



# MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

September 2020

## NEWS & SERVICES

### A New Board of Directors and Executive Team:

Check out your new [GSA Board and Executive Team](#), as well as our [new organizational structure](#).

### Annual General Meeting 2020: Results

The [AGM 2020](#) was held virtually on August 20, 2020 and the results are now available on our website. Thank you to all fellow graduate students who participated! Also, if you haven't already done so, check out our [Annual Report](#) and our [new Strategic Plan](#).

### Changes to GSA Fees Effective Fall 2020

Changes to GSA fees for 2020-2021, including increases to GSA Administered fees as well as new fees, can be viewed here: [GSA Fees & Descriptions for 2020-2021](#).

### GSA Service Fee Opt-outs

On September 4, 2020 we sent out an email to all graduate students with detailed information about opt out options for [our services](#). You can also find them on our website [here](#).

### GRT & ION UPass Refund Program\*New

The [GRT & ION UPass refund program](#) has now launched. Eligible graduate students at UWaterloo are now able to opt out of the UPass service by requesting a refund for a term. Please [visit our website](#) to see if you're eligible for a refund, access the refund request form, and see a list of supporting documentation required for proof of eligibility. **All UPass refund requests must be submitted during the period of September 8 to September 28, 2020**

### Empower Me

Graduate students at the UWaterloo have access to [Empower Me](#)—a 24/7, 365 days mental health and wellness service that seeks to contribute to a resilient student community by supporting existing on-campus and Studentcare mental health resources. Empower Me allows students to connect with qualified counsellors, consultants, and life coaches for a variety of issues, in confidence. As a graduate student, you're entitled to sessions delivered in person, by telephone, by video-counselling, or by e-counselling.

## GRADUATE HOUSE

We're excited to announce that our beloved Graduate House will be open for Fall 2020! More details will be available in the coming days. Stay tuned!

As per guidelines from the University of Waterloo Safety Office and health guidelines from the province, strict protocols will be in place to ensure safety of members and patrons.

Graduate Students who have paid their Graduate House/GSA fees can receive discounts on our food menu items. Just bring your valid WATCard with you to the Graduate House each visit and tap the card on our reader when you order.

## VIRTUAL EVENTS

[Fall 2020 Orientation Event Schedule](#)

## UNIVERSITY-WIDE COMMITTEES

Graduate students serve on [university-level committees](#) to represent graduate student needs and experiences at an administration level.

**The following university-wide committees have vacancies, with a start term of September 2020 (1 year term):**

Parking Appeals Committee: The Appeals Committee meets monthly to review and validate any parking infraction appeals. One graduate student is invited to serve on the committee for the upcoming year.

Council for Responsible Innovation and Technology (CRIT): CRIT aims to advance education, research and governance around socially responsible innovation and technology. This Council is currently accepting applications for new members to serve one-year terms for its inaugural student committee. Interested students should review the full application, found on the [CRIT website](#)

Questions regarding committee details, as well as applications (including a statement of interest and CV) can be submitted to [Sara, our Director of Student Engagement](#) at [gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca)

## GRADUATE STUDIES ENDOWMENT FUND

The Graduate Studies Endowment Fund supports improving the academic and social experience of graduate studies at the University of Waterloo. To this end, we regularly provide financial assistance for student-driven projects and initiatives through [two sources of funding](#). In the past, we have funded:

- Conferences
- Social events
- Graduate space improvements
- Anything that will help improve the graduate student experience

Deadlines are the first of every month and approximately the sixth Friday of the semester. **Apply today!** Email the GSEF Coordinator at <mailto:gsef@uwaterloo.ca> or visit [gsef.uwaterloo.ca](http://gsef.uwaterloo.ca) for more information.

## 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

Below are the Departments that are currently accepting applications for one graduate student to serve as GSA Councillor for the upcoming academic year. Councillors work to represent all students in their department and speak on their behalf at GSA Council meetings. [Nomination forms](#) are being accepted until September 11. Please contact [Sara, our Director of Student Engagement](#) at [gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsa-engagement@uwaterloo.ca) for more information.

- Accounting and Finance
- Applied Math
- Catholic Thought

- Chemistry
- Classical Studies
- Combinatorics & Optimization
- Computational Mathematics
- Economics
- French
- Management Sciences
- Master of Business, Entrepreneurship & Technology (MBET)
- Mechanical & Mechatronics Engineering
- Anthropology (Public Issues)
- Public Service
- Pure Mathematics
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Theological Studies
- Vision Science / Optometry
- Master of Digital Experience Innovation, Stratford (ARTS)
- School of Planning

## CAMPUS RESOURCES & INFO

[UWaterloo COVID-19 Updates](#)

## VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE

[gsauw.ca](https://gsauw.ca)

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Instagram: @gsa.uwaterloo

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This email is sent from Graduate Students Association - University of Waterloo  
MC 2029 | 200 University Ave W., Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3G1

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GSA Communications | [gsa-comm@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:gsa-comm@uwaterloo.ca)

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