

Canadian Society
for the Study of
Higher Education



Société canadienne
pour l'étude de
l'enseignement supérieur

2015 CSSHE Graduate Student Preconference

Saturday May 30th, 2015 10am – 4pm

Location: University of Ottawa, Ottawa Ontario

Room: Sciences Sociales FSS/8003 Cost: \$10

Registration: <http://csshe2015preconference.eventbrite.ca>

Planning Your Post-graduation Transitions: Academic and Alt-Academic Options

Join other graduate students from across the country for an exciting day networking and learning about options and career strategies relevant for every graduate student studying higher education. The day will be focused on planning career development strategies for both academic and practitioner careers, including managing your online professional identity.

The schedule for the day is as follows:

10-10:30am Registration and Introductions

10:30-12pm Making a Successful Transition to Academic or Alt- Academic Careers

Two speakers will present personal perspectives of post-phd transitions. The first, Dr. Bryan Gopaul, will share his experience transitioning from a PhD program into an academic career. The second, Dr. Jennifer Polk, will discuss her experiences of transitioning into alternative-to-academic career. Both speakers will highlight what worked well/didn't work well for them and will also share recommendations for graduate students who are looking at post-phd opportunities.

Speaker #1: Bryan Gopaul, PhD



Bryan Gopaul is a graduate of OISE/UT and is now an Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership at the Warner School of Education and Human Development at the University of Rochester. From 2012-2014, he completed a post-doctoral fellowship in the Graduate School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania. During doctoral study, Gopaul served as a graduate student representative for Division J (Postsecondary Education) of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) and facilitated multiple workshops and initiatives for graduate students to encourage successful completion and post-graduate employment. Gopaul's research interests focus on the experiences of graduate students and the changing nature of faculty life and work. Specifically, he is currently exploring mobility among doctoral students and

early-career faculty members moving through doctoral study and into the academic profession.

Speaker #2: Jennifer Polk, PhD



Jennifer Polk works as an academic, career, and life coach. Her clients include graduate students working on dissertations and PhDs figuring out life and work beyond the tenure track. Find Jen online at FromPhDtoLife.com, and at her [University Affairs blog \(From PhD-to-Life\)](#). Join her twice a month for [#withaPhD](#) chat on Twitter, and at the monthly [Versatile PhD Toronto](#) meetup in Toronto. In May 2015 she will co-present the second annual [Beyond the Professoriate](#) virtual conference.

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/FromPhDtoLife>

12pm-1pm LUNCH (included)

1pm-2:30pm Managing Your Online Presence: Considerations for Graduate Students

This session will have participants explore some of the potential for online presence, particularly for graduate students. The speaker for the session, Melonie Fullick, will discuss how graduate students may benefit from interacting and engaging in online social media platforms. Discussion will also involve how to use different platforms for social and scholarly needs while in graduate school, and how this online activity may be beneficial post-phd. Attendees will consider what their personal online presence looks like, how it can be improved, and how it can be used for different needs.

Speaker: Melonie Fullick, PhD Candidate



Melonie Fullick is a writer, researcher, and student of Education. Her current research focuses on university governance, Canadian post-secondary policy, and communication and organizational change, examining the processes and effects of policy changes at various levels on the work and experiences of students, faculty, staff and administrators. Melonie holds a BA in Communication Studies and an MA in Linguistics. She has written critically about academic issues for various publications

including *Inside Higher Ed*, the *Globe and Mail*, the *Guardian UK*, *University Affairs*, and *Academic Matters*, and she can be found on Twitter at [@qui_oui](#) and through her blog, [Speculative Diction](#).

2:30pm-4pm CV Clinic

Bring your CV and get some feedback on how to improve your CV for your career ambitions. One-on-one discussions with people from different areas will help you identify where your CV can be strengthened.

Reviewers will be scholars or administrators from the college or university sector as well as from relevant industry/alt-ac fields. Reviewers TBA.

The organizing committee gratefully acknowledges the major sponsors of the 2015 Graduate Student Pre-conference, whose major contributions have made this conference possible:



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<http://www.sfu.ca/education/gs.html>

Find out more about Higher Education programs at OISE here:

<http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/lhae>

Find out more about CSSHE here:

<http://csshe-scees.ca>

Join other CSSHE graduate students on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/CSSHEgraduatestudents?fref=nf>

If you have any questions for the organizers, Kathleen Moore and Deanna Rexe, please email:

Kathleen.moore@mail.utoronto.ca