In Focus: Sasha Gollish, an outstanding Varsity Blues Track and Field athlete and Civil Engineering PhD student. More on Sasha.

Important Dates

- April 3
  Good Friday (University closed)

- April 17
  Master's degree recommendations due for June Convocation

- April 17
  Doctoral thesis submission deadline for June Convocation

- May 1
  May session registration deadline

- May 11
  May-June or May-August session course enrolment deadline

need-to-know

3 Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition: April 8

Congratulations to the 15 U of T divisional 3MT finalists who battled their way to earn a coveted spot in the U of T Finals to be held on April 8 at 7 pm in the Sandford Fleming Building, 10 King's College Road, room 1105. Come cheer them on!

Graduation portraits by appointment

CanGrad is booking graduation portrait appointments for April 8, 9, 14, 15 for students who would like their graduation picture taken prior to June convocation. The portraits are taken at the School of Graduate Studies (SGS), 63 St. George Street. Appointments must be booked in advance with CanGrad Studios or by phone at 416-253-6466. There are no drop-in appointments. Further dates may be announced through your graduate unit.

Countdown to June 2015 Convocation

Planning to graduate in June? All your degree requirements must be met by April 17. Master's students must have completed all coursework and submitted a thesis (if required). Doctoral students must have successfully completed their final oral exam and submitted a final approved thesis by the April 17 deadline.

Please note that in order to receive a diploma, order transcripts, or receive a letter certifying completion, your fees must be paid in full. This includes fees for students who deferred payment when they registered for the September and/or January sessions.

OISE deadlines are a few days ahead of those of SGS. Check the OISE Registrar's Office schedule for OISE sessional dates.

Balance of degree fees

Every degree program has a minimum degree fee which is determined by the program length specified by the graduate unit. Students who finish ahead of the specified program length, regardless of registration option, will be subject to a balance of degree fee (i.e. the minimum degree fee less tuition paid by the student). Contact your home graduate unit or check the program entry in the SGS Calendar for your program length. Please note you will not be prevented from receiving your diploma at convocation if a balance of degree fee has been assigned.
May session registration

May 1 is the deadline to register for the May session while May 11 is the final date to enroll in May-June or May-August courses. Consult your graduate unit for the first day of summer classes. Important Summer Session 2015 dates can be downloaded from the SGS website.

money matters

SGS University wide awards competition: Opens in April

Through the generous support of numerous donors, a number of endowed awards have been established at the School of Graduate Studies. Approximately fifteen awards with various eligibility criteria and values are available through this year’s SGS University-Wide Awards competition. Be sure to check with your home graduate unit regarding their internal deadline and application procedure. View the SGS webpage for details.

Summer OSAP reminder

Master’s degree students who received OSAP for the 2014-15 Fall-Winter Session and who will be registered full-time for the 2015 summer session can apply for summer OSAP. The 2015 Summer OSAP application deadline is fast approaching. Out-of-province Canadian students must apply for student loans through their home province.

Keep your student loans interest-free

Students who are registered full-time in the summer session, but who will not be receiving any student loans for that period MUST inform their loan provider to keep loans interest free and from going into repayable status. Students who are former OSAP recipients or who have outstanding OSAP loans must complete a Continuation of Interest-Free Status/Confirmation of Enrolment (Schedule 2) form prior to every session they continue to be registered full-time and are not receiving a student loan. Students receiving financial support from other provincial governments are asked to check the Enrolment Services website for details.

Tuition tax receipts

The T2202A forms are tuition and education receipts issued for income tax purposes to all students who paid tuition in the previous calendar year. T2202A forms are not mailed out but can be viewed and printed from the Student Web Service.

Have you done your taxes yet?

As a member of the Canadian Federation of Students, the GSU offers free access to Ufile for students to fill out their tax returns (look for “students file free”). The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) also provides tax information tailored to the needs of students. As well, you may be able to get help at the CRA’s Community clinics for low-income individuals with simple tax returns.

CGS Master’s Program funding results now available!

Login to Research Portal starting April 1 to view your results in the Canada Graduate Scholarships – Master’s competition. Successful applicants have 21 days from the
date of the offer to accept the award. Contact graduate.awards@sgs.utoronto.ca if you have questions.

news

NEW Professional MHSc in Translational Research: Application deadline June 1

The first of its kind in Ontario, the MHSc in Translational Research (TR) focuses on learning by doing, providing students the opportunity, flexibility and creative support to make a difference in people’s health. The program is designed for people from diverse backgrounds (eg. medicine, life & basic sciences, social sciences, engineering, design, communications, etc.) who are strongly motivated to advance problem-solving designs in medical and health science contexts. Through real-world challenges, students gain practical experience; critical thinking and problem solving skills; expertise and insights into the innovation process, regulatory frameworks, and translational strategies to establish networks, ventures and careers in health innovation.

Applications received before May 1 will be considered for a $5,000 entrance award.

To register for an information session and application workshop visit: https://trpinfoxchange3.eventbrite.com.

awards & honours

Alex Harris receives the Adel S. Sedra Distinguished Graduate Award

Congratulations to Alexandra Harris the 2015 recipient of the Adel S. Sedra Distinguished Graduate Award! Alex is a doctoral student in Nursing and a passionate researcher. “I would like to pursue a career as a nurse scientist, focusing on topics related to health human resources and nursing administration.” Clearly, she is already making her mark. This award was established in 2002 to recognize the remarkable contributions of a doctoral student who demonstrates outstanding academic and extracurricular leadership both within and outside of the University. Read more about Alex’s contributions.

events

Grad Room

This April, take some time to connect with your peers and invest in yourself. All events are held in Grad Room.
Grad Minds Yoga: Mondays, 5:30pm-6:30pm

Grad Minds yoga sessions are offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. We only have space for about 20-25 people so please make sure to arrive a few minutes early. Join the Grad Minds community.

Board Game Night: Thursdays 5:30-8:00pm

Bring your friends and play board games in the Gradroom lounge! If we do not have your favourite game, then we will try to get it for you.

Gradlife: Blog & Grad Escapes

Check out our Gradlife Blog and enjoy Laura's weekly posts as she shares her experiences and connects with fellow grad students.

Grad school can be hard work - sometimes you just need to escape. Upcoming Grad Escapes include:

- Toronto Blue Jays vs. Baltimore Orioles: April 23, 7:07pm, $21 tickets, limit 2

international student resources

Tax clinics for international students

The Centre for International Experience (CIE) is running its annual tax clinics until April 4 for international (graduate and undergraduate) students at the university. Don't miss out! Details on what documents you need, hours of operation and more are available online. See CIE Tax Clinics for details.

Interested in staying in Canada after graduation?

Attend a Post-Graduation Work Permit information session: April 9, May 4, May 15 or May 22. You may be eligible for an open work Permit (Post-Graduation Work Permit) valid for up to 3 years. More information and registration are available online.

La Résidence Permanente au Canada: Perspectives Ontario

Des représentants du ministère donneront une séance d'information seulement en français sur les trois volets du programme. Le Jeudi, 9 Avril, 3:00pm-5:00pm, CIE (salle Cumberland) Inscrevez-vous ici.

International transition advisors support you

SGS has partnered with the Centre for International Experience (CIE) to bring international transition advisors to graduate student locations on campus. Students can meet with an advisor to discuss adjusting to life in Canada; how to find resources for academic success; refer to resources on Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) documentation and more. Locations, drop-in hours (Monday through Friday) and transition advisor contact information is available online.
CIE newsletter

Stay current on International Student supports. Sign-up for the Centre for International Experience bi-weekly newsletter and receive notices of events, volunteer opportunities, exchange, Citizenship and Immigration Canada information and more!

supports & resources

Graduate Professional Skills (GPS): April

Do you want to be the first to know about GPS sessions and events at Grad Room? Then sign up for our newsletter. Here is some of what is on tap for April:

- Networking Skills - April 9, 9am-5pm, Register
- Grad Student Careers: You've Got Skills - April 10, 10:00am-12:00pm, Register
- Labour Market - April 13, 1:00pm-3:00pm, Register
- Applying for Work - April 15, 2:00pm-4:30pm, Register
- Building Your Online Presence - April 20, 2:00pm-4:00pm, Register
- Interviewing for Work - April 24, 10:00am-12:30pm, Register

Office of the University Ombudsperson

The University Ombudsperson offers confidential and impartial advice and assistance on university-related problems to students, faculty and staff on all three campuses. Visit the office’s website or add the Ombudsperson module to your Blackboard portal page.

ELWS: Registration for May courses begins April 21

Online registration for May-June courses offered by the Office of English Language and Writing Support (ELWS) will open April 21 at 10:00am. ELWS courses are free, non-credit, and available exclusively to U of T graduate students. Students may take a maximum of two courses during the May-June session. Courses fill quickly, so register on April 21 to avoid disappointment.