Bylaws:
ARTICLE IX: Conference and Research Grants

Current:
Section 4. In order to be eligible to receive a GSC Conference or Research Grant, an applicant must be a GSC member (i.e., the applicant must have paid the annual GSC Fee) and be enrolled full-time in a degree-granting program which has been represented at least half of the regular monthly GSC meetings in the current and previous semester.

Proposed:
Section 4. In order to be eligible to receive a GSC Conference or Research Grant, an applicant must be a GSC member (i.e., the applicant must have paid the annual GSC Fee) and be enrolled full-time in a degree-granting program which has been represented at least half of the regular monthly GSC meetings in the previous semester.

Questions:
Is this changing anything? Changing the bylaws to put them inline with what we actually do.
Can you apply for funds retroactively? All info is in the website.

Pro Statements: Opens up awards for more people!

VOTE: Unanimously Passed!

Current:
Section 5. Conference Grants are awarded on a reimbursement basis and require submission of original receipts to the GSC Treasurer. Amounts spent in excess of a Grant allocation, even if documented with original receipts, will not be reimbursed. Amounts spent in accordance with a Grant allocation, but for which original receipts are not provided, will not be reimbursed.

Proposed:
(remove section 5; change other section numbers to accommodate the removal)

Questions:
Would this change anything else? No. Nothing in the bylaws about reimbursement for summer research grants.
Would you have to submit receipts? No – But maybe!
Would this decrease the number of grants overall? No.
Are there anymore forms of responsibility for accountability? Not with this bylaw. Very unlikely for people to just go and spend the money and not go to the conference.
How quickly would you be given the money if you got the award? 2-4 weeks according to Harvard.

Pro Statements:
Get rid of work for the treasurer’s job.
Ease for the student awarded the award.
A lot of people do not have the money up front for the conference.

Con Statements:
Accountability
A lot of sciences provide funding for you so you could get double reimbursed.
If one of the reasons for the change is burden on the treasurer, change receipt reimbursement policy for the treasurer.
Accountability because this comes from the student fee.

Votes: For – 23  Against – 14  Abstain - 3
Current:
Section 9. A complete Conference or Summer Research Grant application will include a completed application form; a letter of recommendation from a faculty member which refers specifically to the relevance of the conference or research project for the applicant's academic progress and career; and a one page, double-spaced description of participation in the conference or of the importance of the summer research project; a detailed budget of expenses anticipated and/or incurred, including other sources of funding and support, if any.

Proposed:
Section 9. A complete Conference or Summer Research Grant application will include a letter of recommendation from a faculty member which refers specifically to the relevance of the conference or research project for the applicant's academic progress and career and a completed application form. The application form will include a description of participation in the conference or of the importance of the summer research project and a detailed budget of expenses anticipated and/or incurred, including other sources of funding and support, if any.

Questions: NO questions

Vote: For – unanimous  Against – 0  Abstain - 1

Current:
Section 10. The Selection Committee for Conference and Summer Research Grants will consist of a GSC officer, two GSAS Deans, one faculty member, and one student member of the GSC at large. The committee shall be appointed at the beginning of the academic year.

Proposed:
Section 10. The Selection Committee for Conference and Summer Research Grants will consist of the GSC Vice President, the GSC Secretary, two GSAS Deans, one faculty member, and one student member of the GSC at large.

Questions: At large- what does that mean? ANY Member of the GSC

Pros – the bylaws and constitution should match…

Votes: For – unanimous  Against – 0  Abstain -- 0

Constitution:
Standing Committees:

Current:
(not listed under standing committees)

Proposed:
Conference Grant Selection Committee: Consists of the Vice President, Secretary, and one other member of the GSC. Awards grants for travel to conferences and for summer research to graduate students.

Questions: Is there a reason why it has to secretary and VP? – According to bylaws, VP and Secretary co-chair the committee.

VOTE: For - Unanimously passes  Against- 0 Abstain – 0