Graduate Awards Office

Lisa Haley
Associate Director
Graduate Awards & Financial Aid
Graduate Awards Office

What we do:

- Serve and represent the SGS Dean’s Office as the sole endorsement and signatory for University of Toronto graduate awards and scholarships nominations

- Act as the first point of contact, liaising with external granting agencies on behalf of students, faculties and graduate units

- Work with campus partners to develop improvements in award application processes
Graduate Awards Office

- Ensure the maximum possible number of awards are made available and effectively communicated to University of Toronto graduate students

- Aim to support graduate administrators and students by interpreting award policy requirements through advice and workshops at various stages of the competition and throughout the full tenure of the award

- Ensure the most meritorious applicants are put forward for internal and external competitions, thus maximizing research income for both graduate students and the University
Graduate Awards Office

- The GAO administers more than 50 scholarship and financial aid programs
- Approximately 8000 applications received across the university
  - ~ 5000 of these applications are submitted to and adjudicated by SGS
- Facilitate 26 SGS Award Committee meetings
  - ~ 200 reviewers required, from a pool of 50 graduate units
- Approximately 4800 new and renewable awards administered by the GAO for a period of 1-4 years
What we do:

- Disburse approximately $60M in award and financial aid funds to graduate students and faculties annually

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Awards and Programs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55%</td>
<td>Federal Awards: NSERC, SSHRC, CIHR</td>
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<tr>
<td>29%</td>
<td>Provincial Awards: OGS, QEII GSST, Trillium, Women's Health, Polanyi</td>
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<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>SGS Awards, Grants and Financial Assistance Programs: Travel Grant, DCA, Masters Tuition Fee Bursary, Emergency Loan/Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>U of T Internal Awards: Connaught Scholarships, David Naylor Award, University Wide Awards, Professor R. Paul Young Fellowship</td>
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<tr>
<td>1%</td>
<td>External Awards: Trudeau Doctoral Scholarship, Walter Sumner, Mackenzie King</td>
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SGS Financial Aid for Graduate Students:

**Financial Counselling**
- Provides information and direction on various financial aid programs and resources that may be available to graduate students
- Sessions are confidential and are available in person or by phone

**Emergency Grant Program**
- Average # of grants issued per year: 85
- Average grant amount: $2800 (range $100 - $13,000)

**Master’s Tuition Fee Bursary (MTFB)**
- Average # of bursaries issued per year: 50
- Average grant amount: $3500 (range $2700 - $11,700)

**Accessibility Grant**
- Average # of Grants issued per year: 30-50
- Average grant amount: $1500

**SGS Emergency Loan (short term, interest free)**
- Average # of loans issued per year: 100
- Average loan amount: $1500

**SGS Payment Plan**
- 30-50 payment plans provided to assist students annually
SGS Awards Committee:

Established to adjudicate on behalf of the University the various external and internal fellowships, scholarships and awards

- Membership:
  - Graduate Coordinators from units not currently serving on other SGS Committees: Committee on Program Matters (CPM) or Student Matters (CSM)
  - Graduate Units serve on a permanent or rotating basis

- Application review and adjudication

- SGS Committee meeting guidelines
Graduate Awards Office

School of Graduate Studies
Room 202, 63 St. George Street
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Update from the SGS Postdoctoral, Master’s Thesis, & Doctoral Examinations Offices
Doctoral Examinations Office

What we do:

- Coordinate over 900 doctoral exams annually, over a third of these taking place on site at SGS

- Act as the first point of contact for any matters regarding final oral examinations, liaising with graduate administrators, students and faculty to set up exams, find Chairs, and interpret policy

- Review doctoral electronic thesis submissions
Graduation and Final Year Fees

What we do:

- Ensure that graduating students are correctly identified and added to the Office of Convocation galleys for June and November convocation ceremonies and for March *in absentia* graduation, for approximately 5,700 students annually

- Review masters electronic thesis submissions

- Provide information regarding the doctoral final year fee schedule and the balance of degree fee
Postdoctoral Office

What we do:

- Serve as the main point of contact for over 850/year postdoctoral fellows
- Participate in bargaining with CUPE3902 Unit 5
- Work with campus service partners to expand professional development opportunities for postdocs
- Review and update policies and procedures for postdocs as required
- Liaise with business officers, faculty, Immigration staff, and Labour Relations and Human Resources offices