

Grad Orientation 2019

Welcome to UBC and the
Department of Computer Science!



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Computer Science Graduate Student Association (CSGSA)

Nico Ritschel



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“The purpose of the Association is to promote the welfare of the Computer Science graduate students, and to provide official representation for them.”

– The CSGSA Constitution



*“All students registered in the Faculty of
Graduate Studies in Computer Science
at the University of British Columbia
shall be members of the Association.”*

– The CSGSA Constitution

CSGSA Executive Team

Nico Ritschel

President



Adam Geller

VP Finance



Michael Oppermann

VP Social



But there are many
more ...

Curriculum Committee: Vaastav Anand

Faculty Recruiting Committee: Yasha Pushak and Vaastav Anand

Graduate Admissions Committee: Aaron Mishkin and Boyan Beronov

Graduate Affairs Committee: Nico Ritschel, Yasha Pushak, and Giovanni Viviani

Outreach, Diversity and Equality Committee: Paul Bucci

Program Experience Committee: Vaastav Anand

Space and Safety Committee: Adam Geller

Graduate Student Wellbeing Network Representative:
Paul Bucci

TA Union Representative: Paul Bucci

Coffee House Organizers: Nico Ritschel, Michael Oppermann, Adam Geller, and Christian Weilback

UDLS Czar: Adam Geller

Tea Czar: Chris Chen

Beer Czar: Giovanni Viviani

Sports Representative: Vaastav Anand

Full list on cs.ubc.ca/~csgsa/people

CSGSA Traditions

Tuesday Tea

every Tuesday afternoon at 4pm in
X860 (next door)

UnDistinguished Lecture Series (UDLS)

every Friday at 5pm in X836 (this room)

More info on cs.ubc.ca/~udls

Beer Call and other Social Events

every Friday, after UDLS (~6pm)

Other CSGSA Events

Get informed about events

(even if you lose control over your email inbox ;))

Join at: <https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~csgsa/join-slack/>

Alternatively, you can subscribe the official event calendar.

Subscribe: <https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~csgsa/csgsa-calendar/>

(Important: Do not download the linked file but subscribe in your calendar app)

Other Orientation Events

More info on cs.ubc.ca/~csgsa/orientation2019

Monday

~~3pm — Campus Tour~~

Wednesday

6pm – CSGSA Mixer (***Please RSVP!***)

Friday

5:45pm – Beach BBQ (***Please RSVP!***)

Next Tuesday

4pm – Tuesday Tea

Next Friday

5pm – UDLS

6pm – Beer Call

Next Saturday

10:30am – CSGSA Hike (***Please RSVP!***)

TA Training

Saturday

Mandatory (but paid) for all incoming TA's.

Watch your emails for more information from the department!

Preliminary schedule:

cs.ubc.ca/~csgsa/orientation2018/6-sat.html

Today's Agenda

09:45 - Introduction from the
Department

10:00 – Safety Orientation

10:45 - Reading Room

11:00 - Computing Resources

11:30 – Bullpen & Shared Spaces

12:00 - Lunch & Imagine Day

14:00 - Faculty Course Pitches

16:00 - Student Course Discussion

TIPS:

Choosing Courses

- Stay until the end of today to get an overview over all offered courses
- Shop for courses in the first week
- Consider that different courses may be taught next year
- You can take up to two undergraduate level courses
- Also consider courses from other departments (e.g. ECE is common)
- Talk with senior grads (e.g. lab mates)

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Introduction from the Department

Chen Greif and Cristina Conati



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Safety

Ming Lau



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Reading Room

Bernice Koh



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Computing

John Seto



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Other UBC Career Resources

- [Graduate Pathways to Success](#) program
- [Centre for Student Involvement and Careers](#) - Graduate Student Resources
- [MITACS Step Workshops](#) – presentation skills, networking, time management etc. Online & in-person workshops

TIPS:

How to be successful

- Try to get in contact with professors whose classes you're taking
- Attend reading groups
- Attend talks organized in the department
- Keep in touch with your grad buddy
- Ask other people from your cohort for advice
- Ask other grads for advice (e.g. during Tuesday Tea, or your lab mates)

TIPS:

What you should do now

- Meet with your advisor/supervisor if you haven't done so already
- Meet/Email the instructor you are TAing for
- Register for courses, pay tuition, set up direct deposit
- Get your private life in order (especially if you are an international student)
- Get settled in your lab or the bullpen
- When all else fails, contact Joyce Poon, the Graduate Program Administrator

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Bullpen & Shared Spaces

Nico Ritschel



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The Bullpen (Room 108)

- Working Area with Desks
 - Windows, Linux, Mac Computers
- A great place to meet other new grads to work together!
- No fixed desk assignments
 - Feel free to stick a name tag to a desk to claim it as your space
- Please keep noise level low
- Please keep desks clean

The Grad Lounge (Room 144)

- Lounge Area with couches
- Next to the Bullpen
- A great place to meet other new grads to socialize!
- Foosball, Pool and Ping Pong table
- Lockers
- Meet here on Wednesday at 18:00.

Grad Lounge Lockers

- Free to use
- Bring your own lock
- **If you want to use and lock it, send us an email with your name, locker number, and expected duration.**
csgsa@cs.ubc.ca
- Lockers will be opened and emptied at the end of the term.
Term 1: 2018-12-14
Term 2: 2019-04-26

The 8th Floor Lounge (Room X860)

- Lounge Area with couches and tables
- Next to this room
- A space that can be used by grad students, but is also frequented by MDS students and sometimes professors
- Has a great view, but can get noisy!
- Meet here next week for Tuesday Tea

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