



OCUFA

Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations
Union des associations des professeurs des universités de l'Ontario

2021-2022

OCUFA Henry Mandelbaum Graduate Fellowship (Master's)

Citation for Luz Paczka Giorgi



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Read by

Gautam Das, OCUFA Henry Mandelbaum Graduate Fellowship
Committee Member

This year's Henry Mandelbaum Graduate Fellowship for Excellence in Social Sciences, Humanities, or Arts for the master's level of study is awarded to Luz Paczka Giorgi who is enrolled at the Ontario College of Art and Design in the Design for Health program. OCADU is on the ancestral and traditional territories of the Mississaugas of the New Credit, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy of Six Nations, the Anishinaabe, and the Huron-Wendat nations. Toronto is part of the Dish with One Spoon Territory and covered by Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant.

Paczka Giorgi's academic work focuses on health equity across communities. She uses participatory collaboration in her research and believes we all have a right to a healthy life. Her work explores the intersections of mental and physical health, nature, and climate change. Her current academic work looks to develop sustainable strategies that would prevent medical waste over the long term.

Paczka Giorgi has demonstrated considerable service to the academic community through her involvement with the sustainability committee, the graduate student caucus, and the organization of Latin American Students. In addition, she has volunteered extensively at a variety of organizations. Of note, the founder of Doctors for Doctors & Nurses for Nurses gave high praise for Paczka Giorgi's six years of volunteer service, and concluded that "our organization would not be the same without her." Paczka Giorgi aims to empower people and ensure that all doctors involved with the organization have their histories, stories, and viewpoints heard in order to guide the work of Doctors for Doctors.



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Paczka Giorgi's academic excellence spans disciplines as evidenced by her many publications in ophthalmology journals, her background in neuroscience and psychology, and her current interest in health design.

Paczka Giorgi has demonstrated that she is gifted in so many areas. Her scientific illustrations have been used in grant applications, lectures, and dissertations. It is impressive that she can take her own experiences as a student and see how others might find those experiences interesting. In particular, she has developed a graphic novel about her research process and submitted it to a scholarly comic conference last spring.

The Mandelbaum selection committee found Paczka Giorgi's application to be impressive and shared an excitement to follow her growth and learning. OCUFA is pleased to award the Henry Mandelbaum Graduate Fellowship (Master's) to Luz Paczka Giorgi.



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Established in 2011 to honour former OCUFA Executive Director Henry Mandelbaum, the fellowship is awarded to two full-time graduate students (one master's, one doctoral) at publicly funded Ontario universities. Candidates should have demonstrated academic excellence, provided significant community service, and shown exceptional academic promise in their university careers. The financial needs of candidates may also be taken into consideration.