

Minutes from Graduate Student Organization March 2002 Meeting (3/26/03)

1) Revisions to the GSO 2002 Healthcare Survey. Discussion of wording and questions to be asking in the survey. Response Goal: 500 students (25% of the GRS grad student body). The results of this survey will be presented to the GRS administration to try to negotiate inclusion in the financial aid packages, as well as better coverage/content.

2) New Social/Publicity Chairs elected to organize and publicize social events and parties. Responsible for arranging venues (location, food, drink), and disseminating information through postering and e-mails.

Serge Shikher, Economics (Social)  
Gillian Mason, American Studies (Publicity)

They will replace Masako Yamada. Masako will be collating all of her "transferrable" information so that the next generation will know the procedures for updating e-mail lists, web page, planning social events, etc.j

3) Two winners selected for Spring 2002 Travel Grant (Physics and Archaeology). The \$200 awards are given to students attending conferences.

Announcement of restructuring of Travel Grant, including the format of the application and the deadline structure. Until now, two \$200 awards were given per semester. In the future, four \$200 awards will be given EACH YEAR i.e. only one judgement process. The next deadline will be Feb 1st 2003, applicable for conferences held between June 1st 2002-May 31st 2003.

4) Announcement of the Spring 2002 volunteer event at the FOOD PROJECT in Roxbury. We will be spending a morning on April 28th (Saturday) helping in this joint leadership/farming endeavor. Amanda Serenevy (viajera@bu.edu), Math, is organizing the event.

5) Budget increase proposed to the BU administration. The GSO officers have proposed a budget increase for the Fall 2002-Spring 2003 year to the BU administration. We are asking for \$4500 (2000 budget was \$2200, 2001 budget was \$3600). Approval is pending.

6) "Better" uses of GSO budget discussed, especially in the context of social events. Instead of just having pub nights, we could potentially have, especially in the career-related domain.

- roundtable lunches with specific topics like job-hunting, tenure-process
- invite esteemed speakers to give lectures, with reception
- joint Development (Alumni Affairs) and Career Enhancement Events: for instance, getting together alumni who have donated to the GSO with recipients of the GSO Travel Grant
- conferences of student work
- career fair