Ellenor said.

“They come out and compete hard every single game and we needed to come out and compete hard as well. I think we did a good job, but I think we turned the ball over too much and that’s what killed us.”

From tipoff to the final buzzer, the Lancers dominated the Hawks.

Three players finished the game with over 20 points, and that didn’t include star fifth-year player Jessica Clemenson, who finished with 14 points.

Miah-Marie Langlois, Korissa Williams and Cheyanne Roger finished with 24, 22 and 20 points, respectively, for the Lancers.

“I think we saw what they do best and that really hurt us,” head coach Paul Falco said after Saturday’s game.

“Their pressure hurt us in terms of turnovers and it created a lot of transition and easy hoops for them.”

“I think our girls battled extremely hard. It probably didn’t reflect in the scoreboard, but I was pleased with the effort,” he continued.

With little height to the Hawks’ roster, and their only player matching up being the 6’3” Ellenor, Laurier struggled with the inside game.

However, Ellenor had her best game statistically of the 2013-14 year, as she put up 18 points and two rebounds in the losing effort.

Throughout the season, Ellenor averaged 7.3 points per game, dropping from 11.1 per game in the 2012-13 season.

After suffering a foot injury that kept her off the court for the majority of the season, Ellenor’s offensive game came at a key time for the Hawks.

“Whitney had an extremely good game,” said Falco.

“She played hard from start to finish. Not only did she score a bit for us, which was nice, ... but she played Clemenson extremely hard.”

Despite the loss, the Hawks’ season isn’t done.

With their win against the Mustangs last week, Laurier has a second chance at a spot in the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) national championships in Windsor next weekend.

But to get that berth, they have to go through the Carleton Ravens.

Laurier defeated the Ravens 58-49 in their only meeting throughout the season back on Nov. 22.

With a team that plays very similarly to the Hawks, Laurier will look to go inside with their post players. However, Ellenor mentioned that when they collapse, Laurier’s sharp

“We’re looking forward to heading to Carleton and taking them down.”

—Paul Falco, women’s basketball head coach

shooters will come in handy.

“We’ve worked so hard all season in the gym every day watching our progress, it’s amazing to see where we’ve come from,” Ellenor said.

“And there are a lot of people doubting us so we’ve worked our butts off to get here and we’ve earned our spot to play in Ottawa this weekend.”

“I think what we did last week earned us a second chance and we’re trying to take advantage of that,” Falco echoed.

“Carleton’s a tough team and we have to go into their gym ... They’re a tough defensive team, but we’re looking forward to heading to Carleton and taking them down.”



HEATHER DAVIDSON PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGER

# Forde: ‘I know a lot more about myself’

Men’s basketball guard Jamar Forde reminisces on his four-year career with the Laurier basketball team

**JOSH PETERS**  
STAFF WRITER

For the past four years, the Wilfrid Laurier men’s basketball team has been anchored by strong focus, character and leadership, and at the centre of that has been Jamar Forde — a defensive backbone, and all around leader of the Hawks who has contributed significantly to their success both in the regular season and playoffs.

The 6’3” guard out of Mississauga, Ont., has enjoyed an impressive career at Laurier, especially his last two years where he averaged over 11 points and four rebounds per game each year.

However, Forde really left his mark on the defensive end of the floor.

“Most importantly, my primary thing for basketball is I play defence very well. I always guard the best player on the other team,” he said.

While his time at Laurier has been filled with memorable moments, Forde also has been susceptible to some tough injuries, which he’s been able to battle through.

Forde feels as if his time here has been an excellent learning and growing process for him.

“Now I know a lot more about myself from just being here and playing on the basketball team. I’ve also met a lot of good friends,” he said.

Forde has suffered through many nagging setbacks here at Laurier including a severe foot injury that sidelined him for some time.

However, he has never let any of that get to him or allow him to lose any of his focus.



WILL HUANG STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fourth-year guard Jamar Forde finished up his career with the Hawks last week after four seasons.

“I just try to stay calm and strong while I’m injured. When you play basketball you are always battling injuries...once the game starts, injuries are not an issue. I don’t make injuries an excuse, I just want to win,” he said.

In the 2013-14 year, Forde finished the regular season with 270 points and averaged 12.3 points per

game in 22 games.

In his freshman year in 2010-11, he averaged 7.6 points per game.

On the defensive end of the ball, Forde improved dramatically over four years.

In 2010-11, he finished with 3.9 rebounds per game, 18 steals and six blocks. In 2013-14, Forde had 6.7 rebounds per game, 27 steals and 14

blocks.

Forde attributes a lot of this to his teammates, but points most of his success and growth to head coach Peter Campbell. Coach Campbell has made a huge impact on many of the players here at Laurier as they all have nothing but high praise for him, and Forde is no exception.

“It was an amazing experience

playing for him, he is an amazing coach, [he is] very experienced ... He wants us to be our own man and figure out our own way in life, but also play well as a team and play fundamental basketball,” he explained.

Some of his most memorable moments at Laurier on the basketball team revolve around bonding with his teammates and forming relationships and friendships that he values on and off the court.

“I get to know the players more while we are on the road,” Forde said.

“We get to bond, that is how you get that important team chemistry, you stick together, like a brotherhood. I’ll never forget those memories.”

Coming to Laurier out of high school, Forde took in a lot of knowledge from the veteran team that was already in place four years ago. That team made it to the OUA semifinals.

As he has grown as a person and a player at the school, one of his main focuses has been to do all he can to prepare Laurier’s young core of players as much as he can.

“There are a lot of young guys on the team, I just try to help them be a student-athlete, tell them that they have to balance their school and basketball, bring them to the gym and basically just show them the life of a student-athlete at Laurier,” he said.

Forde will be finishing his last year at Laurier, but is optimistic about his basketball opportunities in the future.

“Right now just I’m focused on academics, but if basketball is still my future, I’ll definitely try to play somewhere,” he said.