

Graduate Newsletter (Week of November 2 2020)

You are receiving this email in order to keep you up-to-date and informed of important events, information and deadlines pertaining to Graduate Studies in the Faculty of Engineering.

Faculty Graduate Office Announcements:

:: Academic Accommodation Policy (Graduate)

Students who are not able to meet certain academic responsibilities due to medical, compassionate or other legitimate reason(s), could request for academic consideration. The Graduate Academic Accommodation Policy and Procedure details are now available [here](#).

:: COVID-19 travel restrictions for international students

As of October 20, international students cannot travel to Canada from abroad unless their institution's COVID-19 readiness plan is approved by the provincial government. Western's plan has been submitted to the Government of Ontario. The Government of Ontario is reviewing institutional COVID-19 readiness plans in phases. **We anticipate approval for Western's plan will be received in mid- to late-November.** We will let you know once Western's plan is approved.

International students who are currently in Canada and choose to travel internationally will not be able to return until Western's COVID-19 readiness plan is approved. **Western International has recommended that these international students do not make plans for international travel until Western's COVID-19 readiness plan is approved, unless they are intending to remain outside of Canada for an extended period of time.** We will email students and update the Faculty of Engineering's FAQ website as we receive further updates. You may also contact Western International at iesc@uwo.ca for more information related to the international travel.

Graduate Student Services & Supports:

:: Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Workshop, Presented by Julia Martyniuk of Western Libraries.

Tuesdays | 1:30-2:30 pm

This workshop is designed to inform students on the difference between summarizing, quoting, paraphrasing, and stating common knowledge or one's own opinion. Come and learn about academic integrity, plagiarism, and citing. Zoom Link: <https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/7182941417>

:: CMHA After Hours Crisis Counselling

The school year can be tough and stressful for many, [CMHA Middlesex](#) is here to help. Starting today through December 2nd students can receive after-hours crisis counselling.

To register for a virtual appointment: Email your phone number to studentcrisisappointment@cmhamiddlesex.ca between 5-8pm Tuesdays and an intake worker will call you.

:: Mental Health Supports – Fall 2020 – Expanded Hours

The Student Health & Wellness department will have expanded hours to help meet student needs. Appointments available Monday – Friday 10am – 7pm. In addition, a walk-in clinic, offered in partnership with CMHA, will be open during exams Monday – Thursday 5pm-10pm. The evening walk-in

clinic will be located in Room 11, UCC. Outside of those times, students can access telephone crisis counselling through our *Good to Talk* subscription. Phone: **1-866-925-5454** or Text: **GOOD2TALKON to 686868**.

:: Thrive Online Blog Submissions

Western Student Experience has launched a new website called [Thrive Online](#) where students are welcome to share their stories in their own words. You can write about your research, your experience as a graduate student, or something else of interest related to your time at Western. It is important to have the graduate student voice represented. [Learn More Here.](#)

:: Skills for Wellness (Support Group)

Thursdays, until December 3rd from 1:30-3pm over Zoom

This is an active 6-week therapy group. We will discuss building awareness and understanding of who you are and what you stand for in this world, which helps us as human beings to find purpose and take steps towards a meaningful life. If you are looking to find strategies and skills to cope this group may be of interest to you. You can expect to learn how to be more present, identify difficult thoughts and feelings, more effectively regulate emotions and reactions, and do more of what matters to you by clarifying your values and setting goals. This group will focus on psychoeducation, and practicing experiential exercises, to apply these strategies to your day to day life. To register, call **519.661.3030**

:: Parental Loss (Support Group)

This is a professionally facilitated, weekly support group over Zoom for students who have lost a Parent during the time they are studying at Western. It's a safe space to connect with others to give and receive emotional and practical support and learn about grieving your loss.

Once signed up, a group facilitator will contact you to do an individual intake and schedule group dates and times. To register, call **519.661.3030**

:: Journey Together (Wellness Group for BIPOC students)

Thursdays 10-11:30am, until December 3rd

(no session during reading week)

This is a 6-week virtual support group for students who identify as racialized (Black, Indigenous, Person of Colour). This is a pilot wellness group that aims to create a safe and healing space to share lived experiences with race-related stress. To register, call **519.661.3030**

**Please note this is not a drop-in group. We are asking people to join for the full duration.*

Graduate Scholarship Information:

:: Northern Scientific Training Program GRANT

Application Deadline 11:59 pm, November 10, 2020

The Northern Scientific Training Program (NSTP) provides funding for senior undergraduates and graduate students conducting research in the North. This supplementary grants program was put in place to help defray high costs of conducting fieldwork in the North and encourage students to develop a commitment to northern research. Students must also have other sources of funds to be eligible. The program funds thesis-based research projects on northern topics from all disciplines and in multi-disciplinary fields.

Direct questions to: Northern Studies Committee at northern@uwo.ca

More Information / Apply <https://nstp-pfsn.smapply.io>

**:: [WEBINAR](#): Funding Opportunities in Germany for Students in the Natural Sciences and Engineering
Thursday, November 12, 2020 - 12:00 - 1:00 pm (EST)**

Join DAAD - German Academic Exchange Service on November 12, 2020 from noon to 1 pm (EST) for a webinar presenting information on our scholarship and grant programs open to students in the Natural Sciences and Engineering at Canadian or US universities. We'll provide details on our programs supporting study, research and internships (including our popular RISE programs) in Germany in 2021-22. DAAD has programs to support students at all stages of study (Bachelor, Master's, PhD) and no knowledge of German is required.

Details/Register: [Here](#).

**:: Mitacs Accelerate Industrial Postdoc – Valued at \$55 000 per year
Application Deadline November 25 2020**

Provides one, two or three years of funding for a postdoctoral fellow. This special initiative offers better leveraging than standard Mitacs Accelerate internships to:

- Build a longer-term collaboration with a company or not-for-profit organization
- Apply their expertise to real-world problems
- Connect with a potential employer

More information, email accelerate@mitacs.ca | Website [Here](#)

**:: Mitacs Elevate Postdoc – Valued at \$60 000 per year + Professional Development Training
Final Application Deadline February 10 2021** (see [website](#) for detail)

Provides two years of postdoc funding valued at \$60,000/year plus extensive customized professional development training (\$7,500/year non-cash value). More information, email elevate@mitacs.ca

**:: Joan Bath and Peter Howe Bursary for Advancement in the Mineral Industry
Application Deadline December 1, 2020**

The call for applications is now open for two \$3,000 bursaries with the aim to assist geoscientists and engineers in a field related to mining, with their further education in Canada. The bursary will be available to one male and one female enrolled in post-graduate studies in geoscience or a field of engineering related to mining, with a minimum of three year's industry experience. More information:

<https://www.pdac.ca/members/students/awards/joan-bath-and-peter-howe-bursary>

:: Hugh C. Morris Experiential Learning Fellowship

Application Deadline February 15th, 2021

Valued at \$40,000 CAD, this fellowship is open to any graduate student studying in Canada who is working in a field related to earth, geosciences, environment, alternative energy, water, climate change, sustainability, or to the social impact, social sciences or design sciences related to these areas, and is designed to provide a unique experiential, international travel program designed by the student to engage diverse sectors, advance their research, learn from a range of contexts and cultures, and bring their learning back to Canada. Full details can be found at the [Kimberley Foundation](#).

Graduate Student Societies Announcements:

:: Call for student-focused stories: How are you helping your community amidst COVID-19?

Western's Communications team is currently seeking out stories to learn more about our amazing students who are doing good for their communities amidst COVID-19. Are you donating your free time to help those in need? Have you found new and innovative ways to interact with one another? Are you using your entrepreneurial skills to develop products that help us adapt to the new normal? We want to

hear about it! Contact Natalie Ebel, Communications Specialist, at nebel@uwo.ca to share your story for a chance to be featured.

Academic Opportunities:

:: [TA eLearning Series](#)

Available to all graduate students through OWL up to April 30th, 2021

To prepare GTAs for some of the unique skills they will need to teach in the online and physically distanced environment, the Centre for Teaching and Learning is introducing five new asynchronous modules for teaching assistants. Each module will take GTAs one hour to complete, and will have unlimited participant capacity. They will be available through OWL until April 30th, 2021. [Register here.](#)

Other Upcoming Events:

:: ***FREE* Canadian Career Symposium, November 2-6, 2020**

The Graduate and Postdoctoral Development Network (GPDN) is hosting the inaugural *Canadian Career Symposium for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows*, November 2-6, 2020. The symposium is aimed at professional development and career exploration for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. For more details and to register, please visit The WIRE:

https://atwestern.typepad.com/the_wire/2020/10/canadian-career-symposium-november-2020.html

:: [Pillar Community Innovation Awards](#)

November 19, 2020 | 6-9 pm

The Pillar Community Innovation Awards is now in its 14th year and celebrates the incredible individuals and organizations making an impact on London in the categories of Innovation, Impact, Leadership and Collaboration. The awards program shares the uplifting stories of 12 finalists who are changing our community for the better. Details: [Here.](#)

To register: email Kaleigh Rodgers (krodgers@pillarnonprofit.ca) before November 6.

Department Announcements this Week

Biomedical:

:: **BME Seminar**

Tuesday, November 3 | 12:30-1:30pm | via Zoom

Mahsa Bataghva Shahbaz will deliver a presentation titled Contrast-Free Ultrasound Microvascular Imaging With Optimal Clutter Shrinkage to Enhance Tumor Vascular Quantification, Yang Bai will deliver a presentation titled Inkjet Printing Enzyme-Based Electrochemical Sensor for the Point of Care Testing of Saliva Phosphate, and Rodrigo Dalvit Carvalho da Silva will deliver a presentation titled Skull Segmentation in MR Images using Convolutional Neural Networks.

Zoom Meeting link: <https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/98613461288>

Chemical and Biochemical:

Civil and Environmental:

:: **“Vessel Collision Analysis and Design of a Pile Support Fender System,” Dr. Mostafa Elmorsi, Vice President and the North East Structural Practice Leader - AECOMUniversity**

November 3 | 1:30 pm via Zoom: <https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/7182941417>

Abstract: Waterway vessel collision is an accidental load case that is an integral component of the structural analysis and design of bridges and other marine structures spanning a navigable waterway. The design of any fender system is an iterative process based on energy absorption as per AASHTO specifications. There are two approaches used for the design of these fender systems; one is based on strength and the other is based on ductility. This presentation also addresses the structural detailing aspects implemented to ensure satisfactory performance of the system in the post yield stage. Construction challenges associated with the erection of this system are also discussed.

Electrical and Computer:

Mechanical and Materials:

Western Engineering Graduate Office

Western Engineering is committed to provide best support to graduate students. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Graduate Office in your [Department](#) or the Faculty Graduate Office wegrgraduate@uwo.ca.

Please send all information to be included in the weekly Graduate Newsletter to Pauline Shen pkot2@uwo.ca by Thursday no later than 4pm.
