



October 2015 News

President's Message:



Happy Fall AUGSA members!

Welcome to all the new students who have started graduate programs this September, and welcome back to everyone starting new courses.

September was an exciting month. AUGSA has just finished co-hosting the 2015 AU Graduate Students' Conference with the Faculty of Graduate Studies. From September 25-27 over 60 students shared their research, giving participants a change to learn from each other and celebrate our successes.

Thank you to everyone who helped out; facilitators, IT moderators, staff from the FGS, my fellow AUGSA executive and council members, former executives Lynde McKinley and Nicole Hill, and especially to our Executive Director, Ross Tyson, who went above and beyond to pull everything together.

Now we look towards the federal election on October 19th. Don't forget to pledge to vote for your chance to win a gift card of up to \$100 at <http://ausu.getoutthevote.ca/>. And of course don't forget to vote!

Cynthia Gordon
President
Athabasca University Graduate Students Association

Student Life Line: This service offered to you on behalf of AUGSA.

Student Life Line offers monthly links to help you in a number of areas of your life. Click each link below to access a PDF e-flyer containing a description of the topic, as well as your link to the resource.

[Q3 2015 Newsletter](#)

Simply log in **user name: AUGSA and password: wellness** to log in to your program website. Ceridian EAP/EFAP is here for you 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with expert help for work, life and everything in between.

See Student VIP options at: <https://www.studentvip.ca/augsa/>

Faculty of Graduate Studies News:

Byron Paege Memorial Award

To better accommodate our students, we have extended the application deadline for the CUPE [Byron Paege Memorial](#) Award to 4 pm, October 5. This award is for any current AU student (or registered within the past 6 months) and is for \$825.00, the approximate cost of one AU three-credit course. **Please help us make your students aware of this opportunity.** All details are below or on the CUPE 3911 website - www.cupe3911.com.

Staff, faculty and students can nominate individuals for this award, or *students can self-nominate*. Nominees should have, in the opinion of the nominator, demonstrated courage and/or resourcefulness worthy of commendation in the overcoming of, or currently coping with, some particular challenge or adversity in order to pursue distance education studies. Such challenge or adversity may include:

- o financial adversity;
- o being a member of a minority or marginalized group required to make challenging adjustments to mainstream Canadian academic culture;
- o physical disability, or any challenging health problems, generally;
- o personal loss (for example, loss of family member, loss of job);
- o adjustment to a new country and culture;
- o difficult family circumstances, past or present;
- o other challenge that in the opinion of the nominator corresponds with the spirit of these criteria.

To apply, please submit a completed [Nomination Form](#) (from CUPE website). If you nominate another individual you must provide a [Consent for Disclosure](#) (from CUPE website) and if you self-nominate you must provide a letter of reference.

All letters and forms can be submitted by email to kburke@athabascau.ca.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Kristy Burke
Administrator, CUPE Local 3911
kburke@athabascau.ca

2015 Graduate Student Research Fund (GSRF)

Application Deadline: Three times per year

February 10, May 10 and October 10

Graduate students involved in major research projects or theses, please be aware of the Mission Critical, Disciplinary, and Dissemination categories of research awards available to you under AU's Graduate Student Research Fund (GSRF).

AU Student Awards

As a reminder, AU's Students Awards Program offers the following two awards to support dissemination/presentation opportunities for AU graduate students:

[Graduate Level Student Travel Awards](#)

[Profiling Alberta's Graduate Students](#)

More information on these two awards is available at

[Student Awards](#).

AU Library

The Library is offering a free webinar via Adobe Connect for students from 6-7pm MT on Wednesday, Oct. 7. To see the date and time in your time zone, click here:

<http://tinyurl.com/aulibweb>.

The webinar will provide an orientation and overview of the Library and the services it offers. All students are welcome to attend.

The Adobe Connect link is: <https://connect.athabascau.ca/library/>. Please log in as a guest.

The recording will be available shortly after the session at:
<http://library.athabascau.ca/orientations.html>.

Major topics include:

Overview of AU Library collection (books, e-books, journal articles, databases etc.) Services available to students Tour of the Library website Basic search for journal articles Using the Library catalogue Finding full text journal articles from a citation Getting help for writing, citing, and research Reference librarians (an amazing resource available to students!)

Questions can be directed to Peggy Lynn MacIsaac (macisaac@athabascau.ca; 780-675-6724) or Jennifer Rempel (jrempel@athabascau.ca; 780-675-6257).