

# PF & GSC Newsletter



Amir Saeidi is a 5th year PhD student in Materials and Manufacturing Technology (MMT) concentration. He is serving the engineering school both as the Pedagogical Fellow (PF) and graduate student representative this year.

As the graduate student representative, he attends Graduate Studies Committee (GSC) meetings, in which he has a vote and can add any topic that grad students are interested in into the agenda.

As the PF, he offers free and confidential consultation to you for any teaching related issues. You can contact Amir if you have any question regarding the following topics:

- Training on technology you need to use in your class.
- Issues in interaction with the instructor, TAs or students.
- Improving students' learning experience.

**This quarter, the following workshops and opportunities are available:**

## 1. Canvas Work shop—Tuesday, November 21, 2-3pm in ET 652

**Last day to register: Monday, November 20th at 11:45 pm at** [https://eee.uci.edu/survey/Canvasworkshop\\_Fall2017](https://eee.uci.edu/survey/Canvasworkshop_Fall2017). Please bring your laptop or tablet to the workshop.

UCI is in transition from EEE to Canvas. Canvas is easy to use, makes it possible to create an active and interactive class, and improves teaching and learning experience. To help TAs and instructors to have an easy transition, a workshop on canvas is offered. In this workshop, we will cover topics like:

- Online assignments (creating, grading, commenting)
- Entering grades
- Creating groups
- Weighing assignments
- Creating announcements
- Uploading files
- Creating quizzes
- Q&A

With questions about teaching, or to share your concerns as a graduate student, **contact Amir at** [saeidis@uci.edu](mailto:saeidis@uci.edu).



**UCI Samueli**  
School of Engineering

## What is GSC?

- A committee consists of one faculty member from each department.
- What does GSC do? GSC meetings different issues related to graduate studies are discussed and plans, rules and regulation are made. Important topics like funding, graduate students' internship, etc. are discussed.
- What grad students do? Attend monthly office hours to 1. Help Amir have a better perspective and to be able to be an effective representative, and 2. find ways and ideas to improve the experience of graduate students in the engineering school.

**The first office hour will be on November 14, from 2-4pm in Engineering tower 652.**

## 2. SABER West - Hosted by UCI on January 13– 14, 2018

**Last day to register: December 15 (Early Registration ends November 20th)**  
<https://sites.google.com/a/uci.edu/saberwest2018/home>

In this conference you will:

- Learn about higher education research
- Foster collaborations and connections with local colleagues
- Learn about implementing evidence-based teaching practices.

Registration fees:

- Faculty, staff, administrators - \$110
- Post docs, Graduate students and Undergraduates - \$60

## 3. Teaching Consultations

Am I an effective TA? Are my students learning? Teachers might wonder if their teaching is effective and what other resources they can use. Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation (DTEI) offers consultation to instructors and teaching assistants.

- The consultant does not evaluate the teacher
- The consultation is confidential.
- You can ask DTEI to film your classes, so you can meet with a consultant to get feedback and suggestions on new teaching methods.

You can request a consultation and/or recording here:  
<http://cei.uci.edu/programs/consultation/>