

**Graduate and Professional Leadership Council**  
**Open Meeting**  
**October 26, 2017 6:30 pm**

**Executive Board 2017-2018**

Executive Board Member and Meeting Attendee Introductions – Board members in attendance:  
Drew Trlica, Alex Maidelis, Tennyson Hunt

Dental Care

- Next steps for GPLC: open meeting with Dr. Kleinman as well as a follow-up meeting
- Issues with graduate students going to the dental school:
  - It's far for those not on the medical campus
  - Appointments run really long (sometimes people have to go back for a second or third appointment for the same issue)
- 930 program
  - The waiting time is only around 10 mins
  - For employees, you don't have to pay for routine work (but they have insurance)
- \*need more info about the possible old dental insurance plan\*
- There are two dental options for the faculty/staff
  - ~\$18/month: restricted to BU providers
  - Pay more: like a PPO
- The information on the website is lacking
- Ultimately, everyone agrees that it would be best for graduate students to be able to get into the insurance plan that the faculty/staff currently has
  - Priority:
    1. Buy into the staff/faculty plan
    2. 930 program
- GPLC survey from spring:
  - The results may have been thrown off by the fact that those under 26 may still be on their parents' insurance

PhD Funding Model

- The new summer internships are slightly more than was previously offered, but they are still not enough
- One major problem is with international students- they can't work based on the terms of their student visas, so it's very difficult for them to find the necessary funds for over the summer period

January Credit Reallocation

- No comments other than everyone agrees that it should be allocated separately so that it doesn't interfere with the credit limit for part-time students in spring semester
- Marshal Caro to meet with Ass't Provost David Cotter 11/8 to discuss.

Graduate Students with Dependents

- Kyle's presentation:

Met with GWISE, together they had a meeting with Dr. Kleinman  
GWISE had a thorough website with the information, this was integrated into the provost office's website (<http://www.bu.edu/provost/graduate-affairs/graduate-student-parenting-resources/>)

Networking among graduate students w/ dependents:

- Possibly creating a Facebook group (who would be the admin?)
- Planning to have a once-a-year open meeting

Financial support:

- Some other universities offer grants to students and/or offer discounts to child care at the university
- BU didn't feel that there was money to put into that (as far as a direct grant)
- BU is coming up with a small travel grant for those that attend conferences

Follow up: need some sort of outside funding

- UPenn: resources donated by different organizations (ex: Hasbro Toys), also offer up to \$3K/year grants
- Do we have a program at the School of Education (early childhood education)?
- It is possible for students to get on a waitlist for the preschool, but the waitlist takes years to get onto

Commuting Committee (Marianna Keaveney, [msayeg@bu.edu](mailto:msayeg@bu.edu))

- commuting discounts are offered to staff (eg. 50% off monthly MBTA commuter rail passes) but not to grad students (same for parking), creates a burden on grad students who live at a distance
- To be revisited when Marianna returns from maternity leave