News & Services

Monthly GSA Key Performance Indicators Report: May 2021 KPIs
Check out our new report layout! For questions regarding the report, please email GSA Data Analysis & Report Design Coordinator.

International Graduate Students Blog
The “Grad Student Adventurer” has a new blog post by Shirley Yang, a recent graduate Master of Sustainability Management. Shirley’s research focus was on improving waste sorting and management at the UW campus. Throughout her time as a graduate student at UW, she learned many tips about staying on budget as an international student and she shares them in her post. Check it out here. Our blog is for and is written by grad students. Email Navya if you’d like to write a post!

Graduate Student Initiative Fund: June Call for Applications
Apply for funding through the Graduate Student Initiative Funding (GSI) to organize a social event, workshop, guest lecture, etc. for your fellow grad students. June applications are now open and close on June 18 @ 12PM. Visit our website for more info and to apply.

GSA Leadership Award: Nomination Deadline - June 14
The GSA annually recognizes student leaders at UWaterloo through the Presidents’ Leadership Awards. Recipients of the awards will have demonstrated exemplary leadership skills in various ways at the University of Waterloo and/or in the surrounding community. To nominate a graduate student for the GSA Leadership Award, complete and submit the nomination form. The nomination
period will be open until June 14 at 4PM EST. For more information about the GSA Leadership Award, please visit our website.

Get Involved

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, Ashley.
- Supervisor and Lab Group Dynamics
- Issues Related to Teaching Assistants

We're Hiring - GSA Equity Coordinator: Application Deadline June 10
We're hiring a new equity coordinator. Help us promote gender and racial equity on campus, and serve as a primary advocate for University of Waterloo graduate students that are racialized, Black, Indigenous, and/or members of the LGBT2+ community. Applications are due June 10, 2021. For application details, visit our website. If you have any questions about the role, please contact Zabeen, GSA VP of Communications, via email.

Call for Applications to the Joint Policy Review Committee:
The GSA board is looking for 2 members of the graduate student community to serve on the Joint Policy Review Committee (JPRC). The JPRC reviews and recommends changes to the policies of the GSA, the GSA board, and the GSA Council, to make sure its policies are up to date with the current graduate student needs and standpoints. Members from the graduate student community serving on this committee bring welcome perspectives from the wider graduate community. If you are interested in policy, governance, or the GSA, we encourage you to apply. Interested students are encouraged to submit a brief statement of interest and their CV/Resume by June 25, 2021 to gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca.

Events

June 17: Zoom Game Night @ 7:00PM
Join us for an evening of various challenges and group games. Put your skills to the test, meet new friends, and win some prizes! If you have any questions about this event, reach out to our Student Wellness Coordinator, Ashley. Sign up here.

June 24: Candid Talks with Grads – International Student Issues During COVID-19 @ 1:00PM
Come join us at our second Candid Talks with Grads session, an 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 the issues that have been facing international graduate students during the COVID-19 pandemic. 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

Research Assistant – Indigenous Research Guide - Submission deadline: June 21 2021
The Library and the Graduate Student Association are creating a small team of librarians and graduate students who will collaboratively create an Indigenous research guide similar to the other Library research guides (https://subjectguides.uwaterloo.ca/). The work will involve researching and identifying sources both within Library resources and beyond on Indigenous research related topics for inclusion in the guide, participation in discussion and refinement of content, organization of content, content editing and user feedback analysis.

Duration: July 1 - August 31 2021
Hours & wages: up to 10 hours at $50.00 per hour
Qualifications and Assets
- Current university of Waterloo Master or PhD student
- Involved in Indigenous studies and Indigenous research on campus
- Experience with Indigenous research methodologies is an asset
- Experience with academic library resources and services is an asset

If you are interested in this position, please submit and CV and cover letter (no more than 300 words) to Zabeen Khamisa.
**We are on Discord! Join us!**

Check out our Discord Channel! for important updates and resources for BIPOC graduate students. Please note that we will be moderating the servers to ensure that it’s a safe space.

**Solidarity Chats: June 9 @ 7PM**

Join us on June 9 between 7:00-8:30PM for a casual social that centres the experience of BIPOC graduate students at UWaterloo. All BIPOC faculty, students, and friends are invited to attend. This is a chance to meet other BIPOC members of our community and also share ideas in an informal setting. Come as you are. Drop in and bring your chai! You can find us in the Lounge on our Discord Channel. If this link does not work, please email Zabeen.

**New* Drop-in Hours: June 11 & June 25 @ 10-11AM**

We’re here with you. Join us bi-weekly during our drop-in hours if you’re looking for some support, or just want to take a break and chat. Find us on our Discord Channel. If this link does not work, please email Zabeen.

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**Graduate Studies Endowment Fund**

**Funding Opportunities:**
The Graduate Studies Endowment Fund supports improving the academic and social experience of graduate students at the University of Waterloo. To this end, we regularly provide financial assistance for student-driven projects and initiatives. In the past, we have funded:
- Conferences
- Social events
- Anything that will help improve the graduate student experience (see the GSEF website for more examples)

Deadlines are the **first of every month** for the small project fund (<$600) and **June 11, 2021** for the large project fund (>=$600). Email the GSEF Coordinator or visit the GSEF website for more information.

**Call for Applications:**
GSEF is actively recruiting to hire a new **Vice-Coordinator**! The Vice-Coordinator is responsible for supporting the growth of GSEF through strengthening communication strategies, taking minutes during Project Review Committee and Board meetings, and assisting the Coordinator carry out the day-to-day affairs of GSEF. **This position is open to all graduate students.** Interested candidates can apply by sending their resume and cover letter to gsef@uwaterloo.ca by June 14, 2021. For more information, please see the Vice-Coordinator Job Description and visit the GSEF website. Apply today!

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**Graduate House**
We're hiring: Cook/Kitchen Help for The Graduate House
Looking for kitchen help for an on-campus pub. We focus on house made, quality and affordable meals for students. Looking for an experienced cook to help with all things related to kitchen operations - prep & orders cooked, inventory control, menu design, sanitation while we slowly reopen after Covid:
- Position is full-time casual contract for the summer, opportunity to extend to fulltime in the fall
- Qualities we are looking for: Punctuality, Team Player, High Sanitation & Hygienic standards, focuses on Quality and Locally sourced product as available. We will be reopening on a small scale due to restrictions, so must ability to work independently is crucial
- Two years minimum experience in the restaurant field required
- Safe Food Handling, First Aid training are large assets
- Compensation will be based on experience

Email resume to gsa-gh@uwaterloo.ca Only successful candidates will be contacted for an interview.

Community Events

The Kitchener Ripper
By the Civic Centre Park, Kitchener - June 5 - 1-10PM Event Details

Brew and Burgers Picnic
By Hampton Inn & Suites, By Hilton Waterloo St. Jacobs - June 5 - 12-9PM Event Details

Pride Story Time with Miss Drew
By Waterloo Public Library - June 5 - 11AM-1PM Event Details

2021 Gutsy Walk-Kitchener Waterloo
By Crohn's and Colitis Canada Kitchener Waterloo - June 6 - 9AM Event Details

Pride (Virtual) Waterloo Walking Tour
By: City of Waterloo Museum and the Glow Centre - June 6 - 12-4PM Event Details

Drag Queen Storytime With Fay and Fluffy
By Waterloo Public Library - June 10 - 1-2PM Event Details
Pride Trivia
By Waterloo Public Library - June 11 - 7-8PM Event Details

St Mary's Red Day for Heart Health Awareness
By St Mary’s Hospital - June 11 Event Details

Friday Flicks Travel Show: Driving Through Normandy, France
By City of Waterloo - June 11 - 1:30PM Event Details

Ever After Music Festival 2021
By Bingemans - June 11 - June 14 Event Details

Autism Speaks Canada Walk
By Walk on Wheels Car Parade - June 13 - 11AM Event Details

Epic Eagles Live! In Support Of Make-A-Wish Canada
By Bingemans - June 14 - 8-10PM Event Details

A Year of COVID-19: Disparities, Inequities, and Inequalities
By Waterloo PhD student, a Continuing Lecturer, CEO of Knowledgehook Inc. and the Director of Waterloo’s Writing and Communication Centre - June 17 Event Details

Variety Show
By THEMUSEUM AND SPECTRUM - June 17 - 7-8PM Event Details

Forest Walk Meditation - Walk 7 Huron Natural Area
By SoulSigma Holistic Therapeutics - June 19 - 2-4:30PM Confirm by Email

1000 Books Before Kindergarten
By Waterloo Public Library - All June Event Details

ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge
By City of Waterloo - All June Event Details

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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 (ET) drop-in video calls at this link. Follow OUW on Twitter & Facebook and most recently Instagram!

Upcoming Events
Town Hall for the School of Computer Science: Thursday June 3 @ 5PM EDT
Safe Return to Campus Webinar: Wednesday June 9 @ 5PM ET

Recent News
Pandemic Working Conditions and Graduate Student Mental Health article

Helpful Resources
- Mental Health and Unions recorded webinars
- 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.