



# Hello!

# We are the GSO!

GSO = Graduate Student Organization = YOU!



# The GSO...

- voices and addresses graduate student concerns to the university administration.
- represents graduate students on university committees
- funds conference travel, clubs, and departments
- sponsors local events, social events, and various speaker series
- supports various groups like NYPIRG and on-campus child care
- funds the publication of SBGradMag: News and Leisure and The Survival Guide
- sponsors the Legal Clinic and the Tax Clinic
- manages the Graduate Student Emergency Loan Fund (GSELF)



# GSO Funding

- The GSO is funded by your student activity fee
  - Full-time students pay \$25 per semester
  - Part-time students pay \$8 per semester
- Total FY 08-09 operating budget is \$250,000+
- The GSO Executive Committee works with the GSO senate to determine how the GSO's funds are used to help you in your experience as a Stony Brook Graduate student.



# The GSO Executive Council

- President: Dylan Selterman
- Vice President: Angel Gonzalez
- Treasurer: Chris Young
- Secretary: Matt Engel
- Speaker of the Senate: Greg Sabino



# GSO Senators

- Every GSO senator represents his or her own department at the GSO Senate meetings.
- Each department is invited to elect at least one senator as stipulated in the GSO's constitution.
- The senators are a vital link between the GSO and graduate students. They relay information from the GSO about events, meetings, policies, etc. to their departments, and they also convey departmental concerns to the senate.



# The GSO Senate

- The GSO senate meets once a month, typically on the first Tuesday of the month.
- Senate meeting dates and locations are posted at [www.sbgso.org](http://www.sbgso.org).
- Any graduate student can attend and participate in monthly GSO senate meetings and serve on various GSO committees whether or not they are elected to serve as a senator.



# The Survival Guide

- Provides advice and information on issues that you will face in the University throughout your career at Stony Brook. A more extended version will be online.
- Contains information about
  - The Area and Surroundings
  - Recreational Activities
  - Clubs and Organizations
  - Dining



# Clubs and Organizations

- Chinese Students and Scholars Association
  - Indian Graduate Student Organization
  - European Club
  - Korean Graduate Student Association
  - Social Justice Alliance
  - Queer Alliance
  - Linguistics Club
  - English Club
  - Latin American Graduate Student Association
  - Outdoors Club
  - Photo Club
  - Cat Network
  - Hockey Club
  - Meditation Group (run by me!)
- and many more...



# RAP

- RAP = Research Access Project
- If you have gone to a conference to present your academic work, you can get a maximum reimbursement of \$275 from GSO per year.
- We have a form for this on our website at [www.sbgso.org](http://www.sbgso.org), and we require original receipts for all expenses claimed.
- Note that to receive RAP funding, your department must have at least one active GSO senator who attends senate meetings.



# Graduate Student Emergency Loan Fund (GSELF)

- GSELF provides short-term loans up to \$2,000 to graduate students who are in need of money on an emergency basis.
- Examples of an emergency include
  - The death of an immediate family member
  - A medical emergency for the student or for an immediate family member
- GSELF loans are interest-free and are funded by contributions from graduate students of Stony Brook University .
- The loan must be repaid within three months.
- For further information: please go to our website at [www.sbgso.org](http://www.sbgso.org).



# Legal Clinic

- The GSO provides graduate students access to free legal counsel regarding
  - Traffic violations
  - Landlord-tenant relations
  - Matrimonial issues
  - Other areas of law
- The legal clinic is held in the GSO office every other week.
- To schedule an appointment, email your preferred time to [sbgrad.legalclinic@gmail.com](mailto:sbgrad.legalclinic@gmail.com)



# Tax Clinic

- You can obtain free tax and financial advice.
- You can have your personal, federal & state income taxes prepared at a significant discount, **on campus.**
- Service is available to both domestic and international students.
- This service will be available regularly during tax season beginning in January.



# GSO Contact Information

- Office: Student Activities Center (SAC) Room 227
- Office Manager: Eun-sil Lee
- Phone: (631) 632-6492
- Email: [officemanager@sbgso.org](mailto:officemanager@sbgso.org)
- Website: <http://sbgso.org>