

Message from the Co-Editors:

Hello readers! I hope everybody had a great holiday weekend and got to take some time off work to go on an Easter egg hunt! This month's issue is a shorter one, which is why I would like to talk about the upcoming GSA elections (see p.2). I have been on the GSA board since September: It has been a great experience and I got to meet many awesome grad students. That's why I highly encourage you to get involved with the Graduate Students' Association this year. We are having elections for our executive and board positions! And as always, if you would like to contribute, give us feedback, know of any events that are coming up and/or send a Kudos to someone, please email us at gsa@upei.ca. *Denise*



Brittany Jakubiec is a PhD Student in Educational Studies



Mary MacPhee is in the 4th year of a PhD in Educational Studies



Denise Happ is in her second year of her MSc in Biomedical Sciences



Help us keep the air we share healthy and fragrance-free! The chemicals used in scented products can make some people sick, especially those with fragrance sensitivities, asthma, allergies and other medical

conditions. It is therefore the **University's policy for everyone to avoid the use of scented personal care products.** This is a matter of courtesy to those with whom we share our indoor work and study environment.

For more information on UPEI's Scent-Free Initiative, visit <http://www.upei.ca/policy/files/policy/Scent-Free%20Initiative.pdf>.

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Kudos to all grad students working hard to complete their thesis and coursework.

Congratulations to **Alison MacDougall and Kate Liu** who passed their Master's defense. Congratulations to **Amanda Thomas-Sheppard** for publishing a book chapter as a first author!

UPEI GRADUATE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Valerie Campbell (President), Brittany Jakubiec (VP Internal), Hannah Gehrels (VP Finance)
 Louise Roux, Frédéric Chatigny and Logan MacIntyre (AVC Reps), Kate Liu (Education Rep), Mark Currie (Arts Rep), Paula Flynn (Science Rep), Leon Libang and Denise Happ (International Reps), Laura Carvalho (Applied Human Science Rep)

Co-Editors: Brittany Jakubiec, Denise Happ, Mary MacPhee
 Contact: gsa@upei.ca

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Want to get involved with the Graduate Students' Association?
The call for nominations is open for all board positions for the 2016/2017 year.

The executive positions are:

- President
- Vice-President Internal
- Vice-President Finance

The 12 Faculty/Department representative positions are:

- International Student Rep (1)
- Master of Island Studies (1)
- Post-doctoral Representative (1)
 - School of Business (1)
 - School of Nursing (1)
- Applied Health Sciences (1)
 - AVC (2)
- Faculty of Education (2)
- Faculty of Science (2)



What would your duties be? The president acts as the representative and chief spokesperson of the GSA, chairs GSA committees, and calls meetings. The VP Internal conducts official correspondence on behalf of the GSA, acts as secretary for meetings, maintains the GSA newsletter and acts in place of the President if he/she is absent. The VP Finance keeps account of all income and expenditures, presents statements at meetings or upon request and manages finances.

As a Graduate Student Representative, general duties include attending GSA meetings, attending General Meetings, attending and promoting UPEI-GSA events, and communicating regularly with graduate students in your area to bring their concerns to the Board.

If you are interested in more information on these positions or the election, please check out our GSA Constitution and Bylaws (to be posted on the UPEI GSA website) or send us an email at gsa@upei.ca. You can also contact any of the board members directly to hear about their experience.

If you would like to run for a position, please email your name, program of study, year of study and a short bio to hgehrels@upei.ca (Chief Returning Officer) by April 11 at midnight.

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ANOTHER THRILLING 3MT COMPETITION AT THE WAVE

By Laura Taylor

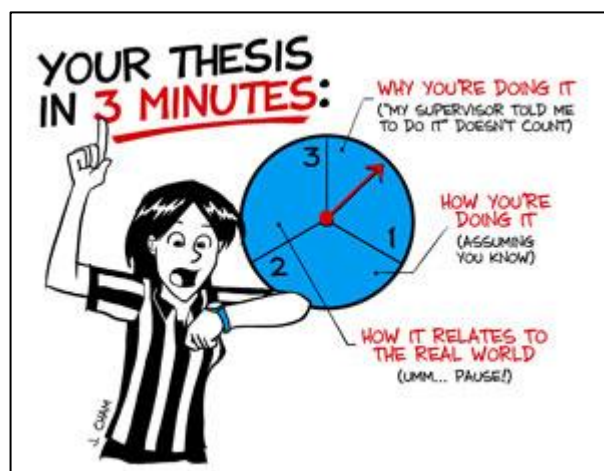
Congratulations goes to Hannah Gehrels, the winner of this year's UPEI Three Minute Thesis competition, which took place at The Wave on March 22nd.

Hannah's three minutes were devoted to her Master's research, modelling the effects of removal of European green crabs from PEI waters. Hannah will present her thesis at the regional competition for the Atlantic provinces, held at Memorial University in New Brunswick on April 28, 2016.

Three Minute Thesis began at the University of Queensland in Australia in 2008. That year, 160 competitors took part and the competition currently receives submissions from competitors in 19 countries worldwide. Competitors condense their thesis into a strict three-minute window and presenters must use only words to describe the importance and main points of the work to which they are devoting years of their life. Quite an undertaking!

This year at UPEI, topics ranged from berries used to treat cancer to the importance of relationships between Islanders and immigrants. The first runner up was Logan McIntyre with his thesis topic of natural products derived from combined cultures of coral microorganisms and second runner up was Denise Happ with her thesis topic of neuronal death post-ischemic stroke. Everybody who performed did a great job; those who stumbled were able to recover gracefully and those who went over-time did so with a smile.

Overall, it was an exciting and interesting event, though a little tense for the audience members watching the timer turn from green... to yellow... to red!



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GSA YEAR END SURVEY

By Valerie Campbell



On behalf of the current Graduate Students' Association Executive (Valerie Campbell, President; Brittany Jakubiec, VP Internal and Admin; Hannah Gehrels, VP Finance), I invite you to complete the following survey: <http://goo.gl/forms/XHojuA7x01>

There are two purposes to this survey:

1. To get your feedback on our work for the past year; and
2. To find out how the GSA can continue to represent and serve UPEI's graduate students.

Please take a few minutes to complete this survey and help us provide you with the support you need.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

- The next **GSA meeting** will be held on Monday, April 4, 2016 from 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm (Dawson Lounge, SDU Main Building). Please attend! 😊
- The **GSA Annual General Meeting** will be held on Thursday, April 21, 2016 from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm (Main Building, room 116). There will be food and beverages. This event is also **child friendly!** Please come and bring your children: There will be Lego, crafts, etc.
- The UPEI **Graduate Student Writers' Circle** will continue to meet on Tuesdays from 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm at 412 Dalton.
- The UPEI Multidisciplinary Graduate Student Conference will be August 11-13, 2016. Mark your calendars and keep an eye out for our Call for Abstracts. If you want to help out, please email gsa@upei.ca. This year's co-chairs are: Brittany Jakubiec, Mary MacPhee, and Christian Agatmore and our planning committee includes: Valerie Campbell, Hannah Gehrels, Logan MacIntyre, Mark Currie, Kate Liu, Fred Chatigny, Denise Happ, and Paula Tummon Flynn.

Did you know that the GSA is on Twitter?

Follow us @UPEIGSA to get updates on GSA and campus events and other helpful information.

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