Doctoral Student Association Report to Faculty Council
April 10, 2014

Activities of the Doctoral Students Association, 2013-2014

In the 2013-2014 academic year, the Doctoral Students Association (DSA) planned and organized more academic, professional development, and social events than in previous years to encourage collegiality and to provide social support to all of its members.

Some notable events that were held the past couple of months: the “Designing and Presenting Posters” session hosted by ginger coons and Jenna Jacobson was well attended by both first- and second-year doctoral students; the “Stress Management” session hosted by the Family Care Office was well attended and provided some of our doctoral students with stress management tips for their impending deadlines; and the 3 “NVivo workshops” at the OISE computer labs were also a great success, hopefully spurring on many doctoral students in conducting their qualitative research this summer.

The Tech Fund Committee met on Wednesday March 5th to discuss the by-laws to further refine the language surrounding technology “services”, as well as any future purchases they will be making for the doctoral spaces, such as a computer stations in room 705; items will be voted on sometime during the month of May. The DSA Travel Fund distributed travel awards to four applicants this year.

The DSA held multiple “Forum Fridays” on Friday afternoons, followed by off-campus socializing. The “Forum Friday” events we have held so far this year are:

Welcome to Grad Life, September 20
Junior Professor Research Day, October 4
Grant Applications, October 18
Work-Life Balance, November 1
3-Minute Elevator Pitch, November 15
Supervision, Leslie Shade, November 29
Non-Academic Job Market, Kelly Lyons and Jeff Crelinsten, December 13
Designing and Presenting Posters, ginger coons and Jenna Jacobson, February 14
Stress management, The Family Care Office, March 7
Academic Job Market, Patrick Keilty and Irina Mihalache, March 14
NVivo workshop part 1, OISE Computer Labs, March 21
NVivo workshop part 2, OISE Computer Labs, March 28
NVivo workshop part 3, OISE Computer Labs, April 4
Post your PhD, Karen Smith, April 11

We invite faculty members to please contact Jenna Jacobson if you would like to host a “Forum Friday” in the upcoming 2014-2015 academic year—an informal knowledge-sharing event with the doctoral students. We are open to any ideas you may have and hope that faculty will be involved once a month in the Forum Friday events and socializing.

All faculty and staff are invited to the End-Of-Term-Party!
April 25, 2014 (following the PhD Research Days) at the Free Times Café - 320 College St.
Please come and celebrate the end of a successful year.