



Graduate Studies Endowment Fund – University of Waterloo Progress Report for 2023 - 2024

To: GSA Membership
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Presenter: Ahmed Niaz, GSEF Treasurer (gsef.treasurer@uwaterloo.ca)
Date of Meeting: April 3rd 2024

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 2023 and April 2024, GSEF provided more than **\$12,500** to **20** different project and events, benefiting hundreds of graduate students. Throughout 2023-24, **\$29,338** 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 with an ongoing commitment to contribute towards the execution of the PSF Program in the upcoming year as well.

GSEF also subsidizes research and travel expenses for graduate students as part of the Graduate Student Research Dissemination Award (GSRDA). Between May 2023 and April 2024, we provided more than **\$74,500** in funding to help more than **145** graduate students attend national and international conferences.

In the upcoming fiscal year 2024 - 25, 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.