



September 2022



In a Nutshell

Make a Friend Challenge is back!

Starting September 8, you can join in on the GSA Make a Friend Challenge, happening at the Graduate House.

Council Nomination Period is about to start!

You will be able to nominate yourself for an open position of councillor in certain departments. The nomination period will be **from September 7 until September 20**. Check out the departments with vacant positions [here](#).

UW Student Mental Health Research Conference

The UW Student Mental Health Research Conference is happening virtually **on October 19**. If you would like to present at the conference, you can **submit your abstract until September 14**. Find out more information about the conference [here](#).

New events!

Some of [this month's events](#) include an International Student Mixer, BIPOC Student Collective, International Student Walk & Talk, and a Community Stroll!

At [the Graduate House](#), there will be Trivia Nights, a Music Bingo, and a Karaoke Night.

[In the community](#), some of the events that are happening are the Belmont Village

Bestival, Lumen Festival, and a performance by the critically acclaimed Gioia De Cara.

News & Services

September is graduate student orientation month!

We welcome **new and current** grad students to come meet new and old faces within your faculty. Join us at the Graduate House for **free pizza and a drink of your choice** (while supplies last) at **5:00 - 7:00 PM** on Tues/Thurs. Bring your WatCard for the corresponding faculty on the day to join the event.

September 13 (Tues) - Mathematics

September 15 (Thurs) - Arts

September 20 (Tues) - Engineering

September 22 (Thurs) - Health

September 27 (Tues) - Science

September 29 (Thurs) - Environment

GSA Services Update: How to Opt In/Opt Out for Fall 2022

We sent an email from the GSA on August 17 with information on how to opt-in/opt-out of several GSA services for the Fall 2022 term. You will also be able to find this information on the [News section](#) of our website.

GRT & ION UPass Refund Program

The GRT & ION UPass Refund Program will be launched for Fall 2022. All refund requests must be submitted **between September 7 - 27, 2022**. Instructions on how to submit a refund request and to access the refund request are now updated on our [GRT & ION UPass service page](#).

Call for Abstracts for the University of Waterloo Student Mental Health Research Conference now open!

The University of Waterloo Student Mental Health Research Conference is taking place virtually on October 19, 2022. This conference aims to bring together members of the UWaterloo community to share knowledge, connect researchers, and promote mental wellness. Submissions from UWaterloo students, faculty, and staff are accepted **until 11:59 PM on September 14, 2022**. If you would like to present at the conference, visit the Thrive website to read about this year's key themes and [submit your abstract](#)!

Make a Friend Challenge @ Graduate House

Let's get social with the return of this initiative! **Starting September 8**, you can join in on the GSA Make a Friend Challenge.

This is how it works: **Step 1.** Drop by Graduate House and design a key/backpack chain using the supplies in one of the kits offered in bin A. **Step 2.** Write your name, program, and e-mail address on the tag or a piece of paper. **Step 3.** Put your design and information back in the supplied bag and place it in the finished bin (B) with all the others. **Step 4.** Take another key/backpack chain that someone else designed (you can keep it!). **Step 5.** Contact the person who designed the one you chose.



If you take any pictures along this challenge, tag us on Instagram @gsa.uwaterloo!

Events

September 12: International Student Mixer @ Graduate House Green @ 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Join us at the Graduate House Green for a fun outdoor event designed for international graduate students! Meet new friends from around the world, learn about campus and the GSA, and enjoy free pizzas while supplies last. No registration is required; just come and have fun! Remember to bring your WATcard and credit/debit card for discounted beverages or other food if you have paid GSA/GH fees.

Plan B: If it rains, we will move into the Graduate House.



September 14: BIPOC Student Collective @ Graduate House @ 4:00 - 6:00 PM

While so many of us work tirelessly to better our campuses and communities, we would all do well to remember that we are not alone in this struggle. Join us at the Graduate House for an in-person

BIPOC collective solidarity chat with
FREE FOOD.

This event will take place at the
Graduate House Upstairs lounge on
Wednesday, September 14 starting at
4:00 PM. EVERYONE is welcome. Don't
hesitate to join us!



**September 19: International Student
Walk & Talk @ Graduate House Green
@ 3:30 - 4:30 PM**

Welcoming all **current and new international graduate students** to
join us with **Kristine Meier**,
International Graduate Student Liaison
from Campus Wellness, for an informal
campus tour while chit-chatting about
anything! We will first meet at Graduate
House Green and go through tunnels
that connect most buildings on campus.
No registration is required, but the first
10 students can get free cookies!



Plan B: If it rains, we will move into the
Graduate House.

September 21: Community Stroll @ Columbia Lake @ 11:00 AM

Join us for a stroll around Columbia Lake! We will meet in the CIF parking lot to start
our adventure. Meet new friends, get some exercise, and breathe in some fresh air.
The stroll will end at Graduate House where you can relax and grab some lunch before
venturing into the rest of your plans for the day. If you have any questions or concerns
about this in-person event, you can contact our Student Wellness Coordinator, Ashley,
at gsa-wellness@uwaterloo.ca. Register for a spot [here](#).

Get Involved in GSA Governance

Get involved with the GSA-UW Council!

As a councillor, one student from each department sits on the GSA-UW Council and
speaks on behalf of their peers regarding academic and political topics throughout the
year. A GSA-UW councillor brings opinions of their department to the forefront,

ensuring that decisions being made are in consideration of all students at UW.

Departments with vacant positions on the GSA-UW Council are listed below. If you see your department, you can nominate yourself for the open position of councillor **from Wednesday, September 7 until Tuesday, September 20** by filling out the [GSA Council Representative Nomination Form](#). You can find out more information about the councillor position on the [GSA website](#), or by emailing gsa-elections@uwaterloo.ca.

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|--|---|
| - Accounting & Finance (ARTS) | - Master of Business, Entrepreneurship & Technology (ENG) |
| - Anthropology (ARTS) | - School of Architecture (ENG) |
| - Catholic Thought (ARTS) | - Chemical Engineering (ENG) |
| - Classical Studies (ARTS) | - Applied Mathematics (MATH) |
| - Economics (ARTS) | - Combinatorics & Optimization (MATH) |
| - Master of Digital Experience Innovation (ARTS) | - Computational Mathematics (MATH) |
| - Global Governance (ARTS) | - Chemistry & Biochemistry (SCI) |
| - Political Science (ARTS) | - Earth & Environmental Sciences (SCI) |
| - Social Work (ARTS) | |
| - Theological Studies (ARTS) | |
| - Civil & Environmental Engineering (ENG) | |

Graduate House

OPEN DAILY!

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

MAIN FLOOR PATIO NOW OPEN!



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! We also have a fresh [new website and menu](#) for you to explore!

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:

September 14: Trivia Night @ 6:00 - 8:00 PM: Bring in your knowledge HATS

Bring your friends or meet new friends and test your knowledge at Trivia Night! Join in on the friendly competition against fellow graduate students to win a prize!

September 15: Music Bingo @ 6:00 - 8:00 PM: BING... BING... BINGO

Jam out to snippets of songs while trying to get your bingo in first. Join in on the friendly competition against fellow graduate students to win a prize!

September 22: Karaoke Night @ 6:00 - 8:00 PM: Train your vocal cords at GH

Bring your friends or meet new friends as all of you sing along to your favorite hits or belt out to any song at your request!

September 28: Trivia Night @ 6:00 - 8:00 PM: Bring in your knowledge HATS

Bring your friends or meet new friends and test your knowledge at Trivia Night! Join in on the friendly competition against fellow graduate students to win a prize!

Graduate Studies Endowment Fund

Apply for Project Funding!

Does your student group have an idea how to improve the academic, social, or the overall experience of your fellow graduate students? If so, you can apply for funding from the Graduate Studies Endowment Fund (GSEF). The Fall 2022 application deadline is October 14th.

Don't forget – for smaller projects with total budgets less than \$600, the deadline is the first of every month!

Every idea will be considered. For more information, please visit [this page](#). If you have any questions, contact the GSEF Coordinator at gsef@uwaterloo.ca.

Apply today!

Recruiting PRC Member from the Faculty of Health!

GSEF is recruiting a committed volunteer to join our Project Review Committee! We are looking for graduate students from the Faculty of Health to step forward and offer their unique perspectives and experiences. In this role, you will help to review student-led project applications and make funding recommendations. Interested applicants can [visit our website](#) for application details.

Community Events

September 16-17: Belmont Village Bestival @ Belmont Ave West

Belmont Village Bestival is a two-day music and arts festival celebrating local performers in this beautiful gem within the City of Kitchener and right next door to the City of Waterloo! The festival shuts down the street featuring workshops, musical artists, visual artists, and more. This community staple takes place every year two weeks following Labour Day weekend to celebrate the official closing of summer. Come and be part of the magic!

For more information on vendors and the festival schedule, visit [this page](#).

September 24: Lumen @ 100 Regina St S @ 6:00 - 11:00 PM

Explore Uptown Waterloo like never before! Lumen is an immersive festival with over 30 installations celebrating light, art, and technology. Lumen is an annual, free, all-ages festival that is open to the public and run by the City of Waterloo's Arts and Culture team (Create Waterloo). The event features the work of artists as they explore the interplay of light, art, and technology in installations located throughout uptown Waterloo.

For more information, visit [this page](#).

September 24: Truth Values: One Girl's Romp Through M.I.T.'s Male Math Maze @ 200 University Ave W @ 7:30 - 10:30 PM

Join us on September 24, 2022, for an inspiring evening filled with laughter, education, and conversation as the critically acclaimed Gioia De Cari comes to the University of Waterloo. Thanks to WiM, Mathematics, and Engineering this show is free of charge to all UWaterloo students, staff and faculty but will be playing for one night only. Don't miss your opportunity to see this incredible performance and join in the conversation about how we can continue to push towards greater equity, diversity, and inclusion for all people.

For more information on the event, visit [this page](#).

Organize UW

OrganizeUW is the campaign to [unionize](#) Graduate Student Workers at UWaterloo. OrganizeUW is supported by [CUPE](#).

Want to chat? Email the organizers at organizeuw@joincupe.org
Follow OUW on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#)! #WhyNotWaterloo

The committee to organize uWaterloo (aka OrganizeUW) is a grassroots campaign to unionize the academic workers at the University of Waterloo. You can get more information and sign your card [here](#).

Looking for a place to kick back and relax?

Interested in making new friends? Then **Stammtisch** is the place for you!

Join us **every Monday from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM** in the Graduate House for Stammtisch. Stammtisch is an incredible community of TAs, RAs, and Sessional Instructors. It's the perfect place to hangout, meet your co-workers, and have lots of fun.

And in case you are asking yourself, "what is a Stammtisch?" Stammtisch (German for "regulars' table", 'ftamtrf) is an informal group meeting held on a regular basis. It is not a structured meeting, but rather a friendly get-together.

See you at Stammtisch! [#OrganizeUW](#)

Delve into our online resources!

- View our [Equity principles](#) that shape our campaign efforts
- Check out our [comprehensive FAQ](#)
- Read our "for-International Students by-International Students" [blog posts and articles](#)
- Listen to topical webinars and more on our [Talks](#) page
- [View the list](#) of organizations that have publicly endorsed our campaign



[COVID-19 Updates](#)

[GSA Website](#)

[Contact Us!](#)

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