Vice-President: Student Affairs
Wilfrid Laurier University

Wilfrid Laurier University is a leading Canadian university that excels at educating with purpose. Laurier’s approach to student learning and academic success integrates innovative programming with hands-on experience outside the classroom. Laurier is committed to developing the whole student and building reciprocal community relationships by fostering a highly personalized, equitable, diverse, and inclusive community in which all members can experience the powerful sense of belonging that has distinguished Laurier throughout its history. 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 students, researchers, leaders, and educators, Laurier has built a reputation as a world-class institution known for its rich student experience, academic excellence, and global impact. In acknowledgement of its exemplary workplace policies and programs, and its commitment to sustainability, Laurier has received a number of national awards. Laurier specializes in business and economics, education, humanities and social sciences, music, science, social work, and theology.

Laurier students rate Wilfrid Laurier as second-to-none in student satisfaction because Laurier recognizes the importance of the full student experience and that students require intense intellectual engagement combined with hands-on learning to prepare them to be engaged members of their communities ready to work together to solve the challenges of the future. With 20,000 undergraduate and graduate students from over 80 countries, campuses in Waterloo and Brantford, programs in Kitchener and Toronto, a research office in Yellowknife, and on-line learners, the Wilfrid Laurier community is diverse and deeply connected. Work-integrated learning, community service-learning, and study abroad actively engage our students in their local and global communities. With its high priority on student academic success and student experience, Laurier offers a range of student engagement and wellbeing services with dedicated resources in place to ensure that each student receives seamless, coordinated support and collaborative services.

Reporting to the President & Vice-Chancellor and serving as a key member of the University’s executive leadership team, the Vice-President: Student Affairs plays an integral role in advancing Laurier’s mission to excel at creating a thriving community where all members of the University can reach their potential, and from this foundation, develop future-ready people who will transform where they live, work, and continue to learn. The Vice-President: Student Affairs has strategic leadership responsibility for enabling integrated and engaged learning that connects academic programming and co-curricular activities, and fostering and supporting a culture of equity and belonging that welcomes and embraces diverse backgrounds, identities, ideas, perspectives, and ways of knowing and being. This Vice-President serves as the primary voice to the Board of Governors on all matters related to student life and is an ex-officio member of Senate.

The Vice-President: Student Affairs is the University’s senior student affairs officer, spokesperson on student-related matters, and liaison with Laurier’s local communities and provincial, national and international post-secondary student affairs organizations. The Vice-President: Student Affairs works closely with student
leaders and is the senior relationship partner with the Wilfrid Laurier University Students’ Union (WLUSU), Wilfrid Laurier University Graduate Students’ Association (GSA), and Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications (WLUSP).

This Vice-President: Student Affairs is responsible for providing strategic multi-campus leadership and direction to the supports, services and programs driving the quality of Laurier’s exceptional student development and experience including the Deans of Students’ offices, student wellness, student equity, diversity, and inclusion, and student community and engagement, as well as for athletics, recreation, and student athlete development. With the Provost & Vice-President: Academic, the Vice-President: Student Affairs is responsible for the strategic integration of academic learning with student development and engagement in and beyond the classroom, including teaching and learning development, teaching and learning retention, experiential learning and career development, accessible learning, co-operative education, Indigenous student services and support, international student services and support, and strategic enrollment management. The Vice-President: Student Affairs also co-leads, with the Vice-President: Finance & Administration, student and ancillary services focused on exceptional service and growth in the areas of housing and residence services, food and catering services, Laurier OneCard, conference services, retail operations, and printing and distribution.

As the ideal candidate, you have undergraduate and graduate level degrees, significant experience as a progressive senior student affairs leader in an academic institution, and possess a deep understanding of the current and emerging issues for students in the post-secondary environment. Your lived experience and record demonstrate strong commitments to and achievements in institutional equity, diversity and inclusion and in enhancing Indigeneity. Your understanding of contemporary student affairs research and theory and emerging trends in student service delivery, coupled with your significant experience in the development and introduction of innovative policies and programs that support diverse students’ learning and development, in mentoring and coaching students and your team, in overseeing complex budgets (financial and capital) with multiple funding partners, and in crisis and issue management, make you well suited for this exciting opportunity.

You are an energetic leader, with a demonstrated ability to create meaningful relationships with students, staff, and faculty and to foster and maintain relationships with diverse communities and external stakeholders on behalf of your institution. You are future-focused, have strong critical thinking and analytical abilities, and are able to lead innovation and change initiatives in a complex, multi-stakeholder and multi-campus environment.

If you are interested in this opportunity, contact Anna Stuart or Sarah Tingley at LaurierStudents@kbrs.ca or by calling 1-866-822-6022, or submit your application online at: www.kbrs.ca/Career/13640

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.
Laurier’s campus locations in Kitchener, Waterloo and Brantford are located on the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples.