

**GSO Meeting Notes**  
**17:30, Wednesday, October 28, 2020**

Time	Item	Notes
17:30	Welcome (President - Khadija El Karfi)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Representative Email List               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Please fill out this Google Doc if you haven't already with your name and department to help us keep track of the rep email list.   <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mCkkmd1usU1SkyFqqXZgW4WJ0tbkbVfcpvB3_kOkwQI/edit?usp=sharing">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mCkkmd1usU1SkyFqqXZgW4WJ0tbkbVfcpvB3_kOkwQI/edit?usp=sharing</a> </li> </ol> </li> <li>2. The proxy system:                If you can't make a meeting rather than finding a replacement student, we have a designated proxy - our Vice President, Shannon Bewley. To use our proxy system, your representative simply has to read through our agenda ahead of time and coordinate their comments and votes with the vice president before the meeting, preferably via email (sbewley@bu.edu).             </li> <li>3. GSO's Mailing List:                You can subscribe/unsubscribe from our mailing list by following this link:   <a href="https://www.bu.edu/gso/join-our-mailing-list/">https://www.bu.edu/gso/join-our-mailing-list/</a> </li> <li>4. New collaboration form for GSO non-monetary requests   <a href="https://www.bu.edu/gso/cosponsoredevents/">https://www.bu.edu/gso/cosponsoredevents/</a> </li> <li>5. Any other opening comments from outside groups etc.</li> </ol>
17:40	Guest - introduction by Vice President, Shannon Bewley	<p><b>Sasha Goldman</b>, Program Manager for PhD Professional Development, is here from the BU Professional Development &amp; PostDoctoral Affairs office to explain what her office offers. See more at <a href="https://www.bu.edu/postdocs/">https://www.bu.edu/postdocs/</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Admin is very keen on having someone who is willing and interested in talking to students about what's important to students             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sasha as a resource to talk through any issues being a doctoral student → <b>go talk to her if you have questions, comments, concerns!!</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Where PDPA is in the hierarchy of institutions at BU</li> </ul>

- Works under Assistant Provost Sarah Hokanson who works under Associate Provost Daniel Kleinman who works under University Provost Jean Morrison
- Has the ability to discuss issues with Sarah and Daniel and get answers from them
- Early 2021: Building a platform on Badgr on PhD Professional Development (PD) Capacities/Competencies/whatever to call them
  - Wanting to disseminate PD on 6 areas: project management & leadership, research skills, discipline-specific knowledge, communication, teaching, and self-awareness
  - Pilot program within GRS based on grant she received→ reaching diverse body of graduate students
  - Ultimate goal is a digital badge within Badgr → huge part of online and higher education especially moving forward
    - Potentially helpful when we hit the job market
  - Incentivizing us as well as faculty members to spend time on this
    - Recognizing work that students already are doing
- Workshops and Events
  - Send her ideas for workshops if you have them!
  - Upcoming workshops:
    - Basics of becoming a lawful US permanent resident
    - Nov 5: Guide to personal Finance for PhDs & Postdocs
    - Citation Management and Data Management Systems
    - Postdocs in STEM panel for PhDs
    - Publishing in the Humanities Faculty Panel
  - Monthly office hours with Sasha & Sarah: November 18th 3-4 pm
    - Career planning, job documents, mentoring or anything else PhD-related
- Vitamin PhD podcast
  - Supplement to doctoral study about career pathways, navigating challenges, and roundtables of discussions
  - **Season 3, Episode 1 on Friday, Oct 30th**
  - Season 4 going to be on learning anti-racism
  - If you're interested in another set of topics, SEND THEM IDEAS
- Things I wish I knew before... (Ongoing project)
  - Project where students create 1-2 minute video for any major milestones along the road in the PhD process
    - 3-hour time commitment
    - 90-minute Storytelling Workshop
    - Video you can use in your own portfolio
    - GIFT CARD COMPENSATION
- Communications you should know about

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="http://www.bu.edu/grad">www.bu.edu/grad</a> → working on getting our own PhD Professional Development website</li> <li>○ BU Doctoral Students Slack</li> <li>○ Doctoral Digest emails</li> <li>○ @BUVitaminPhD podcast Twitter</li> <li>○ Email: <a href="mailto:gradpd@bu.edu">gradpd@bu.edu</a></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b><i>If you'd like to get this info to other students in your dept, Sasha can do an info session in your department!</i></b></li> </ul>
17:55	Updates from President - Khadija El Karfi	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Graduate students working at the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) will come to our meeting on November 11, 2020, to discuss resources available to students. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If you have any particular questions you want them to discuss, please send them to Khadija: <a href="mailto:gso@bu.edu">gso@bu.edu</a></li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Dean Jeffries-El is coming to our meeting on November 11, 2020 to answer questions regarding emergency funding, LfA, the 5 hours per week work policy, the 8-month stipend situation, transparency surrounding stipends and funding. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Has sent us written responses that we're waiting on permission to share with you</li> <li>b. Email <a href="mailto:gso@bu.edu">gso@bu.edu</a> if you have any additional ideas for questions/comments</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
	Updates from Secretary - Jessica Garber	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. BU Student Health Insurance workshop/info session <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Developing a resource page on the GSO website instead of having a particular workshop/info session. Some resources linked below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. BU SHIP Decision guide: <a href="https://www.bu.edu/shs/files/2017/06/bu-decision-guide.pdf">https://www.bu.edu/shs/files/2017/06/bu-decision-guide.pdf</a></li> <li>ii. AETNA CoverU guide: <a href="https://www.aetnastudenthealth.com/coverU/index.html">https://www.aetnastudenthealth.com/coverU/index.html</a></li> <li>iii. Aetna International Students' Introduction to Insurance: <a href="https://www.aetnastudenthealth.com/en/school/711110/members/WelcomeU_video.html">https://www.aetnastudenthealth.com/en/school/711110/members/WelcomeU_video.html</a></li> <li>iv. BU SHIP FAQs: <a href="http://www.bu.edu/shs/files/2017/10/bu-ship-faqs.pdf">http://www.bu.edu/shs/files/2017/10/bu-ship-faqs.pdf</a></li> <li>v. AETNA Plan info website: <a href="https://www.aetnastudenthealth.com/en/school/711110/members.html">https://www.aetnastudenthealth.com/en/school/711110/members.html</a></li> <li>vi. Finding a Doctor outside of BU SHS: <a href="https://www.aetna.com/dsepublic/#/contentPage?page=providerSearchLanding&amp;site_id=studenthealth">https://www.aetna.com/dsepublic/#/contentPage?page=providerSearchLanding&amp;site_id=studenthealth</a></li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Making a statement at the bottom of the page to contact BU admin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Possibly contacting someone at BU SHS to talk to representatives at an upcoming meeting</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. The GSO is still searching for a rep who would be interested in a <b>website/communications manager</b>. It will be a short-term position with the possibility of being changed to an official position on the E-Board. Contact us for more information. The duties will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Creating and managing database/list of GSO emails</li> <li>b. Updating the website <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Knowledge of or willingness to learn Wordpress</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. Assisting the social chair with advertising events</li> <li>d. <b>Call for Volunteers</b> → email <a href="mailto:gso@bu.edu">gso@bu.edu</a> if you or someone you know might be interested!</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Treasurer's report (Open position)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Call for Election Candidates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Please share this information with your departments and encourage people to apply for the position.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Starting Balance on BU's sheet: about \$45,000 in funds; another \$15,000 earmarked for travel grants</li> <li>3. Any ideas on how to spend money, and how much to save? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Limitation on spending → ensuring GRS approves of how we spend money</li> <li>b. Please email us with any ideas that we can pass along?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
18:05	Updates from Travel Grant Chair (Alex Yen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. GSO grant webpage: <a href="https://www.bu.edu/gso/travelgrants/">https://www.bu.edu/gso/travelgrants/</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. People submitting interest in Travel Grant Committee and sending final set of people <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Going to expand to 6 people by Summer 2021</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. If people want to apply for the committee, reach out to Alex at the email below</li> <li>c. APPLY FOR TRAVEL GRANTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Consider the broadened research grant criteria → many people can apply for that!</li> </ul> </li> <li>d. Several depts had a group travel grant info session that would be helpful → if you want to have one with your department and one or more others, email Alex</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Email <a href="mailto:gsogrant@bu.edu">gsogrant@bu.edu</a></li> </ul>
18:10	Updates from our Social Chair (Ethan Mccaslin)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Weekly newsletter updated to shorter pdf format</li> <li>2. Book club</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. <b>December 2nd (time TBD):</b> The Sun Does Shine (<a href="https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/34964905-the-sun-does-shine">https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/34964905-the-sun-does-shine</a>)</li><li>b. Voting on whether the GSO would be interested in offering 20 book formats as a gift for participation<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Majority agreed on offering the book to participants</li><li>ii. Could mail physical book or distanced pickup on campus somewhere</li></ul></li></ul> <p>3. Pavement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. November 12-13 for free coffee → will get back to us with exact times to put the coffee on the GSO card</li></ul> <p>4. Movie night</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Halloween-themed movie night Sixth Sense (<a href="https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0167404">https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0167404</a> )<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. <b>Thursday, October 29th 8 pm</b></li><li>ii. Zoom link in the newsletter on Thursday and below<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82253928645?pwd=a3JqdIZxNWVVQ0lQLzd2bUpqQkVldz09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82253928645?pwd=a3JqdIZxNWVVQ0lQLzd2bUpqQkVldz09</a></li><li>2. Possibility of moving to a Discord server if Zoom gets lagged</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>
--	--	---