

# Agenda for Today:

- Introduction (WT)
- Making the most of Graduate Professional Development
  - Liam O'Leary, Graduate Programming Coordinator, School of Graduate Studies
- The Teaching Assistants Training Program
  - Dr. Michal Kasprzak, Curriculum Developer & Alli Diskin, Program Assistant, TATP
- Your Funding Package Explained (WT)

Trying to leave plenty of time for Q&A

# ***Your Funding Package: Explained***

William Trischuk, Associate Chair, Grad Student Town Hall, January 15, 2016

# Overview

- Complexity of student funding package is a topic of discussion at every GLC meeting
- Three main sources of funding
  1. University scholarship support
  2. Research supervisor support
  3. Teaching Assistant stipends
- The relative importance of each of these changes throughout your career as a graduate student
- Guaranteed funding (\$21k + tuition) in physics is only for 5 years (MSc+PhD or DE) or 4 years for PhD

██████████  
Department of Physics,  
University of Toronto.

## Example support letter for a Canadian student

September 25, 2015

Dear ████████:

We are pleased to confirm details about your funding package for the 2015-16 academic year. Please note that the basic level of financial support (Level 4) has risen to \$21,000 + tuition fees for 2015-2016, as seen from the enclosed guidelines. This increase is partly due to changes in the Teaching Assistantship (TA) rates.

This funding letter outlines the guaranteed funding provided by the department and is not intended to capture additional RA and TA work students may secure throughout the year. However, any additional support may result in some reduction of the RA support to reflect the diminished time the student would have available for research.

You are eligible to receive a funding package for the 2015-16 academic year in the amount of **\$29,449 (\$21,000 + tuition fees)**. Your funding will be provided from the sources below.

E.F. Burton Fellowship – Stipend Award	\$10,500
Research Assistant Position	\$12,766
Teaching Assistant Position(s)	\$6,183
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,449</b>

### General notes about funding

- We strongly recommend that students [sign up for direct deposit](#) using the Student Web Service, otherwise fellowship/award payments will be issued by cheque and mailed.
- Students who receive a major scholarship/fellowship during the academic year may have their funding package revised.
- Students who are not registered for the full academic year (September – August) will have their funding package revised.
- Students must be in good academic standing (as evaluated by their supervisor and the Associate Chair) in order to continue to be eligible for financial support.

### **E.F. Burton Fellowship Stipend Payments**

The E.F. Burton Fellowship of (\$10,500) will be paid according to the schedule below.

September'15	\$ 5,250
January'16	\$ 5,250

**Note: January scholarship instalment will be applied directly towards any outstanding tuition.**

### **Research Assistant Position**

The Research Assistant (RA) position will be funded by your supervisor. Please take the enclosed pay form to your supervisor and once it is completed return to Krystyna Biel in MP315. Research Assistantship included in your funding package this year is **\$12,766**.

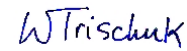
### **Teaching Assistant Position(s)**

You will receive Teaching Assistant (TA) contracts for a total of **\$6,183** (140 hours x \$42.47 including 4% vacation). TA salary is paid monthly for the duration of the position.

Please note that both Research & Teaching Assistantships are processed through payroll system and paid on the 28<sup>th</sup> of the month (or Friday before, if it's a weekend). Pay statement are posted at <http://www.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/resources/ess/opsafnae.htm>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Krystyna Biel (MP315, phone (416) 978-2945, email: [kbiel@physics.utoronto.ca](mailto:kbiel@physics.utoronto.ca)). We wish you a happy and productive year.

Yours sincerely,



Associate Chair, Graduate Studies.  
William Trischuk,

Cc: **Supervisor**

██████████  
Department of Physics,  
University of Toronto.

## Example support letter for a non-Canadian student

September 25, 2015

Dear ██████:

We are pleased to confirm details about your funding package for the 2015-16 academic year. Please note that the basic level of financial support (Level 4) has risen to \$21,000 + tuition fees for 2015-2016, as seen from the enclosed guidelines. This increase is partly due to changes in the Teaching Assistantship (TA) rates.

This funding letter outlines the guaranteed funding provided by the department and is not intended to capture additional RA and TA work students may secure throughout the year. However, any additional support may result in some reduction of the RA support to reflect the diminished time the student would have available for research.

As an international student, you are eligible to receive a funding package for the 2015-16 academic year in the amount of **\$42,551 (\$21,000 + tuition fees)**. Your funding will be provided from the sources below.

University of Toronto Fellowship – Stipend Award	\$10,500
University of Toronto Fellowship (UTF) – Tuition Award	\$13,102
Research Assistant Position	\$12,766
Teaching Assistant Position(s)	\$6,183
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$42,551</b>

### General notes about funding

- We strongly recommend that students sign up for direct deposit using the Student Web Service, otherwise fellowship/award payments will be issued by cheque and mailed.
- Students who receive a major scholarship/fellowship during the academic year may have their funding package revised.
- Students who are not registered for the full academic year (September – August) will have their funding package revised.
- Students must be in good academic standing (as evaluated by their supervisor and the Associate Chair) in order to continue to be eligible for financial support.

# Other Points

- University and Research support reduced for major scholarship holders
  - Though not below the minimum support level
- Named fellowships often come with description of their preferred candidate
  - We often ask you to thank sponsors in these cases
  - However we use UofT Fellowships to support all ‘in-cohort’ students at the same level
- Beyond funded cohort
  - There is no funding guarantee
  - Supervisor RA support, TA support and up-to two doctoral completion awards (\$3k domestic, \$6k visa) are main sources
  - We suggest to supervisors that they try to continue support at nominal level for students beyond cohort

# Where to find more information:

- Department web-site (especially the Graduate Handbook)
  - <http://www.physics.utoronto.ca/students/graduate-program>
- Your thesis supervisor
- Your TA-union reps/stewards
- Krystyna
- The Associate Chair for Graduate Studies