



## **New Vision Challenges Students to be Leaders with Heart**

**London, ON** - Huron University College will lead the way in Canada as the only undergraduate university to offer an elite yet accessible education that unites liberal arts with leadership, all built upon an ethical core.

Dr. Barry Craig, who began his role as Huron's seventeenth Principal on July 1, 2016, has announced a new vision for the organization that sets an exciting course for future growth, and reshapes the current academic programming to fully integrate social responsibility, ethical leadership and community engagement.

Key elements of Huron's new direction include developing a core curriculum that pairs the traditional advantages of liberal arts — communication skills, critical thinking, analytical insight — with the in-demand skills of business and management. In addition to their chosen major or program, every student at Huron will take the same core curriculum – The Huron Core Curriculum. This core curriculum will be finalized following a consultative process with faculty, and is expected to roll out to students in fall 2017.

But, underpinning it all will be an ethical foundation that stresses corporate social responsibility, service to the community, and social justice. Students in all programs will be engaged in community service, active community based learning, mentorships and internships, to complement their academic activities.

"No other university in the country does this at an undergraduate level, across the entire institution," says Dr. Craig. "This will be a cultural shift for our entire university, and it will be what sets our students apart in the job market."

"My vision for Huron is to challenge our students to be leaders with heart," Dr. Craig explains. "As a strategically small institution, Huron is well-positioned to redefine the landscape of liberal arts education."

Recruitment, academic awards and bursaries will focus on attracting and retaining a diverse community of students, ones who are both academically inclined and community minded. An emphasis will also be on reaching out to underserved and previously marginalized communities to attract and support the education of students with potential from those communities.

To support this goal, Dr. Craig and his wife Dr. Sara MacDonald have announced their intention to personally contribute \$25,000 to establish a new scholarship for aboriginal student leaders.

Within 100 days of starting at Huron, and following more than 250 one-on-one conversations with faculty, staff, alumni, students, community leaders and donors, Dr. Craig has learned first-hand about the rich history of Huron, the many strengths of the organization to build upon, and the challenges ahead.

"I am confident that now is the right time to forge a new path for Huron - a path that builds on our strengths and offers our students a unique learning experience that is relevant and meaningful in today's society."