



News & Services

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

For questions regarding the report, please [email](#) Jacqueline (GSA Data Analysis & Report Design Coordinator)

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 **March 18**. Visit the [GSI webpage](#) to apply and for more details.

Around the World Digital Quilt

Whether you're studying remotely in another city, country, or locally in the Waterloo region, join us in making our very first grad student digital quilt. Submit a drawing, photo, poem, or short story describing where you are in the world right now... be creative as you like! Deadline for submission is **March 8**. Click [here](#) for more info and a [here](#) for a video on brainstorming ideas.

UW Senate Elections for Graduate Student Reps

The election of grad reps for Senate will run from March 11-18. Communications will be sent from UW admin to all grads with a link to vote. Securing effective graduate representation on Senate is vital for advancing the graduate student experience. Make sure to vote! [More information](#)

GSA Board of Directors: Call for Nominations Period Now Open

The GSA-UW is now accepting nominations for the upcoming Board of Directors election! University of Waterloo graduate students are invited to put forward their application and run as a candidate in the election. The first call to nominations period will be open from March 1 to March 17. For more information, please

visit the [GSA-UW Board of Directions Election Page](#)



Annual General Meeting 2021: Date determined

The AGM 2021 will be held on April 8. Due to COVID-19, the AGM will be held virtually over Zoom. A registration link will be sent to graduate students via email. Visit our [AGM 2021 web page](#) for more information. This page will be updated as more details are confirmed. Stay tuned!

GSA Tax Aid Clinic & Personal Consultations

The GSA offers tax aid support in the format of a free video seminar and complementary PowerPoint Presentation created by our Accountant, as well as personal consultations if you feel the need to clarify specific issues regarding your tax return. Through a one-on-one 15-minute phone call with our accountant, you will be able to ask any further questions you may have. It is highly recommend that you watch the video first, before book your appointment. [More information.](#)

Graduate Studies Endowment Fund

GSEF Coordinator – Call for Applications

The Graduate Studies Endowment Fund (GSEF) strives to improve the social, academic, and overall experience of graduate students. GSEF is looking to hire a new Coordinator to lead Project Review Committee and Board meetings, develop new initiatives to improve GSEF in its outreach and benefit to graduate students, and carry out the day-to-day affairs of GSEF. This position is open to **all graduate students**.

Interested candidates have until **March 8** to submit their cover letter and CV to the GSEF Coordinator, Matthew Robbins, at gsef@uwaterloo.ca. Please email Matthew if you have any questions about this position. [Click here for more details.](#) **Apply today!**

Events

March 16: #PoliticsToday: Working Towards Climate Justice In Waterloo Region @3:00PM

In Episode 4 we will discuss climate justice efforts in Waterloo Region, as advanced by organizers of the 50 x 2030 campaign in Waterloo Region, a grassroots, community-led campaign advocating for Waterloo Region to commit to a *50% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030*, in line with the imperatives of climate science and centring social justice and well-being. Register [here](#).

Wellness Week

March 22: Motivation Monday

Keep an eye out on our Instagram account for a takeover by our Student Wellness Coordinator, Ashley Ryan. Get some wellness tips and information about resources, have your questions answered about GSA wellness services, and send in your motivational quotes to be shared with the graduate student community! You might get a chance to be entered into a draw for a prize.

March 23: Virtual Wellness Wall

Do you have a wellness tip, quote, reflection, or story you would like to anonymously share? Perhaps you want to write a post about what wellness means to you, have a fun activity in mind that others may like to hear about, or want to read about what others have to say about wellness. Consider checking out our virtual wellness wall opening on March 23. Submit your anonymous post anytime over the following weeks [here](#).

March 24: Self Care During COVID-19 Workshop by CAMH @ 11:00AM

Participate in a workshop on self care during COVID-19 with a representative from the Canadian Association of Mental Health and University of Waterloo alumnus, Laura McShane. Attendees will be entered into a draw for a prize. Register [here](#).

March 25: Family-Friendly Virtual Cooking Lesson @ 6:00PM

Join us for a night of vegetarian Indian cuisine. A local chef, Chitra Saravanan, will be teaching us how to roti, aloo gobi, coconut chickpea curry, and masala chai. The lesson is free, but participants will have to purchase their own ingredients. A list of ingredients will be sent out closer to the event day. You're more than welcome to cook with your partner, friends, or family in your bubble. Attendees will be entered into a draw for a prize. Spots are limited. Register [here](#).

March 26: Surprise Cameo

Keep an eye out on our social media channels for a virtual visit from a surprise guest!

Community Events

DINOSAURS | The Age of Big Weird Feathered Things Virtual Tour

By The MUSEUM - March 4 - 7PM [Event Details](#)

Latin American Film Fest: PERRO BOMBA

By Kitchener Public Library - March 10 - 7-9PM [Event Details](#)

Friday Flick Travel Show: France, Paris and Beyond

By City of Waterloo - March 12 - 1:30-2:30PM [Event Details](#)

Virtual Kids in the Kitchen

By City of Kitchener - March 13 - 10AM [Event Details](#)

Third Thursdays: Adults-only Jurassic Trivia with The Dinosaur Whisperer

By The MUSEUM - March 14 - 6PM [Event Details](#)

Towards Reconciliation: 10 Calls to Action for Natural Sciences

By Indigenous Initiatives Office, Faculty of Science & Office of Research - March 15 - 1:00-2:30PM Register [here](#).

Music in the Lounge

By Laurier Faculty of Music Students - March 15 - 7:30-8:30PM [Event Details](#)

KW Indigenous Bike Tour

By Kitchener Public Library [Events Details](#)

Online Cooking Workshop: St. Patrick's Day Dinner

By Relish Cooking Studio - March 18 - 6:30PM [Event Details](#)

Get Social: 90's Nostalgia Night

By Kitchener Public Library - March 19 - 6PM [Event Details](#)

Forest Walk Meditation: Huron Natural Area

By SoulSigma Holistic Therapeutics - March 20 - 1PM [Email](#)

The Silk Vows Fashion Show Fundraiser

By The MUSEUM - March 26 - 5PM [Event Details](#)

Run Waterloo's Winter Virtual Challenge

By Run Waterloo - March 31 - 11AM [Event Details](#)

University Wide Committees

Graduate students serve on university-level committees to represent graduate student needs and experiences at an administration level.

Verification of Illness Form (VIF) Working Group Representative

The GSA is seeking a volunteer to provide graduate student feedback on a university-wide VIF Working Group. The VIF is used by instructors to make accommodation decisions for missed mandatory assessments (labs, quizzes, midterms, final exams, etc.). This group is tasked with developing a centralized physical and online system for submitting VIFs that notifies all students' instructors while maintaining confidentiality of

students' medical conditions and history. The working group has already created a process and is in need of more graduate consultation before moving forward. If you would like to volunteer to sit on this group, please contact gsa-wellness@uwaterloo.ca by **March 17**.

Graduate Student Interest Groups

February 1-March 15: Water and You Art Contest

SWIGS just launched an art contest called "Water and You" that is open to students across the Kitchener-Waterloo district in grades 4-7. This year's art theme is "WASH", also known as "Water Sanitation and Hygiene". Submissions are open from February 1- March 15. For more information, please visit the [website](#).

March 8: Blue Drinks Panel Events

On March 8, @ 5-7PM, SWIGS will be hosting a panel-type Blue Drinks event. Blue drinks are informal gathering (discussion + networking) for graduate students to connect with professionals in the water field: practitioners, academics, entrepreneurs, non-profit, government employees and others. For this event we will be speaking with Dr. Andrea Brookfield who is an Assistant professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Science at the University of Waterloo and Dr. Sarah Wolfe who is an Associate Professor in the School of Environment, Resources and Sustainability at the University of Waterloo. You will have a chance to hear about their decision to pursue academic positions at the University of Waterloo and have an opportunity to ask questions about their careers. Register [here](#)

March 17-18: Mechanical & Mechatronics Engineering Graduate Student Association, Research Symposium

Are you a Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering Graduate Student who is interested in showcasing your research to fellow students and faculty members? Or are you interested in learning about the innovative research taking place in the department? Then join us at the 4th Annual MME Graduate Research Symposium! Meal vouchers and cash prizes available to presenters. To register or attend the symposium, see the MME Graduate Association [website](#).

Get Involved

[Get involved](#) in campus life and join the GSA team! Here you'll find a list of volunteer and employment opportunities with the GSA!

GSA Council Speaker – Call for Applications

We are looking for a new [Speaker of Council](#) to facilitate council meetings, be the voice of council at GSA board meetings, and serve on other committees as necessary. Candidates will be interviewed by the Council Executive Committee, and be expected to attend the April 7 meeting of Council to provide a case for their election to the role. This position is open to **all** graduate students, and come with a monthly

honorarium. Interested candidates have until **March 11** to submit their cover letter and CV to Matthew Robbins by email at gsacounc@uwaterloo.ca.

BIPOC Graduate Student Collective

BIPOC Graduate Student Collective Meet & Greet P.3: All BIPOC Faculty, Students, & Friends Invited

Join us on March 23 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 chance to meet other BIPOC members of our community and also share ideas in an informal setting. Drop in, and bring your chai! Hosted and moderated by GSA Equity Coordinator, Aaron Francis. [Registration Link](#)

Indigenous Youth Sharing Circle: March 10 to April 14 at Wednesday's 7:00-8:00PM

Indigenous Youth Resilience Project has organized this sharing circle as a way to provide Indigenous youth (ages 13-29, in the Waterloo Region) to stay connected to culture, community and with an Elder in our community. In these times of lock down/isolation because of COVID--it can be challenging to connect with other people in the community. We are offering these weekly sharing circles as a place you can feel connected and supported and know that you are not alone.

The Elder we have asked to join us and guide us through these circles is the Elder Myeengun Henry. Myeengun Henry carries many important roles in our community. In addition to being a cherished Elder and knowledge holder, Myeengun is also the manager of Aboriginal Services at Conestoga College, former Chief of the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Professor, radio DJ, Counselor and much more. We look forward to connecting you with other Indigenous youth! Sign up [here](#)

Indigenous Student Association: Call out for new members

The Indigenous Student Association is looking for new members! We are a student community at University of Waterloo. We are supported in many ways by and use the space of the Waterloo Indigenous Student Centre, located in St. Paul's University College. We represent a collective of self-identified Indigenous students at UW who have voluntarily joined the ISA (meaning we do not represent all Indigenous students at UW), as well as welcoming non-Indigenous allies who are willing to develop meaningful relationships.

We aim to support Indigenous and non-Indigenous students by way of offering community, cultural knowledge and events, opportunities for socializing, academic support and providing a safe space for Indigenous students to share experiences and allies to build community with. If you are interested in joining, or knowing more, please check out our FB page and/or [email us](#).

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](#).

International Student Survey

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

Upcoming Events

Keep an eye on the [events page](#) for updates on Town Halls with the faculties of Engineering, Arts, Science and others this month!

Helpful Resources

- [Mental Health and Unions](#) recorded webinar (New!)
- [Climate Justice and Unions](#) recorded webinar (New!)
- [International Students & Unions](#) recorded webinar
- [Anti-Racism and Unions](#) recorded webinar
- [Health, Safety & Unions](#) recorded webinar
- International Student posts: [Having a Voice](#); [Visas and Unionizing](#); [Standardized Work Environment](#)
- [Card signing tutorial](#)
- [Mandarin translation](#) of the unionizing process

[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!](#)

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