Hello and welcome to all EDST incoming and returning students!

As many will know, these are the monthly Graduate Academic Assistant (GAA) newsletters. Here we will share relevant announcements and events. This month we have a social event for all EDST students to come together and celebrate the start of the new academic year. We hope this space is a good way to meet new people, establish connections, and enjoy delicious ice cream! We also have a campus tour led by one of our own, Yotam Ronen (PhD candidate), as well as a handful of co-working sessions to get you motivated on work in a supportive environment.

We look forward to seeing you at this month’s events!
Announcements

Ongoing: Call for student representatives!
A range of EDST committees are inviting self-nominations of student representatives, including departmental committees of particular nature and program specific committees. This year, you are invited to express your interest or ask questions in direct response to the call from the committee chairs. Watch your emails!

Stepping in as a student representative in one of EDST’s committees is a wonderful experience that allows one to participate in departmental processes, represent the voices and interests of students, and gain relevant experience and knowledge of different discussions and departmental matters. It’s not a time consuming endeavour and our peers overall find it a rewarding experience.

“I am humbled to have been a Student Rep for the GAA. Attending meetings and thinking about policies and process from our unique perspective as students has been an opportunity to view this place differently. Universities are complex and despite being centuries old they are fluid. This changeability relies on the multiple voices at the table...and no one voice is too soft or muted to affect change. I am honoured to have had this opportunity to give voice to student perspectives and to learn from the leaders in our department.”

- Shirley Swelchalot Hardman (PhD student)
**- Events -**

**In-person co-working sessions**

**Dates:**
- Friday, September 16
- Friday, September 23
- Friday, September 30

**Time:**
2 pm – 6 pm PDT

**Modality:** In-person

**Location:** Multipurpose room 2012 at Ponderosa Commons – Oak House

**Description:** Join fellow EDST students for in-person co-working sessions. We will work side-by-side, take coffee breaks, and support each other through our different goals. We will gather in the multipurpose room 2012.

Please sign up here: [https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7TFiFzUJOAxSdJY](https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7TFiFzUJOAxSdJY)
EDST Ice Cream Social

When: Friday, September 9, from 3:30 pm.

Where: Inside Ponderosa Commons, in the lobby area

Description: In the spirit of welcoming returning and incoming students, and having an opportunity to socialize and share, we invite all students, faculty, and staff at EDST for an ice cream social. Following the department led orientation session, we will share some delicious ice cream and great conversation!

See you there.

Please register by as soon as possible!

Register here: https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_elp5mROi1d1Go62
Campus Walking Tour

When: Tuesday, September 13 at 2:30 pm.

Where we will meet: Bus loop, next to the pool.

Description:
Welcome to UBC! We invite all new students to join us on a campus walking tour, led by a PhD candidate in the department, Yotam Ronen, who kindly offered his time. The walk will last one hour and a half, beginning from the bus loop next to the UBC pool. You will have a chance to see the main facilities and spaces, ask questions and enjoy the beautiful UBC campus.

Sign up here: https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0e3uOyiMq0d0HL5Y

Contact us!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email: <a href="mailto:edst.gaa@ubc.ca">edst.gaa@ubc.ca</a></th>
<th>GAA Blog</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>Facebook Student Community</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>