

WEB VERSION AVAILABLE

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[http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/gradschool/may\\_2015/Gradschool-e-News-May-2015-\(1\).htm](http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/gradschool/may_2015/Gradschool-e-News-May-2015-(1).htm)UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIESgradschool e-news  
may 2015

**In Focus: Thea Dickinson** is a UTSC PhD student who knows all too well the necessity of adapting to climate change and the challenges Canada faces arriving at a cohesive strategic plan. [More on Thea.](#)

### Important Dates

- **May 1**  
Deadline to register for summer session
- **May 11**  
Deadline to enroll in May-June or May-August courses
- **May 13**  
Winter session and full year course grades posted
- **May 18**  
Victoria Day holiday (University closed)
- **May 29**  
Deadline to drop May-June courses without academic penalty

## need-to-know

### May session registration

**May 1** is the deadline to register for the summer session. The final date to enroll in May-June or May-August courses is **May 11**. Consult your graduate unit for the first day of summer classes. Check the SGS Calendar for important 2014-2015 [sessional dates](#).

### Grades posted May 13

Winter session and full-year course grades are posted and available for viewing on the [Student Web Service](#) as of **May 13**. Check that your academic record is complete and up-to-date.



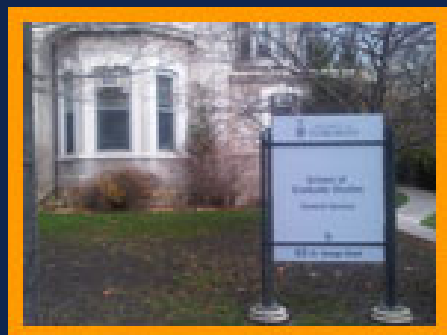
### Know your course drop deadline

The deadline to drop a May-June course without academic penalty is **May 29**. After that, late drop requests are only considered where there are documented, extenuating life circumstances. Waiting for mid-terms or graded assignments to see how you are doing is not an acceptable reason for a late drop. If in doubt talk to your course lecturer or your home graduate unit administrator.

### Graduating in June 2015?

Spring 2015 Convocation ceremonies will be held in Convocation Hall **June 2-19**. The [schedule](#) is available on the Office of Convocation website. Attending convocation is a simple two-step process: arrange for a gown and hood rental then RSVP and order guest tickets. Book your [gown and hood rental](#) between **May 4-19**. If you have questions, visit the [Office of Convocation](#) home page.

## money matters



### SGS Student Services

63 St. George Street

### Regular hours of operation:

Monday to Friday  
9:30am to 4:00pm

### Got Feedback?

Help us make the GradSchool e-News better meet your needs. Send us an e-mail at: [graduate.information@utoronto.ca](mailto:graduate.information@utoronto.ca).

## SGS University-wide awards: 2015-2016 competition

The 2015-2016 competition consists of approximately 15 awards with various criteria and values that are provided through the generous support of numerous donors. Eligibility criteria for the various awards are available on the SGS [Internal Awards](#) site. Submit your application to your home graduate unit by their advertised internal deadline (consult your Graduate Administrator). [Email](#) SGS for further information.



## Federal and provincial award payments

Students holding major federal or provincial awards (SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR, OGS) should refer to the [Managing Your Award](#) section of the SGS website for information and instructions on accepting, activating or renewing your multi-year award. New awardees are reminded to submit payment activation forms promptly to ensure a timely payment of their first installment. Major award holders should inquire with their graduate unit about requesting to [register without payment](#).

## Summer OSAP final reminder

Master's degree students who received OSAP for the 2014-2015 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.

## Financial planning & budgeting

Spring is the perfect time to think about financial planning and budgeting. Since the beginning of the academic year, you have been busy with your academic commitments. Money matters can often be easily overlooked while other aspects of graduate studies take time and priority. Here are a few things to consider while [reviewing your budget](#).

## news

## U of T maintains its top-Three position at the 3MT Ontario

Congratulations to [Stephen McCarthy \(U of T 3MT 1st place winner\)](#) and [Elissa Gurman \(U of T runner-up\)](#), who competed against 13 other U of T divisional finalists on **April 8**. As winner, Stephen moved on to compete and place second runner-up against 19 other Ontario university students at the 3MT

Ontario 2015 at Western University on **April 23**. After two consecutive wins, U of T maintains its top-three position at the provincial 3MT competition!



## New Health & Wellness Counselling service comes to SGS

The School of Graduate Studies (SGS) and the Office of Student Life are pleased to announce a new partnership to expand the outreach provided by Health & Wellness to our graduate student community. To better meet the diverse needs of the graduate student population, effective **May 1**, graduate students will be provided a [dedicated space to access counselling services](#) at the [School of Graduate Studies](#). The Wellness Counsellor will offer brief counselling services tailored to the challenges presented by graduate-level university life. The focus of counselling is on strengths, resiliency, and skills-building.

## events

### Grad Room patio season!

Study in the sun! Our patio is open!

#### Grad Minds Yoga: Mondays, 5:30pm-6:30pm

Grad Minds yoga sessions are offered on a first-come-first-serve basis for approximately 20-25 people, 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 Grad Room lounge! [Reserve a table](#).

All events are held in the [Grad Room](#).



### Gradlife: Blog & Grad Escapes

Check out our [Gradlife Blog](#) and enjoy our guest blog post from Ainsley Goldman and Libby Whittington on [Exploring Careers for Grad Students](#).

Grad school can be hard work - sometimes you just need to escape. Upcoming [Grad Escapes](#) include:

- [Get to know Toronto: Kensington walk & social](#) **May 21, 4:00pm-5:30pm**  
Free tickets, limit two

### Grad Talks

#### Beyond Books: Using U of T's Libraries as a Grad Student

### May 26, from 1:00pm-3:00pm

With 44 libraries at the University of Toronto, it may be overwhelming to figure out where to begin conducting research. This talk will showcase library resources and services that are of particular interest to grad students, including unique collections beyond books (e.g., archives, maps, and datasets) and how librarians can support grad students with their research process. [Register](#).

All Grad Talks are held in the [Grad Room](#).

## international student resources

### Post-Graduation Work Permit Information

Attend a Post-Graduation Work Permit [information session](#) **May 4, May 15 or May 22**. You may be eligible for an [open work permit](#) valid for up to three years. More information and registration are available online.



### Permanent Residency: Express entry & Ontario PNP programs

Representatives from Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) and Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI) will be at U of T on **May 8, 3:00pm-5:00pm**. They will explain how international students apply for Permanent Residency (PR). The session will cover the new express entry application process and direct CIC PR programs. They will also cover provincial nominee programs and streams. [Register](#).

### International transition advisors available in summer

International students and new permanent residents may meet with the transition advisors throughout the summer. Transition advisors can help with adjusting to life in Canada; finding resources for academic success; resources on Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) documentation and more. Locations, hours and contact information are [available online](#).

### CIE newsletter: sign-up

Stay current on International Student supports. [Sign-up](#) for the Centre for International Experience bi-weekly newsletter and keep informed of events, volunteer and exchange opportunities, Citizenship and Immigration Canada information and more!

## supports & resources

### Graduate Professional Skills (GPS) approved ELWS courses



Some ELWS (English Language and Writing Support) courses are now approved credits toward your GPS transcript notation:

- Oral Presentation Skills (for native speakers of English)
- Oral Presentation Skills (for non-native speakers of English)
- Oral Presentation Skills (for native and non-native speakers of English)
- Understanding the Research Article: Reading towards Writing (for students engaged in experimental or population-based research)
- Writing CIHR Proposals (for students in the Physical and Life Sciences)
- Writing NSERC Proposals (for students in the Physical and Life Sciences)

[Register](#)

### SGS Summer Institute

[Registration](#) for the SGS Summer Institute programming opens **May 5**:

- Leadership Fundamentals for Grads on Tuesdays from **June 2-23, 12:00pm-3:00pm**
- Leading through Transitions on Wednesdays from **June 3-24, 12:00pm-3:00pm**
- Academic Career on Thursdays from **June 4-25, 10:00am-1:00pm**

### ELWS: Courses, workshops & writing consultations

Online registration is now open for May-June courses offered by the Office of [English Language and Writing Support](#) (ELWS). Students may take a maximum of two courses during the May-June session. Single-session workshops are also offered this month, as well as one-on-one writing consultations.

### Access services while on leave

Students on leave may subscribe to access to Hart House, Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education facilities as well as the Health and Wellness Centre, Accessibility Services, and Academic Success Centre services offered by Student Life.

The fee is based upon the sessional incidental fees normally assessed for each service. See the [Leave of Absence form](#) for details.

### Hart House fitness: summer membership

Hart House 2015 [summer fitness membership](#) may be purchased by registered graduate students for \$82.64 +HST. Graduate student fees typically cover Hart House fitness membership only for the fall and/or winter (September-May) sessions but not summer. For further information visit the

Information Hub ([Hart House](#) main level) or call (416) 978-2452.

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