
Subject:

CGPS Newsletter: July Edition



July 2024

This newsletter will be delivered to you on a monthly basis with content curated for USask's graduate community. Scroll through to learn about upcoming events, opportunities, and more.



Deadlines

Aug. 6: [ESL Bursary \(Fall\) Application Deadline](#)

Aug. 24: [Falling Walls Labs: Application Deadline](#)

Events

Aug. 9: [Applied Theatre: An Interdisciplinary Pedegogy of Utopia](#)

Aug. 22: [Welcome to the GradHUB](#)

Sept. 10: [Welcome to the GradHUB: Pancake Breakfast](#)

Sept. 12: [Tri-Agency Graduate Scholarship Workshop](#)

Sept. 16 - 20: [Postdoc Appreciation Week](#)

[View all upcoming CGPS events and application deadlines in our calendar.](#)

GRAD COMMUNITY

CGPS Service Desk transitions to TeamDynamix

CGPS Service Desk transitions to TeamDynamix (TDX), the new Enterprise Service Management (ESM) tool at USask on Wednesday, July 31, 2024.

The look and functionality of our new client portal is a bit different with several forms updated and functionality streamlined in the background.

Connecting with [CGPS](#) via the Service Desk allows us to provide personalized and trackable services to USask's graduate constituents in the most efficient way possible.

Applied Theatre: An Interdisciplinary Pedagogy of Utopia

The Interdisciplinary Studies program is pleased to invite you to an upcoming talk featuring distinguished guest speaker, **Selina Busby, Professor of Applied and Social Theatre at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London.**

In recent years, Applied Theatre has become a tool that is drawn on as research methodology by a wide range of disciplines and employed by researchers without theatre training, sometimes successfully and sometimes more problematically. In this discussion, Busby will problematise these concepts and consider their practical application both theoretically and methodologically when used in a range of current interdisciplinary projects in the UK, Mumbai and Kenya.

Join the Interdisciplinary Studies program on **August 9th at 10:00AM in THORV 118.**

[Programme available here.](#) Contact luis.corredor@usask.ca to RSVP.

Welcome to the GradHUB | Don't miss Term 1 onboarding events

New to USask? New to grad school? Don't miss out on upcoming Term 1 onboarding events! This fall, there are virtual and in-person offerings available for grad students to learn how to navigate their program and use the GradHUB. [Learn more and register.](#)

Copilot, a secure Generative AI tool | Access through PAWS now

In partnership with Information and Communications Technology (ICT), the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS) is pleased to announce that Copilot, a secure Generative AI tool, is now available to USask's graduate students.

Microsoft has partnered with OpenAI - ChatGPT and released it under Copilot with improved data protection for organizations. Copilot does not store any data nor does Microsoft claim ownership of the output.

[Access Copilot through PAWS here.](#)

Graduate students, please comply with your program's guidelines before using GenAI.

Graduate Professional Skills Certificate | Register for Fall 2024

The [Graduate Professional Skills Certificate](#) is an innovative, non-credit program for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows focusing on strengths-based professional skills development. The certificate program is offered at **no cost to graduate students and postdoctoral scholars** from all colleges and schools.

The certificate requires you to complete two courses and demonstrate evidence of building your professional skills. The courses should be taken either at the same time or in this order:

1. *GPS 984: Thinking Critically* - This innovative, highly interactive, non-credit course provides a supportive and challenging setting for you to uncover and explore personal and professional beliefs and values as you candidly explore diverse issues with peers from various disciplines.
2. *GPS 974: Graduate Professional Skills Certificate* - This is an umbrella course for the certificate that supports you with setting goals in alignment with with a recognized set of professional skills. You must register for GPS 974 to join the certificate program and remain registered until you complete your portfolio and perform a final demonstration of your skills.

Required courses are offered both online and in-person. Please register in the course format that best accomodates your schedule and learning style. To register, use the [Registration channel in PAWS.](#)

GPS 981: Academic Preparation for International Graduate Students | Register now!

Are you an international student new to USask? Registration is now open for [GPS 981: Academic Preparation for International Graduate Students.](#)

GPS 981 is a non-credit course designed to prepare international graduate students for the Canadian academic environment. Students will learn techniques for improving listening and note-taking skills; managing their reading loads; sharpening critical thinking; and conducting and managing research. Students will also learn about the role of supervisors, professors, and graduate chairs, and will gain practical institution in academic integrity.

To learn more about this course offering, review the [Course Catalogue](#). Questions about GPS 981? Contact [Jill McMillan](#) from the University Library for more information about which course offering may be best for you.

Save the Date | College of Nursing Research & Scholarship Day

The Nursing Unit for Research and Scholarship Excellence (NURSE) is excited to host the College of Nursing Research & Scholarship Day on Wednesday, September 25, 2024. The theme for the event is "The Future of Nursing Education".

More details to follow.

2024 Orange Shirt Day T-Shirts | Order yours at Shop USask

To help raise awareness and acknowledge the truth behind the Canadian residential school system, orange shirts are once again available through Shop USask in advance of Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation taking place on Sept. 30.

Orders for orange shirts designed by local Cree/Saulteaux artist James Desjarlais are now available. To order shirts and learn more about the artwork, group discounts, order deadlines, and where proceeds will be directed, visit <https://shop.usask.ca/orange-shirt-day>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 

Mitacs Training | Give yourself a competitive edge

Hone your professional skills by participating in Mitacs Training. Open to past and present graduate students and postdoctoral scholars, Mitacs Training courses are free of charge and facilitated by industry leaders.

Learn about management, communication, entrepreneurship, and more. Mitacs Training offers asynchronous and synchronous courses that work with your schedule to help you gain a competitive edge.

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Get a headstart on your Tri-Agency application | Graduate Awards Workshop on Sept. 12

You can get a headstart on your Tri-Agency application by attending the Graduate Awards panel workshop on **September 12th from 1:30PM to 3:00PM in GEOL 255.**

This workshop aims to offer a comprehensive overview of the various scholarship programs provided by the Tri-Agencies. Panelists will provide lots of information including eligibility criteria, the application process, and strategies for crafting strong applications. You will also gain insights from faculty members who have supervised students and evaluated applications, hear from graduate students who have had successful applications, and get perspectives from staff who support scholarship application processes.

This event is open to everyone. [Let the Graduate Awards team know you're coming.](#)

External Awards Opportunities | Research Profile and Impact

External awards at the provincial, national and international level provide opportunities to recognize USask faculty for their research, scholarly and artistic achievements.

The Office of the Vice-President Research (OVPR) has developed a [directory of external awards available for application](#). If you are considering someone for an award, contact the [Institutional Awards Officer](#) so that they may offer support and track institutional nominations.

POSTDOC SCHOLARS

Postdoctoral Scholars on MS Teams | Start a conversation

Postdoctoral scholars, there is a new way to collaborate with your colleagues across campus. Get access to the Postdoc Link (MS Teams) and start a conversation!

[Join the Postdoc Link now.](#)

Society of Postdoctoral Scholars | Visit our website

Visit the Society of Postdoctoral Scholars (SPS) webpage for information about the society, representatives and employment resources. [Click here to visit their website.](#)

National Postdoc Appreciation Week | September 16 - 20, 2024

National Postdoc Appreciation Week is September 16 - 20, 2024. Join CGPS in a wide range of activities created for USask's postdocs to show our appreciation, starting on Tuesday, September 17th with a variety of panel discussions and wrapping up with a social at Louis' Loft. [Get more information.](#)

Falling Walls Lab | Pitch your groundbreaking idea

In a unique collaboration with the University of Alberta, USask postdoctoral scholars and graduate students are invited to participate in the Falling Wall Lab pitch competition.

[Falling Walls Lab](#) is a world-class pitch competition and networking forum that brings together a diverse and interdisciplinary pool of early-career professionals and grads by providing a stage for breakthrough ideas both locally and globally.

Benefits of Postdocs and Early Career Researchers?

- You get to showcase your solutions to pressing global challenges before a distinguished jury, peers, and the wider public.
- Chance to secure a coveted spot in the global finale held in Berlin on November 7, along with a ticket to attend the prestigious Falling Walls Science Summit. This conference offers unparalleled networking opportunities with influential figures in science, business, and policymaking.
- Chance to win prize money and the opportunity to pitch your idea on the esteemed Falling Walls Breakthrough Day stage.

[Registration is now open.](#) Questions about the competition? Contact kenisha.blairwalcott@usask.ca for more information.

IN THE NEWS 

Celebrating Indigenous Scholars | Ayicia Nabigon

Ayicia Nabigon is a M.Sc student in the Department of Biology from Biigtigong Nishnaabeg (formerly Ojibways of the Pic River First Nation), in Ontario.

After observing the moose population declining around her community, Ayicia wanted to learn more about the causes and effects of an increasing population overlap with white-tailed deer. Her research is informed by concerns, questions, and feedback from Indigenous elders, youth, and hunters regarding food security and sovereignty, environmental change, and economic development in her study area.

Ayicia is a recent recipient of the Indigenous Graduate Leadership Award, as well as an NSERC CGS-M scholarship. [Read more.](#)



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