



GSAN 2013-2014 Committee

GUIDE FOR NEW IPN GRADUATE STUDENTS

INTEGRATED PROGRAM IN NEUROSCIENCE (IPN)

Dear new graduate students of the IPN,

Congratulations on your admission to McGill and welcome to the IPN!

We are the Graduate Student's Association of Neuroscience (GSAN), an organization that represents Neuroscience graduate and post-graduate students at McGill. Our goal is to promote the integration and participation of students in the department and to provide a platform for social and educational interactions between IPN students across all research institutes in Montreal.

We have compiled a few useful links and information that will hopefully help you with your new start in Montreal and McGill. Take a look at it and please don't hesitate to contact us if you have further questions and comments!

We are currently planning a welcome event for all of you during January 2014 (more information coming soon)!

Looking forward to meeting you all,
New and International Student Officer, GSAN
newintl.gsan@gmail.com
<http://gsaneuro.com/new-international-students/>

McGill and GSAN services

The GSAN Buddy program:

Every term a senior IPN student is paired with a new student to help him or her adjust to the city and McGill student-life. Your buddy will be able to answer questions related to academic work, and is prepared to assist you with personal advice. You and your buddy will also be invited to new student events. If you haven't registered for our buddy program please do it now following this link:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?usp=drive_web&formkey=dFpRYmtmTVRIYUVsQIFGM0VYWIVIQnc6MA#gid=0

First Year Office

Essential information about McGill and Montreal (where to shop, transportation, etc.) is offered through this service, as well as orientation sessions for new students. <http://www.mcgill.ca/firstyear/grad-students/winter-orientation/discover-mcgills-open-house-welcome-event>

International Student Services (ISS)

The ISS organizes welcome and orientation events for international students and offers very helpful information about pre-departure arrangements, health insurance, taxes and immigration. You can even visit them and get help renewing your student permits or visas!

Check their website: <http://www.mcgill.ca/internationalstudents/>

Also check out their getting started pamphlet:

<http://www.mcgill.ca/internationalstudents/sites/mcgill.ca.internationalstudents/files/2012-2013issgettingstartedpamphlet.pdf>

McGill International Student Network (MISN)

MISN is a program run by McGill students that assists international students to adjust to their new life at McGill and Montreal. They organize language exchange meetings and several social events. <http://www.misn.ca/#!>

Money Issues

Funding Opportunities

The following link will give you an overview of internal (distributed by McGill) and external (federal/provincial government) funding available for graduate and postdoctoral students. It also describes funding opportunities for international students.

<http://www.mcgill.ca/gps/funding/students-postdocs>

Fees & Deferral

You can apply to defer the payment of your fees without charge by logging in your Minerva then choosing the Financial Aid/Awards tab and then following the option: Defer Payment of Tuition and Fees.

For more information about the deferral of your fees please visit <http://www.mcgill.ca/student-accounts/awards-assistance/tuition-fees-payment-deferral>

McGill and GSAN Services

Money Issues



Social Insurance Number (SIN)

A SIN card is necessary to work in Canada, here you can find out how/where to get it:

<http://www.mcgill.ca/internationalstudents/work/social-insurance>

Housing

McGill Off Campus

McGill Off Campus Housing has a very useful survival guide that will give you all the information you need for starting your apartment search. It includes information about Montreal and its living areas, apartment sizing and approximate prices as well as legal information about renting and contracts. It also provides an overview of the rights and responsibilities of tenant and landlord. Check it out at:

<https://secureweb.mcgill.ca/students/housing/sites/mcgill.ca.students.housing/files/survival-guide.pdf>

You can also search for rooms/apartments at their internal website:

<https://offcampuslistings.ca/home.html>

McGill On Campus

Go here to check for housing opportunities on campus for graduate students and to find out how to apply:

<http://www.mcgill.ca/students/housing/downtown-graduate>

Others

Craigslist and Kijiji Montreal have the biggest selection of classifieds for rooms/apartments:

<http://montreal.en.craigslist.ca/>

<http://montreal.kijiji.ca>

Montreal and Winter

Winter Coat Project

Chaplaincy Services at McGill runs the Winter Coat program which offers free, lightly used winter clothes to international students in need.

Take a look at <http://www.mcgill.ca/students/chaplaincy/offer/wintercoat>

Transportation

Public Transit

The Société de transport de Montréal (STM) manages the public transportation (Buses, Metro, bicycles) in Montreal. Check their maps

<http://www.stm.info/English/info/a-plans.htm> , fares

<http://www.stm.info/English/tarification/a-index.htm> and schedules

Reduced fares are available for students (18-25 years old) with a photo ID OPUS card. You can find where to obtain it at

<http://www.stm.info/en/info/fares/opus-cards-and-other-fare-media/registered-photo-id-opus-card>

Tip: register your OPUS card online. If you lose it, any loaded tickets or passes can then be recalled by the STMs computer (important for Opus cards without photos)

Housing

Winter

Transportation



Airport Transportation

Taxi: The fixed fare for airport-downtown distances is \$ 40.

Bus: The 747 bus line service runs 24/ 7, between the Montréal-Trudeau airport and the central bus station (Gare d'autocars de Montréal - Berri-UQAM métro station).The fare is 8\$ for unlimited travel throughout STM bus and métro (Valid for 24 hours).

Get Involved

BrainReach

Is an initiative from the IPN that allows graduate students to visit classrooms (elementary and high school) to give interactive workshops
<http://www.mcgill.ca/ipn/brainreach>

Intramurals

This sports program at McGill offers the opportunity to participate in group sports. Each league is divided into 3 division of play: recreational, intermediate and competitive

<http://www.mcgill.ca/engage/overview/athletics/intramural>

GSAN Events

GSAN is regularly organizing social and academic events for IPN students. Take a look at the upcoming events here:

Social: <http://gsaneuro.com/category/social/upcoming-social-events/>

Academic: <http://gsaneuro.com/category/academic/upcoming-academic-events/>

IPN on the Web

Facebook Pages/Groups

McGill University Integrated Program in Neuroscience

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/McGillIPN/?fref=ts>

McGill University - Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

<http://www.facebook.com/mcgillgradschool?fref=ts>

PGSS McGill

<http://www.facebook.com/PGSSMcGill?ref=ts&fref=ts>

<https://pgss.mcgill.ca/document/view/328/PGSS%20Member%20Handbook.pdf>

Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital Library

<http://www.facebook.com/MNIHLIB?fref=ts>

GSAN Contact Information

Visit us at our website: <http://gsaneuro.com/>

GSAN Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/5165202310/>

New and International Student Officer:

newintl.gsan@gmail.com

Get Involved

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GSAN

