

Get Involved!

Become a Steward

Get to know your union and your co-workers by becoming a Steward. Want to learn more about the role of Steward please contact our Chief Steward at info@uwosa.ca.

Join a Committee

The union is always looking for and welcoming new members to the many committees, there is something for everyone. You can learn more about each committee by logging in to the UWOSA website and click on the "Members" tab and then click on "Governance and Agreements and Forms" for a complete listing of Committees. Below are some of the committees, members can join:

- Constitution & Bylaws
- Education & Training
- Finance
- Membership, Newsletter & Social (MNS)

CONTACT info@uwosa.ca TO JOIN A COMMITTEE!



Garth Blackler
Steward

Medicine - Basic Science

What do you do at Western, and how long have you worked here?

I am a laboratory manager in the department of Physiology and Pharmacology and the department of Microbiology and Immunology. My research focuses on rheumatologic diseases. In Physiology and Pharmacology, we are focused on understanding the role of synovial inflammation in the context of osteoarthritis and in Microbiology and Immunology we are using novel mouse models to understand the link between rheumatoid arthritis and cardiovascular disease. I started working at Western in 2017.

What keeps you engaged when you're not at work?

In my free time, I like to be outside hiking, walking, or biking with my wife. I also enjoy rock climb at The Junction Climbing Center and local outdoor locations.

Why did you become a Steward, and why do you think UWOSA is important?

I became a Steward because I wanted to help new employees and established employees, within our union, navigate the ins and outs of working at Western. I think it's very important to help engage all UWOSA members to strengthen our union and protect our rights as workers.

What's the best way for your members to contact you?

I can be reached by email to gblackle@uwo.ca

If you have any questions about any Article in the Collective Agreement, please contact your Area Steward, or the UWOSA office at info@uwosa.ca.

FAQ

Our UWOSA website is a great place to start for information. Once you login, you will be able to see the “Members” tab.

Under the “Members” tab click on the **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)** and you will find info about

- Term Employees Summary
- Performance Evaluation
- UWOSA Leads



Be sure to take time for self-care as we draw near to the start of another academic year.

Article 20: Vacation

The article provides you with information on your vacation accumulation depending on your years of service with Western. Plus there is information about vacation request deadlines for summer vacations for the months of June, July, & August.



The **U**niversity of **W**estern **O**ntario **S**taff **A**ssociation (**UWOSA**) is an **independent union**, which means that we are not part of a larger union. For example, CUPE and UWOFA, are local unions to the geographical area they occupy but are part of a large provincial or federal union.

Who is UWOSA?

UWOSA represents approximately 860 administrative and technical staff at Western University.

Our members are in every Faculty and Service unit including research facilities off campus and teaching hospitals in and around London, ON.

Our members fulfill clerical and administrative roles; work as technicians in teaching and research laboratories, libraries, computing facilities, and machine shop; staff residences and retail services; and work as drivers and storekeepers.

We love hearing from our members as our members are the heart of our Union. The union is here to provide you with supports and options and **we would not act unless you wish us to**, except in cases where safety is a concern as the union is obligated to report these types of issues.

4 Perks To Being In UWOSA

1. You don't have to navigate the unknown alone
2. You have a third party that is there to support **YOU**, to ensure you are being heard and getting the supports to which, you are entitled to under our negotiated Collective Agreement
3. When unsure of a situation or have questions, you can reach out to your union. UWOSA is a confidential source that will provide you with options specific to your situation, so you are able to make an informed decision
4. Employer accountability, that all members (workers) are functioning in an environment that is safe and Western satisfies their obligations under our negotiated Collective Agreement, the Employment Standards Act, & Western's Policies and Procedures.

How To Reach UWOSA



Image credit: Pexels.com

Email: info@uwosa.ca

Phone: 519-661-3028

Office: UCC Room 255

Need Help? [Ask UWOSA](#)

The [UWOSA Directory](#) list Executives and Stewards you can reach out to

NEW Required Western Cyber Safety Awareness Training

All Western employees need to complete the training which is to be done during your regular work hours.

The training needs to be completed by November 1, 2022

Questions: security@uwo.ca

Technical Issues submit [Service Desk ticket](#) or call 519- 661-3800. To WTS Help Desk