

TRENT GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

THE SCOOP

by **GSA+**

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Photo credit: Verena Sesin

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS



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Our goals



"I want to expand and diversify the range of advocacy actions and services the TGSA offers."

-Sandra, President

"I would really like students to know about the representative roles in the board and also get student groups who operate under the TGSA or anyone who wants to create such a group to reach out so I can compile and help them with that process."

-Sebastian, VP Internal Affairs



"I would like to plan events that engage the graduate student body and the greater Trent community. I would also like to ensure that the Graduate student body and the issues affecting them are addressed at all appropriate levels."

-Jordon, VP Student Affairs

"I hope to facilitate the communication between graduate students and university staff. I also hope to participate in supporting and strengthening our graduate school community."

-Nina, VP Senate



Message from the Dean of Grad Studies



As Dean of Graduate Studies, it is my pleasure to welcome you to a new academic year with the School of Graduate Studies at Trent University. To say that 2020 has been a challenging year would be an understatement. A virus, SARS-CoV-2 that is about one thousand times smaller than a typical cell in your body, has caused infections worldwide. It is incredible to think that something so small could change the way we interact and live. As cases of COVID-19 continue to increase, it is important to remember that **at some point this pandemic will end** - whether it is through development of a vaccine, better therapeutics, or, more pessimistically, through natural infection. We often hear phrases like the “new normal” being used to describe what a post-COVID-19 world might look like. COVID-19 will be remembered as a turning point in human history. In the future, we will reflect on how life changed as a result of COVID-19.

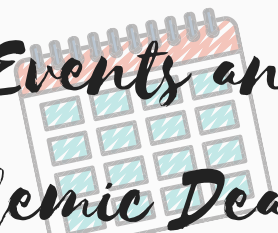
As we consider how rapidly things have changed over the last few months, it can seem overwhelming. I have heard some describe it as experiencing 5 years of change in 6 months. Recently, I have been thinking about the changes happening at Graduate Studies as a result of the pandemic and I have been reflecting on whether COVID-19 will represent a turning point for graduate education. The pandemic has presented new challenges, accelerated shifts and altered the way things are done in graduate studies. It becomes easy to focus on the negative changes brought on by COVID-19; however, it is important to reflect on the fact that some of these changes will alter graduate studies for the better. For example, graduate studies has moved to a paperless world. There is still lots of room for improvement in our digital forms, but we have made the switch and there is no going back. Another change we have embraced is the remote thesis defence. A year ago, I would have argued that we never do a thesis defence remotely. Now, defences are only done remotely. Going forward, remote defences could become more common in the “new normal”. Switching the majority of graduate courses to be taught remotely, has proven that we are able to run graduate courses online and still retain the important pedagogical elements. This isn't to say that all graduate courses in the future will be strictly remote delivery, but there will be an increased number of online courses. This will allow greater flexibility for students.

The current changes at graduate studies are happening to make your experience studying at Trent as rewarding and safe as we can make it. It is also important to recognize that changes are happening in almost every aspect of our lives as a result of COVID-19. **Your ability to successfully adapt to these changes along with the training that you are receiving as a graduate student will allow you to address the challenges of society as we recover and flourish after the pandemic has ended.** I have hope for the future because I know that our students are up to the challenges ahead.

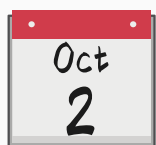
Take care of yourselves, stay healthy, and have a great year.

Dr. Craig Brunetti
Dean of Graduate Studies

Events and Academic Deadlines




TGSA
Emergency Bursary



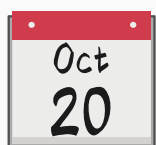
Bata Memorial
Graduate Scholarship *



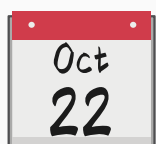
An Evening with
Edward Burtynsky:
Water



CIHR/NSERC/SSHRC
Doctoral Research
Award *



Fiscal and Monetary
Policy Anchors in an
Era of Global Excess
Saving.



TGSA's Jackbox
Game Night
6-8pm



John Bernard
Scholarship *


Please visit [School of Graduate Studies Tuition, Awards and Funding Page](#) for more details.*

Click [here](#) to view in Calendar mode

Graduate Student's Corner



Her Turquoise Smile



Through misted cloud
Past Summer's blue

Her face I see
In glacial mountain pool
Distant .. warmly a-beam
..

There with her
All memories mine Red

Slowly now
Blossoming Human

Back, back, she flows
Through Wishing Moons

.. followed I
Her play-filled light
Reflected
Off grasslands forever green

To predawn Goba
..
In buried chests
Of chanced gold

Midst emerald greens
Where even now

She gently smooths
All jagged pasts
....
.. Leaving just
enough
...
'Til evening again
..
Heralds
Sightless DAWNING

by Antoine Mountain,
Indigenous PhD Studies

Green Tips

by Verena

Earth Overshoot Day:

What is it and why should you care?

This day of the year marks when humanity's global demand for ecological resources and services exceeds what our planet Earth can regenerate in that year. Earth Overshoot Day 2020 fell on August 22. This means we have not been living sustainably since August, and are taking away resources from our future generations. It can be overwhelming to think about how our personal ecological footprint contributes to this global overshoot.

How many Earths do we need if the world's population lived like...



Source: Global Footprint Network National Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts 2019
data.footprintnetwork.org

But ask yourself: How many planets do we need if everybody lives like you?

Figure out your ecological footprint with this cool online calculator:

<https://www.footprintcalculator.org/>

International corner



Trent International Life Under The Maple Tree Series Transitioning to Life in Canada



Marketing Your International Experience

10:00am-11:00am



Post-Graduation Work Permit Program

1:30pm-2:30pm



Budget like a Boss

1:00pm-2:30am



Preparing For Winter

5:00pm-6:00pm

Did you know?

The African continent is home to one third of the world's 6,000 languages, making it the most linguistically diverse continent in the world!



FOLLOW @TRENTINTERNATIONAL



INTERNATIONAL@TRENTU.CA



JOIN FACEBOOK GROUP

TRENT INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE STUDENTS - OFFICIAL GROUP

Please email international@trentu.ca for more details.

Get involved



Interested in advocating and helping graduate students?

JOIN OUR BOARD!!

A full list of vacant positions along with details specifying the duties of each position can be found [here](#).

How to apply: Send a blurb detailing your interest and experience to gsa@trentu.ca.

CALL FOR PANELISTS

In support of the **Black Lives Matter** Movement and addressing systemic racism, TGSA is planning a virtual symposium in November where each panelist will be sharing their lived experiences. If you are passionate about contributing to this significant topic, it is a great opportunity for you to share your experiences and ideas with us, as your words and insights are an invaluable part of our community and university.

We are looking for a self-identified racialized student representative at the undergraduate and graduate level.

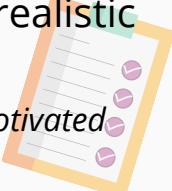

If you are interested in being a panelist and require more information, please email Jordon and/or Tanya respectively at vpstudentaffairs@trentu.ca and tanyaaminataei@trentu.ca.

¹ [Policy and guidelines on racism and racial discrimination](#)

Going online Tips & Trick



FOR STUDENTS

- Set daily and/or weekly realistic goals
Make a plan to keep yourself motivated
 - Create a dedicated study space
Consider an ergonomic setup
 - Pace yourself
Studying at home ain't easy! Reward yourself for each small success
 - Take breaks
Try the Pomodoro technique to improve on your productivity
- 
- 

FOR GTAS

- 🕒 Design for participation
Incorporate polls, discussion questions and fun games like 'Would you rather!'
 - 🕒 Encourage engagement
Use breakout rooms option to facilitate discussion among your students
 - 🕒 Provide feedback and encouragement
Even saying "good job" goes a long way!
 - 🕒 Give frequent breaks
Even sponges have a limit on how much water it can absorb!
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