



January 2016 News

President's Message:



January Newsletter

Welcome to 2016 AUGSA members! A fresh year with new courses, goals, and opportunities. Welcome especially to our new members who have just began graduate programs at AU.

I hope everyone was able to relax and enjoy some time with friends and family over the holidays.

Please keep an eye out for an AUGSA Survey in the New Year. We want to get your input on our services as well as data we can use to advocate for you to the University, provincial, and federal governments.

One item I would like to work on is making important information easily available to students when they need it. Council had discussions this month about two items that can be missed at the time they are needed. First, students who are funded through the Canadian Student Loans Program need to be aware that take only one "Independent Track" course (in the MAIS program for example) that has a 6 month time line instead of 4 months will lose their status as a full time student for funding purposes. Second that scholarship information is not always easy to find. The AUGSA newsletter has information about scholarships and there are emails from AU with details as well. Please get in touch with me if you have any ideas about how to make important items like this easier for students to find.

Cynthia Gordon
President
Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association

Elections 2016- CRO and election and referenda committee representative:

With the new year upon us it is time to start our election process. Each year we hire a Chief Returning Officer to run our election process. Interested parties can send in a CV to ed@augsa.com.

An Election and Referenda Committee works with the CRO in matters having to do with the election. We need a student at large to help fill the committee to three plus the CRO. The other two positions come from Council. If you are interested in serving please respond to ed@augsa.com with your intention to serve. Please reply by January 11.

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 the link below to access a PDF e-flyer containing a description of the topic, as well as your link to the resource.

[Q4 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/>

OohLaLa Mobile App: Just a reminder to download the Athabasca University Students mobile app to your smart phone if you have not already done so. Simply search **Athabasca University Students** at your app store. We are very pleased at the number of students accessing this free resource offered by AUGSA and AUSU to our students.

Faculty of Graduate Studies News:

[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](#).