The mid-Winter break is next week, **Monday, March 14 to Friday, March 18** for Ontario schools. With all schools closed comes an opportunity for families to have a change of activity and pace.

*Smokey the Cat* has decided to start mid-winter break early with a little time in front of the fireplace. Good wishes to all for the March Break.

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**Spring Convocation Planning**

**Spring to Bring In-Person Convocation!**

The University of Toronto Convocation Office has advised divisions to begin planning for an *in-person spring Convocation*, subject to any changes in public health guidance.

This is welcome news and OISE will quickly begin preparing for what we hope will be a very special celebration for our community as we acknowledge the accomplishments of our graduating class of 2022.

Dates for all UofT Convocations will take place between June 2-24th, 2022 and OISE will have more information shortly regarding the specific times of the OISE Ceremonies.

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**Acknowledgements**

**OISE Academic Leadership Team Transition**

OISE announced the appointment of **Professor Creso Sá** as Chair of the Department of Leadership, Higher and Adult Education (LHAE) effective July 1, 2022. Along with having served for several years as Associate Chair, Creso brings many years of program and administrative leadership experience to the role.

OISE along with the department of LHAE extends our collective gratitude to current Chair and **Professor Nina Bascia** as she approaches the completion of her term of excellent leadership within the institute. We look forward to opportunities in the coming months to acknowledge Nina and her strength, thoughtfulness and compassion as a leader.

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**Teaching Award Winners Announced!**

OISE congratulates the recipients of this year's OISE’s Teaching Excellence Awards including:
David E. Hunt Award for Excellence in Graduate Education
Rob Simon, Associate Professor, Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning

Award for Excellence in Initial Teacher Education
Andrew B. Campbell, Sessional Lecturer, Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning

Award for Excellence in Educational Leadership
Mary Reid, Assistant Professor, Teaching Stream, Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning

Award for Distinguished Contributions to Teaching
Judith Silver, Associate Professor, Teaching Stream, Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development

Award for Excellence in Continuing & Professional Learning
Noah Lazar, Sessional Facilitator, Continuing and Professional Learning

Join the OISE community on April 12th at 2pm for our virtual celebration of award winners. Register in advance to attend this special event.

Guidelines & Training

Zoom Security Guidelines and Best Practices

The OISE Chief Administrative Office and the Education Commons teams have worked on zoom guidelines and best practices particularly focussing on security for those hosting meetings, webinar, and events.

Visit Zoom Security for Meetings, Webinars & Events Resource for more helpful information.

Introducing new Zoom Events Platform – not just a Zoom event!

Zoom Events was recently used for the OISE Master of Education Virtual Open House. "The platform was convenient for event participants - they could access the entire event agenda, and move easily between different rooms, with just one event link." - Jessica Lovett

If you’re planning a virtual conference or open house and need a secure video solution to run concurrent meetings with multiple speakers, then join Education Commons for this one-hour introduction to the Zoom Events platform.

March 22, 2022
11:00AM - 12:00PM

In this session, Andrea will showcase the features of the new platform and answer your questions. Register for the Zoom Events introduction.

GOOGLE WORKSPACE FOR EDUCATION - TRAINING

Education Commons is pleased to announce that Google Workspace for Education is now available to all students, staff and faculty associated with our teacher education programs.

Ryan Lahti will be holding virtual drop-in sessions to demonstrate how to set up a Google Classroom, how to create assignments, and how to use some of the key tools available in the Google Suite to support classroom teaching.

Google Workspace for Education virtual drop-in sessions
March 7-18  
Monday-Friday  
1:30 – 2:00 PM

After March 18  
Thursdays  
1:00 - 1:30 PM

You may also book a consultation with Ryan for 1:1 support. Ryan also holds a weekly virtual drop-in session where you can ask questions about other teaching and learning tools including Quercus and Pepper.

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**Events**

**Mental Health and Wellness Supports**

**March 16, 2022**: Join us at 12pm to learn about our Health & Wellness resources and space available to students at the University of Toronto St. George:

Come learn about clinical and non-clinical supports offered through the Health & Wellness Center, explore our new care model, and learn about updates to the Health & Wellness space

Hear directly from a Peer Supporter about the new Health & Wellness Peer Support Service—a non-clinical mental health resource that provides drop-in mental health support and connections to various resources. Let a MySSP ambassador walk you through how you can get connected to real-time help through UofT MySSP

Register here: https://bit.ly/3GzVbG0 #oiseequitycommittee #uoft #mentalhealth

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OISE’s new Sustainability & Climate Action Network (SCAN) offers pathways to members of the OISE community to address the climate crisis.

Students can consult the list of OISE sustainability-related courses for their spring course selection process.

Faculty are invited to join in a new U of T Community of Practice centred on Transformative Sustainability Pedagogies – the next event, Anishinaabe Teachings on Sustainability, takes place on March 23, 2022.

All are welcome to view recordings from recent webinars focused on Environmental Racism and Climate Anxiety & Action. Follow @OISESCAN on Twitter for regular updates on upcoming events!

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As a member of the Association of Canadian Deans of Education (ACDE) OISE is pleased to share the news that ACDE has ratified the Accord on Education for a Sustainable Future.

The Accord will be launched in conjunction with the UBC Faculty of Education’s Dean’s Distinguished Lecture, featuring Naomi Klein and Avi Lewis speaking on the topic Climate Justice and Educational Responsibility.

Please mark your calendars for March 29, 2022 beginning at 5:30 pm PDT and be sure to register to attend this event that is open to anyone.

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**Welcome to OISE!**

**OISE Welcomes Daniel Marinos!**

We are pleased to welcome Daniel Marinos to the Education Commons team. Daniel joined our team on January 17, 2022 as our new IT Service
Management Coordinator. In this role Daniel will oversee the service delivery team to ensure that our day-to-day service operations are delivered effectively and professionally. He will also be the community’s first point of contact for any escalated issues related to service requests that the community may experience.

Daniel joins us with a wealth of experience in technical service and endpoint management. Most recently he was the Senior Deskside Support Specialist for Trillium Health Partners, where he was the technical team lead for Credit Valley Hospital, overseeing the day-to-day activities of technical staff responsible for all non-medical equipment and devices, and project implementation.

You can reach Daniel at Daniel.marinos@utoronto.ca or by contacting oise.help@utoronto.ca

Have a story you would like featured Inside OISE @ Home? Share it with us!

Here are more ways to connect

Subscribe to the following OISE Newsletters:
- Alumni & Friends
- ORSS Student Services
- Indigenous Education Network (IEN)
- OISE Wellness
- The Discovery- Education Commons Newsletter
- ESE- Environmental & Sustainability Education Listserv

View all upcoming virtual events.