

Brock Graduate Students' Association

THE GRADUATE GAZETTE

VOLUME 4 / ISSUE 8



DECEMBER 2025

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS



Hello, Graduate Students!



Winter Break Office Hours

Virtual office hours will be hosted from December 8th to 23rd. The GSA will remain virtual on Friday, January 2 and return to in-person office hours on Monday, January 5.

Stay tuned for the executive's winter term office hours starting in January!



Nominations for the 2026-2027 GSA Elections Open on January 8, 2026

Are you looking to make an impact on the graduate student community? Want to be part of a team that is committed to fostering community, demonstrating leadership and providing services to graduate students? Consider submitting a Nomination Package for our 2025-2026 Executive & Graduate Student Senate Elections! **Nominations open January 8th and close February 6th.**

Nomination packages will be available on brockgsa.ca/elections on Thursday, January 8. Complete the package and then send it to elections@brockgsa.ca



GSA Health and Dental Plan

The **WINTER OPT-IN/OPT-OUT** period for GSA Health and Dental Benefits for **Newly Winter Enrolled Graduate Students ONLY, runs from January 1 - 30, 2026.** To opt-in or opt-out, please reach out to health@brockgsa.ca and with the following:

- First and last name
- Student ID
- Insurance provider's name, and policy plan number
- Employer's name (if insurance is provided by employer)
- Proof of current enrolment in a comparable and alternative Canadian extended health and dental plan (attach photo of insurance card).
- Effective date range (e.g., October 23rd 2025 - September 05, 2026)
- Listing of benefits provided in enrolled plan



To learn more about your health plan, please join us for one of our info-sessions!

January 13th, 10am - 11am - GSA & SVIP Virtual H&D Plan Info Session - Register on ExperienceBU

January 15th, 10am - 11am - GSA & UHIP Virtual H&D Plan Info Session - Register on ExperienceBU

January 20th, 1:30pm-2:30pm MC-C300 - GSA & UHIP In-Person H&D Plan Info Session - Drop-in

GSA Board of Directors Recruitment

Interested in advocating and helping graduate students? The GSA is currently recruiting graduate student members to serve on the GSA Board of Directors, open positions for students in:

- Math & Science
- Social Science
- At-large seat

Click [here](#) for more information and how to apply.

GSA Internal Committees Recruitment

Our [internal committees](#) are a great place for students interested in graduate student life and leadership. **All internal committee meetings are virtual.** We are recruiting for graduate student-at-large representatives on our 2025-2026 internal committees:

- **Governance, Elections and Nominating (2-3 hours/month)**
 - Oversees GSA governance, elections, policy reviews, and Board/committee nominations.
- **External & University Affairs Committee (1 hour per month)**
 - Advises on external and university relations, strategic initiatives, and student advocacy for the GSA.

Click [here](#) for more information and how to apply.

Brock University Committees Recruitment

The GSA is looking for graduate student representatives to sit on the following University Committees:

Two Row Council (2 hours/month)

- The mandate of the Council is to make recommendations and provide advice to Senate and its committees regarding academic policies, programs, structures and strategies to support meaningful Indigenization, reconciliation and decolonization.
- Bi-monthly meetings from September to June
- **Open positions: 1 Indigenous graduate student**

Senate Graduate Studies (2 hours/month)

- This Senate committee oversees and advises on graduate academic programs and policies, including admissions, new degrees, student conduct, awards, and curriculum updates—supporting the quality and reputation of graduate studies.
- Bi-monthly meetings from September to April
- **Open positions: 1 graduate student at-large**



GSA Events for Grad Students



January 7

Winter Warmup Welcome

MC-C300 11am - 1pm

Kick off the new term with our Winter Warmup Welcome! Come meet fellow graduate students, enjoy some warm drinks and snacks, and get excited for all the events we have planned this term.



January 8

Meet the Team

MC-C300 4pm - 6pm

Join us for our Meet the Team event, where you can connect with the current GSA executives, hear about their roles, and get insights into the upcoming elections. Pizza will be available for attendees.



January 15

Ice Dogs Game

Meridian Centre at 7pm

Get ready for an exciting night out cheering on the Niagara IceDogs! Join the GSA for a high-energy hockey game as the IceDogs take on the Guelph Storm at the Meridian Centre! RSVP on ExperienceBU!

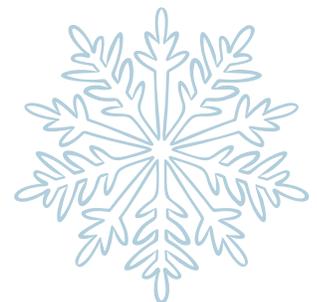


BUSU Corner - Events open to both Grad and Undergrad students

January 5 to 16

Frost Week!

Many events will be hosted by BUSU for Frost Week! Check out all the events [here for more information](#).



Graduate-Only Study Space on Campus

Library space: Graduate Student Study Room (6th FLOOR) - You must call the GSA office (ext. 4094) to receive the current passcode

Graduate Student Meeting Room (6th FLOOR) - [Reserve online here](#). Please forward the booking ID confirmation to office@brockgsa.ca to obtain the passcode.

Note: THE ACCESS CODE WILL BE CHANGED ON A REGULAR BASIS.

Contact office@brockgsa.ca to receive the access code.



Brock Student Wellness & Accessibility Centre

Just for you. Just for grads – **Starting Wednesday January 28th, 2:30-4pm**, GSA Lounge there will be a 6 session workshop series focusing on connecting with other graduates, practicing mindfulness skills and learning coping skills to manage emotions, build distress tolerance and improve on interpersonal effectiveness skills. Check out and register for the workshops on [ExperienceBU](#).



The Graduate Mentorship Program is officially underway! Mentors and mentees have signed up and are currently being trained and matched, creating supportive connections focused on academic success, well-being, and professional development. This program is designed to help graduate students feel more connected, confident, and supported throughout their journey.



Interested in being part of the next round of matches? Registration is open for graduate students who would like to participate as a mentor or mentee. Go to the [GSA Website](#) to sign up and get involved.

Thrive Week is back! Join us for two key events focused on student well-being and success.

Student Success & Wellness Fair — Tuesday, January 28, 1:00–3:30 p.m., Market Hall. Connect with campus supports for graduate and undergraduate students, plus pizza, prizes, and swag.



Jack Talks — Wednesday, January 28, 11:00–11:45 a.m., RFP 214–215, featuring a peer-led conversation on student mental health, resilience, and help-seeking. Through real stories and practical takeaways, this session encourages open conversations about mental health and highlights ways students can support themselves and each other on campus.



And that's just the start — explore the full Thrive Week schedule on [ExperienceBU](#).





Wishing you a happy holiday season from the FGSPA team! ❄️

Reminder that the university is closed December 24 at noon until January 2.

Suzanne Curtin – Christopher Yendt Graduate Collaboration Award
 Nomination deadline: Monday, Jan. 12, 2026, at 4 p.m.
 Value: \$1,000 and a certificate of recognition (one award available)
Eligibility:
 Registered full- or part-time graduate student
 Min. 80% avg.
 Activities and involvements while enrolled at Brock will be considered
 2 letters of reference

[**Apply here**](#)

Marilyn Rose Graduate Leadership Award
 Nomination deadline: Monday, Jan. 12, 2026, at 4 p.m.
 Value: \$500 and a certificate of recognition (one award available)
Eligibility:
 Faculty, staff or graduate student (full- or part-time)
 Involved in any of Brock's graduate student academic and non-academic programming
 Nominator support letter + 2 additional letters of support

[**Apply here**](#)

Funding Update

Winter funding has been posted to student accounts for students receiving financial support. Please remember you must be registered for winter classes for your funding to be released.

You may view your funding package through my.brocku.ca portal under the menu item "GraduateStudentFunding" (GradStuFund). If a Winter 2026 funding item you are expecting is not listed, please contact gradautestudies@brocku.ca as soon as possible.

Refunds will be released by INTERAC e-transfer after the winter course drop date in accordance with SAFA timelines. You will receive an email to your Brock email account when funds are available for deposit into your personal bank account.

Winter course registration + funding reminder
 Winter term course registration closes January 17
 Check out the [graduate timetable](#) to plan your courses for the upcoming term. To ensure the timely release of your funding, it's important that you're registered.

Continuing Student Scholarships and Awards ➔

The 2026/27 application period will be open from **Nov. 24, 2025, to Jan. 19, 2026.**
**Students are eligible for continuing awards if they are in a program that is greater than 3 terms in length and the program began in the 2025/26 Academic year (Spring 25, Fall 25, Winter 26) or prior. [Learn more here.](#)*

Brock LINC

Introducing Navigate: Brock LINC's Early-Stage Entrepreneurship Program

Have a business idea you want to explore? Navigate is an intensive, hands-on 11-week program designed to help you test, refine, and evaluate your idea using the Lean Startup methodology. Participants will engage directly with 50–100 potential customers, receive guidance from Brock LINC staff and mentors, and collaborate with fellow entrepreneurs.

Students who complete the program will earn a certificate of completion and credit toward the Innovative & Creative Thinking domain in Brock's Campus-Wide Co-Curriculum.

-  In-person at the Brock LINC
-  Wednesdays, 3:00–5:00 PM
-  Free to participate (limited spots available)

Applications for the Winter 2026 cohort are now open! Apply by January 7, 2026.

Coworking and booking meeting rooms at the Brock LINC

As a Brock LINC member, you have access to:

- Open tables, seating and collaboration spaces in the Atrium (Level 200) and Upper Deck (Level 300) that are available in the Rankin Family Pavilion 24/7. This includes a kitchenette, eating spaces, accessible washrooms and wireless internet access.
- Hot desks in the Brock LINC Co-working Space (Level 300), available from 9am to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday on a first come, first served basis.
- Six meeting rooms with smart TVs, webcams, and whiteboards. Spaces include one large seminar room, two boardrooms, and three small meeting rooms. Meeting rooms can only be booked for entrepreneurial related activity and are available from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday. They cannot be used for classroom projects, student groupwork or student clubs. Book a room with one of our Team Assistants at the reception desk on Level 300.

**CLICK [HERE](#) TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
BROCK LINC!**

We have some pop-up classes coming up. They are free to Brock Students ([more info here](#)):

Breathe & Let Go Yoga - Jan 19 @ 11:10am

Reset the New Year with balance and breath work, leaving you with a sense of peace and clarity

80's Jazzercise - Jan 19 @ 2:10pm

Dance, sweat, and strengthen your way into the New Year with an upbeat workout that boosts energy, fitness, and feel-good vibes.



Walker Sports Complex Holiday Building Hours

Fri Dec. 19	7am-9pm
Sat Dec. 20	
Sun Dec. 21	11am-4pm
Dec. 22 and 23	7am-9pm
Wed Dec 24	7am-Noon
Dec 25-26	Closed
Dec 27-31	10-3pm
Thurs Jan. 1	Closed
Fri Jan. 2	7am-9pm

The GSA's Fall Term Office Hours (September to December)

Monday - Friday: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

(Please note that our office is typically closed daily from 12 Noon - 12:30 pm)

Connect With Us!



If you would like to be removed from the GSA e-newsletter mailing list, please advise by return email stating your Brock email address and Student ID.