



News & Services

Monthly GSA Key Performance Indicators Report: [April 2021 KPIs](#)

Check out our new report layout! For questions regarding the report, please email the [GSA Data Analysis & Report Design Coordinator](#).

GSA Services Update: How to Opt In/Opt Out for Spring 2021

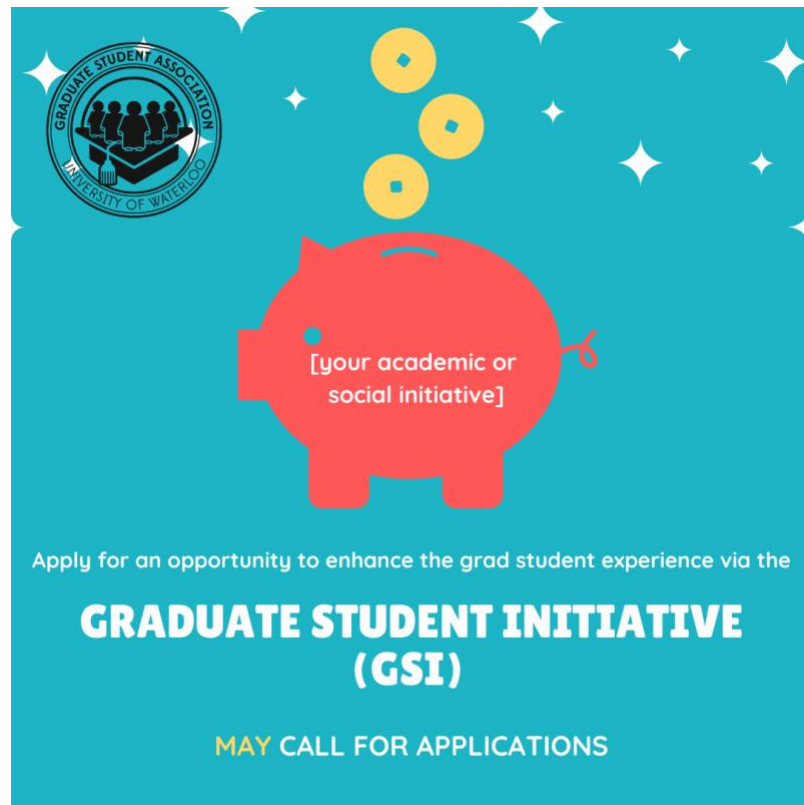
Keep an eye out for an email with information on how to opt-in/opt-out of several GSA services for the Spring 2021 term.

GRT & ION UPass Refund Program

The GRT & ION UPass Refund Program for Spring 2021 will be launched on **May 10**. All refund requests must be submitted **before May 31**. More instructions on how to submit a refund request and to access the refund request form are forthcoming.

Graduate Student Initiatives Fund (GSI)

Apply for funding through GSI to organize a social event, reception, a workshop, a panel, a guest lecture, hosting a conference for graduate students, etc. The upcoming deadline for this month is **May 18**. Visit the [GSI webpage](#) to apply and for more details.



International Graduate Students Blog

The “Grad Student Adventurer” has a new blog post by Shu-Feng Tsao, a PhD student in Public Health. Shu-Feng uses her experience of 5 years in the U.S. for two Master’s degrees and working at a start-up and a global health insurance company to talk about building connections with and working at start-ups from an international student perspective. Check it out [here](#). Our blog is for and is written by grad students. Email [Navya](#) if you’d like to write a post!-

Events

May 13: Listening and Learning Session with Community Justice Initiatives @ 2:00PM

The Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Office is excited to invite students to join a listening and learning session with CJI on restorative justice practice in a campus context, taking place on May 13 from 2 – 3:30 p.m. This 1.5 hour discussion will provide an overview of restorative justice responses to sexualized violence, and will include several rounds of questions intended to draw out honest feedback, invite questions and share concerns to ensure UW’s restorative framework is shaped in partnership with the campus community. Participants are invited to engage fully using both video and audio and encourage those who aren’t able to participate this way to let us know. Follow the registration link [here](#).

May 17 (closing date): Canadian Nature Escape Room

Interested in learning about the animals and plants you might come across in the forest? Take a swing at our virtual Canadian Nature Escape Room! Solve puzzles and riddles with friends to find your way through the forest. Those who make it to the end will have the opportunity to win a prize! This event is in partnership with the Office of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs. Click [here](#) to play.



May 27: Candid Talks with Grads – Caregiving as a Grad Student @ 1:00PM

Come join us at our first Candid Talks with Grads session, a new open discussion and support event that will focus on a different topic each month that is important to graduate students at the University of Waterloo. This month's discussion will centre around being a caregiver or parent as a graduate student. Students will have the opportunity to hear about and share their experiences, stories, tips, and ideas for improvements on campus. Please note that a Counsellor from Counselling Services will be sitting in on the discussion. All graduate students are welcome to attend. Register [here](#).

BIPOC Student Collective

May 11 @ 7-8:30PM

While the conviction of Derek Chauvin last week for the murder of George Floyd was a welcome development, across Canada and the US, Anti-Asian and Anti-Black violence is on the rise. Moreover, Indigenous Peoples continue to experience the systematic violence of colonization. There is much to be

done. While so many of us work tirelessly to better our campuses and communities, we would all do well to remember that we are not in this struggle alone. Join us in solidarity on Tuesday, May 11, from 7:00pm - 8:30pm, for an informal community conversation. Come as you are. This event will take place on our [Discord channel](#).

Drop-in & Chat Hours on Tuesdays @ 1-2PM

We're here with you. Join us during our drop-in hours if you're looking for some support, or just want to take a break and chat. [Discord channel](#).

University Wide Committees

Healthy Workplace Committee

The GSA-UW is currently seeking for a graduate student to sit on the Healthy Workplace Committee on behalf of graduate students. This group meets once a month and discusses topics such as creating and sustaining a healthy environment on campus, maintaining and improving wellness tools and programs, and organizing events for employees such as Keeping Well at Work Week. If you are interested in this opportunity, you can find more information [here](#). If you are interested in sitting on this committee, please contact [GSA Student Wellness Coordinator](#) by **May 24**.

Graduate Student Interest Groups

May 11: Social Media Informatics Interest Group @ 11:00AM

The Social Media Informatics Interest Group will kick off its first journal club meeting from 11 am – 12 pm EST on Tuesday, May 11. Everyone is welcome if you want to learn or critique what recent studies using social media data are about or just want to virtually meet new people. If you're interested in attending our first meeting, please sign up [here](#) or email [Shu-Feng](#) by **May 7**.

Get Involved

GSA Council - Open Council Seats

Get involved with the GSA-UW Council! As councillor, one student from each department sits on the [GSA-UW Council](#) and speaks on behalf of their constituents as the "voice" for various academic and political topics throughout the year. A GSA councillor brings opinions and issues of their department to the forefront, ensuring that decisions being made are in consideration of all students at UW! The departments with a vacant

(or soon-to-be vacant) one-year councillor position are listed below:

- Public Issues Anthropology (ARTS)
- Catholic Thought (ARTS)
- Classical Studies (ARTS)
- French Studies (ARTS)
- Social Work (ARTS)
- Chemical Engineering (ENGR)
- Civil & Environmental Engineering (ENGR)
- Global Governance (ENV)
- Combinatorics & Optimization (MATH)
- Pure Mathematics (MATH)
- Statistics & Actuarial Science (MATH)
- Chemistry & Biochemistry (SCI)

Please contact the [elections coordinator](#) for more information.

Call for Candid Talks with Grads Speakers

The GSA-UW is currently looking to bring students together who want to be part of group discussions about issues faced by graduate students. These sessions will be facilitated through a collaboration with Counselling Services and will include a short presentation at the beginning of each session providing an overview of the topic discussed that month. We are currently seeking graduate students who might be interested in presenting on the issues below. Presentations will be 5-10 minutes and speakers will be paid \$50. We are specifically seeking students who have lived experience with the issues or are currently researching these issues in their respective fields. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact [GSA Student Wellness Coordinator](#)

- Imposter syndrome
- Issues facing international students during COVID-19
- Supervisor and lab group dynamics
- Issues related to Teaching Assistants

OrganizeUW

Monthly updates on the #OrganizeUW unionization campaign for graduate student workers supported by [CUPE](#). Visit the campaign [website](#) including a comprehensive [FAQ page](#), email the [organizers](#), or attend **weekly Tuesday 1:30PM drop-in video calls** [at this link](#). Follow OUW on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

Upcoming Events

[Town Hall for Engineering Students on Teaching Assistantships](#): May 11 @5PM EDT

International Student Survey: If you are an international student at UWaterloo, please consider completing this anonymous [5 min survey](#) to help better inform OUW's campaign.

Helpful Resources

- [Mental Health and Unions](#) recorded webinars
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- [Climate Justice and Unions](#) recorded webinars
- [International Students & Unions](#) recorded webinars
- [Anti-Racism and Unions](#) recorded webinars
- [Health, Safety & Unions](#) recorded webinars
- [Mandarin translation](#) of the unionizing process

Campaign Endorsements

[View the list](#) of UWaterloo campus organizations that have publicly endorsed the drive.

Community Events

The Waterloo Park Art Walk

By City of Waterloo- Outdoor exhibit that stretches through Waterloo Park from Caroline Street to Seagram Drive throughout Spring!

Heartwork: Healing Through the Art of Yoga

By Sexual Assault Support Centre - May 5 - 7PM [Event Details](#)

It's A Kinda Magic Queen - It's A Kinda Magic

By Centre in the Square - May 6 - 8-10PM [Event Details](#)

Flipping Mindsets. Taking Risks. Sparking Change

By Fresh Innovators - May 6 - 8:30AM-4PM [Event Details](#)

The Many Shapes of Clay

By The City of Waterloo Museum

Women's History in the Making Affordable Housing (Urban Indigenous Living)

By Doon Heritage Village - May 11- 7PM [Event Details](#)

QueerKPL: Let's Make a Zine!

By Kitchener Public Library - May 11- 5:30PM [Event Details](#)

Yoga Walk in Bechtel Park | Waterloo

By Innovative Wellness - May 13 -12:30-2PM [Event Details](#)

Pops: Classic Hits of Tin Pan Alley

By Kitchener Waterloo Symphony - May 14 - 8PM [Event Details](#)

Taste of the Region 2021

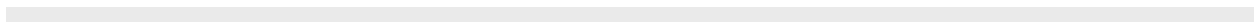
By Taste of the Region - May 15 -11:30AM – 6:00PM [Event Details](#)

Forest Walk Meditation - Walk 7

By Huron Nature Walk - May 15 -2PM Confirm your participation directly with [Carrie](#).

Protecting Birds In The City

By FLAP Canada and Waterloo Public Library - May 15th, 2PM - 3PM [Event Details](#)



Walk the Talk: Gallery Tour

By Kitchener - Waterloo Art Gallery - May 22 - 1- 2PM [Event Details](#)

Waterloo Wellington Children's Groundwater Festival

By Waterloo Region Museum and Doon Heritage Village - May 28 (9:30AM) - June 3 (2PM) [Event Details](#)

Friday Flicks Travel Show: Ireland Fifty Shades of Green

By The City of Waterloo - May 28 - 1:30-2:30PM [Event Details](#)

WAR AND PEACE

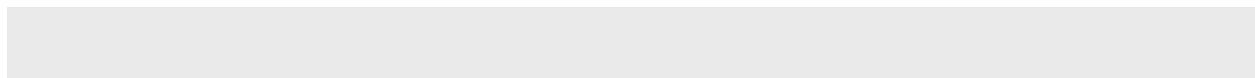
By Kitchener Waterloo Chamber Orchestra - May 30 - 3PM [Event Details](#)

Virtual Anti-Racist Bookclub

By Queen Street Yoga - May 31 - 7:30-8:30PM [Event Details](#)

[GSA-UW YouTube Channel](#)

Visit and subscribe to our new [Youtube Channel](#) to watch recordings of our previous events and workshops on your own time!





[COVID-19 Updates](#)

[GSA Website](#)

[Contact Us!](#)

This email is sent from Graduate Students Association - University of Waterloo

MC 2029 | 200 University Ave W., Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3G1

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GSA Communications | gsa-comm@uwaterloo.ca

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