

# Graduate Studies in the Faculty of Environment

## 2023-24 Annual Report of the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies

(with input from Cynthiya Subramaniam and Christina Pope)

### Current Enrollment:

Graduate studies programs in the Faculty of Environment continue to attract high quality applications and admissions. The Dean's Doctoral Initiative (DDI) has continued into the tenth year, serving both domestic and international students. Our research clusters continue to help students identify research areas and find potential supervisors. In Fall 2023, 159 master's and 30 doctoral students joined Environment, bringing our student headcount to 636 (down slightly from 701 in 2022). Of these, 232 are pursuing their doctoral degree, and 137 are international students. When weighing part-time students as 0.3 units, the total full-time equivalent (FTE) in Fall 2023 was 484.4 graduate students (Figure 1).

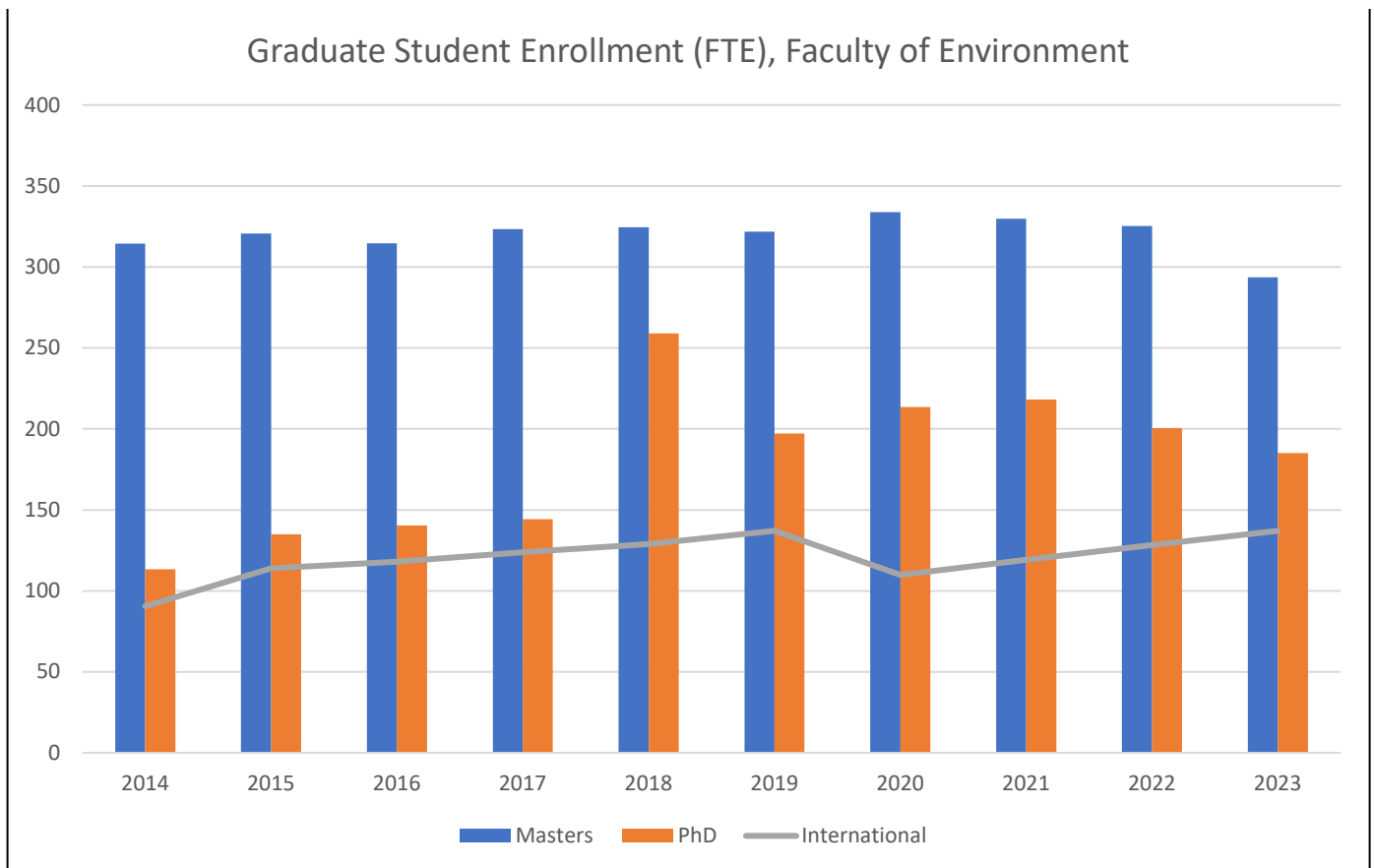


Figure 1: FTE graduate student enrolment in the Faculty of Environment; 2014 - 2023.

## Demand

Applications are down from our historic high in 2020. We have received 553 applications for Fall 2024 (Figure 2).

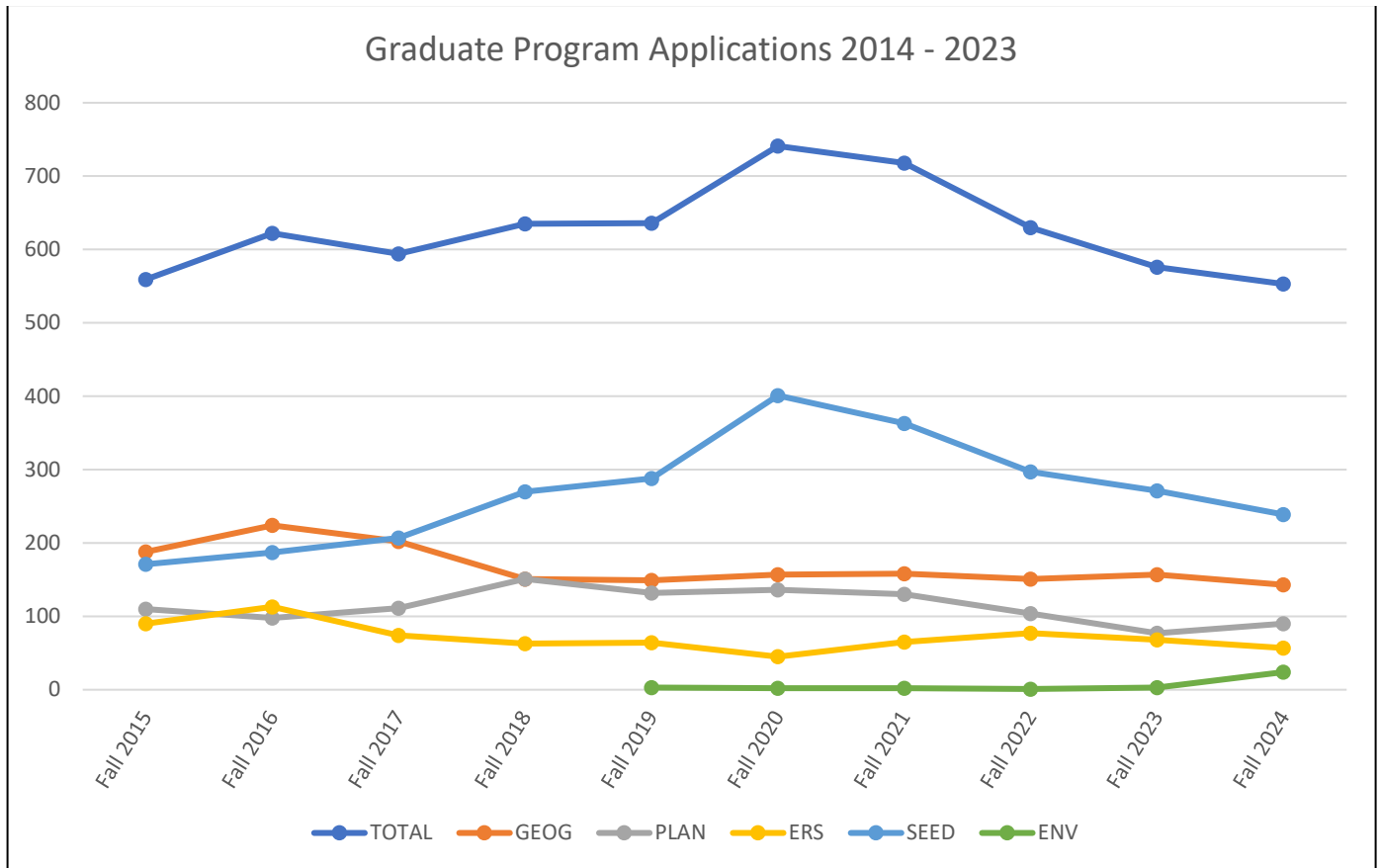


Figure 2: Number of Graduate Program Applications, by unit, Fall 2015 - 2024.

**Doctoral recruitment:** We continue to attract high quality applicants. The Dean's Doctoral Initiative guarantees funding of \$108,520 for students across the four years. This year, the Dean's Doctoral Initiative offered 10 awards each for domestic and international students. In addition, Environment offers an entrance award worth \$5,000 for exceptional doctoral students. These award recipients were selected from a strong pool of applicants. Seven domestic and eleven international DDI students entered our programs last fall.

Total doctoral applications for Fall 2023 were 102 (33 domestic), down from 135 for Fall 2022 (40 domestic). As of April 29, total doctoral applications for Fall 2024 are 86 (26 are domestic).

The highlights are as follows:

- Domestic applications account for approximately 30%, which is similar to previous years.
- As of April 29, we have made 32 offers (14 domestic), and this is ongoing. In comparison, in Fall 2023 we had made 33 offers (16 domestic).
- As of April 29, we have 25 offers accepted (11 domestic). In comparison, in Fall 2023 we had 26 offers accepted (12 domestic).

**Masters recruitment:** For 2023, funding packages for domestic research masters students were adjusted and are worth approximately \$17,849 to up to \$31,773. Non-thesis or professional masters students with high academic averages were eligible for entrance awards worth \$2,000 to up to \$4,000. Last year, we offered 10 IMAE awards to incoming international master's students, with 8 students entering our programs last fall.

Total masters' applications for Fall 2023 were 473 (202 domestic), down from 495 for Fall 2022 (198 domestic). As of April 29, total master's application for Fall 2023 is 467 (231 domestic). The highlights are as follows:

- Domestic applications account for 49%, which is higher than previous years (2022 = 40%, 2023 = 43%)
- As of April 29, we have made 238 offers (165 domestic), and this is ongoing. In comparison, in Fall 2022 we had made 220 (129 domestic) at this time.
- As of April 29, we have 142 (99 domestic) offers accepted, compared to 147 at this time last year (79 domestic)

#### **Changes in the Grad team:**

- Christina Pope returned to her role as Graduate Studies Marketing and Recruitment Specialist
- Amanda Campbell had left her position as Graduate Program Administrator in SERS for another position within UW. We welcomed Stephanie Mohl as the new Graduate Program Administrator in SERS.
- We welcomed two new Associate Directors for Graduate studies, Andrea Collins in SERS and Jeremy Pittman in Planning. We thank Derek Armitage and Janice Barry for their service to the graduate studies community.

#### **Other highlights:**

- Recruitment events in the fall included seven informational webinars, one open house and two university fairs.
- The Faculty of Environment was well represented at this year's GRADflix. Beth Grant (SERS), Emma Wegener (GEM), Isra Saeed (SEED) and Jacqueline Harper (GEM) represented Environment in the final showcase. Congratulations to Wegener for winning the Social Impact award.
- We celebrated the launch of the new Master of Future Cities program, with the first class of students beginning this fall. We are also excited by the upcoming start of the new Graduate Diploma in Climate Change.

**Special thanks to the graduate team for the collaborative work and their efforts to contribute to the Faculty's vision of delivering high quality education and enrich student experience.**

## Scholarship Recipients:

Congratulations to the following scholarship recipients:

Award Name	First Name	Last Name	Department	Program
NSERC - PGS D	Reynolds	Jordan	SERS	PhD
	Schmidt	Meg	GEOG	PhD
SSHRC - CGS	Blackman	Tyler	GEOG	PhD
	Jones	Donna Valerie	SEED	PhD
	St-Hilaire	Cloe	PLAN	PhD
SSHRC - Doctoral	Petric	Alex	PLAN	PhD
	Serrao	Natasha	SERS	PhD
Tri-agency - NSERC	Stebalj	Victoria	GEOG	MSc
Tri-agency - SSHRC	Allaby	Katherine	GEOG	MES
	Borho	Emma	PLAN	MES
	Collette	Emma	SERS	MES
	Grant	Beth (Weltha)	SERS	MES - Water
	Mitchell	Madeline	SERS	MES
	Morielli	Amanda	PLAN	MES
	Rawlyk	Madelyn	GGOV	MA
	Ricci	Michael	PLAN	MA
	Woods	Kyle	GEOG	MES
OGS - Domestic	Bonnell	Kevin	PLAN	PhD
	Carpenter	Aidan	GEOG	MA
	Co	Rebecca	GEOG	MCC
	Cottar	Shaieree	GEOG	PhD
	Fatima	Alia	GEOG	MCC
	Feor	Leah	SEED	PhD
	Flemming	Margot	GEOG	PhD
	Hassan	Nesma	SEED	PhD
	Hussey	Holly Grace	GEOG	MSc
	Kanda	Neha	GEOG	PhD - Water
	Little	Kaylia	SEED	PhD
	Maclsaac	Alex	SERS	MES
	Majda	Natalie	PLAN	MA
	Malhas	Saif	GEOG	PhD
	McLean	Kelly	SERS	PhD
	Noyes	Indra	GGOV	PhD
	Prayitno	Nabila	PLAN	PhD
	Reid	Brady	SEED	PhD
	Sherlock	Cassandra	SERS	PhD - Water
	Swanson	Kayleigh	PLAN	PhD
Yeung	Yuki Ching Yee	GEOG	MA	
QEII GSST	DePauw	Julie	GEOG	PhD - Water

Santia	Veronica	GEOG	MSc
Kidd	Jess	SERS	PhD - Water
Williamson	Jessica	GEOG	PhD