

GSO General Meeting Minutes: Thursday, January 24th Spring 2002 Semester

Long-Term Goals: Expressed by President Joe Navitsky and Usha Govindarajulu

- 1) Strong desire expressed by all to push the administration for health care to be covered by the university. Improvements in coverage deemed more difficult, and hence secondary to this drive.
- 2) Desire also expressed for GSO and/or the GRS graduate students to have a permanent lounge or room to serve as a social/organizational hub to conduct graduate student activities.
- 3) To establish links with other Boston-area universities, especially with their respective graduate student organizations. Corollary: possible attendance by officers to the National Association of Professional/Graduate Students conference.

Shorter-term Tasks:

- 1) Travel Grants: Revamping of application and selection process for the alumni-endorsed GSO Travel Grants. Possible consolidation of deadline to a single four-award event per year (currently, two awards are granted per semester). Activity spearheaded by former Travel Grant winner Susan Allen, with Gillian Mason, Usha Govindarajulu, and Joyce Macabea assisting.
- 2) Strategy to attract non-represented departments to the GSO, such as psychology.
- 3) Planning of Healthcare survey online to collect enough hard data to present to the administration. Activity spearheaded by Usha Govindarajulu with (former GSO President) Robert Pitts and current GSO President Joe Navitsky consulting.
- 4) Call to improve visibility of GSO events: glass cases by Comm Ave (Warren), BU Bridge, Bostonia, etc. Proposal to release formal information to BU news outlets.
- 5) Collaborate with Development Office to create some kind of grad student/alumni mixer or career event. GRS fundraising letter written by Masako Yamada reported to be a success.
- 6) Revamping of online "Survival Guide" by Masako Yamada and Mark Shiffer.