Women have made history at Boston University since its founding in 1839. We were among the first universities in the United States to open all our academic divisions to women students and not long after to admit women to medical school. In the late 19th century, the nation’s first female doctoral student, black female doctor, and black female psychiatrist all graduated from BU. Today, women continue to make remarkable strides in and outside the walls of our institution.

Margaret Babson, Associate Director of Student Inclusion, remarks on the influence women-focused student groups have to greater unity. “The influence student groups have to a feeling that they can do something, that action, whatever that may be, forces them to be more resourceful and productive.” Babson also noted the interactions with women biomedical student groups have been working together for quite a while. “I find it personally rewarding to work with folks from different disciplines in STEM on this unifying mission. It’s been one of the best experiences for women and the experiences of my graduate school experience.

It’s absolutely such a team effort with GWISE. We have an incredible board, and we’ve been working together for quite a while. I find it personally rewarding to work with folks from different disciplines in STEM on this unifying mission. It’s been one of the best experiences for women and the experiences of my graduate school experience.

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How does it feel to be the president of GWISE?

It’s really important to me that everyone show their most vulnerable selves. We are not so shy for someone who accomplishes something individually. We are inclusive. When you look inside, it’s not into the gym and get to be consumed by so much male energy. You could be in a lot of fear for women. “Having Girl Gains as an office opens a window for girls to feel comfortable for more energy. That could be intimidating for a lot of women. Having Girl Gains at BU is an office opens a window for girls to feel comfortable. It gives them the freedom to really be in their own skin more comfortably and be at ease in taking the gym, providing fitness, having leadership and the gym is environment for them.

How does it feel to be the president of Girl Gains?

Honestly, it’s been life changing, I’ve never expected it, and people are like, ‘you’re the president of Girl Gains!’ I’m surprised people, and I’m like, ‘I think about that through guys that I’m passionate about. I feel like an incredible presence and being super excited to be there and all that comes with the gym. I’m excited to be there for women all the time, and my passion for the gym is inspiring so many people to come to the gym, be part of Girl Gains, and have a community where they can feel free to be themselves in the gym.

Why did you join GWISE?

I wanted to create a space on campus where women’s experiences and stories could be shared and create a space for women and students to be heard and have a voice on campus. It gives them the ability to be heard and be their own voice.

Why are gender-minority-focused student groups important?

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