Graduate Student Association Monthly E-Newsletter



March 2023



News & Services

Applications for GSA President open March 3rd!

The GSA-UW is looking to hire a new president for the upcoming school year. As the President, you will be responsible for operations, management, strategic planning, and advocacy initiatives that are run by the GSA. For those interested, please keep an eye on our <u>Get Involved</u> page on the GSA-UW website, as it will soon contain the job description and details on how to apply.

Canada Housing Tax Benefit applications open until March 31!

You may be eligible for a one-time \$500 top-up to Canada Housing Tax Benefit depending on your income and if the amount that you pay on rent qualifies. For more information or to apply, visit the <u>Canada Revenue Agency website</u>.

Check out our latest International Student Blog Post!

The latest international student blog post written by Narayanan is published! Read his story <u>here</u>. If you are interested in writing a blog post, please check <u>here</u> to know what kind of posts we are looking for, and email GSA International Student Coordinator, Shu-Feng, at <u>gsa-international@uwaterloo.ca</u>. You will be awarded a \$15 e-gift card if your blog post is published!

Filing your tax before May 1!

The 2023 tax-filing season has already started! The deadline is May 1, 2023. There are multiple ways you can get help:

- The GSA will offer an Income Tax Seminar on March 16, and also personal appointments with the GSA Accountant. To find out more about these options, check out <u>this page</u>.
- The UW Accounting & Finance Student Association will offer Tax Clinics on March 25, 26, April 1 and 2. For more information, check out their website.
- The Student Success Office (SSO) will offer a "CRA Tax Information Session" on March 10, for which you can register on <u>Portal</u>.

Call for volunteers: Sign up for Volunteering opportunities at the GSA

Join our team of ever-vibrant volunteers by signing up for volunteering opportunities at the GSA academic, social, or general events and enjoy the limitless benefits of networking, giving back to the University community, and boosting your employability. Volunteer certificates and appreciation gift cards are issued at the end of the term. Sign up today here.

Climate-related events and opportunities open to all graduate students

On Thursday, March 9, the Climate Students group is hosting a movie night and discussion from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM in the Grad Lounge (SLC 3216). It is open to all faculties and there will be free snacks provided. The movie is still being decided on, so follow their Instagram to see when it's released. Please register for the event here.

The Climate Students group is also highlighting students' research and action projects that focus on climate change and other environmental initiatives. Students from any faculty can submit their work. To showcase your work, fill out this form.

Open Education Week

The Open Education Week will run from March 6 – 10, 2023, and will feature several events to profile Open Education projects at Waterloo, promote the open community, and highlight the available support for the creation of open educational resources. A schedule of these events will be posted <u>here</u>.

International Student Breakfast Seminar: Saturday, March 25

The next International Student Breakfast Seminar will discuss how to manage our finances. Please check the details on <u>SSO's website</u> and register on <u>Portal</u>.

Events

March 2: Virtual Housing Legal Drop-In Clinic @ Zoom @ 3:00 - 5:00 PM

We are partnering with Waterloo Region Community Legal Services (WRCLS) to host free drop-in housing legal clinics! Our first drop-in clinic will be on Thursday, March 2, 2023, from 3:00 - 5:00 PM, and will continue every other Thursday. Find out more information about this event and how to register <a href="https://example.com/here-neg/memory-neg/me



March: 2, 16 and 30April: 13 and 27May: 11 and 25

• Future dates are coming soon

March 7: Holi Mixer @ Graduate House 2nd Floor @ 3:30-4:30 PM

Join us at the Graduate House for a warm indoor event and celebrate the festival of colors–Holi! We have an optional contest for you. Come as colorful as you can if you want to win the colorful dressing contest! We will award 2 winners (one self-identified woman and one self-identified man) who wear the most colors to the mixer with a \$30 e-gift card for each winter. Check out the rules for the contest here. No registration is required.





March 8: International Women's Day Celebration @ Location and Time TBD

International Women's Day (March 8) is fast approaching! The GSA is planning an event to celebrate the leadership, strength, and courage of women and girls in our community and beyond. Join us to celebrate this Women's Day with a night of music

performed by musicians from the Jam Network, women's day-themed Bingo (with prizes), and snacks! Keep an eye out on our social media (links at the end of this newsletter) for more details to come!

More Events:

- March 13: International Student Drop-In @ Graduate House 2nd Floor Boardroom @ 4:00 - 5:00 PM
- March 15: BIPOC Student Collective @ Graduate House @ 4:00 6:00 PM

Be sure to check out the <u>Events section on the GSA website</u> to read more details and find out about more events.

Graduate House

OPEN DAILY!

Monday to Tuesday @ 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM Wednesday to Friday @ 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM



Come on in! We've got patio space upstairs and on the main floor, new menu items to try, and special weekly drinks and sides!

Don't forget! Graduate students who paid their fees can get discounts and free coffee!

Graduate House Events

We're offering a variety of in-person events this month at the Graduate House! Check out our list of events:

Featured Events:

- March 10: Celebrate Holi at The Graduate House! @ 6:30 PM
 Holi comes to the Grad House for the first time on March 10! We're dishing chicken & paneer skewers, hard & soft lassi, and great Bollywood tunes courtesy of our host Indrani! Come in colours and be prepared to dance at 6:30 PM!
- March 17: St. Patty's Day at The Graduate House All Day
 St. Patty says party, laddies all day at The Grad House! All are welcome to enjoy

our food and drink special, Irish essentials photo wall (with an Instagram contest, cha-ching), and live music brought to you by JamNetwork in the afternoon. Sorta celtic, totally rad.

More Events:

- March 1: Open Mic Night @ 6:00 7:30 PM
- March 2 and 30: Music Bingo @ 6:00 8:00 PM
- March 8 and 22: Trivia Night @ 6:00 8:00 PM
- March 16: Karaoke Night @ 6:00 8:00 PM

Check out the Events section on our website for more information.

Graduate Studies Endowment Fund

Open Positions

The GSEF is looking to hire a new Coordinator to lead the Project Review Committee and Board meetings, address graduate student needs, and carry out the day-to-day affairs of the GSEF.

Please see the <u>Coordinator Job Description</u> for more details. Interested candidates will have **until March 15, 2023**, to submit their cover letter and CV to the GSEF Coordinator (Blake Haskell) at <u>gsef@uwaterloo.ca</u>.

Apply for project funding

If you or your student group have an idea to improve the overall experience of your fellow graduate students, apply for small project funding (<\$600) or large project funding (>\$600). Funding is also available for projects focused on environmental sustainability. See below for upcoming funding application deadlines:

- Small project applications are due every first of the month (April 1)
- Large project applications are due every sixth Friday of the term
- Environmental Sustainability Award applications are due every sixth Friday of the term

Check out <u>the GSEF website</u> to learn more about <u>GSEF-funded student projects</u> and how to apply for funding! If you have any questions, email the GSEF Coordinator at <u>gsef@uwaterloo.ca</u>.

Alumni

2023 Alumni Awards: Know an amazing alum? Nominate them!

Do you know a UWaterloo alum that is an excellent leader, a trailblazer in their field, or mentors and supports others? We want you to <u>nominate</u> them to be recognized for their amazing work and contributions to their communities.

Uncharted Podcast: Warriors in the World

Tune in on March 21, for a new <u>episode of our podcast</u> that showcases the last installment of the <u>Data+</u> event series. Panelists discuss ethical data governance and how organizations can use it to understand the diversity within their employee bases.



GSA Website Contact Us! Graduate House

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