

Attendance:

Kyle, Sofia, Cherie, Wonyoung, Ruxandra, Patrick, Altin, Jonathan, Kristen, Sara

Graduate Student Council - Open meeting 12/05/07

1. Introductions – Meet your neighbor

Follow-up:

2. Parental Accommodation (Karen, HGWISE rep.) – new partnerships
 - a. Joint Committee on Parental Accommodation
 - b. Goals, actions and what you can expect
 - i. Gender neutral; not officially “leave” because benefits would be garnished if that were so
 - ii. We need to figure out what people with children do now
 - iii. Finding a centralized funding source for students to continue receiving stipends during the accommodation period
3. Remaking Reimbursement – new steps to make the process better
 - a. Reimbursement form – required beginning in January
 - b. Reimbursement tracker – a way to track your reimbursement through the process
 - c. Wonyoung believes that having a good sample budget report for student groups will help promote better submissions.
4. (Sofia) More accessible application forms – Word forms for next funding cycles

Current Items and Issues:

5. White Ribbon Campaign @ Dudley – This week 12-2pm
 - a. Meant to combat violence against women by engaging men to make a white ribbon pledge
6. Information Technology Committee report (Bruno) – generating feedback
 - a. The committee was happy to have a grad student present.
 - b. Forwarding to Gmail from FAS

- i. The GSC might consider making a guide to using gmail for forwarding to deal with small FAS inboxes
 - c. Inbox size and other email limitations
 - i. No immediate solutions in sight for expanding storage.
- 7. The Good News about Finishing Fellowships (handout provided)
 - a. New availabilities and new expectations
 - i. All students are guaranteed 5 years of funding as long as they have endorsement from their departments and 2 chapter drafts of thesis.
 - ii. The dissertation completion fellowships will only be available once per person. (In previous year, students could apply multiple times.)
 - b. Please help by spreading this information to your departments!
 - c. Patrick will put the summary document up on the website
- 8. Day of Service Organization – call for volunteers from the Harvard Graduate Council (representatives from all 12 graduate schools)
 - a. Please let Kyle know if you are interested
- 9. Breakout sessions: Check-in with your At-Large Rep
 - a. Graduate Student Organization (GSO's): started?
 - b. Issues of major concern
 - c. How can the GSC help students in your department?