

Grad Orientation 2021

Welcome to UBC and the Department of
Computer Science!



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Computer Science Graduate Student Association (CSGSA)

Paulette Koronkevich



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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

Paulette Koronkevich

Baraa Orabi

Adam Geller & Rubia Guerra

President

VP Finance

VP Social



Grad Affairs

Nico Ritschel



Adam Geller



Chris Chen



But there are many
more ...

Faculty Recruiting (Research): Victor S. Portella, Felipe Bañados Schwerter

Faculty Recruiting (Educational Leadership): Kattie Sepehri

Outreach, Diversity, and Equity: Paul Bucci, Greg d'Eon, Kattie Sepehri, Preeti Vyas

Graduate Student Wellbeing Network Representative: Paul Bucci

UDLS Czars: James Yoo and Narun Raman

Tea Czar: Preeti Vyas

Full list on

cs.ubc.ca/~csgsa/people

CSGSA Traditions

Tuesday Tea

every Tuesday afternoon at
4pm

UnDistinguished Lecture Series (UDLS)

every Friday at 5pm

More info on cs.ubc.ca/~udls

Social Event

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/orientation2020

Wednesday

9am – Virtual Dialogue with Grads

12pm – Wellbeing Lunch.

Thursday

9am – Meet and Greet (**Please RSVP!**)

Friday

9am – Meet and Greet (**Please RSVP!**)

5pm – UDLS

6pm – Dinner at Beach (**Please RSVP!**)

Next Tuesday

9am – Virtual Dialogue with Faculty

4pm – First Tuesday Tea of the term!

Next Friday

5pm – UDLS and Social

Next Saturday

City Tour (**Please watch for details and RSVP!**)

TA Training

Wednesday and Thursday

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

Watch your emails for more information from the department!

Today's Agenda

09:45 - Introduction from the
Department

10:00 - Safety Orientation

break

10:45 - Reading Room

break

11:00 - Computing Resources

break

11:30 - Bullpen & Shared Spaces

12:00 - Lunch & Imagine Day

14:00 - Faculty Course Pitches

16:00 - Student Course
Discussion

Join Slack!!

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

Discussion of courses WILL NOT be recorded.

Ask any questions about courses in the #courses channel.

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

Ian Mitchell



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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 faculty contact if you haven't done so already
- Meet/Email the instructor you are TAing for
- Register for courses, pay tuition, set up direct deposit
- When all else fails, contact Joyce Poon, the Graduate Program Administrator (poon@cs.ubc.ca) or me!!
- Set up your work from home environment

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