

GSO Meeting Notes
5:30, Wednesday, November 15th, 2017
College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) 226

- **Budget**

- Left to allocate – \$3599.44
- On BU's record – \$27,876.71

- **Elections**

- We will be holding these at the next meeting
- Getty and Jess will be stepping down
- VP
 - Primary task has been to order food for the meetings
 - Significant part of the planning process and development of the GSO. You get to co-create with the President
 - Interact with administrators on important issues
- Treasurer
 - Matching up numbers on the budget
 - Making sure we're on the same page as GRS (they will tell us our exact starting budget)
 - Fill out reimbursements
- President
 - Set up meetings, set up website, official liaison
 - It's an exciting time to be involved with the GSO because we're changing how we work and working with a lot of other groups as well
 - It's not a lot of work
- Secretary, Treasurer, VP, and President – work as a unit
- There are also guides for the positions

- **Travel Grants**

- Deadline is December 1st
- Rules:
 - Trip must be after December 1st
 - Outside the Boston area
 - Only eligible if your department has been represented at 3 GSO meetings in that semester
 - Preference for students in 2nd year or later
 - MA students can not apply
 - A student can't get one in the same year if he/she has already gotten one
- Getty needs 3-4 people on the committee
 - He sends out the applications to everyone
 - The committee reads and rates them
 - They meet to make decisions – Try to schedule this by the mid/end of the semester
 - Getty sends out the emails to the applicants

- Who:
 - Jessica
 - Carmen Row
- **Social Committee**
 - Study night – rent out a room, bring food/coffee, study
 - Details are coming
- **Professional Development**
 - Amanda is not here
 - She is still looking for people to assist
- **Advocacy Chair**
 - There was a large meeting with all of the different groups about sexual harassment
- **GPLC Town Hall Discussion – Drew Trlica**
 - Drew is on the Exec committee
 - They provide a forum to discuss work place and policy issues, present recommendations for actions to the Associate Provost of Graduate Affairs
 - Recommendations:
 - Dental care
 - Fixing the parental policy
 - Reallocating January credit
 - Etc.
 - There is an advisory committee of graduate affairs, but we want him to talk to other people
 - To answer graduate student questions
 - It went alright because a lot of questions were asked
 - Options for dental care on the website or giving us dental care
 - Better parental care assistance
 - Maintaining health insurance when on medical leave
 - Summer funding
 - Salary increase
 - He basically says everything will take years, there are no time lines, and anything that costs money will be very difficult
 - Essentially our efforts haven't gotten very far
- **Sexual Harassment Meeting**
 - GWISE, BU Grad Worker Union, GSO, GPLC, Chemistry, E&E, Physics, NE GWISE
 - Everyone shared what they are working on
 - We came up with a strategy for how to work together on a variety of levels
 - We will be making a questionnaire about what is happening in each department
 - What was already the policy for sexual harassment? Are any changes being made after this semester's events? Etc.
 - We will send out information
 - List of asks to make to the department – E&E

- Policy for departments concerning sexual harassment and advisor relationships – Physics
 - Resources for sexual harassment - Chemistry
- Institutional stuff takes a long time
 - Find out what's happening in your department
 - These changes can happen very quickly
 - It helps the case for larger institutional change as well because if they say it's hard for the departments to do, but the departments are already doing it, then they can't argue it
- **Holiday Party**
 - GWISE, SAGE, GSO
 - December 4th at 5 pm, Photonics 906
 - Fliers are being made
 - It will be a good opportunity to see people you don't normally see
- **Graduate Academic Affairs Committee**
 - Alex – was going to send notes, but didn't