

GSO Meeting--16 February 2018

1. Introductions
2. Treasurer's Report/Diane
 - a. Start 2018: \$40,256.78
 - i. 20,256.78 from last year and an additional 20,000 from this year
 - ii. Thus far, we have spent, \$18,730.79
 - b. Remaining balance: \$21,525.91
 - i. Most of this money is already allocated!
 - ii. We also have \$634.50 allocated for professional development
 - c. Unallocated: \$3,081.34
 - i. This doesn't yet include the coffee hours
 - d. **\$950** allocated for social (see below)
 - e. **Remaining budget: 2,131.34**
 - i. We also need to factor in money for bagels/coffee at future GSO meetings (=?)
3. Social Chair/Jess
 - a. Last meeting, we confirmed idea of 3 coffee drop ins:
 - i. International Students
 - ii. LGBTQ students
 - iii. Students of color
 - iv. 1 hour or so on a weekday on Charles River Campus
 - v. Estimate: \$150/event
 - vi. Tentative dates: right after spring break (mid/late March)
 - vii. Jess will seek help day-of to help set up
 - viii. Requests people in their department to spread the word--emails, flyering, word of mouth
 - ix. At the moment, we can start spreading the word
 - b. Yoga idea--passed a vote last month
 - i. Problems:
 - ii. We might not be able to pay Mariah directly for yoga sessions (payment issues)
 - iii. BU might not allow GSO to schedule yoga rooms via Fitrec because of "potential liability" (location issues)
 - iv. Ideas to help?
 1. Make participants sign a waiver?
 2. Pay Mariah via gift card?
 3. Perhaps we could expand the donation per person
 - c. Other ideas now on the table for filling the spending void?
 - i. pub/brewery night at Scoozy or Cornwall's?
 1. Give first 40 people their first drink free?
 2. Trivia night?
 - ii. Ticket to Fenway/other sporting event?

- iii. Games/board games night?
 - 1. There is a group of young hikers that do these sorts of events
 - 2. Knight games?
 - a. Cost to rent the whole space?
 - 3. Bring your favorite board game?
 - a. Issues with turnout?
- iv. Custom trivia night?
 - 1. There is a company that will customize trivia games for folks, apparently they have good reviews
- v. Arcade night--e.g., Jillian's
- vi. Best to do the events toward the end of the semester?
 - 1. Weather will be better, we'll have more other events behind us
 - 2. We should avoid doing it the week of April 18th (professional dev. event)
- vii. Let's allocate **500** for the potential "trivia night" event
- viii. We're already allocating **450** for the coffee hours
- 4. Funding Request: Stephanie/Amir: Romance Studies conference ("Power in Dystopia")
 - a. April 28, 8am–6pm; keynote at 1:30
 - b. Total cost: \$1886.50
 - c. Now an international event
 - d. Conference a good chance to bring scholars together
 - e. Co-sponsored by African Studies (250\$) Women's studies (300\$)
 - i. Last year, GSO gave \$700 for the conference
 - f. This year, \$1000 requested
 - g. Romance Studies will cover the difference
 - h. Keynote Speaker: Jorge Oliviera Castillo
 - i. Speaker fee: \$500
 - ii. Former prisoner in Guantanamo; journalist; poet
 - iii. Keynote lecture will be advertised to whole BU community
 - iv. Might be one of the last opportunities to see Castillo speak as he will soon return to Cuba and will in all likelihood be arrested
 - i. GSO Requirement: we "generally" don't fund more than either "40% of the total cost or \$1000"
 - i. Ambiguous! Can we actually spend \$1000? Check in with GRS
 - ii. If 40% is our max, we could then fund up to \$750.46
 - j. How many cosponsorships do we get in an average semester?
 - i. We usually do between 2 and 4 of these per semester?
 - ii. Should we request more funding in the future so that we aren't pushed into a "zero-sum game" scenario
 - k. Should we institutionalize a deadline for GSO cosponsorship requests?
 - i. This would help stave off possibility of running out of money
 - l. Amanda: professional development would only ask for an extra \$250
 - m. Should we have a rule that a GSO will only re-fund an event for 5 years

n. Vote: unanimous for cosponsoring at \$750

5. Amanda/Professional development
 - a. Event coming April 18th: "Academic Voices in the Digital World"
 - i. 4 speakers
 - ii. Budget: Everything without honoraria: \$139
 1. With \$200 honoraria: \$939
 2. With \$150 honoraria: \$739
 3. With \$100 honoraria: \$539
 - iii. Should we do honoraria at all?
 1. Maybe not: especially since they're all BU professors
 2. Get a gift instead?
 3. Take them out to dinner instead?
 - iv. "GSO prefers not to fund honoraria" (bylaws)
 - v. New proposal: **\$50/person gift budget**
 - vi. **Total cost: \$339**
 - b. Christine/3-minute thesis:
 - i. 6 judges: 2 confirmed, 2 pending, 2 needed
 - ii. Will probably ask for MCs next meeting
 - iii. Will be the week after our next GSO meeting
6. Whitney/Advocacy
 - a. Will start an advocacy committee to make cross-departmental connections
 - b. A committee will help us brainstorm and facilitate conversation on advocacy
 - c. Sexual harassment forum run by New England GWISE: look out for more information
7. Next meeting: Friday 16 March, 10am, CAS 226