

## Graduate Studies Endowment Fund

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

- Small project award (<\$600)
  - Deadline: 1<sup>st</sup> of every month
- Large project award (>\$600)
  - Deadline: sixth Friday of each semester.

With these two awards, between May 2019s and April 2020, GSEF provided more than **\$25,000** to 26 different project and events, benefiting hundreds of grad students. In June 2020, **\$10,000** was contributed for the construction of a patio for the Grad House (with additional contributions from the GSA, GSPA, and Jeff Casello) as this project has the potential to benefit students in all departments and faculties.

GSEF also subsidizes travel expenses of grad students. Between May 2019 and April 2020, we provided **\$130,000** in funding to help more than 275 grad students attend national and international conferences.

With COVID-19 affecting all aspects of graduate student life, GSEF contributed **\$5,000** to the Student Emergency Support Fund and **\$30,000** (matched by the GSA and GSPA) to the Graduate Student Thesis Completion Award

In the next fiscal year, there are several changes coming:

- Hiring a new treasurer
- Adding a Vice-Coordinator to GSEF (this is an entirely new position)
- There will be some openings on the Project Review Committee and the Board
- Reviewing the Constitution of GSEF
- **And most importantly: implementing new initiatives and new ideas for services to graduate students**

Stay tuned for updates! This would not be possible without your support! For more information, please visit [gsef.uwaterloo.ca](http://gsef.uwaterloo.ca) or email [gsef@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsef@uwaterloo.ca).