GSO Minutes April 6, 2011

Finances

$1900 is left in our account including expenses for the last meeting and pub night. We have enough money to have the traditional summer barbeque, one more pub night, one more GSO meeting, and we do not have any more cosponsored events to vote on at this moment.

Upcoming Events

Project Bread is having a Walk on May 1, 2011. Look out for more information in emails.

Deadline for Travel Grant applications for fall conferences (July 1-Dec 31) is May 1, 2011. If you would like to volunteer to serve on the Traven Grant Committee, please email GSO.

The Music Society Conference that we voted to cosponsor is coming up on May 7, 2011.

The MIT grad student organization is trying to get a Mass Statewide Grad Student Advocacy event together to get grad students to talk to state representatives about our issues e.g. funding cuts to universities. Is BU interested in getting involved? Email the GSO for more information or to express interest.

NAGPS

If we send somebody to the NAGPS meeting at Columbia University, that person needs to submit an abstract to the conference to present a paper on best practices. To send a representative from GSO, i.e. accommodations, travel, etc would be $325.

SAGE is not sending any representatives.

Based on past attendance, these NAGPS meetings are very informal and the presentations are more conversational than they are formal talks.

No GRS student volunteered to attend.

GSO Voted NO to sending a GSO representative to the NAGPS conference.

Pub Night

$905 is the estimate for the pub night with approximately 200 drink tickets. We discussed that attendance at the April pub night is usually lower that at other times of the year because of all the events on campus at that time.

Vote YES to earmarking funds for 150 tickets for the pub night.

Barbeque
Vote YES to earmark the rest of the GSO money toward an early summer barbeque

Proposal for the future:

Johnathan Descere proposed to switch the summer barbeque for a fall barbeque to recruit members to the GSO, welcome new grad students, expose students to new social networks, the work that GSO does etc.

Other proposals were made to move the winter party to the fall, or arrange the money such that we can have both big events and then a summer pub night.

Arguments against this proposal - too many barbeques at the beginning of the school year.

We decided to table this for next time. We need to find out where the money from this will come from, and how much it will cost etc.

Health Care

BU renegotiated the health care plan with AETNA. 1. The cap on anesthesia was removed. 2. For those with children, they are now included on the plan. However, the plan will now cost more.

Next year, BU will be looking for a new plan (shopping around). Other ways that GSO can get involved as BU renegotiates a new plan next year:

1. Develop a survey to get grad student concerns/experiences.
2. Intense lobbying for our interests
3. Publicize the office where students can get help with their insurance claims

If you are interested in working on the Health Care Committee, please email Johnathan Deschere at deschere@bu.edu

Co-sponsored Events

Will the GSO give money for a summer event?

Table for the next meeting.