

**GSC General Meeting**  
**Minutes for May 7, 2008**

**THOSE PRESENT**

*Officers*

President—James Doyle (Anthropology)  
VP, Administration—Dina Obeid (Physics)  
Treasurer—Alptekin Küpçü (Computer Science)  
Technology Officer—Jadrian Miles (Computer Science) - Not present  
VPs, Social—Craig Yennie (Chemistry), Jesse Davis (Chemistry)  
Secretary—Benjamin Philip (Neuroscience)

*Department Representatives*

Sarah Seidman (Am Civ)  
Jessica Nadel (App Math)  
Sharon Chakkalackal (BM-MPH)  
Alex Valm (BM-MBL)  
Graham Poage (BM-MPPB)  
Victoria Ruiz (BM-Patho)  
Vismadeb Masumder (Chem)  
Cynthia Swanson (Classics)  
Jon Ericson (Cog Ling Sci)  
Andy Bartholomew, proxy for Emilio Guterrez (Comp Sci)  
Ed Kalafarski (Comp Sci)  
Emilio Guterrez (Econ)  
Petros Milionis (Econ)  
Nitin Jadhav (Engin)  
Asha Nurse (Engin)  
Allison Fong (French Stud)  
Daniella Wittern (Hispan Stud)  
James Kabala (History)  
Lisa Tom (Hist Art Arch)  
Roberto Bacci (Italian Stud)  
Cengiz Pehlevan (Physics)  
Wanchun Wei (Physics)  
Michael Antosh (Physics)  
Rich Maher (Poli Sci)  
Sharon Hochfelder (Pub Pol)  
Matthew Harvey (Pub Pol)

*Others*

Kam Tuen Law (Physics)  
Yaqui Wang (Chemistry)

I. Approval of the Minutes from the April Meeting

*Approved*

## II. Invited Speakers

*None scheduled*

## III. Group Recognitions

*Brown Grad/Undergrad Christian Bible Study*

*Kam Tuen Law and Yaqui Wang representing. Approved.*

## IV. Funding Requests: Group—Amount—Event

*Euterpe - \$175 – Graduate Student Poetry Reading*

*Daniella Wittern representing. Approved. Event is Thursday 5/7 at 6pm, Rochambeau House on Prospect St.*

*Turkish Cultural Society - \$140 – End of Year Lahmacun Party*

*Cengiz Pehlevan representing. Approved.*

## V. Executive Reports and Announcements

### *i. GSC President: graduate student orientation*

*Described changes and increased GSC involvement in new student orientation.*

*GSC panel will be part of official graduate school orientation on 8/29, 3-4pm.*

### *ii. GSC President: summer SafeRIDE, listserv, and other services*

*There will be no on-call safeRIDE will exist this summer (after 5/16); green shuttles and downcity express will still run.*

*Discussion of GSC activities over the summer. Will create a separate listserv for graduate students here over the summer. A survey will be sent out to ask graduate students about their interests in summer activities.*

*Reps expressed interest in on-call safeRIDE over summer. University isn't offering it, but discussions will be opened with safeRIDE for possibility next summer. Will be included in survey.*

*Some summer activity plans include: sports teams, trip to PawSox with barbecue/picnic over July 4<sup>th</sup>, Lincoln Woods trip, July bar crawl, August beach buses, late-August buses to outlets in Wrentham for new and old students.*

### *iii. VPs, Social: Graduate Student Lounge policies*

*New policies: forms to make graduate student groups keep better track of room condition. Locking equipment cabinets (TV, speakers, etc). Motion offered, passed.*

*Discussion of cleaning options. It's hard/impossible for groups to get the room cleaned; work through GSC if needed. Was someone contracted to clean the Lounge regularly, in the past? If so, it's been lost to time, and will be looked into.*

### *iv. VIP Admin: External Committees.*

*Opening for Social Science graduate student on Computing Advisory Board.*

*Now we get an extra rep on University Resources Committee; used to be 2 undergrad, 1 grad; now 2/2.*

## VI. External Committee Reports and Announcements

*i. Cengiz Pehlevan – Working Group on Graduate Education*

*Extensive description of working group findings. The committee has now concluded its workings. Six recommendations. (1) Growth of graduate school. (2) Increased summer/travel funding. (3) Early Start summer program for incoming graduate students, especially international. (4) Coordination of courses and support across departments, with revitalized TA program to address graduate career development as well as undergrad/faculty needs. (5) Open-minded reexamination of the split between Graduate School and Bio-Med Division, to ensure parity. (6) Regular collection, review and release of the data collected for the Working Group.*

*See full report at <http://gradschool.brown.edu/go/workinggroup>*

*\*. Unscheduled:*

*Sarah Seidman (AmCiv) mentioned GSC-sponsored art event on homelessness this Friday at 5pm at City Hall.*

**VII. Other News**

*Next GSC General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 3, at 7 p.m. in the Graduate Student Lounge.*