



GSC Open Meeting

December 5, 2018

Graduate Student Lounge, Dudley House, 6:30 pm

1. Introductions

2. Winter Funding Results

- Treasurer: There is a new word document that will be used for funding applications going forward. Find it on the website.

3. Open Discussion: Re-envisioning Dudley House

- Submit Feedback: <http://goo.gl/179yhc>
- FAQ: <https://gsas.harvard.edu/stucenter-faq>
- Carlo from SEAS: Can we make the dining options cheaper? Make the dining hall more like a student cafeteria than a public cafe (as it is currently). Prices are more expensive in Dudley than at cafes in the square
- Kristin from Statistics: Updates on intramurals?
 - i. Blakely: For the upcoming year, intramurals will remain the same, there will soon be a dialogue to separate graduate from undergraduate intramural sports.
- Jovonna from African and African American Studies: Having food at Dudley is good, but what if the community was arranged more like it is at the Ed school/divinity school--a collaborative place with:
 - i. Inexpensive food
 - ii. Coffee
 - iii. Large open seating arrangement for group and individual work
 - iv. What has the conversation been around students that are not actively involved in Dudley programming but who need or could use Dudley as a space?
 - v. We can pose the question of whether or not the house model (with fellows) is what is most appropriate for the needs and wants of graduate students.
- Kristin from REECA: a lot of people who have given feedback have indicated that they do not use the space but without indicating what they want to see--so this is an opportunity to reimagine what Lehman Hall can be. What if people could work in the cafe area when food was not being served?
- Michael from American Studies:
 - 1. Make Lehman Hall more accessible to clubs.
 - 2. Make booking rooms in Lehman Hall more accessible and straightforward.
 - 3. Lactation room or childcare center--to send the message that there is support for these groups.
- Aaron from Sociology:



- i. 30% in this room have been to Dudley Library
 - 1. What if we were to imagine the library rather as a diversity/global space: Students who are underrepresented in other areas of Harvard GSAS life could hold meetings here.
 - 2. Notice how there are no pictures in this room of two Asian people talking together.
 - 3. Centralized space for students who are symbolically and educationally marginalized and moreover spatially marginalized.
 - 4. Dudley Fellows get a great deal of resources--a library could be a way of reducing the issue of separation.
- o Jess from American Studies: Dudley Fellows is a great experience and a great way to make friends. We welcome feedback and want to stay engaged with how the future of Lehman Hall is articulated.
 - i. This means that we want to hear your criticism.
- o Anna from Music: Re: programming
 - i. What about a forum where we can share our work with each other?
 - ii. Once a week, lunch provided, where grad students share their work in a forum, undergrads are invited.
 - iii. Kristin REECA: Is working on a proposal for something like this right now.
- o Naren from Systems Biology: If there are spaces here for events, then think about prioritizing events that include people from other schools and campuses and College students.
- o Matt from SEAS: SEAS is moving to Allston
- o Kadeem from Organismal and Evolutionary Biology
 - i. Keep open at least one piano so people could play when they want
- o Dominic from Physics
 - i. It is not possible to set up a club that spans all the schools and the college. Why is this so? If we are thinking about building a community, then we should be thinking of ways to bring people from the law school together with people from the medical school and GSAS and the College, etc.
 - ii. Kristin from REECA: Yes undergraduate presence is important in a lot of graduate student groups
 - iii. Law school is a lot cheaper than Dudley--better model too because you don't get forced into the meal plan.
 - 1. Getting forced into that meal plan left him scarred after his first year.
- o President:
 - i. A good thing to think about: what should the distribution of Dudley Fellows be--this is a good moment to indicate if there is a kind of fellow you would like to see.
 - 1. I.e., Parents/family Fellows



4. Committee Updates

- HUIT
 - i. There are difficulties getting certain licenses for Illustrator--does not look like we will be getting access to this on personal computers; Illustrator is available on Harvard computers, including library laptops which you can check out.
 - ii. We have access to graduate student email accounts for one year after graduation.
- Harvard Graduate Council
 - i. Taking action to make Harvard Yale tickets available to graduate students next year. Many of us had difficulty getting tickets this year.
 - ii. Look out for information coming soon about the masquerade ball at the Smith Center.

5. Announcements

- Please fill out our **Survey on Mental Health** for the upcoming Dean's meeting:
<https://goo.gl/forms/xmxkGrfxC3Xb22y72>
 - i. DeAnza Cook asked for all students to fill out this survey to supply information for the next Deans meeting
 - ii. Paul Barrera will be talking about the results of the survey that he and his colleagues have been conducting among graduate student departments. They will also be talking about increased efforts for communicating to those departments which do not currently have mental health infrastructure.
 - iii. Indicate in this survey what resources at Harvard have been most productive for your mental health. GSAS administration takes this into account when deciding on which surveys to fund.
 - iv. Paul Barrera will be taking action in those departments first which express special desire. You can indicate desire in the survey above or by reaching out to GSC Secretary who will put you in touch with Paul.
- Check out the **GSC-sponsored Mini-Course** offerings!
<https://gsc.fas.harvard.edu/2019-mini-courses>
 - i. You can still submit a proposal for a course to teach in Jan 2019 even if you missed the deadline to receive GSC funding for that. If selected you may not receive funding.
- **Job Posting** for Graduate Student Assistant in the Office of Student Services. Email stuserv@fas.harvard.edu if interested
 - i. Flexible and accommodating work hours and reasonable pay.
- Apply to be a **Presidential Public Service Fellow** by February 3rd.
<https://service.harvard.edu/home>



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6. Open Floor

- **English as a Second Language Student?** Consider signing this [petition](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdn8Vb4q4U5cX1UHw-DpS2fywQtcUKVYodQt6QHMY0y8k8ULA/viewform) for increased support for writing through ESL tutors and course offerings:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdn8Vb4q4U5cX1UHw-DpS2fywQtcUKVYodQt6QHMY0y8k8ULA/viewform>
 - Idea behind the petition was presented by the students who introduced the petition. There is also a link to this petition in the GSC December Newsletter and in a separate email sent by the GSC Secretary to the Departmental Reps earlier this week.

Bok Center is redesigning Q Score evaluation system without Graduate Student input

- Let your department know that students can give input/feedback on the Q system by emailing the Bok Center: bokcenter@fas.harvard.edu
- Jenny from the Bok Center came last meeting and announced a focus group, for which there was low attendance.