



January 26th, 2012

Dr. Judy Bates
President
Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty Association
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Waterloo, ON N2L3C5

Dr. Max Blouw
President and Vice-Chancellor
Wilfrid Laurier University
75 University Avenue West
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Drs. Bates and Blouw,

In response to the Wilfrid Laurier University Faculty Association (WLUFA) newsletter dated January 24th, 2012, and Wilfrid Laurier University's (WLU) response dated January 25th, 2012, I write this letter on behalf of the undergraduate students of Laurier. It is our belief that the recently disclosed status of labour negotiations between WLU and WLUFA challenges the strong reputation of our institution.

One of the core foundations of the Laurier student experience is the atmosphere of collegiality and community upon which the Laurier community prides itself. While we respect the negotiation process and expect a mutually beneficial result, we must remind all parties that the University is an institution that serves, and ultimately must provide for, the needs of all students.

It is the position of the Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union that any interruption to academic delivery is an unacceptable outcome. This process must not take for granted the trust placed in both sides, by students, to reach an acceptable agreement. Nor can the result of this process adversely affect student success in any way.

The Wilfrid Laurier University Students' Union urges both parties to engage in productive discussion throughout the coming weeks. We expect that both sides will continue to work with a government appointed conciliation officer to reach a settlement that is in the best interest of both parties, and most importantly, our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Gibson".

Nick Gibson,
President and Chief Executive Officer