

GSO Meeting Agenda
17:30, Wednesday, October 13, 2020
Zoom Meeting ID: 953 4196 4861 Passcode: 675923

Time	Item	Notes
17:30	Welcome (President - Khadija El Karfi)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation by Adam Kleinberger from the ombuds office Adam Kleinberger, the Associate Ombuds at BU, will discuss the services the Office of the Ombuds can offer graduate students. The Ombuds Office talks with students, faculty, and staff about concerns and issues. The office is an independent, impartial, informal problem-solving resource. The office maintains strict confidentiality, and provides a safe place to have off-the-record conversations on issues related to Boston University. They are there to be helpful, and it is a free service. The Ombuds Office at BU follows four ethical principles: (1) independence, (2) confidentiality, (3) impartiality/neutrality and (4) informality. Appointments can be made via email at ombuds@bu.edu or via telephone at 617-358-5960. More information including an FAQ can be found on the Office of Ombuds website at www.bu.edu/ombuds.” 2. Maybe Dean Jeffries - Sent a request for her to come to address the following points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clarity and transparency of stipends and funding between the BU Administration and GRS students b. Communication between BU’s administration and grad students c. The issue with the 5 hours of work policy & its inconsistency with other universities’ policies d. The 8-month stipend issue e. Clarify the Emergency Fund. Is it a loan or is it a grant? Is it being taken out of students’ stipends? f. The issue that TFs have to teach an empty in-person class while all students are remote. 3. Vote on the Emergency funding request for accessibility from Ellie Ash, from the Religious Studies department: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. \$800 for sign language interpreter 4. The GSO is searching for a rep who would be interested in a website/communications manager. 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"> a. Creating and managing database/list of GSO emails b. Updating the website c. Assisting the social chair with advertising <p>5. Representative Email List</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mCkkmd1usU1SkyFqqXZgW4WJJOtbkbVfcvB3_kOkwQl/edit?usp=sharing</p> <p>6. 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).</p> <p>7. GSO's Mailing List: You can subscribe/unsubscribe from our mailing list by following this link:</p> <p>https://www.bu.edu/gso/join-our-mailing-list/</p> <p>8. New collaboration form for GSO non-monetary requests</p> <p>https://www.bu.edu/gso/cosponsoredevents/</p> <p>9. Any other opening comments from outside groups etc.</p>
	<p>Updates from President - Khadija El Karfi</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The GSO has been asked to collaborate with GWISE and the coalition to push the administration to develop a PhD sick leave policy and bolster their child care policy. 2. 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.
	<p>Updates from Vice President - Shannon Bewley</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tax Workshop: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Find good dates and times for the workshops b. (Tentative) When to Meet for Domestic Students

		<p>c. (Tentative) When to Meet for International Students Waiting to hear back from Robert Underwood about recordings and hand-outs</p>
	<p>Updates from Secretary - Jessica Garber</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Structure of daily symptom survey and the non-compliance email 2. BU Student Health Insurance workshop/info session <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. No updates
	<p>Treasurer's report (Open position)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call for Election Candidates 2. Starting Balance on BU's sheet: 3. Allocated Funds: 4. GSO Uncommitted Funds:
	<p>Updates from Travel Grant Chair (Alex Yen)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GSO grant webpage: https://www.bu.edu/gso/travelgrants/ 2. We are looking for one or two new travel grant committee members <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Requirements: you need to have won a GSO grant (research or conference before) b. We are looking for one person in STEM and one person who is in the humanities c. Expectations of committee members d. Email: gsogrant@bu.edu to express interest, identify when you won a grant, and why you would like to serve on the committee
	<p>Updates from our Social Chair (Ethan Mccaslin)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Weekly newsletter updated to shorter pdf format 2. Book club <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. only two votes for books so far b. Voting form 3. Pavement <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Vote on dates that work best for everyone 4. Movie night <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Collaboration with Students of Color for Public Health possible collaborations (BUSPH) b. Poll for Halloween-themed movie night c. BUSPH suggested "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks."
	<p>Announcements, Comments, ideas,</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exciting Announcements - upcoming defenses, families, other events 2. Ideas & Suggestions for the GSO

	suggestions	3. Questions:
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