

Start 6:35

Speakers

Abby Weil, Tina Groeger, and Jack Nicoludis

Abby:

Want to have a say in working conditions – ready to start a graduate student union

Want to have a contract with the university that is democratic and transparent – collective bargaining

Anyone who wants more information should talk to them

They are in the middle of an affiliation card drive, have some if you want to sign

Tina:

October 15th – we are workers day; events all over the country, having a panel: Sci Auditorium, 5pm, Facebook event

Want private university grad students recognized as workers

Jack:

Resolution of the council to support the union

Seconded

Will distribute the resolution this meeting, and send out an email

Vote now to discuss at the next meeting in November

Insert resolution text

Vote passes to discuss the resolution at the November meeting

Jae Lee

1. Organize a panel on professional development in your department!

Panel to talk about problems with preparing grad students for the jobs they want after they graduate

If you would like one of these for your department, contact Jay

2. Recruiting for a new committee on graduate student family life.

Practical solutions to administrations to make university for family friendly and provide childcare assistance (not affordable on campus)

Will study the MIT childcare program

3. Should we form GSC committees that will fairly lay out the pros and cons of the graduate student unionization?

Proposal for informational website that will look at both sides of the unionization issue

Want to form two committees to represent pro and con sides – presenting arguments for their positions based on objective data

Proposing three committees (Pro and con will be more informal, come talk to Jay)
Family Life (vote approves)

Voting

At-Large Rep for master's students

JJ – 1st year, Regional studies east Asia, graduated from Columbia, initiated advising program and received a service award

JJ is elected!

At-Large Rep for interdisciplinary students

Sara – 1st year PhD in Education, bilingual language development, more connections between grad students at professional schools and GSAS

Sara is elected!

At-Large Rep for Social Sciences

No nominations

Social Chair

Appointed position

Documentarian

Appointed position

Let Darcy know if interested

Vote: Removing the waivability of the GSC fee

\$25 per year

Right now you can waive fee by writing

Cheapest fee out of all school, one of the only ones that allows waiving

Takes a lot of time to process these

Hard to check that people are actually not using our services

Kimee – no accountability; could easily waive the fee and still attend events

What is the administrative burden?

Answer a lot of questions, people are continually checking in if it is processed, treasurer has to go through all the letters and check with the registrars office

Proposing removing ability to waive from bylaws

What if people do have financial burden?

Could have some exceptions if it really came up, if someone has wording ideas for the bylaws please let is Darcy know

Is there a way to make the fee more of a direct charge?

Right now just can't register until you pay, not sure if there's a way to automatically have it taken

We can follow up on that

Is there going to be a check that our fee stays that low?

We have the right to raise the fee, but we have to go through a vote to raise it

Constitution:

Article II. Membership, Section 2: Students in Degree Programs

Students in advanced degree programs will automatically be members of the GSC unless they decline their membership in writing by waiving the annual GSC Fee.

Bylaws:

ARTICLE VII: GSC Fee, Section 2.

GSAS students wishing to decline their membership in the Council must submit a written request to the Council by the date included in materials distributed in GSAS registration packets. Those waiving the fee may not participate in GSC programs and services. Those who have already participated in Council activities may not decline the fee. Only those students who have paid the fee shall be considered "members" of the Council.

Proposal to change:

Constitution:

Article II. Membership, Section 2: Students in Degree Programs

Students in advanced degree programs will automatically be members of the GSC and must pay the annual GSC fee.

Bylaws:

Removal of ARTICLE VII: GSC Fee, Section 2.

Vote to vote on this next meeting

Seconded

Motion passes

Committees Report Back

Library Committee – Shireen Hamza

Meeting tomorrow

Staff, faculty, students, Shireen is happy to bring up issues

Cutting funding for attaching metadata for all the books, reduced searchability

Email Shireen if you have issues

Safety Committee – Shireen Hamza

Thursdays, 3-4pm, Straus Common Room, Harvard yard:

9/17,10/15,11/19,02/18,03/10,04/14

Securitas is a private company

Want to make sure from every blue phone you can see another blue phone

Safety walk this coming Tuesday, get to know people who work on security, try to spot things that may be an issue (ie for people with disabilities); still looking for people to go

Trying to do something about old bikes on bike racks

Some attitudes to HS students on and around campus are inappropriate and shouldn't make them feel unsafe

Clarisse – wouldn't hurt to keep pushing on issues for accessibility on campus

Need a few more people on the committee

HUIT Committee – Laine Stranahan

Meetings: Fridays- 9/11, 11/20, 2/5, and 4/23 at noon and lunch is provided.

Administrators, grad, undergrad

Don't have to be on the committee to come

Transition from iSites to Canvas was discussed here for a while

New my.harvard

Sectioning has come up many times in these meetings – not happening, need more grad students to help advocate, Otto Pizza!

Meetings are very focused on undergrad needs

Get in touch with Laine if interested

HGSPG – Rohan Mazumdar

Activities, programming, talk about issues across all the 13 different graduate and professional schools across Harvard

Focus mostly on programming (like the block party the other weekend)

Both social and academic events

Connect students across the different schools

GSAS representation was pretty light (entitled to 4-5 people per school)

Meetings are twice a month, mostly planning events, coming up with new ideas

Looking for volunteers

Got 3 interested!

Peter: reps are called Senators, but you don't have to be in that role to attend the meetings; anyone can go; lots of committees you can join there too

Big and small events interspersed throughout the year

Can also go on the website and get on the email list
They can also help get the word out about events your group might be having

Student Health Planning Committee – John Gee

Discuss current issues in healthcare at Harvard, structure of insurance packages
Prescription benefits, removed max so costs went up
Next time more complete data about structure of dental program
Benefits for families
If you have concerns about healthcare/benefit package, talk to John or Darcy

Funding Results

Rohan Mazumdar

Talk to Rohan with questions later
Make sure you're filling out the forms correctly
Itemize as best as you can for event funding

DGSOs

Chemical Biology GSO - \$720
Germanic Circle - \$450
Henry Adams Society - \$800
BTWH - \$100
HGSL (Linguistics) - \$430
SHBT Buddy Program - \$60

GSGs

GSAS Christian Community - \$740
HATS (Argentine Tango) - \$1230
Harvard Dragon Boat GSAS - \$1230
Harvard Graduate Student Canadian Club - \$730
Harvard GSAS Science Policy Group - \$700
LGBTQ@GSAS - \$425
Harvard East Asia Society - \$920
Harvard Graduate Business Club - \$700
Harvard GSAS Consulting Club - \$900
HGWISE - \$430
Science in the News - \$849.63
Voice Lab - \$740

Vote to approve allocation

3 groups seem to be missing from the list – will talk to Rohan after

Approve what is on this list

Passes

Announcements/Open Floor

Oct 15th- Union Town-hall

Oct 28th at 7pm in the science center – PhD 2 movie screening

The PhD Movie 2 is coming to the Harvard Science Center on Oct 28th. Tickets will be available starting on Oct 8 — OCS will send an announcement. Tickets will be free!! Following the movie, there will be a Q&A with Jorge Cham and a book signing.

I need volunteers to help get people into the auditorium and general day of logistics (email Dawn: dgraninger@cfa.harvard.edu). Volunteers should get their own tickets as a precaution so that they can be guaranteed a place in the auditorium.

Oct 29th at 6pm in Science Center Hall A– Tax talk

Follow GSC on Twitter (@HarvardGSC) &

Facebook (Harvard GSAS Graduate Student Council)

We can help publicize your events on social media!

Adjourn