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FODUSA

NO.4

MAKAR SANKRATI

THE CAPRICORN FESTIVAL



ILLUSTRATION BY KERRY HYNDMAN

JANUARY 2024

ISSUE NO . 4

— W I N T E R 2 0 2 4 —

FOSSA FUEL

Breakfast Is Served!

**Is breakfast the last thing on your to-do list?
FOSSA's got you. Stay fully charged and ready for
the day by visiting the free FOSSA Breakfast Buffet.**

**Monday Mornings | Science Atrium
9 AM Onwards - While Supplies Last**



KARAOKE NIGHT

WILFS, 8:00PM, JANUARY 16TH

Join us at Wilf's on January 16th at 8:00pm for some karaoke. The first FOSSA event of 2024 calls for some spin dip. Enjoy some spin dip on us! Bring your friends and sing together or just enjoy watching your fellow golden hawks.

SPIN DIP, ON US

We cannot ensure spin dip for everyone, we encourage you come right for 8:00pm to ensure you get some spin dip. We can't wait to hear all your amazing voices!



SWEET SALES

THE ATRIUM, 10AM-4PM, JANUARY 30TH

IN THE MOOD FOR A SWEET TREAT?

Indulge in a wide range of mouth-watering confections, from rich chocolates to luscious pastries, all at irresistible prices.

Whether treating yourself or gifting someone special, our sweet sale is the perfect opportunity to savour the finest flavours.

Wilf's
Laurier Lives Here



TEXTBOOK REIMBURSEMENT

GET YOUR MONEY BACK!

Submissions Open Jan 12th - Jan 21st

We know that textbooks can be expensive and we're here to help you! FOSSA will provide you with a reimbursement on any required course materials (ex. textbooks, calculators, lab coats) up to \$150 dollars. To be eligible for this reimbursement, you must be a registered undergraduate science student, and the reimbursements will only be provided for required materials for your science courses as per the course syllabus. Along with

the textbooks/course materials must have been purchased from the Laurier Bookstore or accessed via the Bookstore's Digital Text Access (DTA) program. Please note that you will need to provide proof of purchase (receipt in PDF format) in order to qualify for reimbursement. Any questions, comments, concerns, or clarification regarding the reimbursement can be directed to Arfan at academics@fossa.ca.



RESEARCH ASSISTANT SCHOLARSHIP

REWARD FOR YOUR WORK

Application deadline: Jan 18th

FOSSA's Research Assistant Scholarship (RAS) for students that did research within the Faculty of Science (including directed studies and thesis projects) during the Fall 2023 semester is open! Students have the chance to win 1 of 10 scholarships valued at \$1000 each. Applicants can find the link to apply in FOSSA's linktree and must apply by Jan 18 2024 at 11:59pm. Any questions, comments, concerns, or

clarification regarding the scholarship can be directed to Arfan at academics@fossa.ca this scholarship not only offers financial support but also serves as a testament to your commitment to research and academic excellence. We look forward to seeing your innovative and impactful research endeavors being acknowledged through the RAS program.

www.fossa.ca



january 2024

Applications open Jan 16th-19th

Connect & Conquer



FOSSA's Study Buddy Program

Study Buddies

Are you in Laurier's Faculty of Science and looking for someone to study with? Or are you looking to make a friend in a class you have this semester? Fill out the FOSSA study buddies questionnaire and get matched with someone in your class this semester! This is a great opportunity to make a friend before classes get underway so in case you miss a class, you'll have a friend to ask what you missed, work together to tackle midterm/exam content or just have an accountability buddy. Applications can filled on our linktree on Instagram, @wlu_FOSSA.

BEYOND THE BOOKS...

.. *HOW EXTRACURRICULAR EXPERIENCES SHAPED MY UNDERGRADUATE JOURNET*

STUDENT OPINION

SOFIA PLATNICK

Entering any new era of your life brings with it uncertainty and unfamiliar faces, and forces you to navigate entirely new scenarios. For many of us, undergrad is our first experience of a new level of independence – moving away from home for the first time, classes across multiple buildings all with different students, and a whole new system of learning and living that can make you feel particularly vulnerable. As a fourth year whose first two years of university were online, I'm still learning where certain buildings are on campus.

“APPLYING FOR AN EXECUTIVE TEAM ALSO BUILT MY CONFIDENCE BY SHOWING ME THAT INTERVIEWS AREN'T SO SCARY AND THAT I WAS MORE CAPABLE THAN I INTIAILLY BELIEVED”

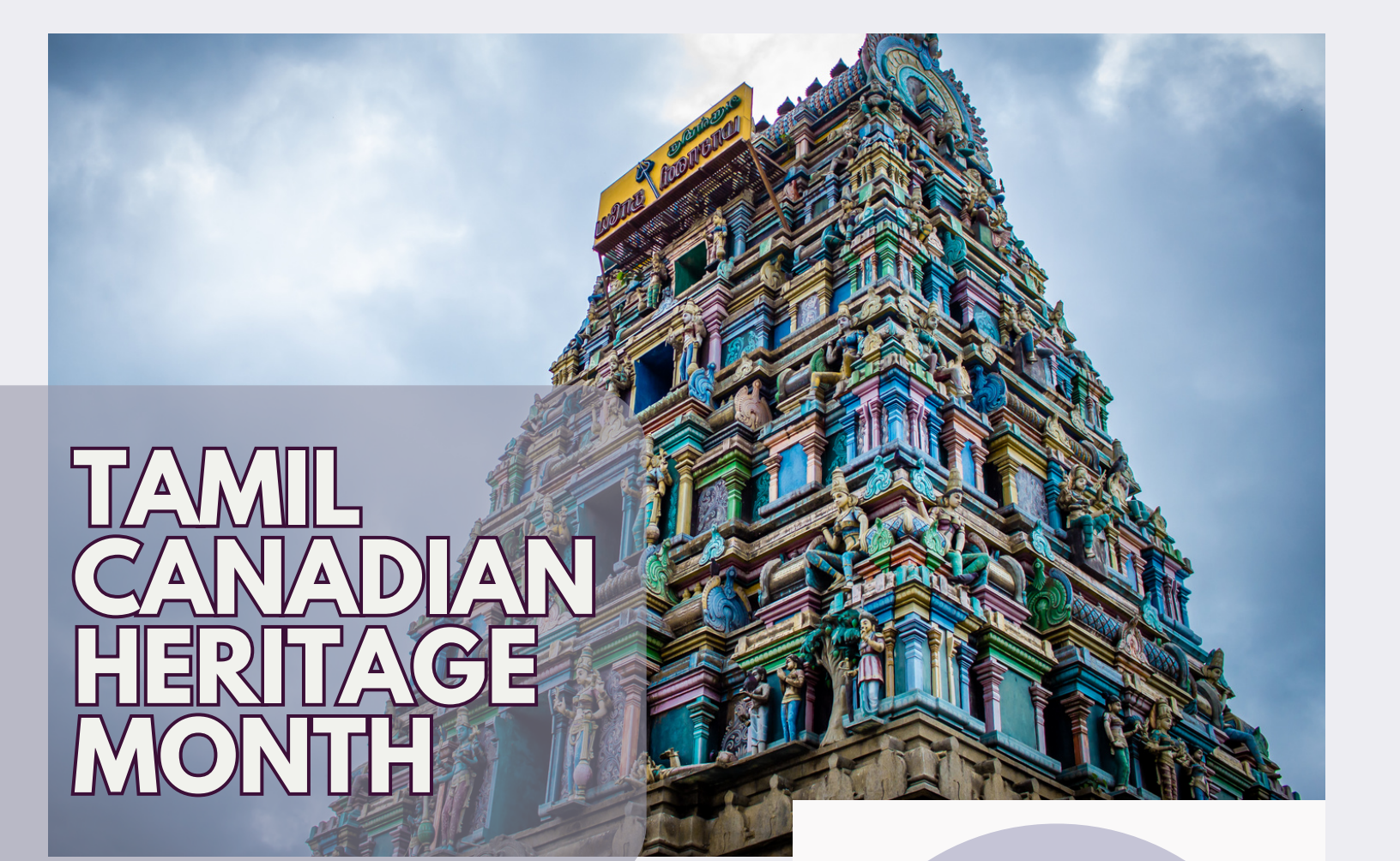
In this environment where everyone is on their schedule and professors hardly have the time to learn your name, one saving grace is Laurier's extracurriculars. Joining a club, a sports team, the Laurier newspaper, or even regularly attending SI sessions can allow you to connect with other students regularly and widen your circle of friends. I joined clubs as a general member and executive member starting in my second year, which introduced me to fellow students in my program with the same interests as me.

Applying for an executive team also built my confidence by showing me that interviews aren't so scary and that I was more capable than I initially believed. Applying to the Laurier Innovation executive team allowed me to demonstrate my abilities and become the Co-President in 3rd and 4th year.

“YOUR EXPERIENCE AT LAURIER IS MORE THAN THE CLASSES YOU TAKE AND THE DEGREE YOU WALK AWAY WITH – IT'S THE EXPERIENCES AND MEMORIES YOU FORM WITH YOUR COMMUNITY”

Starting down this path early taught me how to organize my time between school and Laurier activities, and I was able to expand my commitments in the following two years at Laurier. This also gave me room to learn what I wanted to be a part of and what wasn't working for me, and the friends I made through clubs introduced me to further communities at Laurier.

Your experience at Laurier is more than the classes you take and the degree you walk away with – it's the experiences and memories you form with your community. So take the risk and apply to for a club or two, or join as a general member and engage with students you may not interact with otherwise.



TAMIL CANADIAN HERITAGE MONTH

With one of the largest Tamil diasporas in the world, Tamil Canadians have been instrumental in shaping Canada into a diverse and inclusive society. Events during this month include cultural celebrations and educational activities, offering a chance for everyone to appreciate the narratives, wisdom, and heritage of the Tamil community in Canada.

MAKAR SANKRANTI

Makar Sankranti is a major harvest festival celebrated across India, marking the sun's northward journey and the arrival of spring. It falls on January 14th each year, signifying the end of the winter solstice and the start of longer days. This auspicious occasion is celebrated with various customs like flying kites, preparing traditional sweets such as til-gul (sesame and jaggery), and social gatherings. It's a time of joy and renewal, bringing communities together in a vibrant display of culture and tradition.

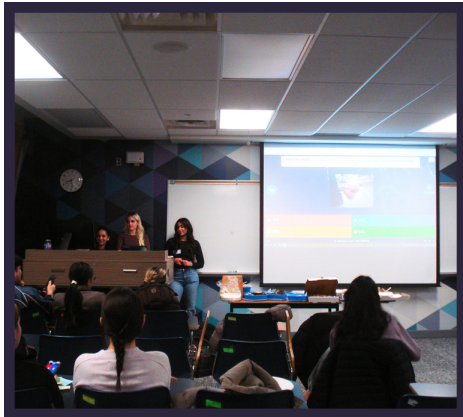


STUDENT ADVOCACY

Lunch on us? Look for a link to complete the FOSSA EDII Student Advocacy Form for a chance to win 1 out of 3 \$25 Uber Eats gift cards. The link can be found on fossa.ca or the FOSSA linktree, accessible through our Instagram @wlu_fossa

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

The Society for Undergraduate Research and Outreach (SURO) offers a multitude of valuable opportunities for students to actively engage with research and connect with professors and researchers at Laurier across various science departments. Hosted events provide a platform for professors and researchers to present their ongoing work and share their expertise with students. Attending these talks allows students to gain knowledge on the latest developments in their fields of interest and sparks curiosity about potential research areas.



SURO's most popular annual event is the "Professor Meet and Greet," where professors from various departments engage with students, discussing their research and outlining potential roles in their labs. This event creates an engaging environment for students to approach professors and researchers, facilitating one-on-one conversations that can lead to mentorship opportunities or even potential research collaborations

By building such connections, students gain valuable insights into research methodologies, academic pathways, and potential career opportunities in their desired fields

SURO LAURIER

est. fall 2016



In addition to networking opportunities, SURO conducts research workshops that equip students with essential skills and knowledge to excel in their research pursuits. These workshops provide valuable insights into the diverse research opportunities available at Laurier, guidance on crafting effective resumes and CVs, and essential tips for composing professional emails to researchers. Armed with this knowledge, students are better prepared to explore their interests in research



and can confidently seek out research positions within the university or other institutions. Over time, SURO has seen remarkable success in helping students secure excellent research positions. By providing students with essential tips and guidance, we empower them to navigate the competitive world of research applications successfully. As a result, our members have gained access to rewarding research opportunities, which not only enhance their academic experience but also open doors to potential future careers in academia or industry.





QUEBEC CITY MOSQUE ATTACK, NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE DAY COMMEMORATED ON JANUARY 29TH - A HARROWING EVENT THAT SHOOK CANADA AND THE WORLD, REMAINS A SOLEMN REMINDER OF THE FRAGILITY OF PEACE AND THE DESTRUCTIVE NATURE OF HATE. IT SERVES AS A POIGNANT CALL FOR UNITY, TOLERANCE, AND THE REJECTION OF VIOLENCE, URGING COMMUNITIES TO STAND TOGETHER AGAINST BIGOTRY. AS WE REMEMBER THE LIVES LOST AND AFFECTED, THE ATTACK UNDERSCORES THE ENDURING NEED FOR VIGILANCE IN PROTECTING AND CHERISHING THE VALUES OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY.