



## News & Services

### **International Graduate Students Blog**

Are you interested in sharing your international graduate student experience related to topics such as culture, life, career, and studies? The Graduate Student Adventurer blog is for and is written by grad students. Email Shu-Feng at [gsa-international@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsa-international@uwaterloo.ca) if you'd like to write a post! Check out our latest blog [here](#) to know more detail.

### **GSA Services**

The GSA provides graduate students with academic support, a social community, mental and physical health supports, legal aid, as well as advocacy and representation. Click [here](#) to learn more about the GSA services that we provide!

### **The Catalyst Anti-Racism Newsletter**

The Catalyst Anti-Racism Newsletter, a newsletter providing regular updates on the intricate and long-term work of the President's Anti-Racism Taskforce (PART). This newsletter is also an opportunity to showcase the many staff, faculty and students who are engaged in anti-racism work each day on campus. Subscribe now to receive each issue of this newsletter direct to your inbox: [Click Here](#)

## Events

### **October 14: International Student Mixer at the Graduate House @ 2:00 PM**

Join us at the Graduate House for a fun socially distanced event designed for international students! Come meet new friends from around the world, learn about campus and GSA, and get a free GSA t-shirt (while supplies last). Remember to show your WATcard for discounted food and beverage! [Register here](#).

### **October 15: Virtual International Student Meet & Greet @ 7:00 PM**

Jump in the Zoom call for an evening of meeting other international graduate students! This is a great opportunity to socialize learn about campus life, and play some games. [Register here](#) in advance for this meeting.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the

meeting.

### **October 18: Community Stroll @ 11:00 AM**

Come get some exercise, breathe in some fresh air, and meet other grad students at our community stroll. We will start and end our journey at Graduate House where you can then relax and perhaps grab some tasty lunch with your grad pals! Registration is required and spots are limited. [Register here](#).

### **October 25: Candid Talks with Grads: Transitioning Back to Campus @ 3:00 PM**

Come join us at our fifth Candid Talks with Grads session, a monthly open discussion and support event that focuses on a different topic each time that is important to graduate students at the University of Waterloo. This month's discussion will centre around the personal and community challenges of transitioning back to campus during COVID-19. Students will have the opportunity to hear about and share their experiences, stories, tips, and more. Please note that a counsellor from Counselling Services will be sitting in on the discussion. All graduate students are welcome to attend. If interested, the link is [here](#).

### **October 26: Haunted Story Adventure @ 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM**

Face your fears on our spooky haunted story adventure through campus. Sign up for specific time slots. Students are requested to bring their own flashlight and story listening device (e.g. cell phone). Come to the event dressed in a costume to be entered to win a spooktacular prize! [Register here](#).



### **October 27: Committee Reps Workshop @ 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

GSA-Grad Committee Reps, as we continue our Fall 2021 GSA-UW event series for the GSA-Grad Committee Reps, we wanted to highly encourage you to attend our (Virtual) How to Engage workshop session to learn about ways to engage within the committee but also engage with graduate students. This (virtual) workshop session will provide you with the tools and resources to engage with students and staff to advance the goals of your unique committee. Please join us October 27th between 5:00 PM and 8:00 PM. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please email the GSA-UW Student Engagement Coordinator at [gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca) [Register in advance](#) for this webinar.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

### **All of October: Grad Student 30 x 30 Challenge**

Join your fellow grads in a 30 x 30 challenge for the month of October! The challenge is to encourage us all to get outside, relax, and enjoy the fresh October air wherever you may be. Here is how you can participate: Step 1: Check out our list of suggestions for outside activities. Step 2: Take photos of yourself (or scenery) outside 30 times over the course of October. Step 3: Consider posting some of your outside adventures on Instagram and tagging us at [@gsa.uwaterloo](https://www.instagram.com/gsa.uwaterloo) and using the hashtag #GSA30x30. Step 4: Put all your photos in a collage or PDF and send them to [gsa-wellness@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsa-wellness@uwaterloo.ca) by November 5 to enter to win a fun fall wellness prize!

## GSA 30 X 30 CHALLENGE IDEAS

1. Attend the GSA Community Stroll
2. Walk or bike to campus
3. Have your morning coffee/beverage outside
4. Sit on the grass under some trees
5. Go for a hike in the forest
6. Attend the GSA Haunted Story Adventure
7. Enjoy lunch on the Graduate House patio
8. Create some motivational chalk art in your neighbourhood
9. Follow a yoga tutorial outside
10. Go for a run or walk in your community
11. Read a book outside
12. Go star gazing
13. Try bird watching
14. Explore a pumpkin patch
15. Do your school work at a picnic table
16. Paint a scenic picture outside
17. Walk to your favourite ice cream place
18. Go camping for a weekend
19. Sit around a bonfire with friends
20. Dance in the rain (safely)
21. Plan a picnic
22. Explore Uptown Waterloo
23. Host a scavenger hunt
24. Check out the sunset or sunrise
25. Go miniature golfing
26. Check out your local farmer's market
27. Watch a movie outside
28. Play a sport
29. Fly a kite
30. Blow bubbles



## Get Involved

### 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-UW 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 currently vacant councillor positions are listed below:

- Anthropology (ARTS)
- Catholic Thought (ARTS)
- Classical Studies (ARTS)
- Economics (ARTS)
- French Studies (ARTS)
- Religious Studies (ARTS)
- Social Work (ARTS)
- Theological Studies (ARTS)
- School of Planning (ENV)
- Chemistry & Biochemistry (SCI)
- Earth & Environmental Sciences (SCI)

If interested in applying for a Council position, please email the GSA-UW Council Speaker ([gsacounc@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsacounc@uwaterloo.ca)) and cc the GSA-UW Elections Coordinator ([gsa-elections@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsa-elections@uwaterloo.ca)).

### University-Wide Committee Graduate Student Representatives

We have an event series during the fall term that will be an excellent opportunity to connect with

other GSA Grad Rep Committees and build a toolkit to better advocate and represent grad students in your respective committees. Please check your email soon for event details and registration information. If you have any questions, contact our GSA Student Engagement Coordinator via email at [gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca). Please save these dates:

- October 27: GSA How to Engage (Virtually) - Committee Reps
- November 24: Advocacy Tactics Workshop Session
- December 7: End of Term Destress Social dGSA + Committee Reps - stress ball making

### **Human Research Ethics Board (HREB)**

The Human Research Ethics Board (HREB) is looking for a graduate student representative with a background in kinesiology. Members typically meet monthly (2 hours) and provide feedback on research ethics applications. If interested please contact Karen Pieters at [karen.pieters@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:karen.pieters@uwaterloo.ca).

## **BIPOC Collective**

### **October 5: BIPOC Collective Virtual Drop-in Hours @ 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

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

### **October 13: BIPOC Collective Solidarity Chat @ 6:00 PM**

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 from 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM, for an informal community conversation. This event will take place in our Lounge space on our [Discord channel](#). Our Solidarity Chats are a casual informal social space 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. Come as you are. Bring your chai!

### **October 19: BIPOC Collective Virtual Drop-in Hours @ 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

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

## **Graduate Student Endowment Fund**

### **Graduate Studies Endowment Fund (GSEF)- Student Project Funding Opportunities**

The [Graduate Studies Endowment Fund \(GSEF\)](#) supports improving the academic, professional, and social experience of graduate studies at the University of Waterloo through funding student-driven projects and initiatives. GSEF previously funded projects such as: [It Takes A Village Initiative](#), [Glitch Unsilent Night](#), and the [WatECS Hydrogenics Tour](#). Do you have an idea to enhance the graduate student experience? **Apply to GSEF project funding!**

Small Project Funding applications are due **every first Friday of the month**, and Large Project Funding applications are due on **October 15, 2021**. Applications for the Environmental Sustainability Award are also due on **October 15, 2021**. For more information on student project funding opportunities, please see the [GSEF website](#) or email Monica Bustos at [gsef@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsef@uwaterloo.ca).

# PROJECT FUNDING AVAILABLE



**APPLY NOW!**

Fall 2021 Deadlines:

- Small Project Funding: every first Friday of the month
- Large Project Funding: October 15, 2021
- Environmental Sustainability Award: October 15, 2021

Visit [uwaterloo.ca/graduate-studies-endowment-fund/](http://uwaterloo.ca/graduate-studies-endowment-fund/) or  
contact [gsef@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsef@uwaterloo.ca) for more information



**GRADUATE STUDIES  
ENDOWMENT FUND**  
UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

## dGSA

### **Departmental GSAs (dGSA's)**

During the fall term event series, you will be able to meet other dGSA within your faculty. You will be provided with the resources to better collaborate with other dGSAs to effectively support the students in your departments and faculty. Please check your email soon for event details and registration information. If you have any questions, contact our GSA Student Engagement Coordinator via email at [gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca). Please save these dates:

- October 18-22: Faculty-Specific Brainstorming Sessions
- November 17: Communication Strategy and EDI Marketing dGSA workshop
- December 7: End of Term Destress Social dGSA + Committee Reps - Stress Ball Making

### **October 18 – 22: dGSAs Brainstorming Sessions @ 5:00 – 8:00 PM**

As part of our Fall 2021 GSA-UW event series for the dGSAs, we wanted to highly encourage you to attend our (Virtual) Faculty-specific brainstorming sessions to have a collaborative opportunity to meet other dGSAs in your faculty and brainstorm ways to better support or plan for your faculty-specific needs. During these (virtual) Faculty-specific brainstorming sessions you will be provided with unique brainstorming tools to better support your brainstorming and planning process and a chance to connect with other dGSAs. Please join us between October 18-22 between 5:00 - 8:00 PM for your faculty-specific brainstorming sessions. For the event registration, please find the link below. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please email the GSA-UW Student Engagement Coordinator at [gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca).

Registration Links:

- October 18 – [Health](#)
- October 19 – [Arts](#)
- October 20 – [Engineering and Math and Collaborative Water Program](#)
- October 21 – [Environment and Collaborative Water Program](#)
- October 22 – [Science and Collaborative Water Program](#)

# Graduate House

**OPEN!**

**Monday to Friday @ 11:30AM - 6:00PM**

## **Summer Menu**

Drop by the Graduate House to try the amazing dishes from the summer menu. There are vegan and vegetarian options available. Check the summer menu [here](#)

## **Chalice of Champions**

Did you just defend your thesis? If you answered YES, then stop at the graduate house and celebrate with a FREE PINT ON US. You get FEATURED on our instagram story as well!

## **Event Hosts!**

We're also looking for graduate students who are interested in hosting our regular events like Music Bingo and Trivia Night. Volunteers get free meals the days they host at the Graduate House. Please contact Cam, our Hospitality Manager at the Graduate House via email at [gsa-gh@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsa-gh@uwaterloo.ca).

# Organize UW

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 ([organizeuw@joincupe.org](mailto:organizeuw@joincupe.org)), or attend **weekly Tuesday 1:30 PM drop-in video calls at [this link](#)**. Follow OUW on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).

## **Upcoming and Recent Events**

NEW! We have three planned webinar events for October, which are all currently date/time TBD. Stay tuned on our social media for updates!

- [TBD] Statistics webinar / Town Hall
- [TBD] Psychology webinar / Town Hall
- [TBD] Anti-Racism and Equity Committee webinar for Chinese students

Last month we had the pleasure of tabling alongside the GSA at many Faculty lunches, and other Orientation-related events. We also ran our own OUW Q&A and had a fantastic second Trivia Night!

## **Recent News and Articles**

NEW! We recently did a Q&A with the Faculty Association of the University of Waterloo (FAUW) which is [featured on their blog](#)! This is a great post to share with faculty members who might be curious about OUW, the union drive, and what it might mean for them once we unionize. It also includes a [quick survey](#) in which faculty members can privately register their support!

- [Equity principles](#) are on our website! Check them out.
- Funding Clawbacks at the University of Waterloo [article](#)
- Pandemic Working Conditions and Graduate Student Mental Health [article](#)

## **Helpful Resources**

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

### Campaign Endorsements

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



[COVID-19 Updates](#)

[GSA Website](#)

[Contact Us!](#)

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

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