



Graduate Studies Endowment Fund – University of Waterloo Progress Report for 2024 - 2025

To: GSA Membership
Sponsor: Taronish Kotwall, GSEF Coordinator (gsef@uwaterloo.ca)
Presenter: Marjana Chowdhury, GSEF Treasurer (gsef.treasurer@uwaterloo.ca)
Date of Meeting: April 3rd, 2025

Summary:

The Graduate Studies Endowment Fund (GSEF) seeks to improve the academic, social, and overall experience of graduate students at UW. To do this, we support graduate student projects with two different awards:

- Small Project Award (**Up to \$600**)
 - Deadline: 1st of every month
- Large Project Award (**> \$600**)
 - Deadline: Sixth Friday of each term.

With these two awards, between May 2024 and April 2025, GSEF provided more than **\$16,429** to **27** different projects and events, benefiting hundreds of graduate students. Throughout 2024-25, **\$14,950** were contributed by GSEF towards the GSPA Professional Skills Foundation (PSF) Program to facilitate graduate students in all departments and faculties in pursuing personalized career exploration and skill-building activities.

GSEF also subsidizes research and travel expenses for graduate students as part of the Graduate Student Research Dissemination Award (GSRDA). Between May 2024 and April 2025, we provided more than **\$64,750**, in funding to help more than **340** graduate students attend national and international conferences.

In the upcoming fiscal year 2025 - 26, there are several new developments coming:

- Hiring a new Coordinator.
- Expecting additional openings on the Project Review Committee (PRC) and the Board
- Reviewing the ongoing Constitution and Collaborative Agreements in line with the evolving needs of GSEF
- and most importantly: implementing new initiatives and ideas for services on how to keep on best serving the Graduate Student body!

Stay tuned for updates! This would not be possible without your continued support! For more information, please visit gsef.uwaterloo.ca or email gsef@uwaterloo.ca.