



**GSC Open Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2019**

Graduate Student Lounge, Dudley House, 6:30 pm

1. **Introduction**
2. **Review of GSC Conference and Research Grant policies**
 - **See below for slides**
3. **Commencement Marshals**

Call for nominations due **03/29** at 5 pm
4. **Everett I. Mendelsohn Excellence in Mentoring Awards**

Call for nominations due **03/29** at 5 pm
5. **Committee Updates:**

Student Leadership Banquet Planning Committee: Attention Graduate Student Group Leaders: Save the date for **April 13th from 6-8pm!** We have also selected a caterer and are in the process of finalizing the food preparations. We have invited several student groups to perform and look forward to finalizing an agenda for the banquet at our next meeting.

Safety Committee

Recently did a safety walk. Checked the emergency call points (blue lights and phones around campus) to make sure that all were working properly. Did find several phones that were not working properly, and these are now being fixed.

Met with Office of Alcohol and Other Drugs, who expressed enthusiasm about extending its services to graduate student population, whereas it has often been perceived as more focused on college-level service.

Harvard Graduate Council (HGC)

Harvard Kennedy School students are working together to develop a tool on behalf of HGC that will serve as an access point and directory to the various student services offered by each of the graduate schools. They will soon be looking for people to help gather information about the services available at each of the graduate schools.

Student Health Planning Committee

January meeting with Barbara Lewis of Counseling and Mental Health Services (CAMHS). Spoke about utilization. Advocated for graduate student perspective that the session limit on counseling services through CAMHS was seen as too short by many graduate students. In part thanks to GSC advocacy, CAMHS now has two Care Coordinators--employees who serve as liaisons between Harvard students seeking extended counseling and an outside network of therapists who are covered by Harvard's health insurance. The Student Health Planning Committee will not be meeting for the rest of the semester, since upcoming bargaining sessions with the Union may affect the conditions under which the committee operates.

6. Announcements

- GSC President and VP met in early Feb with FAS Dean Gay
 - i. Discussed the transition of Dudley to a Graduate Student Center
 - ii. Advocated for equal rights of GSAS students to athletic facilities. These facilities are FAS-operated, so GSAS students should be able to reserve courts and other spaces in the same way as college students, though this has until now not been the case.
 - iii. More updates coming soon.
- Winter Conference Grant Applications are due on **Friday 02/08!**
- GSC Elections will take place at the April Open Meeting **04/03**. Please email gscsecretary@fas.harvard.edu if you are interested in running!
 - i. If you are interested in shadowing the position of treasurer, please email gsctreasurer@fas.harvard.edu
- Apply for up to \$2000 from the [Student Engagement Fund](#) by **02/15**
 - i. This is for Graduate Student Groups (GSGs) or Departmental Graduate Student Organizations (DGSOs) who are looking for extra money to support new events or initiatives.
- Apply for GSG and DGSO Funding by **02/22**
- Attend Monthly Office hours with Dean Dench on **02/13 or 03/08**

7. Open Floor

- **DeAnza Cook: Harvard Prison Divestment Campaign petition is live on Facebook. [It can be found here.](#)**
 - i. **Efforts are being made to have a representative come speak at an Open Meeting in the near future**



GSC Conference and Summer Research Grants Information Session

- The GSC awards grants to eligible GSAS students:
 - **Conference Grants** of up to **\$750** 3 times per year.
 - **Summer Research Grants** of up to **\$1000**

1. Eligibility
2. Deadlines
3. How to Apply
4. For awardees: Getting your \$\$\$
5. Selection criteria (what are we looking for)
6. Accountable expenses

Eligibility

1. **Departmental:** Eligible departments in a given semester are those that were represented by at least one student at a minimum of two GSC open meetings in the previous academic term.
2. Must be a full-time GSAS Student and have paid/be willing to pay the Graduate Student Council fee.

Deadlines

All application materials are due at **11:00PM** on the dates listed below. Deadline extensions are not allowed.

• **Conference Grant Competition Deadlines:**

- **Fall:** October 12, 2018
- **Winter:** February 8, 2019
- **Spring:** April 12, 2019

• **Summer Research GRant Competition Deadline:**

- April 12, 2019 (always same as Spring Conference Grant Deadline)

Conference Grants: Deadlines and Conference Dates

1. **Proactive application (most common):** Student applies in advance to fund a conference occurring after the upcoming grant application deadline
2. **Retroactive application:** Student applies for grant within 60 days following the conference start date. Their application is considered with the next round of applicants.

The Application

A complete application comprises the following items:

- **Completed Application Form**
 - Download the Application Form as a PDF, complete it, and upload it as a PDF via the link on the GSC website: <https://gsc.fas.harvard.edu/apply-funding>
- **One letter of recommendation from a Harvard faculty member**
 - Submitted via the link on the GSC website: <https://gsc.fas.harvard.edu/apply-funding>

For Awardees: Getting your \$\$\$

Once your grant application has been accepted (congrats!):

1. Submit the Funding Request Form (found on the GSC website).
 - Please be prepared to upload proof of conference registration (e.g. receipt for registration, conference program listing your presentation/poster, etc.) as a single .pdf in this form.
2. The GSC Treasurer will process your form, and you will receive a check in the mail 4-6 weeks from when the Treasurer processes your form.

Selection Criteria

- Importance of the conference/research to the student's degree or career. An ideal applicant is presenting/researching:
 - dissertation research
 - at a venue where they can receive substantive feedback that will help them advance their research and/or apply for jobs.
 - if applicant is an earlier-stage: conference has potential to contribute to development of a dissertation topic
- Significance of conference/research opportunity. Depends closely on the applicant's situation.
- Applicant's need for funding. We prioritize applicants who lack other resources.
 - Please list the sources of conference funding that might reasonably be available to you, and explain why they cannot meet your needs.
 - **if you are eligible for the GSAS Professional Development Fund, please describe in your application how you plan to use that money.**
- It is important to describe your research and its importance clearly; please avoid overly technical descriptions.

Accountable expenses

Conference grants:

- Transportation (by the most economical means possible)
- Lodging (excluding food)
- Registration fees
- Photocopying for papers being presented (but not for resumes)

Summer Research Grants:

- Any research expense that is related to a degree requirement is an allowable expense for Summer Research Grant applicants. This includes language training that is unavailable at Harvard but is critical to the student's research.
- Two types of expenses explicitly **not** covered by the GSC are
 - human subjects compensation (e.g. for psychology experiments or ethnographic data collection) and
 - laboratory equipment (e.g. consumables like test tubes).

****Please note: Funds for conference grants are issued as a stipend check and are eligible to be taxed. They will be subject to tax withholding for international students.**

Running Attendance Tally for Spring 2019

African and African American Studies	1
Anthropology	1
Astronomy	1
Bioengineering	1
Biological Sciences in Public Health	1
Biostatistics	1
Business Administration	1
Celtic Languages and Literatures	1
Classics	1
Computational Sciences and Engineering	1
DMS: Neurobiology	1
DMS: Speech and Hearing Bioscience and Technology	1
Earth & Planetary Sciences	1
East Asian Language and Civilizations	1
Germanic Languages and Literatures	1
Government	1
Health Policy	1
History	1
History of Art and Architecture	1
History of Science	1
Inner Asian & Altaic Studies	1
Music	1
Population Health Sciences	1
Psychology	1

Religion	1
Romance Languages	1
Slavic Languages and Literature	1
Social Policy	1
Sociology	1
South Asian Studies	1
Statistics	1