

# BU GSO – General Body Meeting

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, (October 17th, 2024)

Time: 4:00 pm

Location: CDS 364

### I. Welcoming remarks by the President

1. Join Slack Channel for GSO Reps:  
[https://join.slack.com/t/bugso2021/shared\\_invite/ztobqpc210-gxJTsxWWkWL7n4ioaAfkiw](https://join.slack.com/t/bugso2021/shared_invite/ztobqpc210-gxJTsxWWkWL7n4ioaAfkiw)
2. Join the GSO mailing list: <https://www.bu.edu/gso/join-our-mailing-list/>
3. Fill out the attendance log:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1r5KZHSx8zPkePDpKdSbbF3UGdYdAmrHAFotZRQupNF0/edit>

### II. E-board Reports

#### President's Report

- a. Constitutional Review: Based on previous discussions on concerns regarding grant eligibility, we decided to do a review of the Constitution (2019) and update it.
- b. Old Constitution Link (2019): <https://bit.ly/GSOCONST2019>
- c. Constitution Proposal Link (2024): <https://bit.ly/GSOCONST2024>
- d. 2nd Meeting in voting for a new constitution, last meeting vote was 18 yes and 1 no (vote needs to be unanimous)
- e. Main Changes/Updates to the Constitution:
  - Departmental Good Standing: 3 meetings based on either the previous or current semester.
  - Before: Lacked clarity, departmental good standing solely based on the current semester.
  - Involvement: All grad students are able to attend meetings/events (not just GRS). However, official membership/voting is limited to GRS (including grant eligibility).
  - Number of Representatives per Department: 2 + 1 alt regardless of department size.
  - Before 1-3 based on size.
- f. Vote to change the Constitution (2024), 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting:
  - YES: 19 out of 20
  - NO: 1 out of 20
  - Did NOT pass
- g. Students have attempted to establish new graduate student organizations on campus and have faced several difficulties.
  - GRS has claimed that there is no way to fund or recognize other organizations.
  - Only GRS organizations are GWISE and GSO.
  - GRS had also suggested new clubs request funding from GSO.

h. Elections!

- Applications will be released after our November 12th meeting!
- Elections will take place during our December 5th meeting!
- Great way to get involved in the community.
- \$250 stipend per semester.
- For elections-related questions please email [gso@bu.edu](mailto:gso@bu.edu).

**Vice President Report**

- a. **Meeting attendance:** Mandatory for department reps.  
*Note: If you can not attend, your proxy can attend. Email me your proxy name.*
- b. **Voting:** Mandatory to be present (Online/Offline).  
*Note: If you can't attend, your proxy can vote. Email me your proxy name.*
- c. If you and your proxy can not attend, email me with the reason.
- d. Any suggestion/ opinion, don't hesitate to reach out to us.

**Secretary Report**

- a. Archive request – trying to build out GSO's archive both for organizational memory and for use in social media, etc. Request to share photos of current or old events in either digital or physical formats. Please share with Jess ([jmartin6@bu.edu](mailto:jmartin6@bu.edu)).

**Treasurer's Report**

- a. Starting Balance on BU's sheet: \$50,000  
Current Balance: \$36,643  
Travel Grants: \$35,000 allotted for this year's three TF rounds
  - Meeting Expenses: \$1,000
  - Social Events: \$6,000
  - Co-sponsored Events: \$3,000
  - Professional Development: \$1,500
  - Exec board stipends: \$3,500

**Social Chair Report**

- a. Pub Night on Thursday was a hit! Thank you all for coming, it was great to meet, drink, eat, and chat with you all!
- b. 150~ graduate students in attendance from a range of different departments and programs
- c. Future Pub Nights will use an EventBrite

**GSO Suggestion Form**

- Would you like to recommend GSO hold any certain events? Professional? Social?
- Do you have a concern you would like GSO to amplify or address?
- Idea for GSO to implement?
- Submit them here! <https://forms.gle/MgByttHUyVc7nMQd9>

**III. Closing:**

1. Contact the GSO at [gso@bu.edu](mailto:gso@bu.edu)
2. Checkout our website: [www.bu.edu/gso](http://www.bu.edu/gso)

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**GSO EBoard attending:** President, Sarah Benhalima; Vice President, Arjun Sharma; Secretary, Jessica Martin; Treasurer, Annie Shapiro

**Attendees:** Ryan Deneen, Brooke Rothamer, Ningyuan Wang, Ryan Pham, Matthew Vince, Hannah Kloster, Samuel Messer, Katie Wynn, Emily Nootbaar, Kate Finnerty, Matthew Brewer, Gabe Schumm, Jonathan Martin, David Hackett, Fargol Khosravanifard, Elinore Avni