The Graduate Association for Recreation and Leisure Studies (GARLS) is pleased to announce the Twenty-Fifth Graduate Student Leisure Research Symposium to be held April 26th – 27th, 2018. We invite all graduate students (and senior undergraduate student pursuing research) interested in any aspect of leisure, recreation, sport, and tourism research to submit an abstract for the Symposium, and to take advantage of this unique opportunity for scholarly and professional growth. The primary objectives of the Symposium are:

1. To offer students the opportunity to present their research and ideas in a supportive, inclusive atmosphere.
2. To advance the state of knowledge about leisure, recreation, sport, and tourism through a public forum of shared research.
3. To facilitate scholarly communication among students and faculty interested in leisure research, and to create the opportunity for constructive criticism and debate.

Papers submitted for presentation may be either a completed research study, or a work in progress. Case studies, philosophical pieces, literature reviews, conceptual development papers, and completed empirical studies are all appropriate formats for presentation. Both oral and poster presentations will be considered. The format for oral presentations will be limited to fifteen (15) minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for discussion. However, to embrace diverse research methodologies, alternative presentation formats will also be considered.

If you would like to present a paper at the Symposium, please submit an abstract to: Luc Cousineau and Lara Schroeder, Symposium Co-Chairs, as per the instructions that follow. Abstracts must be submitted by 11:59 p.m., Friday, February 23rd, 2018. More information about the symposium can be found at https://uwaterloo.ca/recreation-and-leisure-studies/events/graduate-leisure-research-symposium
**Guidelines for Abstract Submissions**

Abstracts submitted for consideration must adhere to the following guidelines:

The **abstract** should be a maximum of 250 words in length (not including references).

Abstracts should adhere to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA)* (6th ed.) for proper formatting and referencing. Files should use Microsoft word or PDF format to ensure compatibility.

Additionally, the abstracts should be:

- single spaced
- 12 point font
- margins of at least 1” on all sides

Authors need only submit one copy of the abstract. The abstract should include a **cover page** (which will be removed before the abstract goes out for double-blind review) that contains the following information:

- Full title of the paper
- Name, institution, mailing address, email address, telephone number of the author(s)
- Name of the author’s academic supervisor
- Author’s preference for presentation format. Indicate one of the following:
  - o poster only
  - o prefer poster but would do formal oral presentation
  - o prefer formal oral presentation but would do poster
  - o formal oral presentation only

* (please indicate if alternative presentation format is required)

**Additional Information**

Faculty members can be co-authors; however, the main author must be a graduate student. At least one student co-author must attend and present the accepted paper at the Symposium.

Notification of acceptance will be provided to authors by **Friday March 16th, 2018**.

Those abstracts accepted will be reproduced in the *Symposium Proceedings*, so authors will be expected to modify their abstracts, where needed, based on the reviewers’ comments, and to re-submit them electronically by **Friday March 30th, 2018**.

Failure to meet this deadline may mean the abstract will not appear in the Proceedings.
Guidelines for Oral Presentations

- Each oral presentation will be limited to fifteen (15) minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for discussion, unless other arrangements are approved in advance. The session chair will strictly enforce the time limits to afford everyone the opportunity to share his or her research.

- Please pay particular attention to your visuals. They should add to, rather than detract from, your presentation. A slide projector, overhead projector, and data projector are available in the conference room. Please let the conference organizers know what your needs are when you submit your revised abstract for the Symposium proceedings package. Other equipment may be available upon request.

- We request that you submit your presentation, where possible, by **Friday April 20th, 2018** in order to ensure compatibility. We would request that you also bring the presentation on a memory stick.

Guidelines for Poster Presentations

- The purpose of a poster session is to exhibit the highlights of your research and to encourage face-to-face communication between the researcher and the Symposium attendees. Poster presentations generally integrate graphic and/or textual presentations and use displays to bring the specific features of the topic to life for the viewer. Even though a poster presentation facilitates the communication of the researcher’s ideas to other individuals and encourages the exchange of ideas in an informal setting, an individual should be able to examine the poster and understand its message without the researcher being present.

- A poster board or wall area of approximately 6’ by 4’ will be available for each researcher to present his or her research.

- Your poster design will bring Symposium attendees to your poster, but the information you convey will be what they remember.

- The Symposium will provide clips and stick pins for securing posters to the presentation areas.