



## August 2019 Newsletter

### President's Message

Hello Graduate Students,

I hope you are enjoying the summer months. I would like to welcome any new students who are starting their studies in the fall. As a graduate student at Athabasca University, you are a member of the Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association (AUGSA). AUGSA delivers services to the student membership such as the annual graduate student research conference, bursaries, advocacy at the provincial and federal level, and more.

The Athabasca University Graduate Student Research Conference is scheduled for October 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> in Leduc, Alberta and our planning is well underway. If you have not yet registered to attend the conference, please do so. It will be a fantastic event intended to enhance your AU graduate student experience. Conference admission includes a quality headshot taken by a professional photographer for use on your professional profile, such as LinkedIn or your e-Portfolio. For all the details on the conference, visit: <https://augaradconference.athabascau.ca/>

In July, AUGSA met with Alberta's Minister of Advanced Education, and presented the priorities of the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council (abGPAC). The advocacy priorities include scholarships and grants, professional development funding, institutional funding, and mental health.

AUGSA is continually seeking to maximize or expand our service delivery. We conducted an AU graduate student survey last month, which will help to identify priorities and provide feedback as AUGSA strategically plans for the future. We love hearing from our members so if you have insight, ideas, or feedback to share please visit: <https://www.augsa.com/contact/>

Thank-you and enjoy the rest of summer!

Meaghan Sullivan

President

AU/ AUGSA 2019 Research Conference:

**Abstracts are now invited for this conference. Your abstract will be reviewed and edit suggestions will be returned to you within a few weeks of receipt. AUGSA is putting up Abstract Prizes of \$250 first place, \$150 second place and \$100 third place for submitted abstracts. Please submit your abstract to:**

[Call for Abstracts](#)

**The theme for the 2019 conference is “One AU”**

“If you want to go far, go together.” ~African proverb.

As stated in the Athabasca University strategic plan, *Imagine*, “We are one university. We achieve more together.” We embrace collaboration and connectivity among our diverse individual community members. We are a vibrant and inclusive community that welcomes and celebrates the success of our learners. We provide accessibility to education for everyone to achieve their individual learning goals and to reach their highest potential. Our learners are part of our community, and in turn can enrich their communities.

The Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS), the Athabasca University Graduate Students’ Association (AUGSA), and the university community have come together again to present our annual Graduate Student Research Conference (GSRC). To highlight the theme of “One AU” we will include the following topics through our keynote speakers, panel discussions, and student presentations:

1. Transdisciplinary research
2. Diversity
3. Inclusion
4. Accessibility
5. Connections and collaborations
6. Technology to support coordinated communities
7. Strengthening communities

We look forward to the participation of all graduate students, faculty, and staff.

“*One life, but we’re not the same, we get to carry each other*” ~U2

Please mark October 25, 26, 27 on your calendars to attend this conference in Edmonton at the [Executive Royal Hotel](#) at the Edmonton International Airport. Watch our newsletter and additional posts on our [website](#).

Once again, the link for the conference is: <https://augradconference.athabascau.ca/>

### KEEP IN TOUCH ONLINE!

As part of our ongoing efforts to connect you, our graduate students, to upcoming events, career news, industry trends, entrepreneurship, applied research trends, grants, government activities

(there IS an election coming) and the exciting research work you are doing at Athabasca University, AUGSA has expanded their outreach via the strategic online channels listed below.

**Twitter:** @augsa

**Instagram:** @athabascaugsa

**LinkedIn:** <https://bit.ly/2UqU9UN>

**Facebook:** <https://bit.ly/2EEZPFG>

Looking forward to chatting with you on-line!

Mary-Anne Parker

Vice President External, AUGSA

[Alberta Graduate Provincial Advisory Council \(abGPAC\) newsletter:](#)

We have included the abGPAC newsletter for your information on advocacy work in Alberta on behalf of Graduate Students. See the link below:

[abGPAC](#)

[Faculty of Graduate Studies](#)

The latest update from the Faculty of Graduate Studies is [here](#).

### [Funding Opportunities](#)

[Alberta Innovates Training and Early Career Development opportunities for graduate students and post-doctoral scholars:](#)

This advance notice is being sent at the request of Dr. Pamela Hawranik, Associate Vice-President, Research.

There will be a Call for applications for the Alberta Innovates (AI) Health Innovation: Talent and Early Career Development (TECD) competition, which supports *the training of future leaders in the health research and innovation environment, so that they gain broad experience that will help them succeed in launching careers in academia, industry, government or elsewhere.*

We anticipate that the deadline may be August 1st.

There will be only two streams this year -- graduate students and post-doctoral fellowships.

The theme areas will remain the same as last year. Researchers interested in hiring these individuals should be prepared for the Call.

Please check out the following website, which will provide information on last year's (2018) Call, as an example of what will be required in the 2019 competition:

<https://albertainnovates.ca/funding-health-innovations/training-and-early-career-development/>

We are providing this advanced notice so that you may prepare to have an application ready with minor modifications in order to meet the deadline.

Further details will follow once the official call for applications has been issued by AI.

Research Centre  
Athabasca University  
1 University Drive  
Athabasca, AB T9S 3A3

Several external graduate awards are advertised on the FGS website.  
More info on these opportunities can be found on the FGS Funding Opportunities Page:  
<http://fgs.athabascau.ca/opportunities/index.php>