



Brittany Jakubiec is a PhD Student in Educational Studies at UPEI.

### Message from the Editor: Brittany Jakubiec

I would like to wish everyone a happy Canada Day. I hope you all enjoy the holiday and any festivities that you take part in. This issue is a brief one. I have been very busy planning the UPEI Multidisciplinary Graduate Research Conference (UMGRC). The committee and I are so excited to welcome Dr. Theresa Bernardo (Michigan State) to UPEI as our keynote speaker on August 7. I am also happy to say that we have graduate students attending the UMGRC from all across Canada – literally coast to coast! I invite you all to attend as many of the sessions and events as possible. If you would like more information, just email me at [gsa@upei.ca](mailto:gsa@upei.ca)!

### How-To Seminars by Bonnie Stewart

An important part of graduate studies is learning to make sense of the academic and institutional structures that surround scholarship, the scholarly profession, and your own particular program. That learning process can be helped along by sessions that take up graduate student questions and challenges, and organize campus resources to offer answers. This past year, we set up a number of How-To Seminars for graduate students through the Faculty of Education, in order to try to address our key questions about the program and about scholarship more generally. Our topics included library reference tools, NVivo, mixed and multi-methods, and what to expect from the UPEI Faculty of Education's comprehensive portfolio and dissertation defense processes. Students, staff, faculty, and post-docs from around campus gave up their time to lead the discussions, and the sessions were attended by Masters and Ph.D students as well as faculty and the broader community.

The How-To Seminars were informal and participatory, usually lively, and definitely informative - a rich part of my own final year as a graduate student. I encourage incoming and current members of the GSA community at UPEI to consider taking up the idea for next year and organizing a new set of seminars around your own, new questions - it's a great model for learning and contributing to the campus community.

## UPEI GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Valerie Campbell (President), Brittany Jakubiec (VP Internal), Hannah Gehrels (VP Finance)

Editor: Brittany Jakubiec  
Contact: [gsa@upei.ca](mailto:gsa@upei.ca)

Issue 6, June 30, 2015

### In this issue:



Message from the Editor: Brittany Jakubiec 1



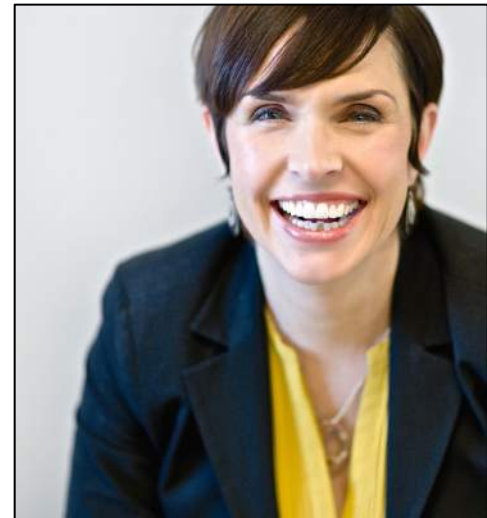
How-To Seminars: Bonnie Stewart 1



Upcoming events & important dates 2



Recap on GSA event: #DistractinglySexy 2



## UPCOMING EVENTS!

- Graduate workshops (August 6) during the UMGRC – Concurrent Session A includes workshops on successful scholarship applications, becoming a networked scholar, e-portfolios for career development, and the publication process. Registration for workshops will open mid-July. Stay tuned! Questions? Email [gsa@upei.ca](mailto:gsa@upei.ca). Concurrent Session B will be announced in the next newsletter! You can also check out the website here:  
<http://www.upei.ca/research/officeofgraduatestudies/graduate-students-association/conference/workshops>
- July 10 from 5:00 pm until 10:00 pm is Board Game Night (bring your own or play one of the board games in the lounge) in the Campus Life Lounge (Student Affairs, above the bookstore, in the WA Murphy Student Centre). For more information, email Elyse at [ecottrell@upei.ca](mailto:ecottrell@upei.ca)
- The UPEI Rainbow Alliance is hosting a Day of Inclusion Awareness on October 22, 2015. If you want more information, or want to get involved, check out their website: <http://upeira.wix.com/dayofinclusion>

**DO YOU WANT TO  
CONTRIBUTE?**

Email [gsa@upei.ca](mailto:gsa@upei.ca)

## RECAP ON GSA EVENT: WOMEN IN THE ACADEMY, #DISTRACTINGLYSEXY



I would like to extend a warm thank you to everyone who came. I would also like to thank the UPEISU for providing funding for the coffee, tea, and cookies. Your support is appreciated!

Nearly 30 people attended the event, which was held in the Faculty Lounge on Thursday June 18 at noon. The discussion was lively, passionate, and personal. The topics that were discussed were diverse, and included things like what sexism means, hiring practices in universities, the influence and power of social media, attitudes, implicit biases, and some women shared personal stories and experiences of sexism, discrimination, and harassment. Dr. Christian LaCroix was asked about the systems in place at UPEI, to which he responded that women should be able to go to their superiors at the university to talk about anything that they were uncomfortable with, including sexism. Dr. Bonnie Stewart concluded that even though many in attendance had not experienced direct or major instances of sexism, it is important that we do not say that sexism is not happening. Negative attitudes about and biases toward women still exist, and saying that “everything is okay” does not help. Overall, it was a great event. Keep an eye out for upcoming events!

## UPEI GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Valerie Campbell (President), Brittany Jakubiec (VP Internal), Hannah Gehrels (VP Finance)

Editor: Brittany Jakubiec  
Contact: [gsa@upei.ca](mailto:gsa@upei.ca)