

GSO Meeting--27 April 2018

1. Treasurer's Report/Diane

- a. We started the year with 40256.78 (20,000 plus 20256.78 rollover).
- b. We have spent and cleared 26,560.88 leaving 13695.90 in our account.
- c. Most of that has been allocated - 9496.11 for travel grants, 634.50 for professional development, and 679.71 (remaining from the original 950.00 allocated for 3 coffee hours and a pub night) for social events.
- d. We have 1734.92 which has yet to be allocated.
- e. As for travel grants - 9496.11 pays for 18 grants, we have 5 outstanding grants from summer and fall 2017 and 13 left to award from this grant cycle.
- f. With 3.89, we could easily fund one more grant. And with our remaining budget, we could fund two more and still have 731.03 left (So that's an extra 1003.89 for travel grants).
- g. Note: we get our yearly budget sometime in the next fiscal year which begins on July 1st. I don't know how much it will be or when exactly we will get it.

2. Travel Grants/Getty

- a. 59 conference grant applicants
- b. 12 grants awarded
- c. 20%--lower than GRS has claimed they want the percentage (50%)
- d. 11 Research applications, 2 awarded (18%)
- e. Big differences by department between strength of application writing skills
- f. Possible workshop in the fall on criteria for good applications
 - i. Tie this workshop to our professional development committee?
- g. Potential changes in application
 - i. Put a question about whether department requires students to apply for GSO funding before applying for anything else
- h. Potential request for more funding from GRS
 - i. Mention that some departments are requiring GSO applications before requesting department funds
- i. **Additional travel grant funding--3 alternates to fund**
 - i. **Vote: Yes**

3. Other issues

- a. Departments that don't have many grads/are unable to make 3 meetings per semester
 - i. Shall we set up a proxy system?
 - ii. Potential for abuse?
 - iii. Ways to avoid abuse:
 - 1. 2-week notification deadline prior to meetings that a department member cannot attend and want to set up a proxy for
 - iv. Implement a proxy system in the fall
 - v. Plan in the summer

4. Social/Jess

- a. Coffee events have been successful even though relatively lightly attended
- b. Communication/advertising must be better
- c. Ways to connect our social events with Underrepresented Graduate Student Organization (UGSO)
- d. To repeat in the fall? Yes.
 - i. In the future, get a more codified committee to help organize so that responsibilities don't fall to same two or three people every time
- e. Add one big coffee hour at, e.g., Pavement, for all students in GRS departments
 - i. It would be especially good to be able to reserve or rent out a space so that GSO reps could be present to chat with people
- f. Ideas:
 - i. **Allocate remaining budget to funding additional events:**
 - 1. **Vote: Yes**
 - ii. \$400 allotted to a traditional pub night at Cornwall's
 - 1. We will pay for x amount of one drink for first x number of people
 - iii. Remaining \$269 for a Pavement day
 - 1. Stake out a space early in the morning
 - iv. Dates for these events:
 - 1. **Pavement: Friday 4 May at 10–12**
 - 2. **Cornwall's: Tuesday 8 May 5:30–7:30**