Welcome

bienvenue

Shekoli Swakwek
Lise Laporte
Senior Director
Western International
Florentine Strzelczyk
Provost & Vice-President (Academic)
Western University
Mayor Ed Holder
City of London
Dev Sainani, PhD
Co-Chair Newcomers Committee
City of London
Kinga Koltun
Senior Coordinator, Community Engagement –
Equity & Inclusion
City of London
Game time!

• Where did you travel from?
• When did you arrive?
• How many languages do you speak?
USC 101
2022-2023
Who am I?

Ethan Biswurm
VP Governance & Finance

Languages:
- English
- German
- Mandarin (我可一说一点中文)

Ethnicities:
- German
- Hungarian
- Chinese
Where have I Lived?
How to Find a Home at Western
What is the USC?

University Students’ Council

- Student-led organization
- Exists to advocate for & represent undergraduate students
  - + Professional Schools: Ivey, Law, Medicine, Dental, Education
- We are the voice of all students and help make the Western experience what it is!

*We believe that students have the power to change the world.*
(some of) Our Services

- University Students' Council
  - Clubs
  - Ethnocultural Support Services
  - Peer Support
  - Theatre USC
  - Food Support Services
(some of) Our Services

PurpleCARE
Students Supporting Students.
FAQ

- **Health & Dental Plan**
  - Known as PurpleCare [purplecare.ca](http://purplecare.ca)
  - Covers prescription drugs, dental, travel insurance, vision care, visits to Massage, Physiotherapist, Naturopath, etc
  - Opt-out: *Students who are covered under an equivalent extended benefit health care plan (in addition to your standard provincial coverage) may choose to “opt-out” of the USC plan. This typically applies to students who have previous and continuing health insurance coverage provided by a parent or guardian. If you choose to opt-out, the fee will be reimbursed and credited to your online Western student services account. You can opt-out between July 1 and September 23. No opt outs will be processed after these dates.*

- **LTC Bus Pass**
  - Automatically loaded to Western OneCards starting Sept 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023
  - No opting out of the bus pass - mandatory plan authorized by student referendum that requires all full-time undergraduate students to participate

- **Contact:** Nina Joyce, Student Benefits Coordinator at nina.joyce@westernusc.ca
How to get involved
How to get involved
Questions?

Contact:
Ethan Biswurm, VP Governance & Finance
governancefinance@westernusc.ca
Kesavi Kanagasabai
Vice-President Student Services
Society of Graduate Students

Kevin Moore
Vice-President Student Academic & Acting President
Society of Graduate Students
SOCIETY OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
MIDDLESEX COLLEGE, ROOM 8
LONDON, ONTARIO, CANADA
SOGS@UWO.CA | 519.661.3394 | SOGS.CA
@WESTERNSOGS
Our office is located in the lower level of Middlesex College...
down the hall from the Grad Club eatery and pub!
OFFICE HOURS:
Mondays-Thursdays
10am-4pm

MEMBER SUPPORT SERVICES:
• BY TELEPHONE
  ◦ 519-661-3394
• EMAIL
  ◦ SOGS@UWO.CA
• DROP-IN, or
• BY APPOINTMENT
The Society of Graduate Students is a:

STUDENT GOVERNMENT.

ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION.
Student Advocacy

SOGS is Local #47 of the Canadian Federation of Students

CFS-FCEE.CA

Get Your Free Digital ISIC Discount Card!

ISICCANADA.CA/CFSFCEE
Fall 2022

Monday, September 19
WELCOME TO GRAD LIFE AT WESTERNU

Tuesday, September 20
GRAD CAST & CHILL TRIVIA

Wednesday, September 21
GRAD CLUB TUESDAY NIGHT TRIVIA

Thursday, September 22
ARTFUL YOGA w/ BROOKE BLISS

Friday, September 23
BOARD GAME NIGHT

Weekend: September 24 & 25
BONFIRE NIGHT

Learn more: sogsa.ca/orientation

MCINTOSH GALLERY SCULPTURE GARDEN TOUR

CRAFT NIGHT: PAINT YOUR OWN PLANT POT

HOME COMING FOOTBALL GAME & PUB GRUB

APPLE PICKING AT APPLE LAND STATION
JOIN A COMMITTEE!

SOGS HAS 14+ COMMITTEES!

JOINING A COMMITTEE MEANS YOUR VOICE IS HEARD!

CONTACT THE COMMITTEE CHAIR TO NOMINATE YOURSELF.

*EARN A $5 GRAD CLUB GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR ATTENDANCE AT EACH MONTHLY MEETING!

COMMITTEE CHAIRS EARN AN $500 HONORARIA

SOGS.CA/COMMITTEES
The HEART of GradLife Western U

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner | Daily Food Specials | Vegan Options | Weekly Trivia | Events | Catering | Drag Nights | Meal Kits | Outdoor Patio | Craft Beer | Rick McGhie | Western Meal Plan | and more!

EATERY & PUB

Hours of Operation:
Mondays - Fridays
*9AM TO 10PM*

Take-out, Dine-in, Patio

Contact:
GRADCLUB@UWO.CA
(519) 661-3082

Middlesex College, room 19
Congratulations to our members that pass their thesis defense!

Head over to the Grad Club to claim your free drink from the Goblet of Knowledge!
GET IN TOUCH WITH US!

SOGS EXECUTIVE:
EXECUTIVE@SOGS.CA

SOGS SPEAKER:
SPEAKER@SOGS.CA

SOGS OMBUDSPERSON:
OMBRESPERSON@SOGS.CA

SOGS COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSIONERS@SOGS.CA

SOGS MEMBER SERVICES:
SOGS@UWO.CA

SOGS COMMUNICATIONS:
SOGS.COMMUNICATIONS@UWO.CA

SOGS ACCOUNTING:
SOGS.ACCOUNTING@UWO.CA

SOGS GOVERNANCE & POLICY:
SOGS.GOVERNANCE@UWO.CA

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SOGS.CA/CONTACT/
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION ASSISTANTS

Kevin Vytlingam
Deeplina Banerjee
Tu Van Phan
More Orientation Events

- Lunch: Concrete Beach, 12 pm
- Information and writing sessions this afternoon
- Night Community Fair:
  Concrete Beach, 6-9 pm
- Shopping Shuttles
  Tomorrow, 11:30 am - 4:30 pm
  Buses leave from South Valley Parking Lot
#purpleandproud