63.gsc.2: Resolution to Amend GSC Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17) Budget to Increase Support for Travel and Professional Development Grants

Author: Lisa Guay, GSC Treasurer
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Whereas the Graduate Student Council of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT GSC) received significant unexpected proceeds from MIT Fall Career Fair 2015 after the General Council approved the Rescoped Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16*) Budget, increasing the General Rollover line item in the FY17 GSC Budget by $16,094.10; and,

Whereas the GSC is tasked with improving the general welfare of graduate students, which includes supporting professional development; and,

Whereas Travel Grant applications for Fiscal Year 2016 were funded at an overall rate of only 23.9%, with successful applicants receiving just 66.0% of their requested support. The comparable numbers for Funding Board applications were 84.6% and 82.6%, respectively; and,

Whereas the Professional Development Grant program is new and could be substantially expanded with a small increase in funding; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that Line Item 7.6a for Travel Grants in the GSC FY17 Budget be increased by $14,094.10. This would increase the original FY17 proposal of $24,000 (if approved) to $38,094.10; and,

Resolved, that Line Item 7.6b for Professional Development Grants in the GSC FY17 Budget be increased by $2,000. This would increase the original FY17 proposal (if approved) to $5,000.