Hi everyone,

I am very pleased to announce that the Games Institute will be participating in the University of Waterloo's inaugural Green Office program. This is an exciting opportunity to work alongside other offices who are all undertaking similar efforts to reduce our environmental footprint.

Over the coming months, we will be looking to introduce new actions and initiatives that make the GI space more sustainable. You can look forward to new signage, fun campaigns, and hopefully greener pastures. The GI will be drawing these actions from a common scoreboard that all participations are using, and may come up with some of our own.

This requires effort from each of us. To launch the program, we would ask that you please sign The Green Office Pledge to show your support for our participation. Scroll down this newsletter to see the first post under the Green Office section!

If you have any questions, please contact Sophie Valleteau (games.institute@uwaterloo.ca), who is serving as the ambassador for the GI. Additional information on the Green Office program can be found at: [https://uwaterloo.ca/sustainability/get-involved/green-office](https://uwaterloo.ca/sustainability/get-involved/green-office)

-Sophie Valleteau, Operations Coordinator

**[ANNOUNCEMENTS]**:

1. New Covid-19 regulations in effect; consult Health and Safety section
2. John Muñoz will be having his rehearsal GDC presentation: How Nasa Has Translated Aerospace Research Into Biofeedback Game Experiences this Thursday, March 10 at 12:00pm. More information under Events. Email games.institute@uwaterloo for the Teams invite.

GI Staff enjoying their vacation work while Pam is on holiday: 🎉 🎉
Happy International Women's Day (IWD)! Today we recognize and celebrate the achievements of all women, as well as raise awareness on the progress made towards achieving gender equality and the work that remains to be done. The International theme this year is #BreakTheBias. In Canada, this year’s IWD theme is *Women Inspiring Women* where we celebrate all the women who inspire us through their leadership.

**Events:**
- Diversity at work in Canada: Breaking the Bias, March 8 @12:00pm
- Celebrating Women who Redefine the Future of Business, March 8 @2:00pm
- UW: International Women's Day High Tea Social, March 8 @3:00pm
- Councillor Kavanagh's International Women's Day Event, March 8 @7:00pm
- UW: International Women's Day Virtual Panel Discussion "Break the Bias", March 8 @7:00pm
- The Women’s Centre: Making a Good Decolonial Feminist Life, March 9 @6:00pm
- IWD2022: Break the Bias, March 10 @3:00pm

Click here for a full list of International Women’s Day events in Ontario.

**Resources:**
- International Women's Day teacher toolkit
- Online Gallery: Celebrating the women who have made an impact in Canada
- Online Course: UN Course on Gender and Environment
- Online Course: UN Course on Gender Equality and Human Rights in Climate Action and Renewable Energy
- Guidelines for gender-inclusive language in English

**Games-Related Resources:**
- Windows games collection: Curated by women
- Xbox games collection: Curated by women
- Article: Celebrating Women in Gaming
- Google Arts and Culture: Recovering American Women’s History

Ukraine has come under attack from Russian forces, and its inhabitants have been displaced and caught in the conflict of the war. For those interested in helping, please find below some resources on how you can aid affected Ukrainians.

**Local Resources:**
- St. Sophia Ukrainian Orthodox Church is collecting humanitarian aid packages and monetary donations
- St. Mary’s Ukrainian Church: Walks with Ukraine
- The Rohr Chabad Centre for Jewish Life: Support for Mariupol
- Mennonite Central Committee
  - Ukraine emergency response
  - Make kits or comforters
- Sabletine is selling $3 cookies, with the proceeds going to the Canadian Ukraine foundation
**International Resources:**
- [Itch.io Bundle for Ukraine](#)
- [UNICEF's Ukraine Emergency Fund](#)
- [Canadian Red Cross: Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal](#)
- [Canadian Foodgrains Bank](#)
- [Canada-Ukraine Foundation](#)
- [UNHCR: Ukraine Emergency](#)

**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: GIwaterloo2021!
- 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.
New Covid-19 regulations in effect; consult Health and Safety section.

1. John Muñoz will be having his rehearsal GDC presentation: How NASA Has Translated Aerospace Research Into Biofeedback Game Experiences this Thursday, March 10 at 12:00pm. More information under Events. Email games.institute@uwaterloo for the Teams invite.

2. For Faculty: Complete the Intellectual Property and Commercialization Activity Disclosure form by March 31st. More information can be found on the UW Policy 73 web page.

3. Proposal submissions for the International Conference on Games and Narrative are due on March 15th, 2022 via email (icgan.submissions@uwaterloo.ca).

[EVENTS]

GI Events

How NASA Has Translated Aerospace Research Into Biofeedback Game Experiences
Thursday, March 10 @12:00pm
- Join John Muñoz and Alan Pope in their GDC Rehearsal Presentation exploring how NASA scientists use body signals to investigate pilots’ performance and how this can be applied to gaming and VR, with applications towards entertainment, healthcare, and training.
- Email games.institute@uwaterloo for the Teams invite.

Digital Activism in Practice
Monday, March 14 @2:00pm
- The third and final Feminist ThinkTank speaker series event! Join Leandra H. Hernandez, Radhika Gajjala, Sujatha Subramanian, and Angela Smith in conversation.
- Register here!

Imagined Histories of Sexual Technologies With Dr. Bo Ruberg
Tuesday, April 18 @2:00pm
- Join Dr. Bo Ruberg as they present work from their forthcoming book, Sex Dolls at Sea: Imagined Histories of Sexual Technologies (MIT Press, June 2022). Explore the history of the sex doll, how they have led to the development of new computational technologies, and how to reclaim tech as a site of feminist and queer potential.
- Register here!

UW Events

SYDE Alumni Speaker @ Microsoft - Mide Olatoye
Monday, March 28 @6:00pm
- The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society’s first speaker series of the year.
- Join Mide Olatoye as she discusses her journey from graduating from the SYDE MaSc program to now working as a User Researcher at Microsoft focused on creating user-focused digital products and services.
- 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

Black Writers & Thinkers Series
Tuesday, March 15 @2:30pm
- The School of English and Theatre Studies from the University of Guelph have brought together a series of speaker events focusing on Black voices and ideas. In this final event, join Kaie Kellough as they discuss their book Dominoes at the Crossroad.
- Join here: Zoom link (same for all events)
- More information here.

Welcome to the first post in the Green Office section of WH@GI! Every week, updates will be posted here informing you of the GI’s progress towards reaching Green Office certification. Furthermore, we will be posting resources you can use to lead a more sustainable life. This week will focus on energy usage ⚡.

GI Stats:
GI Updates and tips:
- Good-on-one-side paper bin has been placed next to the printer. Deposit paper that’s still blank on one side so others can use it.
- New e-waste bin for used batteries. Bring in your old batteries and dispose of them at the GI. Once full, they will be handed over to the Safety Office for safe disposal.
- If you stay late at the GI, turn off the lights before you leave!
- Bring a water bottle to the GI and use the water cooler in the kitchen to fill it up

Reducing energy use at home:
Energy use in households accounted for 19.1% of Canada’s total greenhouse gas emissions in 2018. With the pandemic, this number has surely risen as more people find themselves spending time at home. At some point over these last two years, you’ve probably had to work from home. Below, find an easy guide on how you can make your home office more energy-efficient through utilizing natural light, turning off unused lights, and much more!

Updated: March 1st, 2022

1. Proof of vaccination will remain in place until at least the end of the Winter term.

2. Masking remains mandatory in all indoor spaces, and outdoors when you cannot maintain 2 meters of physical distancing.
   a. You are able to remove your mask if your workspace is not accessible to the public and allows you to maintain two meters physical distance from others.

3. Campus Check-in is no longer in effect.

4. Capacity limits in indoor dining spaces, study and lounge areas, and athletics facilities are lifted.

5. All research, including human-participant research, has resumed. More details here.

For questions about lab access, return to research, study spaces, how members without pods can use the space, and other general health and safety at the GI reach out to Pam (pmschmid@uwaterloo.ca or DM).

For questions about equipment and room bookings reach out to Sophie (games.institute@uwaterloo.ca or DM).

General:
6. To enter the GI, you must sign the Operational Safety Plan. If you have not done so already or are unsure, please reach out to Sophie (games.institute@uwaterloo.ca)

7. All UW facilities, which include the GI, are open from 8AM to 6PM from Monday-Friday. Staff are only on site from 8:30AM to 5PM.
   a. After hours or weekend access requires additional GI approvals. Please contact Pam (pmschmid@uwaterloo.ca or DM) with a cc to your supervisor if you would like to request after hours access.

8. 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.

9. According to guidance from the Government of Ontario, face coverings are required in workplaces (such as the GI), even those that are not open to the public however, you do NOT need to wear a face covering when you are working in an area that is NOT accessible to the public and allows you to maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from anyone else while you are indoors.

The GI must follow UW Policies on health and safety; for more information please note UW’s Safety Office resources.

Masking

Vaccination Requirements

Return to Campus

Return to Research

Sign Up Safety Office’s E-Newsletter

WHAT TO DO IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE COVID

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.

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.