The W22 Town Hall will take place TOMORROW, Wednesday, January 26 from 10am to 12pm. It is mandatory for all GI members! Looking forward to seeing you all there 😊

New Covid-19 regulations in effect; consult Health and Safety section.

Most in-person teaching and learning resuming on February 7th.

When you hear the Town Hall is Tomorrow
On January 27th, we will commemorate the International Holocaust Remembrance Day, a day when we recognize and honor the memory of the victims of the Holocaust and commitment to counter antisemitism and racism. We encourage you all to go through the resources listed below, as well as take time to view Holocaust media by Jewish creators.

**Events:**
- Park East Synagogue Holocaust Commemoration Service, January 25th @6:00pm
- International Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration, January 26th @6:00pm
- United Nations Chamber Music Society Virtual Concert, January 27th @9:00am
- United Nations Holocaust Memorial Ceremony, January 27th @11:00am
- Lest We Forget: Combating Holocaust Denial and Distortion, January 27th @2:00pm

**Educational Resources:**
- International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance
- Holocaust Memorial Day Trust: One Day

**Day:**
- January 27: International Holocaust Remembrance Day
- February 1st: Chinese New Year

**List of GI Resources:**
- GI Equipment/Room Booking Form
- Events at the GI Form
- GI Entry Schedule Form
- GI Wi-Fi
  - Network Name: GI-Research
  - Password: GIUwaterloo2021!
- Prayer mat in Agata’s office for those who need it
- You can check the availability of the GI Labs, Collaboration Space and the Presentation Room via shared Outlook calendars. See list below.

  a. Games Institute EC1-1237 – Presentation Room
  b. Games Institute EC1-1249 – Living Room Lab
  c. Games Institute EC1-1303 – Haptic Experience Lab
  d. Games Institute EC1-1307 – VR Story Lab
  e. Games Institute EC1-1318 – Immersion Room Lab
  f. Games Institute EC1-1323 – Collaboration Space

**To add these calendars to your Outlook app:**
1. Open your calendar in the Outlook Desktop App.
2. Right-click beside "My Calendar".
3. Hover over "Add Calendar" and select "From Room List" to view availability.
[ANNOUNCEMENTS]

1. The **W22 Town Hall** will take place **TOMORROW, Wednesday, January 26 from 10am to 12pm**. It is mandatory for all GI members! Recording will be available for those who are unable to attend due to schedule conflicts.
3. Most in-person teaching and learning resuming on February 7th.
4. Proposal submissions for the [International Conference on Games and Narrative](#) are due on **February 1st, 2022** via email (icgan.submissions@uwaterloo.ca). See the document attached.
5. Initial abstract submissions for the special issue of the [Journal of Electronic Gaming and Esports](#) about Diversity and Sustainability in Electronic Gaming and Esports are due on **March 1st, 2022**. Send your abstracts via email to jege.si.das@gmail.com. Email Emma Vossen (evossen@uwaterloo.ca) if you have any questions.

[EVENTS]

**Gi Events**

**W22 Town Hall**
*Wednesday, January 26th @10:00am-12:00pm*
- The GI staff will be giving members updates about the term, including the latest health and safety changes at the GI. It is mandatory for all new GI members!

**GI Global Game Jam**
*Wednesday, January 26th @5:00pm - Sunday, January 30th @4:00pm*
- The GI is hosting a multi-day Game Jam event where playful people gather to create original games together.
  - [Register here!](#)

**Conceptual Frameworks for Networked Feminisms**
*Thursday, January 27th @11:00am*
- Feminist Think Tank is hosting a speaker series exploring how feminists employ online platforms, practices, and tools to create spaces of solidarity and articulate a critical politics. This particular session approaches to exploring networking feminisms.
- Speakers include Melissa Brown, Tara L. Conley, and Helena Suárez Val. Hosts include Shana MacDonald and Brianna I. Wiens.
  - [Register here!](#)

**UW Events**

**Water Innovation Challenge Information Session**
*Thursday, January 27th @12:30pm*
- The Water Institute is partnering with Blackberry to challenging professors and students in proposing research and development projects that advance BlackBerry technology as well as water-related challenges or opportunities.
- The Information Session will provide information on the proposal process.
  - [Register here!](#)

**Political Identity in Palestinian Youth Subcultures**
*Thursday, January 27th @3:00pm*
- Elianne El-Amyouni is a Lebanese Canadian PhD Candidate, writing about identity expression in Palestinian youth cultures.
- Elianne will be discussing the topic of how Palestinian youths have created a hip hop subculture in response to the diaspora they have experienced and attempting to delineate the new borders of Palestinian identity. Eliane will be speaking, while Lara El Mekkawi will act as the respondent.
  - [Join directly here](#), Meeting number: 2305 634 1101. Password: preslecture

**Pandora's Box: Lifting the Lid on Menstruation**
*Thursday, January 27th @4:30pm*
- The Gender and Social Justice program is hosting a virtual live film screening of *Pandora's Box: Lifting the Lid on Menstruation*. The film examines period poverty,
menstrual inequity and the need for accessible and affordable menstrual care products.

- All attendees will be entered in a draw for door prizes
- Join directly here. Meeting number: 2311 751 3448. Password: DivaCup

President's Forum Event
Wednesday, 2nd February @1:30pm

- Experts from across the Waterloo campus will be sharing information on the return to in-person experiences.
- Register here!

Critical Tech Talk 2: Wendy Chun - Discriminating Data
Thursday, February 10 @6:00pm

- Wendy Chun is the Canada 150 Research Chair in New Median in the School of Communication at Simon Fraser University.
- Wendy will be discussing the issues of big data and machine learning, and how these elements encode discrimination to create agitated clusters of comforting rage. The talk will be moderated by Marcel O’Gorman, with Brie Wiens and Queenie Wu.
- Register here!

**Recurring Events**

**Feminist Think Tank**

- Happens every first Wednesday of the month! If you would like to join please join the slack channel #lobby-feministthinktank or reach out to Sid Heeg. (syheeg@uwaterloo.ca).

**Other Virtual Events**

**Driving Growth in the Hybrid Era**

Wednesday, January 26th @10:00pm

- Adobe is hosting a live session about key digital workflow topics, from e-signature integrations and AI, to extensibility and identity.
- Speakers include Ian Peacock (Sr. Manager, Adobe), Holly Muscolino (Research Vice President, IDC), and Mahrya Dakubu (Solutions Consulting Manager, Adobe).
- Register here!

First and foremost, the GI is open. However, staff, faculty, and students are highly encouraged to work from home until the beginning of February.

1. Screen yourself for Covid-19 symptoms before arriving to campus. If you have any cold and flu symptoms, regardless of how mild, please stay at home.
2. Capacity restrictions will return to lab spaces as well as common areas (the Collaboration Space and the Presentation Room),
3. There will be NO capacity restrictions or scheduling for GI residents seeking to use their pods or shared faculty offices.
4. At the GI, continue to wear face coverings when in common areas of buildings or in any work area where physical distancing cannot be maintained. If 2m can be maintained, face coverings do not need to be worn while working at a stationary workstation (i.e., pods).
5. For labs, if 2m cannot be maintained with occupancy limits, PPE must be worn.
6. Meetings, if deemed necessary, can still occur on campus but capacity restrictions apply for the room being used. If 2m distancing cannot be accommodated for all meeting participants, it must be hosted online. Masks are required for all meeting attendees when not seated.
7. The Collaboration space returns to its drop-in model unless specifically booked for other purposes; the other GI spaces still have to be booked via GI Operations Coordinator as has been the norm.

**General Space**
1. **The facility is open from 9am to 5pm Monday-Friday.** In order to stay on campus after hours, you must apply for special permissions.
2. You must screen yourself for symptoms before you arrive to campus.
3. Every time you come to campus, you must sign in with the Campus Check-in screening feature (once connected to eduroam, you will automatically receive an email).
4. For those bringing guests, please ensure the guests also complete Campus Check-in manually. If you do not receive the email, [you can check-in here](#).
5. Masks **MUST** be worn at all times.
6. All GI members must sign the GI Operational Safety Plan to enter the facility. Only once the plan has been signed, fob access will be reactivated.
7. GI members, who are not residents are free to use the collaboration room or presentation room as a study area on casual basis (if the rooms have not been booked).
   a. These areas **MUST** be sanitized by the individuals using them with cleaning products provided after use. Individuals must also use the cleaning sheets provided in each space to note that they have cleaned the space.
8. GI members can bring guests (UW or otherwise affiliated) to the GI, however, they must sign in at the GI Ops desk for contact tracing.

   1. Staff will sanitize high-touch points at mid-day and before the GI closes. Custodial services will do deep cleans after hours and during weekends.

**Pods**

2. Masks can be removed if 2m diameter of social distancing is in place.
3. GI residents must eat at their pods.
4. All dishes and non-perishable food items must be stored at your pod.

**GI Labs**

1. Each GI Lab has its own Safety Plan; **each plan must be read and signed separately** if access is requested.
   a. Lab Safety Plans are tied to the GI operating Safety Plan – you will need to sign both to be approved for access to any of the labs.
2. **In the case of studies with participants, the GI Lab Safety Plans act as a skeleton with instructions for what parts of the plan individual researchers must fill out. Please see participant section for more details.**
3. Sanitization of surfaces in the Labs is the responsibility of individuals who use them. Cleaning supplies and sign-off sheets are provided.
4. If 2m cannot be maintained with occupancy limits, PPE must be worn.

**Human Participant Testing**

1. All in-person human participant research with [vulnerable populations](#) is paused at least until January 27, 2022. Rare exceptions can be made – principal investigators are encouraged to reach out to the Office of Research with queries through researchqueries@uwaterloo.ca.
2. We strongly encourage principal investigators to review their protocols for all other in-person human participant research and consider pausing until at least until January 27, 2022.

**COVID-19 Resources:**

- A [5-minute game to protect you against COVID-19 misinformation](#)
- [Q and A with the experts: COVID variants](#)
- Check out the University's [health and safety guide's flow chart](#) to see if you might have been exposed, and let the University know if you have been.

**Employees**

If you work on campus:

- Notify Occupational Health (OH) if you develop COVID-19 symptoms, told to self-isolate, or test positive (ART and PCR). OH can be reached at (519) 888-4567 extension 40538 or 40551, or at [occupationalhealth@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:occupationalhealth@uwaterloo.ca).
- If you are required to isolate, but not sick and cannot work from home, inform your supervisor and OH to determine if you should continue to be paid during isolation.

If you work remotely:

- Do not need to inform OH if you develop symptoms, need to isolate, or test positive for COVID-19
- If off work from COVID-19 related illness, notify your supervisor and record sick days in Workday.

**Students**

If you live on residences:
• Contact reslifeteam@uwaterloo.ca if you experience symptoms, are concerned about exposure, are identified as a high-risk contact, or advised to self-isolate.

If you will miss classes, due dates, or exams due to COVID:
• Contact course instructor(s) before/within 48 hours of test, exam, or due date
• Complete the illness self-declaration form in the Personal Information section of Quest.

Vaccine appointments available at Health Services
Three doses of a COVID-19 vaccine provide more protection from getting/transmitting Omicron than two doses. All Ontarians over 18 are eligible for a booster dose 84 days after their second dose.

Book your booster at Health Services, or through online resources such as Vaccine Ontario and Vaccine Hunters.

If you are an international student with questions about vaccines, please email ise@uwaterloo.ca.

If you have any accessibility concerns or accommodations, please reach out to GI Staff immediately.