Western
UNIVERSITY · CANADA

International Mobility & Partnership:
A Canadian Perspective on Funding and Collaboration

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About Western

Established in 1878, Western is a founding member of Canada's U15 research-intensive universities.

- → $315M in annual research funding
- → 500+ dynamic international research collaborations
- → 43,000 students, including 7,000 graduate students
- → 4,300 faculty and staff
- → 382,000 alumni in 160 countries

TOP 1%

of universities worldwide

Cener for World University Rankings 2025

TOP 15

in the world for sustainable development

Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2025

TOP 50

in the world for employment outcomes

QS World University Rankings 2026

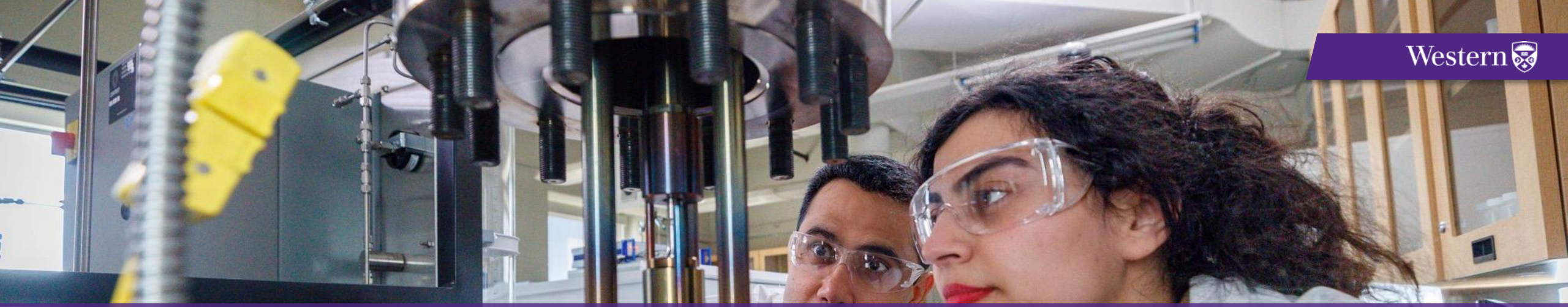
London, Ontario

London is a city of 423,000 people located approximately 200 km west of Toronto.

VANCOUVER
CALGARY
REGINA
WINNIPEG
OTTAWA
QUÉBEC CITY
MONTREAL
HALIFAX
TORONTO
DETROIT
NEW YORK

International Mobility as Strategic Imperative

- Mobility no longer simply about exchange or travel
- Serves as a foundation for
  - Research collaboration
  - Academic partnership
  - Global networks
  - Long-term institutional engagement
- Mobility and funding are increasingly interconnected; prioritizing mobility linked to research and partnership outcomes



The Canadian Funding Landscape

Canada

- → Smaller, distributed funding ecosystem
- → Institution-driven partnerships
- → Competitive national grants
- → Strong emphasis on collaboration and impact

Europe

- → Large-scale coordinated programs
- → Extensive mobility infrastructure
- → Horizon Europe ecosystem
- → Long-term multinational networks

From Mobility to Long-Term Collaboration

International mobility experiences often become catalysts for future academic and professional opportunities.

MOBILITY EXPERIENCE
Exchange, research visit, internship, conference, or short-term program

RESEARCH CONNECTION
Build relationships and explore shared interests

GRADUATE STUDY / POSTDOC
Return for further study or advanced research opportunities

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH
Joint projects, co-publications, grant applications, and co-supervision

LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP
Sustained collaboration between scholars and institutions

EXAMPLES OF HOW MOBILITY LEADS TO OPPORTUNITIES

VISITING STUDENTS
who build relationships and return for graduate studies or postdoctoral training.

RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS
that lead to co-authored publications and ongoing collaboration.

FACULTY EXCHANGES
that evolve into joint research projects and grant partnerships.

CONFERENCE CONNECTIONS
that spark future collaborative projects and funding.

CO-SUPERVISION
arrangements leading to stronger academic ties and shared success.

MOBILITY IS MORE THAN A MOMENT—IT'S THE START OF SOMETHING BIGGER.

Mobility, Research & Funding Opportunities in Canada

Mobility

- → Visiting research student
- → Exchange
- → International summer programs

Postdocs

Institutional postdoc program funding

Research

Institutional seed funding

International partnership initiatives

Mitacs

Horizon Europe collaborations

Relationships Drive Global Opportunities

Connect with internationally active faculty

Join collaborative research teams

Attend conferences and webinars

Participate in virtual collaborations

Maintain relationships and networks after mobility experiences

Build Global Skills

- Intercultural competency
- Adaptability
- Communication skills
- Resilience
- Problem Solving

Seize the Opportunities

- Start Early
  - Build relationships and connections
  - Planning is key
- Think beyond one opportunity
  - Mobility experiences can be the foundation for grad studies, post doc, co-publication, partnership
- Use Institutional Supports
  - International office
  - Research office
  - Graduate studies office
  - Faculty mentors

Questions and Discussion