

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 (harveyc@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: Scoози (next to the Chem building)
 - 1. Thursday trivia night?
- viii. How many social events per semester? (Usually)
 - 1. 3–4