26 January 2018--GSO General Meeting

1. **Eboard intros!**
2. **Treasurer/balance:**
   a. Current balance: 24,851.08
   b. Current working budget: 3,626.72
      i. 2,626.72 (after the African studies conference grant (=1000$))
3. **Co-sponsorship application (Jess and Margaret)**
   a. Funding for African studies conference (26th year; interdisciplinary)
   b. March 30–31
      i. In order to provide travel funding for African scholars from Africa or otherwise far away
      ii. Past six years, GSO has provided 25% of conf. Budget
         1. Rest has been fundraised
      iii. Six scholars selected at 250$ per
   c. Anthropology, musicology, african studies, and Pardee are already involved
      i. Requesting funding from a number of departments!
   d. Topic: “Records of Africa”
      i. Participants to interpret records
         1. Colonial records, music records, government records, etc.
         2. Different interpretation on what makes something a record
   e. Mentoring lunch on Saturday
   f. Pair faculty around Boston with other panelists
      i. To discuss professional development, increase exposure to African studies
   g. Amount requested: $1000
      i. Conference budget: keynote dinner, reception, six scholarships, etc.
   h. **Decision: YEA--GSO will co-sponsor**
4. **Committee Updates:**
   a. **Amanda/Professional Development:**
      i. December: a survey went out to reps requesting info on what departments are doing vis-a-vis professional development
         1. Phase 1: Another survey will be sent out
            a. Ask: to send out to student organizations in department/faculty
         2. Phase 2: ask students what sort of events students would actually go to
      ii. Christine Harvey to head up efforts on 3-minute thesis
         1. Monetary prize!
         2. Deadline extended to 2 Feb
         3. GSO responsible for finding 9 faculty judges:
            a. Ideal: 3 humanities, 3 social sciences, 3 natural sciences
            b. If anyone can think of faculty, get in touch with Christine Harvey (harveyec@bu.edu)
iii. PD committee will develop an “engaging the public through social media” event
   1. Hope to find 3 panelists, scholars in the field
      a. Need not be professors
      b. Maybe hopefully junior scholars?
      c. Who have found ways to engage the public through social media
         i. E.g., Huff Post articles, podcasts
   2. Event to start with refreshments, panel afterward
   3. Try to identify potential panelists: contact Amanda
      (amandagn@bu.edu)
      a. Can be non-BU professors!
   4. Funding will go toward a small monetary gift for panelists and inexpensive refreshments
   5. Can we think of a catchy title???

b. Getty/Travel Grant:
   i. Meeting with Emily Barman:
      1. Lizzy and Paul reported about the loss of faith in the system, asked for extra funding
      2. Emily Barman said she would look into options for more funding
   ii. Winners were contacted in December
   iii. Currently, 25% of people who apply receive the grant
   iv. Getty worries that if the percentage remains low, people will stop applying
   v. Next deadline: April 1

c. Whitney/Advocacy:
   i. Whitney not in town
   ii. Sarabeth organizing a coalition
   iii. GWISE/New England GWISE has been organizing events to have conversations about sexual harassment and how to confront
      1. Goal: to have an event to bring all area schools together to discuss: what’s happening, what should happen, how we can accomplish
   iv. Is the union coordinating trainings with SARP?
      1. SARP claims they’re still booked; they lack requisite resources to widely help graduate students
         a. Main focus is undergrads
      2. BUGWU still trying to gain clarity on this issue

d. Jess/Social:
   i. Ideas for the semester: 5 ideas from Jess!
      1. GSO sponsored yoga--agreed!
         a. Cost: $125/week (=$500/month)
         b. Cost sharing with, e.g., GWISE?
         c. Or split cost by charging each person who takes $5?
d. Mariah Gruner (sp?)
   i. Certified yoga instructor
   ii. She could open up a room, we would pay her

e. Low barrier event to implement
f. We would seek to book a room in EPC or in a larger seminar room

g. GSO would have to book the room

2. Coffee/breakfast drop-in hours for students of color, LGBTQ, and international students--agreed!
   a. **Cost: $150/event (x 3)=$450**
   b. Check in with Jasmine (sp?) who runs underrepresented GSO group
   c. To try to foster interdepartmental community
   d. Other grad schools have pride alliances and organizations for students of color
   e. BU does not have these organizations
   f. Lizzy: went to mental help listening session
   i. Grad students don’t feel a sense of community, esp. for international students, students of color, and LGBTQ students
   g. Add a coffee hour for international students? **Yes.**

3. Brewery Night:
   a. **Cost: $500**
   b. Since the pub is closed, it’s been hard to do such an event
   c. Choose a brewery: first come, first serve starting at a certain time
      i. GSO would buy a round of drinks for (e.g.) first 40 people
   d. Allows GSO to remain in budget, gets students together
   e. Downsides: more expensive than other events, more difficult
   f. Potential options:
      i. Lamplighter Brewery:
         1. Has non-alcoholic options

4. Discounted tickets for events, museums, shows, etc.
   a. **Cost: $300**
   b. In March
   c. Claudia Rankin’s *The White Card* at Emerson
      i. Discounted group tix (esp. For students) available!
      ii. We could get students to sign up (e.g.) in pairs
   d. High-investment, high-impact

ii. Other suggestions?
   1. Does Jess need a committee?
a. Potentially
b. Volunteers: Gina

iii. Previous, Getty fully delegated this power
iv. Jess has written proposals with budget estimates
v. Potential concern: if event isn’t easily integrable into our lives as grad students, it might not draw many takers
vi. Another option: use the Dugout?
   1. Close to campus, they have trivia, etc.
   2. Is the dugout shutting down?

vii. Another close option: Scoozi (next to the Chem building)
   1. Thursday trivia night?

viii. How many social events per semester? (Usually)
   1. 3–4