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Huron University College welcomes largest first-year class in 155-year history

LONDON, ON: Over the past year, Huron University College has seen an unprecedented increase in student enrolment – amidst declining enrolment in Liberal Arts universities across North America. Western’s founding university attributes this rapid increase in admissions to Huron’s new vision of Developing Leaders with Heart. The community is achieving this mission by providing elite, yet accessible, education, while also supporting students’ character building with a focus on civic engagement. What this means is, when students graduate into Huron’s esteemed alumni network they have the knowledge, skills and conviction to address local and global challenges. Since the implementation of Huron’s new mission by the university’s Principal, Dr. Barry Craig, this message has resonated greatly with students around the world: Now, the university is welcoming masses of young people who are seeking an education that will prepare them for an increasingly complex world.

What we know:

- Overall percentage increase from last year (first-year enrollment): As of August 28, 2018, 461 **NEW** students compared to **252** in 2017 **(+83 per cent)**
- Percentage breakdown of international students to domestic (first year): NEW first-year 298 Domestic, 163 International **(+65 per cent domestic, +35 per cent international)**
- First-year international increase **(29 to 163) +462 per cent** increase and domestic increase (223 to 298) **+34 per cent increase**

In stark opposition to the stereotypes about Millennials that dominate headlines and the internet, Huron’s increase in enrolment tells a very different story about them and their GenX peers:

- **The notion and narratives around millennials and GenX’s being self-absorbed is wrong. We proved it.**
- Millennials and GenX’s are searching for a meaningful education that gives them more than just technical skills to fulfil a specific vocation
- Huron consciously built a model of community service into its curriculums, and students are responding positively to the idea of getting involved and creating tangible change during their education
- Students are engaging with our revolutionary message that they need to do more with their education. They don’t just want degrees: they want mentorship, experiential learning opportunities and a community that challenges them to show up and participate in meaningful discourse about how to stand up to the formidable injustices that will directly and indirectly affect them.

Huron University College is excited this year not only marks the first class recruited through the Leadership with Heart model, but also represents the beginning of new movement in the post-secondary environment: we’re proud and energized about being at the forefront of this revolution that will help produce the next generation of Leaders with Heart.

About Huron University College

For more than 150 years, Huron has challenged students to be Leaders with Heart. With a focus on providing a well-rounded Liberal Arts education, Huron strives to be the best strategically small institution in Canada. The Huron experience equips students with the tools to be agents of change who receive faculty mentorship and unparalleled research opportunities from day one.