



# CSA-SCS Student Concerns Subcommittee Bulletin

Welcome to the Canadian Sociological Association Student Concerns Subcommittee's Monthly Bulletin. In this newsletter you will find a round-up of different activities and announcements. If you hear of any opportunities you would like to share with the student membership, we always welcome submissions and encourage you all to forward opportunities to us to share.

## CSA-SCS 2026 CONFERENCE



The 2026 CSA-SCS Conference will be taking place in-person at Dalhousie University in Halifax, NS from June 10 - 13. Virtual sessions will take place the week before, from June 2 - 4. The conference theme is: "Harbours of Hope: Sociology in a Divided World." For more information about the conference and for the abstract submission form, click on the link here: [CSA-SCS 2026 Conference Page](#). Don't forget to explore the tabs at the

top of that webpage for more conference information. The [Plan Your Trip](#) tab includes information about accommodations, flight discount codes, and funding programs. The call for abstracts is now open and submissions will be accepted until January 26, 2026. If you have any questions about abstract submissions, or the conference in general, our upcoming Coffee Chats session is geared to talking more about this.

## SCS COFFEE CHATS

This year, the Student Concerns Subcommittee is running monthly Coffee Chats as a way for our student membership to connect throughout the year. For our January Coffee Chat, we are excited to have our Executive Director, Sherry Fox, join us to provide helpful tips for submitting conference abstracts. You won't want to miss this opportunity to ask Sherry about how to submit a great abstract and how to choose an appropriate session. Mark the dates below on your calendar so you don't miss our Coffee Chats!

Click to register: [Coffee Chats](#)

Upcoming dates:

1) Thursday, January 22    2) Thursday, February 26    3) Thursday, March 26

11:00-12:00PT | 12:00-13:00MT | 13:00-14:00CT | 14:00-15:00ET | 15:00-16:00AT | 15:30-16:30NT



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## JOIN OUR SUBCOMMITTEE!



Each year, some of our members rotate out of their positions and we welcome new members to the Student Concerns Subcommittee. Positions are filled through an organization-wide election, however, if you are interested in joining our subcommittee, we can help you with submitting your nomination form. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in advocating for students and working on student-focused initiatives for a national organization. It's also a terrific way to learn more about the CSA and how the organization works, and to network with other sociologists. If you're interested in joining or have any questions about this opportunity, please contact us: [students@csa-scs.ca](mailto:students@csa-scs.ca).

## HSS COMMONS

We have heard that some of our student members struggle to connect with other sociology students in Canada. If you're ever unable to make it to the Coffee Chats, another way to connect is on the HSS Commons platform. The HSS Commons' helps connect and support the work of Humanities and Social Sciences researchers across Canada. Members can share, access, develop, re-purpose, and preserve scholarly data and resources. The Student Concerns Subcommittee, as well as the Canadian Sociological Association, both have pages already created to help our membership connect. Sign up for the HSS Commons here: <https://hsscommons.ca/en/>. CSA student group is here: <https://hsscommons.ca/en/groups/csastudents>

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

The Student Spotlight Program is back! We know that our CSA student members are doing amazing work and we want to spotlight it! This initiative highlights CSA students' academic research, applied sociology work, activism and involvement in community engagement. You may nominate yourself and/or another student member. Selected nominees will be featured on our website, in our newsletter, and on our social media pages for up to one (1) year. To be considered, nominees must be a member of the CSA. For more information and application instructions, check here: [Student Spotlight Nomination Instructions](#)



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## LOOKING FOR PANELISTS!



The Student Concerns Subcommittee is hosting two sessions geared for students during the virtual component of the 2026 Conference. Both of our sessions are Open for Submission, so all students who are interested in being a panelist are welcome to submit abstracts / applications for these sessions. Information about both of our sessions is posted below. Additionally, you can join us on January 22 during our monthly Coffee Chat meeting to ask more questions. For more information about the Call for Abstracts and submission guidelines, click this link: [Abstract Guidelines & Instructions](#)

## SESSION 1: PAPER PRESENTATION

Title: (SCS2) Making Space for Multilingual Student Research

Session Description: It can often be intimidating for students to present at academic conferences, let alone when it's being done in a second language. This session hopes to provide a comfortable space for ESL students to present their multilingual research in English. The Student Concerns Subcommittee welcomes abstract submissions from any student whose research is conducted primarily in a language other than English. The session will be conducted in English to provide a judgment-free space for ESL students to practice presenting their sociological research in English.

We are open to working with panelists prior to the conference to provide practice time and ensure students are well-prepared and comfortable for this session. When you submit your research paper abstract, please feel free to provide any additional information regarding supports you may need.

\*This session requires submitting an abstract of the research you will be presenting.



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## SESSION 2: PANEL DISCUSSION

Title: (SCS1) Student Perspectives on Academic Freedom in a Polarized Time

Session Description: In a time where student activists are experiencing institutional surveillance and harassment, engaging in public sociology and activism comes with potential risks that can jeopardize academic and career opportunities. Student activists often find themselves having to choose between speaking out knowing there are associated risks, or self-censorship for protection and safety. How can students engage with difficult conversations and research without risk, stigmatization and proscription? What is the role of universities in addressing these concerns? How does the surveillance of student activism target specific groups of students? In addressing this year's conference theme, can we create Harbours of Hope for Sociology student activists in a divided world? This session will bring together a group of panelists who will discuss how to transform conflict into educational engagement, intercultural empathy, and collective action for academic freedom.

We encourage students who can speak to these topics, themes and questions and are interested in being a member of this panel to contact us. Please include any relevant activism, community-based work, and/or research experience that connect to the session themes. Due to the sensitive nature of the themes being discussed, we are open to collaborating with panelists prior to the conference to ensure speakers are not placed in precarious positions.

\*No abstract is required for this session as it is a panel discussion. Students interested in participating must complete the submission form & describe relevant research and/or experiences that demonstrate your ability to speak to these topics.

## CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO

If you're interested in participating in either of these sessions but have more questions for us, please don't hesitate to contact us at: [students@csa-scs.ca](mailto:students@csa-scs.ca)



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# **HEY YOU!**

**Do you have a:**

- **research, postdoc, or other employment opportunity**
- **call for abstracts or other submissions**
- **upcoming event**
- **any other opportunity that might be relevant to our CSA student membership**

**Feel free to reach out & share it with us!**



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**www.csa-scs.ca/students**