

Graduate Newsletter (Week of November 9 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.

Deadlines this week:

Item	Description	Deadline
Final Date for Doctoral Candidates to Submit Thesis for Examination to SGPS	Final date for doctoral candidates to submit the thesis for examination to SGPS to complete the degree within the fall term.	November 12, 2020

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](#).

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 Scholarships/Awards Information:

:: Student Paper - Vehicle Safety Enhancement Award

Each year, the Canadian Association of Road Safety Professionals holds a competition for the best student papers. For the next competition, an additional cash award is being offered to student papers that use Canadian motor vehicle collision data and/or Canadian motor vehicle crash test data to promote enhanced vehicle safety. For more information, visit https://www.roadsafetyresearch.ca/special_award.htm or contact Dr. Alan German, roadsafetyresearch@gmail.com.

:: 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](#)

:: Research Ideas Competition to promote health, sustainability and equity in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs)

Application deadline: December 11, 2020

The goal of this competition is to inspire novel research ideas that aim to strengthen policy interventions, population health, environmental sustainability and/or health, gender and social equity in LMICs. These novel ideas are expected to deliver health and environmental co-benefits by addressing the interlinked nutrition and environmental challenges and knowledge gaps that impede shifts towards healthier and sustainable food systems. These ideas will promote a conceptual understanding of healthy and sustainable food systems and account for the practical realities of their implementation.

Details/Register: [Here](#) | Email: idrc.researchideas@utoronto.ca

**:: 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>

**:: Federation of University Women (CFUW) Fellowship
Application deadline: December 14, 2020**

This award was designed to honour Dr. Marion Elder Grant's life-long commitment to education of women. Dr. Grant has an outstanding record of leadership as the 11th CFUW President (1949-52), CFUW Wolfville President, and Dean of Women and Professor of Psychology, Acadia University. For the 2020-2021 academic year, the value range of the award is \$10,000 - \$25,000. Details/Register: [Here](#).

:: 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:

Academic Opportunities:

:: “Writing a Persuasive Engineering Thesis,” Presented by Mr. Paul Schmidt, Associate Director of the Western Writing Support Centre

November 9 | 1:30 pm via Zoom: <https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/92202435445>

OPEN TO ALL ENGINEERING GRADUATE STUDENTS

Abstract: In this seminar, we will explore persuasive writing and how to write with impact because how you say it is equally important as what you say. Paul Schmidt will explore how business writing strategies can help you craft a compelling thesis. Specifically, writing introductions will be the primary focus.

:: [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:

:: Power & Global Health Day Online **FREE Event**

Thursday, November 19 | 10am – 3pm, Keynote 10-11am

Keynote presentation: “The Secondary Psychological and Social Impact of COVID-19,” presented by Dr. Samuel Y.S. Wong. Details/Register: <http://events.westernu.ca/events/western-international/2020-11/power-and-global-health-day.html>

:: Proteus Innovation Competition, Live Zoom Webinar

Thursday, November 19 | 4 – 6pm

Win \$5000 by participating in the Proteus Innovation Competition! This four-month long competition challenges you to create a commercialization plan for 1 of 6 technologies developed out of southwestern Ontario’s top research institutions. Successful teams have the chance to win 1 of 6 prizes

of \$5000; and have the opportunity to be involved in the further commercialization of the technology including a possible spin off company!

Register by November 18th: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/proteus-innovation-competition-virtual-launch-tickets-123077888277>

:: [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 Graduate Seminar Series

Tue. Nov. 10, 2020, 12:30-1:30pm via [Zoom](#)

Salma Dammak will deliver a presentation titled Predicting tumour mutational burden in lung cancer from histology images, Khaled Hijazi will deliver a presentation titled Optimizing Porous Ti6Al4V Constructs for Mandibular Reconstruction: Behaviour of porous constructs under tensile loading, and Fiona Serack will deliver a presentation titled Investigating the role of the host inflammatory response in modulating the efficacy of cell-based therapies for vascular regeneration. Please find all presentation abstracts attached. Zoom: <https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/98613461288>

Chemical and Biochemical:

:: CBE Graduate Seminar Series

Tue. Nov. 10, 2020, 3:30pm on OWL Zoom tab

Devin D. Machin (PhD candidate, Western CBE) will present “Solar energy to high value cannabis products: determining a commercial fit for a quantum-dot nanocomposite” If outside CBE, register by email Prof. Michael Boutilier

Civil and Environmental:

:: “Cold region precipitation estimation: challenges, progress, and opportunities.”

Tue. Nov. 10, 2020, 1:30pm via [Zoom](#)

Presented by Ali Behrang, Associate Professor, University of Arizona Department of hydrology and atmospheric sciences and Department of Geosciences.

Abstract: Current quantitative knowledge on the amount and distribution of precipitation in high-latitude and high-elevation regions is limited due to instrumental and retrieval shortcomings. Here we demonstrate how diverse measurements from different fields can be used to help constrain precipitation amount and spatial distribution in cold regions. The independent datasets can also guide selection of methods used to correct for gauge undercatch issue, a serious problem over cold regions.

Zoom link: <https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/7182941417>

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 wegraduate@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.
