

GSO General Meeting - Minutes October 27, 2023

Opening Remarks

Any exciting news?

Working on getting a Medieval Students Group started

From the slack: Hi! Could you please share the name and email of the person who was talking about the Medievalists organization? I would like to share it with some people in my department. Thank you!!

ilefranc@bu.edu

- PhD on Tap Research Showcase and Three Minute Thesis happening Tuesday October 31 – go support fellow grad students!
- Happy news – summer teaching jobs and conference trips

President/VP Report

- New GSO website in the works
 - Jessica will talk more about it
- Working on proposing to GRS that grants for MA students be created
- Update on health insurance discounts available through national grad student organization –
 - waiting on some replies to emails
 - seems like it could be useful for vision and dental
- Still no VP but elections will be happening soon
 - Constitutional addendum to come about this maybe

Secretary Report

- Archive request – send photos to jmartin6@bu.edu

Treasurer Report

- Working on updating website to make info easier to find and modernize the look
 - If people have suggestions, we would love to see them
 - Someone signed up for mailing list through the website and doesn't think it's working because she hasn't been added to the site
- Budget updates
 - Rollover budget: \$66,293.81
 - Working on having that go towards substantial support for students through professional development and social events
 - Would also like to direct some to grants
 - Travel grants being deliberated currently so not sure how much is left

- If people have ideas about things for budget use, especially co-sponsored events we're all ears
- Current spending: \$7894.50
 - Travel Grants: \$7469.76
 - Rollover reimbursements from 2023: \$424.74
- Someone asked specifically about headshots
 - Hannah: PDPA is doing that now so we've left it to them – they also have a professional clothing closet and so does the Newbury Center if people want to look into that

Social Chair Report

- Update on successful speed networking event
 - if people want to do something like that again, we definitely could because there's still money for this kind of thing
- Sonic Connections Proposal
 - A music-centered mental health group that approached us
 - We definitely shouldn't pay for it but is this something we would want to approach GRS or Wellbeing about funding
 - Group voted no so I will email him to say we're not interested
- Next pub night on November 1
- Need to start planning for holiday party
 - Would love to have a small committee to help – email hghoward@bu.edu if interested

International Students Report

No updates

Travel Grants Updates

- September cycle currently being reviewed
- December cycle is opening October 15
- Please make sure attendance is up to date so department remains eligible
- Looking for more reviewers, especially from STEM

Free Sharing/Questions

- grievance being aired: GRAF deadline used to be late March and it was moved to early February which has really affected people's chance to work on the app
 - We will bring this up in GSO meetings with admin
- Question about the CSA farm shares – when and how do those happen?
 - Hannah: it did happen this year, it runs from June to October though BU Sustainability and Dining Services

- We could approach them to encourage them to do it again next year with better advertising and more subsidized shares for grad students