Dean, Faculty of Human and Social Sciences, Wilfrid Laurier University

Wilfrid Laurier University is a leading Canadian university that excels at educating with purpose. Its holistic approach to learning integrates innovative programming with hands-on experience outside the classroom. Laurier has been ranked #1 in student satisfaction for the past four years thanks in no small part to its unique, community-centered culture. Through its community of researchers, leaders and educators, Laurier has built a reputation as a world-class institution known for its academic excellence and global impact. In acknowledgement of its exemplary workplace policies and programs, and its commitment to sustainability and lifelong learning, Laurier was named one of the Waterloo Area’s Top Employers in 2019 and 2020. Laurier specializes in arts and social sciences, business and economics, music, science, social work, education and theology.

The University has 20,000 students, campuses in Waterloo and Brantford, locations in Kitchener and Toronto, and a research office in Yellowknife. Kitchener, Waterloo and Brantford are on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnawbe and Haudenosaunee peoples. Wilfrid Laurier University’s Waterloo and Brantford campuses and Kitchener location are located on the Haldimand Tract.

Located primarily on Laurier’s Brantford campus, the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences (FHSS) offers degrees in the programs of Criminology, Game Design and Development, Community Health, Leadership, Public Safety and Psychology, promotes continuing education for professionals through the Centre for Public Safety and Well-Being, and promotes research through Brantford’s first research centre, the Centre for Research on Security Practices. The largest department within the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences is the Criminology Department which is currently home to approximately 1,000 students. Overall, the faculty currently has nearly 1,500 students and 40 full-time faculty, as well as many part-time instructors.

Reporting to the Provost & Vice-President: Academic, the Dean of the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences will provide senior academic administrative leadership and strategic direction to the Faculty and build on Laurier Brantford’s success and continue efforts to expand the Faculty in a deliberate, structured and balanced way through innovative ideas and visioning, sustainable partnerships, consolidation of the successes to date, and new programming. The Dean will champion, encourage and foster innovations in both the development and delivery of new and existing academic programs while identifying and creating opportunities for the implementation of integrated and engaged learning and global engagement. The Dean will also be a champion for the Centre for Research on Security Practices (CRSP), an advocate for the Faculty, an inspiring leader and mentor, a skilled administrator, a respected academic and scholar, a valued community partner and collaborator, and most importantly a dynamic and engaging institution builder with several years of significant academic administrative experience.

As the ideal candidate, you possess a PhD in a relevant discipline, are eligible for appointment at the level of Full Professor and possess scholarly and academic credibility as demonstrated by a record of research and teaching excellence. You possess a record of significant and successful academic administrative
leadership experience and through your leadership have demonstrated a commitment to equity, diversity and inclusivity. Through your leadership style, you bring an innovative and entrepreneurial mindset that allows you to seek and leverage new opportunities and informs your vision for the changing post-secondary landscape.

You have experience in innovative and strategic leadership, budget planning and resource management, communication, and are experienced in supporting faculty to develop creative and innovative program development. You are a collegial leader and have demonstrated success in mentoring faculty in the areas of program development, administration and community engagement, and a commitment to student success. As a leader, you have an ability to communicate, consult and engage with people at all levels and across faculties openly and actively. You are a strategic, collaborative, and collegial leader and will lead to foster a culture of community and cohesiveness across the Faculty.

If you are interested in this opportunity, contact Katherine Frank or Beth McLennan at kfrank@kbrs.ca or bmclennan@kbrs.ca. Completed applications can be submitted online at www.kbrs.ca/Career/14278.

Wilfrid Laurier University endeavors to fill positions with the best available candidates who have the appropriate combination of education, experience, skills and abilities to successfully perform the duties of the position while demonstrating Laurier's Employee Success Factors.

Wilfrid Laurier University is committed to equity and values diversity. We welcome applications from qualified individuals of all genders and sexual orientations, persons with disabilities, Indigenous persons and racialized persons. To obtain a copy of this job description in an accessible format, please contact Human Resources at 519-884-1970 ext.2007.

Candidates will be invited to complete an Applicant Equity Survey to identify if they belong with one or more of the federally designated groups (more broadly referred to at Laurier as equity seeking groups). Members of the designated groups must self-identify to be considered for employment equity. Further information on the equity policy can be found at: https://www.wlu.ca/about/governance/assets/resources/8.4-employment-equity.html.

Wilfrid Laurier University and KBRS will provide support in the recruitment processes to applicants with disabilities, including accommodation that takes into account an applicant’s accessibility needs. If you require accommodation in order to participate as a candidate in the recruitment process, please contact accommodate@kbrs.ca or communicate your needs to the recruitment professional named in the job description.

All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.