

**SOGS**



OCTOBER 2017

# Society of Graduate Students

Room 260, UCC

w: [sogs.ca](http://sogs.ca)

t: 519.661.3394

e: [sogs@uwo.ca](mailto:sogs@uwo.ca)

**FREE TO ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS!**

## GRADUATE WELLNESS WEEK: OCTOBER 2 – 6



SOGS is hosting **GRADUATE WELLNESS WEEK: October 2-October 6**

**This entire week is FREE to all graduate students; however, some events require registration. See [sogs.ca/graduate-wellness-week/](http://sogs.ca/graduate-wellness-week/) for more details.**

Funding and support from: Studentcare, SGPS, TD Bank, Student Experience and the Wellness Education Centre (WEC), the Grad Club, Research Western, Michael King (SOGS Accountant), Graduate Peer Support (GPS), and the Academic, Grad Club, Gradcast, Orientation & Social, Equity, and Health Plan Committees.

See more details inside this newsletter or visit [sogs.ca/graduate-wellness-week](http://sogs.ca/graduate-wellness-week)

**1**

### GRAD CLUB NEWS

Join us for fun family-friendly events for Wellness week!

**2**

### HEALTH & DENTAL PLAN

Ask Studentcare your questions at the Town Hall - October 5

**3**

### KEEP UP WITH SOGS!

 [@Western.SOGS](https://www.facebook.com/Western.SOGS)

 [@WesternSOGS](https://twitter.com/WesternSOGS)



### GET INVOLVED

Looking to make a difference? You can make grad student life better with SOGS!



### FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Experiencing financial hardship? SOGS may be able to assist.



### EVENTS

Wellness Week is upon us!

# GRADUATE WELLNESS WEEK

[sogs.ca/graduate-wellness-week](http://sogs.ca/graduate-wellness-week)

## Monday, October 2

### Eating Well in Graduate School

Wellness Education Centre (WEC )  
1:00-2:45PM

Free talk on healthy eating practices in graduate school, particularly with living on a tight budget. Register for the chance to win 10% off a visit with registered dietician. Sara Perlmutter!:



### Stitch & Bitch

The Grad Club  
7:00PM

FREE Stitch & Bitch at the Grad Club. Participants will receive a thank you "gift" of knitting needles and tea. Sponsored by the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS). To guarantee your gift, register here: [stitchandbitchgradclub.eventbrite.ca](http://stitchandbitchgradclub.eventbrite.ca)



## Tuesday, October 3

### Western's Wellness Info Fair

UCC Atrium  
11:00AM-4:00PM

Dozens of Western's wellness services will be available to answer questions and provide information.

### Managing Stress in Graduate School

Wellness Education Centre (WEC)  
1:00-3:00PM

Free talk by WEC's Wellness Coordinator, Melanie-Anne Atkins. Refreshments will be provided. There will be overflow live streaming due to space limitation. Register to get your seat: [www.westerncareercentral.ca/publicEventsController.htm?eventId=2956](http://www.westerncareercentral.ca/publicEventsController.htm?eventId=2956).

## Wednesday, October 4

### Wellness Research Forum

IGAB Atrium  
9:00AM - 1:00PM

A showcase graduate student work on subjects relating to wellness. Our aim is to highlight the important work done by graduate students and to foster a more wellness-minded graduate student community at Western.



The LEGO GRAD STUDENT will also be presenting:



## Why Am I Here?

### A Questionable Afternoon with Lego Grad Student

October 4, 2017 | IGAB Atrium  
Western University  
(For pre-registered students only)

### Financial Literacy (sponsored by TD Bank)

IGAB Atrium  
1:30-3:30PM

Immediately following the Wellness Research Forum, TD Bank will present on financial literacy as it pertains to graduate students. Register here [grad.uwo.ca/events/?id=255](http://grad.uwo.ca/events/?id=255)

### Paint Nite @ the Grad Club

The Grad Club  
7:00PM

The SOGS Grad Club hosts Paint Nite every month. This month's painting is "Whimsical Blue Gerbera". Graduate students receive 30% discount ("JORDANE30") when registering for the event: [paintnite.com/events/whimsical-blue-gerbera-at-the-](http://paintnite.com/events/whimsical-blue-gerbera-at-the-)



# GRADUATE WELLNESS WEEK

[sogs.ca/graduate-wellness-week](http://sogs.ca/graduate-wellness-week)

[continued]

## Thursday, October 5

### Studentcare (SOGS Health Plan) Town Hall

Kresge Building KB 203  
1:30-3:30PM

Studentcare will run a Town Hall on the SOGS Extended Health & Dental Plan. This is the chance for all graduate students to provide feedback to Studentcare regarding their Plan. Refreshments & Coffee/Tea will be served during the Town Hall. PSAC 610 will also be present to distribute information about their Extended Health Plan (EHP) financial support.



Studentcare will be raffling off two (2) \$100 MasterCard gift cards to those who register for the event.

Register here: [studentcaretownhall.eventbrite.ca](http://studentcaretownhall.eventbrite.ca)

### Arts and Crafts – Family friendly!

The Grad Club  
5:00PM

Bring the whole family to the Grad Club for a free arts and crafts night including: Kindness rocks, origami, and painting!

Register here: [artsandcraftsfamily.eventbrite.ca](http://artsandcraftsfamily.eventbrite.ca)

## Friday, October 6

### Self-care in Graduate School

Wellness Education Centre (WEC)  
1:00-3:00PM

Free talk by WEC's Wellness Coordinator, Melanie-Anne Atkins. Refreshments will be provided. There will be overflow live streaming due to space limitation.

Register to get your seat: [westerncareercentral.ca/](http://westerncareercentral.ca/)



For more info keep an eye on:  
[facebook.com/events/868800443276445](https://facebook.com/events/868800443276445)

## Fairness applies to Grad Students too.

- ☐ Issues with grades or time to completion?
- ☐ Want to know your rights and responsibilities?
- ☐ Concerns about your supervisor?
- ☐ Need confidential advice about all and any academic concerns?

We're here to help.




OFFICE OF THE **OMBUDSPERSON**

[uwo.ca/ombuds](http://uwo.ca/ombuds) | [ombuds@uwo.ca](mailto:ombuds@uwo.ca)  
impartial. confidential. independent.

A service jointly supported by  
Western University and the  
University Students' Council





**Harry Potter**  
Trivia Night

Monday, October 30, 7 pm

**THE GRAD CLUB**

- NO COVER.
- Special Harry Potter Menu
- Wellington Beer is offering prizes
- Prizes for BEST COSTUME
- Sorting will take place before trivia and during breaks
- Come early to grab seats!

Grad Club  
**Board Game Night**  
**October 18, 7pm**

Come back & play every  
3rd Wednesday of the month!

**SOGS 2017 ORIENTATION FEEDBACK**

Interested in winning a \$25 Grad Club certificate? Did you participate in SOGS Orientation this September?

Fill out our short [feedback form](#) for the chance to win!

**SOGS TRIVIA CONTEST**

**September trivia winners**  
(y'all did so well we chose 8 of you!)

- Juweiriya Ahmed
- Khadija Ahmed
- Lauren Elizabeth Seidl
- Gargi Jaju
- Nicole Denise Devos
- Christina Chung
- Chandell Gosse
- Ben Corrigan

SOGS **October** trivia question:

Name one of the many Wellness events  
happening this week!

Email [sogs.communications@uwo.ca](mailto:sogs.communications@uwo.ca) by October 31  
with your answer for a chance to win a gift certificate to  
the Grad Club!



**Immigration Seminar - Elizabeth Long**  
**October 10 - 1:30-3:30**

**International Graduate Student Immigration  
Seminar October 10, 1:30-3:30 in UCC 56**

Certified by the Law Society of Upper Canada as a Specialist in Immigration Law, Elizabeth Long will be returning to Western University to give a FREE Immigration Seminar to International Graduate Students. Note: This is a general information session. Ms. Long cannot answer personal questions in a public forum. Light refreshments will be provided. You **MUST** Register for this event: [elizabethlong-igsicimmigrationseminar.eventbrite.ca/](http://elizabethlong-igsicimmigrationseminar.eventbrite.ca/)

**Oktoberfest**  
2017

OCTOBER  
12

**THE GRAD CLUB**  
7:00 - 9:00 PM

Tickets available \$5 in the SOGS Office (UCC 260)

- Choice of: Chicken Schnitzel Sandwich, Oktoberfest Sausage or Veggie Sausage
- Includes: Salad, fries, soft pretzel
- Prizes to be won! Free drink samples!



## SOGS COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INTERESTED IN BEING ON COUNCIL?

Councillor nomination forms and instructions for 2017-18 are now available at: [sogs.ca/documents/](http://sogs.ca/documents/)

If you're unsure who your recent Council representative is, please contact your departmental association. Allocation of council seats for 2017-2018 will be available after the first week of October. Councillor orientation will be at the October 26 Council meeting.

Contact the SOGS Speaker, [speaker@sogs.ca](mailto:speaker@sogs.ca), for more information.

Elections will be held for the 4 commissioner position positions at this month's Council meeting on October 26.

If you're interested in becoming involved, contact the SOGS Speaker, [speaker@sogs.ca](mailto:speaker@sogs.ca) before October 17 for more information.

[sogs.ca/governance/commissioners/](http://sogs.ca/governance/commissioners/)

## AD-HOC COMMITTEE

## 2018 ONTARIO GRADUATE STUDENT SYMPOSIUM

SGPS and SOGS are currently recruiting graduate students to help organize an Ontario-wide graduate research conference that is tentatively scheduled for April 2018. This committee will be tasked with investigating the costs and benefits of participating in an Ontario-wide graduate research conference; exploring the ways in which SOGS could be involved in this event; and report its findings to SGPS via the VP Academic.

[contact: Jina Kum, VP Academic, [academic@sogs.ca](mailto:academic@sogs.ca)]



## CALLS FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Graduate Student Teaching Assistant Award Committee (GSTA)** - Oversees the implementation and adjudication of the nomination process for the GSTA awards.

[contact: Jina Kum, VP Academic, [academic@sogs.ca](mailto:academic@sogs.ca)]

**International Graduate Students' Issues Committee (IGSIC)** - Deals with concerns particular to international graduate students and organize several advocacy and social events through out the year. For more information and recent activities, visit the [IGSIC Facebook page](#).

[contact: Nafiz Shuva, Chair, [nshuva@uwo.ca](mailto:nshuva@uwo.ca)]

**Equity Committee** - Deals with issues of human rights, discrimination and accessibility; dedicated to assuring that all graduate students at Western have an equal opportunity to successfully complete their graduate education while having an excellent student experience.

[contact: Taniya Nagpal, Chair, [tnagpal@uwo.ca](mailto:tnagpal@uwo.ca)]

**Finance, Grad Club, and Bursary & Subsidy Committees** - Helps oversee the administration of SOGS finances, the operations of Grad Club, or the provision of financial assistance to SOGS members.

[contact: Laura Cabral, VP Finance, [finance@SOGS.ca](mailto:finance@SOGS.ca)]

## Save the Date

**Tuesday, November 14, 2017: 1:00 pm**

International and Graduate Affairs Building Atrium

### Our World. Our Western. Our Pride: International Allyship Initiative



Join Western faculty, staff, and students to engage with and in discussions about the International LGBTQIA+ Student community on campus.

The event will include a presentation featuring keynote speaker Stephan Tang (Ryerson University) entitled: "Life in the Margins: Supporting Gay International Students." The presentation will be followed by social refreshments and a panel discussion with panelists from both Western and the London community. The social and panel dialogue will act as an opportunity for community members to discuss and reflect on the current situation and future supports for our international LGBTQIA+ students at Western. Everyone is welcome!



## GRADCAST

*From Western to the World*



Gradcast is rolling along, with guests booked up to mid-January. As always, we are on the look out for people interested in becoming committee members to come on as hosts, and guests from departments we haven't heard much from lately: like philosophy, political science, social sciences, and fine arts. We are hosting a recruitment event at the GradClub, with drink tickets, to boost interest in GradCast, and to fill our roster until well into 2018! The date is November 24th. Time TBA.

We attended the WUGSOM (Western University Graduate Symposium on Music) 2017, where we were very well received. The organizers suggested 6 attendees to interview, and we are currently editing the shows, to release as special episodes.

In the works: GradCast swag and advertising! We want to increase our listenership, and take *Western to the World!*

If you are interested in sharing your work on the radio, please contact Gradcast at [gradcastradio@gmail.com](mailto:gradcastradio@gmail.com)

# SOGS SERVICES

## GRADUATE PEER SUPPORT COMMITTEE (GPS)

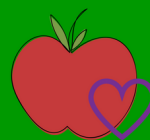
Join us in supporting graduate student wellness!

The GPS (1) organizes wellness events, reviews and approves the (2) Joint Wellness and (3) Food Bank applications, and (4) communicates with Wellness Ambassadors.



To volunteer or share ideas, please contact [advocacy@sogs.ca](mailto:advocacy@sogs.ca)

For more information on Grad Peer Support Committee: [sogs.ca/member-services/graduate-peer-support-gps/](http://sogs.ca/member-services/graduate-peer-support-gps/)



## Food Bank Program for Non-TA Members

[sogs.ca/food-bank-program/](http://sogs.ca/food-bank-program/)

SOGS food bank program for non-TA members aims to reduce the impact financial shortfalls have on a student's ability to access healthful and nutritious food options for themselves and their families.



## Joint Wellness Fund

SOGS which provides funding to wellness initiatives organized by departments, student groups, and other member-affiliated units across campus.

## SOCIALS (OSC) SPONSORSHIP FUND

The Orientation and Social Committee (OSC) fund supports graduate associations/departments in hosting social events to foster a stronger and more visible graduate student community at Western.

The sponsorship fund is not meant to replace or supplement Graduate Association/Department funding, but to provide additional support in order to strengthen relationships within and between Graduate Associations/Departments. Application forms available at [sogs.ca/documents/](http://sogs.ca/documents/).

For more information email [services@sogs.ca](mailto:services@sogs.ca)

## Hosting a guest lecturer or conference? Apply to the Joint Fund for Graduate Research!

The **Joint Fund for Graduate Research**, also known as the **Joint Fund for Support of Graduate Student Research and Scholarship**, was initiated to help support the creation of events (conferences, lectures) that bring external participants to share their research and interact with Western graduate students.

Research Western, the Society of Graduate Students (SOGS), and the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (SGPS) have formed a partnership, annually contributing to \$6,000 apiece to a jointly administered fund, designed to aid these events. The maximum amount awarded to each successful application is \$1,000.

Applications are accepted throughout the year. [Application form](#) is available online.

Submit application to the Society for Graduate Students (SOGS) at [sogs@uwo.ca](mailto:sogs@uwo.ca) **at least one month prior** to the event.



### CHECK OUT SOGS'S FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS!



**Travel Subsidy:** Up to \$500 per term for academic conference travel-related expenses.



**Professional Placement and Experiential Learning Subsidy:** Up to \$500 per term for travel-related expenses for Category II members undertaking professional placements, practicums, co-ops or other experiential learning opportunities.



**Child Care Subsidy:** Up to \$400 per term for child care services costs.



**Emergency Loan:** Up to \$1000, payable in three monthly installments.

Applicants must demonstrate financial need. Application deadline for all subsidies is the last business day of each term in April, October, and December. Emergency loans available for application anytime during SOGS business hours. Visit [SOGS Financial Assistance Programs](#) for details and application forms.

Visit [sogs.ca/member-services/financial-support/](https://sogs.ca/member-services/financial-support/) for more information.



## Response to concerns related to change in access to course material on OWL

Summary of memorandum sent August 25, 2017 from Janice Deakin, Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

Provost & Vice-President (Academic) addressed "concerns being raised by members of our community and reported in the student Gazette about the recent change in access to course material archived" on the online learning management system, OWL. "A new automated process was initiated by Western Technology Services on August 9 to remove student access to course material stored on OWL older than Spring/Summer 2017."

Provost Deakin indicated that the rationale for the implementation of this automated process was because OWL was not originally designed to act as a permanent storage for archival course material. She also reported that "the decision to initiate this process was not taken in response to the recent federal court decision in Access Copyright vs. York University."

Ms. Deakin acknowledged the unfortunate and unintended consequences for some OWL users – mainly that the automated process was not preceded with any prior communication to advise it was happening – and recognizes the negative implications for some who had relied on OWL as an archive for old course materials.

"Western Libraries staff will be available to assist students in accessing some course reading materials formerly archived on OWL; this can be done by contacting [wfeedback@uwo.ca](mailto:wfeedback@uwo.ca)." Deakin assures community members who have "been impacted that they are working to address other pedagogical concerns and questions related to publishing and republishing course material to OWL."

WTS implemented this process to address ongoing student complaints regarding the need for simplifying student access to current course materials.

## Consolidation of SHS and SDC

Summary of memorandum sent August 25, 2017 from Janice Deakin, Provost & Vice-President (Academic)

Dr. Mike Condra (Queen's University) conducted a Student Mental Health and Wellness review for Western in February 2017. His report offers several recommendations to address the challenge that student's –especially those in distress– face when attempting to access the wide range of mental health and wellness services on campus, with the ultimate goal of enhancing students' timely and effective access to mental health and wellness supports.

One recommendation being implemented from the Condra Report was a review and redeployment of funding in support of Services for Students with Disabilities as a means of coping more effectively with mounting caseloads in this area, particularly in relation to mental health disabilities.

Rick Ezekiel is working with representatives from campus services on transitioning to shared electronic health records accessible to mental health counsellors and health care practitioners across our campus. A needs assessment report will be drafted that includes a system recommendation and implementation plan for piloting a shared EHR beginning in January 2018.

The longer-term goal, based on Condra's recommendations, is to develop a consolidated Student Health and Wellness Centre (SMHWC), located in a purpose-built space, that will house services currently offered by Health Services, Psychological Services and the Campus-Case Manager, with direct reporting relationships to the Wellness Education Centre and Residence Counsellor.

Please note, these are summaries of memorandums issued by Western's Provost & Vice-President (Academic). Contact [sogs.communications@uwo.ca](mailto:sogs.communications@uwo.ca) for more information.



**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION**

CALLING ALL MASTER'S AND PH.D. CANDIDATES

Win a paid placement with the Government of Canada!

Share your ideas and make a difference!

Want to be a positive influence on Canada's future?

Help your university shine!

Visit [www.ipac.ca/blueprint2020](http://www.ipac.ca/blueprint2020) for details and competition guidelines.

Logos: Canadian Government of Public Administration, Canada School of Public Service, École de la fonction publique du Canada, INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC POLICY, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY, IPAC, IAPC, Canada.

The majority of last year's finalists have found employment within the federal public service. Visit the Institute of Public Administration of Canada [website](http://www.ipac.ca) for more information.

## TAKE BACK THE CAMPUS

On October 26th join the Western community as we take the lead in ending sexual violence on our campus by walking together and taking a stand together during the Take Back the Campus walk (organized by graduate students).

Details regarding walk start time and location will be made available shortly through SOGS. For more information email [advocacy@sogs.ca](mailto:advocacy@sogs.ca)




**CDHPC**  
CANADIAN DOMESTIC HOMICIDE PREVENTION CONFERENCE

A Conference for Practitioners, Researchers, Policy Makers, Advocates, Coroners, Health & Justice Professionals

Graduate students are encouraged to attend the **CDHPC conference** on **October 18-19, 2017** at the **London Convention Centre** in London, Ontario.

The Canadian Domestic Homicide Prevention Initiative with Vulnerable Populations project is funded through the Social Sciences Humanities Research Council.

To learn more about the project visit [www.cdhipi.ca](http://www.cdhipi.ca)

## THE IMPACT OF UNIVERSITY COSTS AND STUDENT DEBT

If you were a university students during the 2016-2017 academic school year, Chris Glover needs your help!

Chris Glover, a PhD candidate at the University of Toronto is conducting a survey on the impact of university tuition fees and student debt. This information will be used to compare the experiences between university students in Ontario, who have the highest tuition fees and levels of debt, and students in Quebec, who have the second lowest tuition fees and levels of debt.

Your responses are completely anonymous and will be combined with the responses of hundreds of other university students in Ontario and Quebec. The survey will take you about fifteen (15) minutes to complete. Your participation would be greatly appreciated as the information will be provided to the CFS-O in a final report and will be distributed to member locals to aid us in future lobbying efforts.

The survey is available in [English](#) and [French](#).

If you have any questions please email [c.glover@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:c.glover@mail.utoronto.ca)

## Taking a Global Look at Academic Freedom



**Dr. Homa Hoodfar**  
Professor of Anthropology, Emerita,  
Concordia University

### “Framing Academic Freedom and Critical Thinking as Transnational Rights”

Public Lecture & Panel Discussion

**October 3, 2017**

**4 to 5:30 pm**

Community Room (UCC 269)  
University Community Centre

#### Panel Moderator:

Michael Lynk, Faculty of Law, Western University  
United Nations Special Rapporteur on Palestine

#### Panel Participants:

**David Robinson**, Executive Director  
Canadian Association of University Teachers

**Hanadi Ibrahim**, Scholar At Risk  
Western University

**Viviana Fernandez**, Assistant Director  
Human Rights Research & Education Centre,  
University of Ottawa

*Reception to follow ~ Green Leaf Café*

Dr. Hoodfar's primary research is in legal and political anthropology. She examines the intersection of political economy; gender and citizenship rights; women's formal and informal politics, gender and public sphere in Muslim contexts. In 2016, Professor Hoodfar was detained in Tehran's Evin prison for 112 days. She was arrested while visiting and conducting research in Iran, and prosecutors in Iran accused Hoodfar of "dabbling in feminism."

Open to the Public  
For more information, contact  
519-661-2111 ext. 86409 or visit  
[www.international.uwo.ca](http://www.international.uwo.ca)

## SCHOLARS AT RISK NETWORK

protection advocacy learning

Find out more at [international.uwo.ca/research/scholars\\_at\\_risk.html](http://international.uwo.ca/research/scholars_at_risk.html) and on [Facebook](#).

October 24, 25, 26  
11am-4pm  
AHB 2G28

## Book & Bake Sale

All books \$5 or less  
Baked goods by donation  
All funds support Graduate English Society Events

Many books have been provided by a generous donation from the library of Dr. Laurie Harnick

## OPEN ACCESS WEEK OCT 23-29

**Open Access Week** is quickly approaching, making it the ideal time to explore what publishing open access can do for you. As an author and researcher, providing barrier-free access to your work through open access platforms broadens your readership, increases your visibility, and leads to faster scholarly impact. By depositing your work in [Scholarship@Western](http://Scholarship@Western), Western's open access institutional repository, you can begin to reap these benefits while also satisfying Canadian [Tri-Agency Open Access Policy](#) grant requirements.

To learn about other options for open access publishing, visit the Western Libraries [Open Access](#) page, contact your [librarian](#), or email [scholarship@uwo.ca](mailto:scholarship@uwo.ca).

## OPEN IN ORDER TO

RAISE MY RESEARCH VISIBILITY	IMPROVE PUBLIC HEALTH	WORK TOGETHER WITH OTHERS	ENABLE GLOBAL PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH



OPEN ACCESS WEEK 2017  
[www.openaccessweek.org](http://www.openaccessweek.org) | October 23 - 29





**EXCLUSIVELY FOR: WESTERN UNIVERSITY -  
SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS  
VALID DATES: SEPT. 15 - OCT. 8, 2017**

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**REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCESS**

This invitation, either printed or shown on a digital device. Also, present invitation to cashier at checkout.  
A work ID in the form of a business or membership card, badge, pay-stub, uniform or signature of work email.  
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Retail Marketing Specialist  
[LondonEmployeeStore@columbia.com](mailto:LondonEmployeeStore@columbia.com)

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& Omni-Tech™ technologies keep you warm and dry while our OUTGROWN™ system allows for a perfect  
fit as you grow. Add some style to any outfit with our Beacon backpack, outfitted with multiple pockets,  
compartments and straps for a functional and comfortable fit.



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