Information Session on Graduate Studies

Department of Computer Science
University of Western Ontario

April 1st, 2020
Plan

1. Overview

2. Graduate School of Computer Science at Western
Objectives

1. Give a brief presentation of our graduate school
   https://www.csd.uwo.ca/graduate/index.html

2. Answering your questions like *why going to graduate school?*

3. What you may not know:
   - Graduate school comes in different flavors
   - Financial support
   - Scholarships and industry internship opportunities
Tentative agenda

14:00 Welcome!
14:05 I am in 4th year: what to do next?
14:10 Salary trajectories: BSc vs MSc
14:15 Doing research in our department
14:20 Graduate studies in Computer Science at Western
14:25 Streams of the graduate programs
14:25 How to apply to the graduate programs?
14:30 Experiences from current graduate students
14:45 Questions and answers

This set of slides.
Plan

1. Overview

2. Graduate School of Computer Science at Western
Computer Science Department in Numbers

Numbers

- 20 faculty members + 2 full-time lecturers
- 150 graduate students
- A research intensive department
- Strong connections with industry (in particular through MITACS and with Bell, IBM, Microsoft, Maplesoft, . . . )
Computer Science Department: Research Areas

Research areas

• Artificial intelligence & Games
• Bioinformatics
• Computer algebra
• Data analytics
• Distributed systems
• Computational neuro-sciences
• Software engineering
• Vision and image processing
• Theoretical computer science
For graduate students

- Grad student/faculty offices:
  - Middlesex College: 3rd, 4th floors, part of 2nd floor and basement
- Access to all undergraduate labs (Middlesex College basement, 2nd,3rd floors)
- All graduate students receive office space and computer
- Graduate lounge: MC 312
Graduate school: opportunities

1. Learn and use advanced technology:
   - The SHARCNET consortium
     https://www.sharcnet.ca/my/front/
   - Compute Canada https://www.computecanada.ca/

2. Do real research
3. Do industry internships within a real research project
   - MITACS internships https://www.mitacs.ca/
   - IBM CAS internships https://www-01.ibm.com/ibm/cas/canada/

4. Build connections:
   - Attend conferences http://2017.hpcs.ca/
   - Do internships abroad https://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/globalink/globalink-research-internship
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- Research: an opportunity to **contribute to knowledge**
- CS is a young field with new topics emerging every year.
Scholarships

• Canada Graduate Scholarships-Masters Program

• Ontario Graduate Scholarships (OGS) and QEII Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology (QEII-GSST)
  https://grad.uwo.ca/current_students/student_finances/ogs.html

• If you apply for a scholarship to be held at UWO, you can contact potential supervisors; she/he may help you to write the application.

• Start the process early and apply to the selected UWO graduate school before submitting the scholarship application.
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