York students earn jobs through Government of Canada speed hiring event

Federal government representatives visited the Second Student Centre at York University’s Keele Campus for a speed hiring event on Feb. 5, when 59 undergraduate students were given the opportunity to interview for jobs within the Government of Canada, including the Canada Revenue Agency and Indigenous Services Canada.

Prior to this event, students were invited to a panel discussion with federal government representatives to learn about different full-time, summer and internship job opportunities and get insider tips on how to apply. These jobs were posted on the Career Centre’s job posting page and students who applied and met the criteria were sent an invitation to attend the speed hiring event.

During the event, students were interviewed and shortlisted, and more than 20 successful candidates were presented with offers on the spot. For some students, this was their first job interview; for others, it was their first job out of university.

“I think it’s amazing,” said Sukhpreet Singh, a fourth-year student in public administration who was offered a job with the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat. “This is essentially what we come to school for. We work hard for four years because we are hoping we can find an employer. Enabling us to take the initiative is really all we need. If we have the opportunity, I know people will come and grab it. We just need to see it.”

The event was not only a success for students, but also for the employers. For instance, the Canada Revenue Agency intended to hire eight York students, but decided to hire nine. Students were offered jobs from different government departments, including: Indigenous Services Canada; Public Services & Procurement Canada; Canada Revenue Agency; Canada School of Public Service; Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat; and Environment & Climate Change Canada.

Whether the students landed a job a not, the opportunity to interview and learn more about government employment was a valuable experience. “It motivates you. Getting selected for an interview not only makes you feel like you have a chance to get the position, but also that you have the skills that are required for the job,” said Marina Alexandra Ngou-Wondje, one of the successful student candidates, during the event. “At least if I get the interview, I know that my resumé is pretty good. Even if I don’t get a position through this process, I still feel like I get (interview) practice.” To view the full Y-File article, click here.

The School of Public Policy and Administration would like to congratulate all of our students who were interviewed and have obtained positions from the Federal Government hiring event. Among these students are BPA student and PPASA President, Sukhpreet Singh, and MPPAL student Gurjeet Virdi, who have been hired at the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat and Indigenous Services Canada, Department of Community Infrastructure and Development respectively. Additional BPA and MPPAL students were interviewed and their competitions are still being finalized. Congratulations and best wishes to all!
**PPASA General Elections 2019-2020**

*We are pleased to announce the nominees for this year’s election!*

**President:**
Sarah Afriyie (Acclaimed)

**Vice President:**
Gurkamal Dhahan (Acclaimed)

**Secretary:**
Vinita Kalia (Acclaimed)

**Treasurer:**
Jenning Cheung
John Soriano

**Director of Communications:**
Beenal Patel
Joanne Jang

**Director of Marketing**
Rean Paleyo (Acclaimed)

**Director of Recruitment:**
Khushbu Dhaliwal (Acclaimed)

**Associate Director of Recruitment:**
Patricia Cobarrubias (Acclaimed)

**Director of Internal Affairs:**
Abdur Rahman Ouzeri (Acclaimed)

**Director of External Affairs:**
Irene Danchie (Acclaimed)

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**Hello PPASA Students!**

The PPASA has been hard at work to amend our constitution and plan the elections. To access the constitution, please login to the YuConnect and view the PPASA home page.

**Here are some changes to look out for:**
1. Membership Revision (Article 7 and 13)
2. Three Strike Rule (Article 8)
3. President and VP requirements (Article 12)
4. Election and Voting Changes (Article 13)
5. New Positions (Article 16)

**Election Process:**
The new election process will occur over 1 week, starting on March 9th, which will be the first day to send in nominations to the CRO. Nominations will close at 7pm on Sunday March 10th. March 11th and 12th will be designated for campaigning and **March 13th to 15th will be the official election period, voting will be open until 7pm on the 15th.**

Votes must be sent via email to the following address, ppasa.cro@gmail.com, during the specified period.

*The new team will be announced on Saturday the 16th.*

Please feel free to reach out to ppasa.york@gmail.com for any questions!
What’s on the Menu for the McLaughlin College Lunch Talk Series this March

The McLaughlin Lunch Talk Series will continue through March with several events that explore many topics.

All events run during lunchtime in 140 McLaughlin College, Senior Common Room. Everyone is welcome, and light refreshments will be served.

Here’s a look at what’s to come in the series:

March 20, 12 to 1:30 p.m. – “Terrorism and Asylum”
Two pressing concerns that have dominated the international community, the news media, segments of the public and the governments of many western liberal democracies, for some time now, are terrorism and asylum. These two highly charged emotive terms often have been conflated and distorted for political purposes and to advance specific public policy ends. This talk by Professor James Simeon will review a recent online publication of the Refugee Law Initiative, School of Advanced Study, University of London, mini-volume Working Paper Series that examines “Terrorism and Asylum” from a number of perspectives in an effort to unravel “the myths from the reality” to come to a clearer and better understanding of both terms and the most effective ways forward in their amelioration and address.

March 26, 12 to 1:30 p.m. – “Do International Systems Continue to Serve Us? A Case Study of International Refugee Law”
Does the international refugee system continue to serve us? Founded in 1951, the United Nations Refugee Convention was a promising document meant to protect the most vulnerable. With protracted refugee situations on the rise and many nations resisting the legitimacy of the international order, can we continue to rely on the current international refugee system to meet the protection needs of refugees? This talk by Warda Shazadi Meighen, immigration and refugee lawyer and professor at University of Toronto, will focus on the case study of Calais, France.

For further information on the McLaughlin Lunch Talk Series, contact Vicky Carnevale at ext. 33824 or vcarneva@yorku.ca.

These events are hosted by the Office of the College Head, McLaughlin College.

To view the full Y-File article, click here.
Textbooks for Change

Are your textbooks currently collecting dust? Small actions can create a big impact. It starts with your donation.

The simple act of donating your used post-secondary textbooks creates a positive impact for students around the world.

Which textbooks can be donated: University and college textbooks published in the last 15 years and study guides, course packs, foreign language textbooks and other material that assists in the studying process.

Providing Access to Educational Material: As a student at Western University, founder Chris Janssen, noticed that many of his peers had stacks of old textbooks sitting in their dorm rooms. They loved donating this old material to help other students. While lecturing in East Africa, Chris found a very different scenario. Smart and ambitious students were sharing photocopied, out-of-date material. In East Africa, there is a rapidly increasing student population (there are over 450,000 university students in Kenya!) but university budgets continue to be unpredictable. On top of this, students continue to face internet access and connectivity issues. We partner with under-resourced universities to donate textbooks to their libraries. We’ve partnered with 7 universities in East Africa who are looking to better their campus community. By donating to libraries, we’ve provided over 220,000 students in East Africa with access to high-quality textbooks and journals. A donation of 25,000 textbooks has a value of $500,000 USD, providing major cost-savings for universities.

Textbooks for Change has the following drop boxes at York University.

Make a difference. Make a textbook donation today.


Glendon Campus: Glendon Campus Student's Union (GCSU) Office, Hilliard Residence and Lunik Co-Op.

For more information, please click here. For questions, contact info@textbooksforchange.ca

Did you know that York University has a Career Centre? Join the Team as a Peer Educator

Between September and February, the team of five student educators has helped more than 1,200 students and recent graduates with their career questions. The program launched in September 2018 in response to the National College Health Assessment of 2016, in which career related issues were identified as one of the top stressors for students across Ontario, along with academics and finances. Funding was made possible through a Ministry of Training, Colleges & Universities Mental Health Services Grant. The team works collaboratively with the Health Education & Promotion Department located within the Student Success Centre to use peer-based models to improve health outcomes for students across the University. “York University’s mental health strategy encourages an integrated approach to campus mental health,” said Helen Lee, manager of well-being and health promotions.

“Through a collaborative approach, we have built partnerships across campus departments and services; namely, Health Education, Learning Skills, Student Financial Services and the Career Centre, to deliver peer-led stress-buffer programming fostering a social model of well-being on campus.”

Career peer educators offer support across campus at the Career Centre, Learning Commons, RED Zone, and at special events such as Red & White Day and the recent Advising Fair. As students themselves, peers are suited to help students manoeuvre the challenges they may face in navigating their careers. Peer educators provide students with career information and emotional support, and also serve as role models, build connections and engage students in dialogue about career decision-making models.

Along with the launch of the Career Peer Educator team, the Career Centre has opened a new Career Lounge within its office at 202 McLaughlin College. The Career Lounge is a flexible workspace where students and recent grads can drop by (no appointment needed) and stay for as little or as long as they like during designated hours on weekdays. Using the resources available in the space, students can work independently, with a career peer educator, and/or with other students in the lounge to develop their career self-management skills and explore next steps for their career questions.

Recruitment for York’s 2019-20 Career Peer Educator team is currently underway. Summer and Fall/Winter positions are available and returning students can apply until Monday, March 18.

To view the full Y-File article, click here.
Call for Proposals - StudentDwellTO Student-Led Pre-Symposium

On May 1st, 2019, students from across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) will gather at York University for the StudentDwellTO Pre-Symposium. This event is an opportunity for students from all universities in the GTA to present their work on student housing, while collaboratively crafting innovative solutions to the student housing crisis through a design charrette. By participating in the StudentDwellTO Pre-Symposium, students will have an opportunity to contribute to the conversation on student housing in a meaningful way.

We are currently accepting proposals for students of all levels of study to present their research on student housing at the Pre-Symposium in either a presentation, poster, artistic production, or panel discussion format. If you are interested in disseminating your work at the Pre-Symposium, please fill out this form by March 25th. The Toronto Urban Journal has also issued a call for student contributions. This is a great opportunity for students to prepare their work for publication and present it at the symposium.

StudentDwell+ Reimagining Student Housing is an international symposium to release the findings of the StudentDwellTO research partnership and discuss alternatives to the housing affordability crisis.

May 1-3, 2019
Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University
May 1: Student-led pre-symposium
May 2-3: Symposium event

StudentDwellTO is a multi-university initiative funded by the Presidents of the four Greater Toronto Area Universities (OCAD University, Ryerson University, University of Toronto and York University). This research project aims to examine access to adequate and affordable housing for post-secondary students, a challenge that has by all accounts reached a crisis point in GTA. Through qualitative and quantitative research, the study will provide a deeper understanding of student needs and choices about housing, while suggesting possible policy and development directions for decision-makers at the four participating universities, as well as municipal and provincial policy-makers. For more information, visit our website or follow us on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

For further information, visit http://studentdwellto.ca/ and for any questions regarding the Student Symposium, contact studentdwelltoresearch@gmail.com

Call for Papers - Speaking Diasporas: Interrogating Inter-generational Diasporas

The conference will be held on April 23, 2019.
We will be accepting undergraduate and graduate students’ abstracts/papers until 4:30pm on April 5th. Submit your abstract to founders@yorku.ca

Conference details below provided by Professor Pablo Idahosa:
An initial, small one day and student-focused conference at Founders College in April is a first iteration of a restatement about diaspora through a larger conference next year that will involve other academics from outside York, as well as community members and policy-makers. While acknowledging the differences between the old and the new diasporas, and between the many different categories of diasporas, that conference seeks to begin to build ongoing conversational dialogues within and across generations of those conceiving themselves as belonging to diasporas. We seek to better understand the representations, discourses, and practices about diaspora through the differently evolved conversations among those generations, those in the "new place and space", as well as looking at those left behind. We are looking for upper level undergraduate students and graduate students, perhaps, but not only, already in courses on diaspora, or who have perhaps written papers on diaspora in their courses. No theme is excluded, or from whatever standpoint the participant wishes to adopt. The only proviso is about how the paper addresses the theme of thinking intergenerationally. Each panel will have an academic as a discussant. The paper will be published initially as a working paper and posted on the Founders website with a view to eventual publication the following year as part of the conference proceedings. Whether by volition and choice, or unwillingly and forced, whether individually or collectively for people a new place of settlement means, among other things, and often violently and painfully, leaving much behind while having to invest one’s psychic and physical resources into a different and new place. Diaspora at once captures many of the ambiguities about replacing home and relocation, and about imagining, memorializing and/or reconnecting with what was left behind that forms the new self and collective identity of community. Diaspora is one of the most common notions that concedes the depictions capturing the many, and often violent, processes of “uprooting”, ‘scattering’, ‘transplanting’ and ‘hybridity’. Its Greek origins, derived from the word speiro, to disperse or to sow, evokes variations of twin meanings of looking backwards to the past and into the future to grow because of that past. That past is multi-generational; that future depends on understanding the continuities and discontinuities across those generations.

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Training Offered to Students for United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

York University will once again host the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) training, where students will have the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the SDGs and be connected with organizations that offer opportunities to become an SDG advocate. The UN SDGs Youth Training Canada mobilizes 10,000 Canadian youth to advocate and implement the SDGs through 100 local actions and 50 trainings in colleges and universities across Canada.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals are 17 goals developed by the UN in 2015 that help to better understand and solve a wide range of global environmental challenges, including: climate change, food security, ecological and wildlife preservation, gender equality, economic prosperity and access to education. By spreading awareness of the 17 UN SDGs, future generations will be inspired to act and solve the many environmental challenges we face today.

During this event, which will be held on March 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Vari Hall, students will interact with UN officials, policy-makers and civil society activists who identified, created and are implementing the SDGs around the world. Students who successfully complete the training will receive a certificate to add to their resume.

The Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University has partnered with the Foundation of Environmental Stewardship, the YU Office of Sustainability, the Bachelor in Environmental Studies Students’ Association (BESSA) and others to bring this event to the Keele Campus for the second year. This event provides students with a unique experiential education opportunity to learn about the 17 SDGs directly from UN officials. In addition, this event is partnered with 23 United Nations entities.

In partnership with the Faculty of Environmental Studies, this event is brought to you by the Foundation for Environmental Stewardship and BESSA.

For more information, visit the event website and to register, visit the registration website.

To view the full Y-File article, click here.

Call for Nominations: Sustainability Leadership Awards

Nominations for the President’s Sustainability Leadership Awards are now open. Nominations will be accepted until March 18.

The awards recognize students, faculty and staff who are contributing to make York University a leader in sustainability among post-secondary institutions.

By recognizing the important work that sustainability champions are doing at York University, the awards celebrate this work and encourage others to get involved in sustainability initiatives on the University’s campuses.

Up to five awards will be given out each year.

Any student, faculty or staff member from the University community can nominate any other individual or group for consideration. Nominees will be considered for the award based on their demonstrated leadership in sustainability, specifically through the following criteria:

1) overall impact of the nominee’s contributions to sustainability on campus, including the depth (how significant the contribution is) and breadth (how widespread, collaborative and/or replicable the contribution is);

2) degree of innovation and originality, and/or degree of enhancement (to existing initiatives); and

3) how the individual or group went “over and above the call of duty” (additional time and resources committed that were not part of their job description or academic program).

To submit a nomination, visit the President’s Sustainability Leadership Awards web page.

For more information, contact Nicole Arsenault, program director, sustainability, by email at narsenau@yorku.ca or 416-736-5866.

To view the full Y-File article, click here.
Student Community & Leadership Development, Student Success Centre - York University
We are currently recruiting undergraduate students to be part of our upcoming work-study positions for many of your units within the Student Success team. Are you an undergrad student? Are you taking full-time course load? Are you looking for on-campus career development opportunities? The Student Success Centre is currently hiring for the below positions (*open to all undergraduate full-time students who qualify for work-study or ISEF).

Career Centre; Clubs & Organizations; Health Education & Promotion; Leadership; Learning Skills Services; Media & Communications; RED Zone; Student Financial Services; and YU START. Apply by Monday March 18th 2019 at 9am.

Manager, Corporate Projects - Canada Post
Full-time, term position (to December 31, 2021) - Ottawa, ON
If you're an experienced team leader, adept at managing complex, multi-site technical projects and communicating across functions and management levels, this opportunity with Canada Post is for you. As Manager of Corporate Projects, you will act as "second in command" to the Project Director, supporting the planning and delivery of large, complex multimillion-dollar initiatives that are of strategic importance to Canada Post. More specifically, you will determine the project scope and objectives, identify the organization structure of the project team and the management controls required to control the project, and lead functional team members in the development of a detailed project plan outlining schedule, budget requirements, responsibility assignments and workload estimates. Among other priorities, you'll be counted upon to maintain current knowledge of project status and issue resolution, put in place budget control mechanisms, and report status and variances to plan to the Project Sponsor and Senior Management on a regular basis. You will also establish an overall quality management process to ensure that the project will satisfy the needs for which it was undertaken. This position will involve a small amount of travel.

Liaison Officer (Bilingual Position), Parliamentary Protocol and Public Relations Branch - Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Keeping Ontario's Legislative Assembly running smoothly takes many talented people, doing many different jobs—from camera operators and committee clerks, to purchasing officers and researchers. The Office of the Assembly is mandated to provide non-partisan support to the Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs). Together, we provide administrative and procedural services to all MPPs, as well as operational support for the daily activities of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. Our success is determined by the strength and diversity of our staff and by supporting our core values: integrity, community, and excellence. The Parliamentary Protocol and Public Relations Branch of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario seeks a bilingual Liaison Officer who, based in Toronto, ON, will play a significant role by providing administrative services in both official languages, and assisting in the planning, coordination, organization, and programming of Interparliamentary Associations, Consular Corps relations, parliamentary protocol activities and conferences. If you share our values and are interested in this position, please visit us at www.ontla.on.ca and select Employment for more details (File No: LA-2019-14).

Government Relations Intern - Crestview Strategy
Crestview is hiring for a paid Government Relations internship starting May 2019. They're looking for qualified candidates from across the political spectrum and place added value on those with a digital skill set, research experience, communications experience, or graphic design experience.

Government Relations Analyst - CSA Group
This position will primarily be responsible for supporting the business needs of the Director, Government Relations and the Managers, Government Relations for CSA Standards. This will include conducting research and analysis in order to provide information to support meetings with government officials, preparing presentations as required, supporting special events, etc. The position will also coordinate contracts with external government relations agencies engaged by the Director, Government Relations.
Manager, Policy - Toronto Board of Trade

Reporting to the VP Policy, the Toronto Region Board of Trade (the Board) is seeking a forward-looking Manager, Policy to join the Board’s vibrant Policy team. With a focus on the Innovation Economy, this role will assist the team in areas such as Smart Cities, Canada’s Innovation Corridor, Advanced Manufacturing, Fintech and E-commerce. This role will play a major role in developing policy positions for the Toronto Region Board of Trade’s Strategy 2024, the Board’s new five-year strategic plan—which includes broadening its policy efforts to galvanize regional economic development, impact business competitiveness and support quality job growth in the region.

Public Policy and Government Relations Manager (Montreal) - DeepMind

Ignoring our GTA-only rules to share this unique job to lead public policy in Canada for DeepMind - work on a range of issues related to artificial intelligence. We are looking for highly talented and driven individuals to join our Ethics & Society team, which is tasked with exploring the real-world impacts of AI, helping technologists put ethics into practice, and helping society to anticipate and control the effects of AI. Ensuring that our work supports DeepMind’s mission to “solve intelligence and use it to make the world a better place” requires giving attention to the full range of social and economic impacts of AI, so that we can innovate on responsible stewardship, alongside our advances in AI science and engineering. As we seek to expand our expertise, deepen our knowledge, and grow our external engagement on these issues, we need an individual to lead our public policy strategy in Canada. This individual will be responsible for developing and implementing DeepMind’s public policy strategy and stakeholder engagement plan for the Canadian policy community. The role will also be responsible for helping to develop DeepMind’s policy positions, as well as building strong, collaborative relationships with stakeholders in Canada. The role will be based in DeepMind’s Montreal office but will require extensive travel within Canada as well as international trips. The role will report into the Head of Policy & Partnerships and will work closely with other members of the DeepMind Ethics and Society team, as well as our legal and communications teams. The role requires extensive experience working in technology policy development, as well as a strong background in emerging technology policy or related disciplines. Proficient French language skills are also essential.

Director, Public Engagement and Government Relations - Eva’s

Eva’s Public Engagement and Government Relations Director is responsible for planning, implementation, and evaluation of Eva’s voice and messaging, culture and communications, marketing, thought leadership, public and government engagement, and internal/external education activities. Reporting to the Executive Director, the Director of Public Engagement and Government Relations aims to increase awareness of/support for Eva’s to meet their mission, education and policy goals and engage in fruitful projects and partnerships alongside internal/external stakeholders, government decision-makers, and like-minded organizations/groups to help Eva’s achieve strategic objectives and fulfill their mandate to end youth homelessness.

Director, Social Action - Family Service Toronto

Reporting to the Executive Director and as part of the senior management team, the Director, Social Action leads and supports FST’s social action work across the organization. The Director develops and assists FST in articulating public policy positions with respect to social and economic issues that affect the individuals, families and communities we serve. The Director fosters the development of a culture of advocacy and social action within FST and in the community social services sector through research, education, policy development, campaign and community building activities. The Director serves as the National Co-ordinator of Campaign 2000, providing leadership and support to the Campaign. The Director works with the Board of Directors, its committees and working groups as needed. The Director secures and maintains funding for the department’s programs and services.
**Senior Program Analyst - York Region**

Reporting to the Program Manager, Housing Strategic Initiatives, this role is responsible for developing innovative and strategic social and affordable housing program policies and plans; researching and analyzing projects; leading project teams; and developing cross-functional linkages to ensure that Regional Policies and Programs align with housing goals; interpreting and communicating housing policies to housing providers in the Region.

**Internship, Advocacy (12 weeks, paid) - Girl Guides of Canada**

Work with the advocacy team at Girl Guides on framing and interpreting research for influencing and policy. Interns are expected to contribute and collaborate on joint problems or projects and to lend their perspectives and skills to helping us deliver and improve our day-to-day work to enable ‘a better world, by girls.’ This may include contributing to ongoing research, project coordination, writing, operational support or other tasks in one or more of their functional teams. Interns will also be tasked with at least one defined and substantive project, for them to plan and complete over the course of the internship. Projects are expected to include helping build a body of knowledge and evidence on the lived experiences and perspectives of girls in Canada.

**Program Manager - Social Innovation Canada**

Social Innovation Canada is looking for someone to help them build capacity in the social innovation sector. Social Innovation Canada (SI Canada) is a newly launched national initiative to connect social innovation practitioners, build the capacity of our sector, and to elevate this work in Canada and beyond. We’re all about connecting social innovators and stakeholders from across geographies, sectors and subjects; building practical knowledge and capacity; elevating the role of the sector across Canada and helping innovators tell their stories, aggregating their data and driving more resources and energy towards the work.

**Action Canada Fellowship**

Not a job, but a chance to apply to the unique Action Canada leadership program. Imagine bringing together outstanding young Canadians whose talents, experiences and perspectives represent the mosaic of our country. Now imagine them connected by shared experiences in a national fellowship program that builds leadership for Canada’s future. This is Action Canada. More than an annual fellowship, it is an enduring network of dedicated leaders who support each other in working for Canada. The 2018/2019 cohort benefits from a new three-year partnership that combines Action Canada’s nearly 20 years of experience in leadership development and PPF’s more than three decades of expertise in public policy. This partnership will strengthen the fellowship program in its mandate to increase civic engagement and knowledge of Canada among some of the country’s most promising future leaders.

**Senior Policy Analyst - Halton Region**

Reporting to the Director of Planning and Chief Planning Official, this position is responsible for providing professional advice and oversight in advancing key projects to implement the Regional Official Plan as well as key strategic projects related to Council approved plans and strategies. This is a 10-month contract.