

Graduate Newsletter (Week of December 14 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:

All Winter 2021 term graduate courses in the Faculty of Engineering will be offered online. Classes for graduate courses will begin on Monday, January 11, 2021. Please contact the Graduate Office in your Department if you have any questions.

Graduate Student Services & Supports:

:: Graduate Student Internship

Application Details: https://atwestern.typepad.com/the_wire/2020/12/gsip-dec2020.html

The Graduate Student Internship Program (GSIP) is an experiential learning initiative that allows students in research-based graduate programs to:

- Explore career opportunities both within and outside of your academic discipline.
- Enhance your employability and improve your transferable skills.
- Gain valuable experience for your resume and professional portfolio.
- Network with organizations and employers in various fields.

Questions, email: gradEL@uwo.ca

Graduate Scholarships/Awards Information:

:: The Engineering Graduate Awards competitions are now open! Please log in to AwardSpring (<https://westerneng.awardspring.ca/>) using your Western ID and Password. Once you have completed the initial application, you will be able to see what awards you qualify for and the deadline for applications for each individual award. You may review individual award details here:

<https://www.eng.uwo.ca/graduate/funding/scholarships1.html>

:: Ontario Graduate Scholarship in Science and Technology (OGS)

Application opens: December 7, 2020 (deadline February 1, 2021)

Valued at \$15,000 CAD per year, Ontario Graduate Scholarships (OGS) awards are merit-based scholarships available to students in all disciplines of graduate study. Both OGS and QEII-GSST awards are annually allocated to eligible universities in Ontario. At Western, applicants are automatically considered for both the OGS and the QEII-GSST through one application - Western's Online OGS/QEII-GSST Application. Please see here for more information:

https://grad.uwo.ca/finances/external_funding/ogs.html

Other Upcoming Events:

:: CALL FOR SPEAKERS: 58th Annual CAGS Conference

Application Deadline December 18th, 2020.

CAGS is currently accepting proposals for speakers and panel sessions to be presented at the 58th Annual Conference. We invite the submission of proposals in English and in French from researchers,

administrators, faculty members, deans, and associate deans from CAGS member institutions, and are **especially welcoming of proposals submitted by graduate students.**

Proposals for individual presentations as well as pre-formed panels of 3-5 speakers will be accepted for consideration. Proposals from individual speakers and pre-formed panel sessions should include a working title, a brief description of the aims and goals of the presentation, and the name(s) and affiliations of the proposed speaker(s).

To submit a proposal, please write to CAGS Administrator, Dinuka Gunaratne, at info@cags.ca using "CAGS 58th Annual Conference" as the subject line.

More information: <https://cags.ca/annualconference/>

:: Applications Now Open: 2021 Vector Institute Postgraduate Affiliates Program

Application Deadline: Monday, January 11, 2021

Submit Recommendation Letters by: Monday, January 18, 2021

The primary goal of the Vector Institute Postgraduate Affiliates Program is to foster collaboration and contributions among students and researchers with expertise in deep learning as well as machine learning and artificial intelligence more broadly. The program is intended to promote better engagement among researchers in the broader AI community.

The program is open to PhD students and Postdoctoral Fellows affiliated with a university/institution in Ontario. Applicants are evaluated by the Vector Postgraduate Affiliates Committee according to the strength of their research contributions, their potential for industry collaboration along with alignment of their interests with Vector's vision and mission. Vector Postgraduate Affiliates are appointed for a two-year term and are expected to contribute towards Vector events and activities. They are also eligible to receive a number of benefits in recognition of their participation in the program.

Apply | More information: <https://vectorinstitute.ai/news-posts/postgraduate-affiliate/>

Department Announcements this Week

Civil and Environmental:

:: "Birds, reflections and the hidden ecological cost of glass," Presented by Brendon Samuels, PhD Student, Department of Biology, The Advanced Facility for Avian Research, Western University December 15 @ 1:30pm via Zoom: <https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/7182941417>

People crave connection with nature, and the designs of many modern buildings cater to this need. Architects incorporate plate glass into buildings to provide access to light and nature from indoors, and to reflect nature outdoors. Tragically, plate glass also causes profound, violent harm to nature: each year hundreds of millions of birds die by colliding with glass windows on buildings. There are a variety of reasons why birds fly into windows – I will review some of them. Fortunately, economical solutions for preventing bird collisions exist that do not require drastic sacrifices in aesthetics. These solutions must be applied correctly and adopted widely in order to achieve bird conservation. Therefore, building designers and their clients must understand why bird-window collisions happen and what remedial actions are needed. I will discuss aspects of my doctoral research on bird-window collisions including behaviour of wild birds in urban environments, how I'm testing the role of avian vision in preventing collisions, as well as the human and industry dimensions of solving this global problem.

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.***
