

BU GSO – General Meeting

Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2025

Time: 12:30 pm

Location: CDS 263

I. Welcome from the President

- A. E-Board Introductions
 - 1. Introducing the new Treasurer again
- B. Representative Introductions

II. Upcoming Events

- A. Future General Membership Meetings
 - 1. October 27, 12:30-1:30 pm (in-person)
 - 2. November 17, 12:30-1:30 pm (Zoom)
- B. Headshot Event
 - 1. Today - Sign up for time slots is still available.
- C. Pub Night
 - 1. This Wednesday, October 8 at 6pm
- D. Painting Night
 - 1. Upcoming in the last week up October or first week of November
 - 2. A sign-up will be sent around
- E. Please communicate events to your departments and feel welcome to participate yourselves!

III. Reminder of Attendance and Voting Guidelines for Representatives

- A. Representative attendance affects department eligibility for travel grants
- B. To be in good standing, at least one representative from the department must attend each meeting or send an official proxy (the proxy's name should be emailed to the Vice President cag@bu.edu or President arjunyug@bu.edu).
- C. Representatives must be present to vote.
- D. If neither a representative nor a proxy can attend for a department, a representative from that department must email the President (arjunyug@bu.edu).

IV. Request for feedback or funding requests

- A. Please reach out with questions, feedback, and requests for GSO sponsorship of events
 - 1. Every semester we have some funds available to support events in GRS departments that are open to GRS students. You can submit an application and the funding request will be voted on by the membership.

V. Travel Grants Updates

- A. August cycle awards have been announced

- B. The next cycle submission deadline is December 1, 2025
- C. Your department must be in good standing for students in the department to apply. You can email gso@bu.edu to check if your department is in good standing.
- D. The travel grant chair (Averi) screens applications and grant reviewers (not the GSO e-board) review the submissions.
- E. Reimbursements of current grants are in progress as we transition to the new treasurer. Thank you for your patience.

VI. Comments from the Representatives

- A. Request to have every meeting be hybrid. Commuting can be a burden for representatives who live outside Boston.
 - 1. Another comment seconds that request. Hybrid meetings can increase the attendance of non-representatives.
 - 2. Additional request: can we send out When2Meets to find a time that most representatives can meet?
 - 3. Please continue to give feedback. Even for things that are too late for this semester, we can pass your feedback onto next year's E-Board for them to use when they are planning meetings.
- B. Continue hosting events that facilitate departmental cooperation (such as Pub Nights and other events that bring people together from across departments).
 - 1. Great! Please submit requests for events and feedback to help shape what
- C. Question about travel grants: how often do departmental standings change?
 - 1. Every semester! If you are not currently in good standing, you can apply next semester if your department is in good standing then.
- D. Question about Travel Grant eligibility: Why is meeting attendance for good standing necessary to apply for travel grants
 - 1. The GSO constitution currently describes a requirement of 1) meeting attendance for good standing and 2) good standing for travel grant eligibility.
 - 2. This may be a stipulation by GRS to receive funds. We can check.
 - 3. This is also a means of allocating limited funding to departments that contribute to the functioning of the GSO.

VII. Interest in Executive Board Positions for Next Cycle?

- A. Descriptions of the roles

VIII. Closings

- A. Thank you for attending!

Present: Brooke Rothamer, Charles Gobert, Arjun Sharma, Bhavya Vadavalli, Robert Trottier, Classical Studies, Chemistry, Political Science, Anthropology, American Studies, Biology, Earth and Environment, Economics, English, History of Art and Architecture, Physics, Psychology, Mathematics and Statistics, Romance Studies

