

UTM Office of the Dean Newsletter

2nd Annual UTM United Way Dodgeball Tournament



A few of our staff (Anna, Dina, Jennifer, & Yan - marked with a star in above photo) participated in the Dodgeball Tournament that took place on December 3rd, 2018 in the RAWC Gym and called themselves the *Dean's Dodgers*. Although, they did not rank in first or second place, we must applaud their valiant efforts! After questioning one of the members if anything newsworthy happened during the tournament, I was told: "Perhaps the only thing newsworthy is that we were the only team to not win any matches, but it was a lot of fun!"

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2. Vice-Dean Faculty

Vice-Dean, Faculty

The Vice-Provost, Faculty & Academic Life, has organised a series of workshops that will be very beneficial for understanding “progression through the ranks”. These one-day workshops will include lunch and an open discussion. Please try to attend all of the sessions that are appropriate.

March 7: The Academic Life Cycle with Jane Harrison, Director, Office of the Vice-Provost, Faculty & Academic Life. These sessions are for **faculty** regarding Tenure, Continuing Status, and Promotion

- 9:00-10:30am – Preparing for Your Interim and Tenure Review (with contributions from Professor Alexandra Gillespie, Chair of English & Drama, UTM)
- 10:30am-12:00pm – Promotion in the Tenure Stream
- 12:00-1:00pm – Lunch & Open Discussion
- 1:00-2:30pm – Preparing for Your Probationary and Continuing Status Review (with contributions from Professor Anna Korteweg, Chair of Sociology, UTM)
- 2:30-4:00pm – Promotion in the Teaching Stream

Faculty who wish to attend this workshop must register at:

<http://www.faculty.utoronto.ca/programming/faculty/>

March 18: Support for Academic HR, for AAAs (Academic Administrators) with Jane Harrison, Director, Office of the Vice-Provost, Faculty & Academic Life.

- 9:00-10:00am – Recruitment & Hiring
- 10:10-11:10am – Interim & Tenure Review
- 11:20am-12:20pm – Probationary & Continuing Status Review
- 12:20-1:30pm – Lunch & Open Discussion
- 1:30-2:30pm – Promotion in the Tenure Stream
- 2:40-3:40pm – Promotion in the Teaching Stream

Academic administrators may wish to attend on their own or with administrative staff who assist with these files.

Anyone interested in attending this workshop must register at:

<http://www.faculty.utoronto.ca/programming/academic-administrators-and-staff/>

The location for these workshops will be in the Davis Building, Room 3214.

ATTENTION: All Newly Appointed UTM Faculty

The Vice-Dean, Faculty, Angela Lange and the Acting Vice-Dean, Teaching and Learning, Andrew Petersen, wish to invite all newly appointed faculty in the tenure-stream and teaching-stream, who joined the UTM community during the 2018-2019 academic year, to meet with them to discuss their

transition to UTM. The Vice-Deans would like to hear from you on how we can make the move of new faculty to UTM more successful and what types of workshops or training would benefit you in this and future transitions.

We plan to meet in small groups, i.e. about 6-7 faculty, to facilitate discussion and answer any questions that you might have regarding your appointment at UTM. In early March, an e-mail with dates and times of the meetings will be sent - so keep a look out for it and sign up for one of the meetings.

3. Vice-Dean, Academic Experience

Professional Experience Certificate in Digital Media, Communication, and Technology

On January 23, Professor Tracey Bowen (ICCI) hosted an information session on the successful development of the Professional Experience Certificate in Digital Media, Communication, and Technology. The Certificate, which will provide students with paid summer work-integrated learning experience, will be listed in the 2019-20 academic calendar. The information session was supported by the Experiential Education Unit and was very well attended. The attendees were comprised of both faculty and departmental staff. Due to continued interest in the certificate, Professor Bowen spoke again at the Governing Council meeting on February 28, 2019, accompanied by an employer and a student who also shared their perspectives on work-integrated learning initiatives.

WIL Mini-Symposium

On February 28, the Experiential Education Unit, in collaboration with the Institute for Management & Innovation, hosted a tri-campus Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Mini-Symposium. The Symposium was geared for faculty and staff who engage with curricular work-integrated learning at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The event included a panel of placement partners and was enhanced by a Reflection Practices Workshop conducted by the WIL faculty liaison, Professor Michael deBraga.

ROPAPP

The new ROPAPP was launched on January 23. It has user-friendly features that include search functionalities and straightforward action items that allow the user to navigate the application system easily.

Scholars-in-Residence Program (May 6-31, 2019)

This year, UTM faculty will be participating in the Jackman Scholars-in-Residence Program with six research projects, five located at UTM, one on the St. George campus.

Weird Adjectives: Comparing Adjectives Expressing 'Strangeness' Across Languages

Supervisor: Professor Barend Beekhuizen, Language Studies (on UTM campus)

When a Conspiracy Theory Comes to Town

Supervisor: Professor Ellen Berrey, Sociology (on UTM campus)

Exploring Social Meanings Around Multicultural Toronto English

Supervisor: Professor Derek Denis, Language Studies (on UTM campus)

Gender, Race, and the Image of the Muslim Woman Terrorist in the Media and Government Policy

Supervisor: Professor Anna Korteweg, Sociology (on UTM campus)

Editing Richard Brinsley Sheridan's "The School for Scandal"

Supervisor: Professor Terry Robinson, English & Drama (on UTM campus)

Sociolinguistics on the Road: The Italian Linguistics Landscape in Toronto

Supervisor: Professor Simone Casini, Language Studies (on St. George campus)

The Jackman Scholars-in-Residence (SiR) program is a unique opportunity for students to work intensively on a research project with UofT faculty that features:

- an opportunity to enhance their research skills (along with their resumes)
- free accommodation and meals for the duration of the program
- \$1000 Jackman Scholar Award

Previous participants have called SiR: *life-changing, transformative, and the highlight of my academic career.*

Lecture Me! Series

On February 5, at the Mississauga Central Library, Prof. Andrew Almas from the Department of Geography gave his *Lecture Me!* series talk titled, *Considering the Human Dimensions of the Urban Forest.*

Professor Andrew Almas' lecture was featured in *The Mississauga News* and *The Medium*:

<https://www.mississauga.com/opinion-story/9167958-lecture-me-series-at-mississauga-central-library-has-professors-talking-in-plain-speech>; <https://themedium.ca/features/discussing-our-urban-forested-areas>.

On March 5, Professor Lawrence Switzky, Department of English and Drama, spoke on *How Video Games Can Make You a Better Person*. Contrary to their reputation for conditioning violence, Professor Switzky's talk argued that recent video games are serious moral thought experiments that can make you more empathetic, more tolerant, and can test (and broaden) your ethical awareness.

This year's final lecture will take place on April 2. Professor Sanja Hinić-Frlog, Department of Biology, will speak on *Lessons from the Fossil Birds*. Her talk will feature how fossil birds can reveal how modern birds evolve to move skillfully in both aerial and aquatic environments.

Academic Integrity

As of January 1, Cindy Ferencz-Hammond and Alexandra Di Blasio will report to the Secretary of the Governing Council and the Ombudsperson. To avoid any possible conflict of interest due to this new reporting structure, it became necessary to separate their involvement with any duties related to academic appeals. Moving forward, management of the operations of the UTM Academic Appeals Sub-Committee will now fall under the portfolio of the Vice-Dean, Academic Experience.

4. Associate Dean, Graduate

Graduate Research Colloquium (GRC) 2019

The Associate Dean Graduate Office, in collaboration with VP-Research Office, UTM Library and UTMAGS, will be holding its annual UTM Graduate Research Colloquium. This colloquium aims to highlight graduate student research across our campus and across all academic disciplines. This special event will provide the opportunity for graduate students to showcase their work to fellow students, post-docs, faculty and staff from all departments.

This year the Colloquium will be held over 2 days:

Tuesday, April 30th, Poster Presentation, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the New North Atrium (cocktails/hors d'oeuvres will be served during poster presentation).

and

Wednesday, May 1st, Oral Presentations will be held from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., in 150-IB, with guest speaker, Dr. Peter Galison, Department of Physics and Department of the History of Science, Harvard University. Awards and dinner to follow.

Please RSVP by Friday, April 12th, 2019 to attend the colloquium and/or the dinner, by accessing the link below.

<https://secure.utm.utoronto.ca/grc-2019/>

Please encourage your graduate students to participate in the event via a talk, a poster presentation, or simply sharing in the celebration.

Below are the links to the application information for the research, and leadership awards. Please send your nomination dossier to the **Office of the Dean, c/o Anna Reale, room 3200-Davis no later than 5:00 pm, Friday, April 12, 2019.**

Leadership award: <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/vice-dean-grad/awards/leadership-award>

Research award: <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/vice-dean-grad/awards/research-award>

Best Poster Award (sponsored by the UTM Library): <http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/vice-dean-grad/awards/graduate-student-poster-prize>

Graduate Student Workshops

The Associate Dean Graduate Office has been working with faculty and graduate students from more than a dozen units at UTM to develop a series of Graduate Student Workshops. These workshops are meant to promote graduate student research at UTM, develop professional skills, expand research networks, leverage faculty and graduate student strengths, and promote UTM as a

home for graduate study. The workshops have typically run one to three days and have featured graduate student presentations and poster sessions, methodological training, and presentations from invited experts in related fields. Some of the workshops have featured public events, while others have been closed sessions that address very specialized research concerns. While the size and format is flexible, a focus on graduate student research success is central.

The initial call for workshop proposals occurred over the summer of 2018. The Dean's Office was able to fund more than a dozen initiatives. Topics for the workshops include: Cognition, Learning, and Technology Across the Lifespan; Polar and High Altitude Environments; Women in Science; Sustainability, Psychology Statistics; Relationship Theory; Classics and the World Today; Gupta Inscriptions; Jain Studies; Media History; Forensics; Artificial Intelligence; and Building Synergies between Psychology, Language Studies, and Computer Science.

In June of 2019 another call will go out for proposals for the 2019-2020 academic year. We hope to build on the strong interest and successes of this year's workshops. We are looking for new workshop ideas, but we are also hoping to support future iterations of workshops that proved successful this year. If you would like to learn more about the proposal process or the workshop format please contact Jeremy Packer, Associate Dean, Graduate.

5. Associate Dean, Undergraduate

The Office of the Dean would like to make all faculty aware of upcoming teaching and learning grant opportunities. All four of these grants have an internal UTM deadline of May 15th 2019.

UTM Opportunities

1. UTM Teaching Development and Innovation Grant (TDI)

The TDI is a seed grant that provides a maximum of \$5000 for a UTM faculty member to support the implementation and assessment of innovative practice in an undergraduate course at UTM.

Deadline: May 15th, 2019. Email submission to anna.reale@utoronto.ca, and use the [Teaching and Learning Grant Cover Sheet \(.doc\)](#). Please note that all submissions must be signed by the departmental chair or relevant director. (The next call for submissions will be held for Nov 15th, 2019.)

Description: This grant is intended to fund projects related to enhancing teaching and learning in an existing course, assessing the effectiveness of a pedagogical innovation undertaken in an existing course, or developing a new experiential learning component in an existing course. Proposals for the UTM Teaching Development and Innovation Grant may be funded up to a maximum of \$5000.

Eligibility: We encourage all instructors at UTM with an interest in teaching and learning to apply. This includes faculty members with continuing appointments in the teaching or tenure stream, librarians, sessional instructors II and III (teaching in the current or next academic session at the

time of application), and staff. Collaborative proposals from multiple departments or academic support units on campus are encouraged.

Application Process: Applications must clearly define how the proposed project will enhance the quality of teaching and learning at UTM and include strategies for measuring and assessing the project's impact. Proposals must include the following sections: (i) Abstract; (ii) Project Goals; (iii) Timeline; (iv) Assessment; (v) Dissemination; (vi) Budget; (vii) Budget Justification; (viii) Cover Sheet including Signature of Support from the relevant Department Chair or Director. The Application package should be a maximum of five pages long.

Selection Criteria & Process: Proposals are reviewed by the UTM Teaching Development and Innovation Grant Committee according to the following criteria: (a) Innovation, (b) Strategies for Assessment, and (c) Impact on UTM, including transferability.

2. UTM Teaching Development Travel Grant (TDT)

The TDT provides a maximum of \$2000 for a UTM instructor to present at a pedagogical conference or in the pedagogical track at a disciplinary conference.

Deadline: May 15th, 2019. **Email submission to** anna.reale@utoronto.ca. (The next call for submissions will be held for November 15th, 2019.)

Description: This grant is intended to support a faculty member's presentation at a teaching-themed conference (e.g., Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education) or teaching symposium within a discipline-based conference. The fund will also support a presentation at a discipline-based conference when the talk is directly connected to the faculty member's teaching.

Eligibility: We encourage all instructors teaching at UTM to apply. Sessional Lecturer II and Sessional Lecturer III can apply for funds to present at teaching-themed conferences or symposia, provided that they are teaching at UTM in the current or next academic session at the time of application. The fund will reimburse up to a maximum of \$2000 per calendar year. Applicants that have been previously successful for this grant will have lower priority for funding than new applicants.

Application Process: Applications must include an abstract of the work to be presented, a description of the conference/symposium, a brief budget and a discussion of how the applicant's attendance at the conference/symposium will enhance the quality of teaching and learning at UTM. Applications should be a maximum of two pages long.

3. Learning and Education Advancement Fund (LEAF)

LEAF grants provide support for developing and enhancing the research, assessment, and application of high-impact teaching practices within learning environments at the University. The Fund is intended to support projects that will anticipate, leverage and create positive changes in both the modes and mechanisms of undergraduate education at the University of Toronto.

Seed grants are intended to encourage experimentation at the local level, either within a course or a set of courses, as a means of fostering small-scale innovations or pilots with the potential for future scalability. Grants in this category range from \$5,000-\$15,000. There is a rolling submission for this grant, with no set deadline. However, to receive formative feedback and a letter of support from the UTM Office of the Dean, the grant needs to be submitted internally by **May 15th, 2019**. Email submission to anna.reale@utoronto.ca, and use the [Teaching and Learning Grant Cover Sheet \(.doc\)](#). Please note that all submissions must be signed by the departmental chair or relevant director. If the proposal receives support from the Dean's Office, then a supporting letter from the departmental chair or director will be given to be included in the application package that is submitted to the Office of the Vice-Provost, Innovations in Undergraduate Education.

Visit the [Learning and Education Advancement Fund \(LEAF\) webpage](#) for more information. (Note: the deadline for the larger Impact grant is usually in November each year).

4. The International Student Experience Fund (ISEF)

The International Student Experience Fund (ISEF) is a new initiatives fund launched by the Associate Vice-President and Vice-Provost, International Student Experience for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. The objective of the ISEF program is to foster a learning environment on U of T's campuses that aligns with the University's global mission and profile. The Fund is intended to support academic and non-academic initiatives that: enhance the experience of international students; foster intercultural and international-to-domestic student, staff and faculty engagement; and internationalize the University of Toronto student experience.

The Seed Grant (\$5,000-\$15,000 per year) has a rolling submission, with no set deadline. However, to receive formative feedback and a letter of support from the UTM Office of the Dean, the grant needs to be submitted internally by May 15th, 2019. Email submission to anna.reale@utoronto.ca, and use the [Teaching and Learning Grant Cover Sheet \(.doc\)](#). Please note that all submissions must be signed by the departmental chair or relevant director.

Visit the [International Student Experience Fund \(ISEF\) webpage](#) for more information. (Note: the deadline for the larger Impact grant is usually in November each year).

Office of the Dean Bowling Event – March 4th

The motto of *all work and no play* was taken to task by the staff of the Dean's office on March 4th as the staff got together for a fun-filled evening of bowling. There were some strikes and some gutter balls but overall a great night was had by all including the five top bowlers: Anuar Rodrigues, Ciaran Graham, Lisa Devereaux, Lucy Gaspini and Michael Lettieri. Here a few photos of the event:

