

# U of G earns kudos for quality

## University of Guelph receives top marks in Canadian university surveys



Four independent Canadian surveys continue to recognize the University of Guelph's excellence in academic quality, graduate satisfaction, research intensity, educational experience and public accountability. In 2004:

- 1** The *Maclean's* magazine annual ranking of universities and first-ever "report card" of universities based on the opinions of recent graduates (Nov. 8)
- 2** A report in the *National Post* on research funding at Canadian universities (Nov. 4).
- 3** An online survey of university students reported in the *Globe and Mail* (Oct. 13).
- 4** The Canadian University Accountability Survey, the only independent review in Canada that focuses on university accountability (Dec. 2).

## Guelph at a Glance

**Founded:** 1964

**Institutional Revenue:** \$476.5M

**Sponsored Research:** \$121.3M

**Endowment Fund:** \$139.5M

**Undergraduate degree students**

(Guelph campus): 16,269

**Graduate students (Guelph campus):** 2004

**Guelph-Humber students:** 1,391

**Diploma students:** 841

**Full-time faculty:** 830

**Full-time staff:** 2,000

**Alumni:** 78,000 in more than 134 countries

**Main campus:** 412 hectares,

including a 165-hectare arboretum  
and a 12-hectare research park

UNIVERSITY  
of GUELPH

## 1 Grads put U of G on top

**T**HE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH outdistanced its peers in the comprehensive category in *Maclean's* magazine's new "report card" of Canada's universities released Nov. 10.

Published for the first time this year, the rating was based on the opinions of 12,334 randomly selected graduates of the classes of 1999, 2000 and 2001. Former students rated their alma mater in six areas related to educational quality. They were also asked whether they'd recommend their school and if their experience was beneficial.

U of G occupied the No. 1 spot in five of the six quality areas: teaching and instruction, learning environment, student services, extracurricular environment and overall educational experience. Guelph was also at the top of the list of comprehensive universities most graduates would endorse.

In the annual *Maclean's* rankings of universities, Guelph finished second overall among the nation's comprehensive universities but received No. 1 rankings in categories such as quality of students and faculty.

In the past eight years, *Maclean's* has ranked U of G No. 1 three times (in 2003, 2002 and 1999) and second three times.

The magazine also published a reputational survey that ranked the "best overall" comprehensive universities in three categories: highest quality, most innovative and leaders of tomorrow. In that survey, U of G ranked second in "best overall" and second in each of the three categories. It also placed second in alumni support.

## Did You Know?

- Two U of G faculty — biomedical scientist Pari Basrur and English professor Thomas King — received the Order of Canada, the country's highest honour for lifetime achievement.
- The University opened Phase 1 of its world-class science complex, which will be one of the largest science facilities in North America.
- Engineering professor Valerie Davidson holds Ontario's prestigious Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council chair, aimed at boosting participation of women in science and engineering.
- The Ontario Veterinary College has a new \$5-million magnetic resonance imaging facility, one of only a few worldwide that can accommodate a wide range of animals.
- A Presidential Task Force on Accessibility to University Education released a groundbreaking report on improving access both to U of G and to universities across the system.
- The largest and most complete website in the world dedicated to showing Shakespeare's cultural influence on a nation was launched by U of G English professor Daniel Fischlin.
- The University community raised more than \$348,000 for the United Way during its 2004 annual campaign, exceeding its goal of \$325,000 by more than \$23,000.
- Guelph introduced Canada's first online university orientation program, which helps connect hundreds of new U of G students.
- The University has a new Centre for Leadership Studies and offers a master's program in leadership studies.
- Construction is under way on the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario, a \$12.5-million initiative to develop innovative research programs and identify and protect endangered species.
- U of G maintains strong international connections, including 72 study-abroad programs in 29 countries, 65 public- and private-sector partners in 30 countries, and participation in Canadian International Development Agency projects worth a total of \$16.5 million.

## 2 U of G is No. 1 in Research

**O**NCE AGAIN, THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH was named Canada's top comprehensive "Research University of the Year" by an independent national consulting firm. The report was published Nov. 4 in the *National Post*.

In addition to the No. 1 ranking among comprehensive schools, U of G earned top honours in its division for total sponsored research income and publication intensity, and was ranked seventh overall among Canadian universities in all three categories.

The report by Research InfSOURCE Inc. ranked Canada's top 50 research universities on both financial input and research output. Universities were divided into three categories: medical/doctoral, comprehensive and undergraduate, and the rating was based on a point system. U of G received 83.7 points out of a possible 100.

In a second report by Research InfSOURCE, the annual Top 50 Research Universities List, which ranks Canadian universities based on their sponsored research income, Guelph placed 13th among all Canadian universities. U of G was the only institution without a medical school to report a research budget in excess of \$100 million.

## 3 STUDENTS GIVE GUELPH ALL A'S

**G**UELPH RECEIVED "STRAIGHT A's" for overall quality of the educational experience and for student services in the University Report Card, an annual survey of Canadian students published Oct. 13 by the *Globe and Mail*.

U of G was the only school among both large and medium-sized universities to receive an A for student services. It also received an A for overall educational experience, which included the categories of quality of teaching, faculty subject knowledge, teaching methods and availability of faculty outside the classroom.

In addition, Guelph received top marks for overall university atmosphere, personal safety and security, freedom of expression, campus atmosphere and online services (including library resources, access to teaching materials and on-campus network), food and health services, teaching quality, quality of buildings and facilities, and computer accessibility and assistance.

In all, the University received eight marks of A+, 15 A's and 16 A minuses in the survey. Although seven peer universities received A's for educational experience, U of G tied for first place in receiving the highest overall marks. The University Report Card represents the opinions of 27,811 undergraduate students across Canada.

## 4 U of G Gets A+ in Accountability

**G**UELPH EARNED AN A+ IN THE CANADIAN University Accountability Survey for the second year in a row. U of G was rated the top comprehensive university and second among all institutions in public accountability and external reporting.

The survey, which has been conducted since 1988, is the only one in Canada that focuses on university accountability. Released Dec. 2, the survey rated 46 universities on an accountability disclosure index of one to 100. Points are awarded for depth, clarity and quality of information in 26 categories such as financial, operating and mission statements, investments and research summaries. U of G received a score of 90.6 and was one of only two universities receiving scores in the 90s.