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MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL

Housing and Community Affairs (HCA) Committee September 9th, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Wendy Lam (GSC HCA), Raj Ghosh (Tang), Jason McKnight (RLP), Amanda Zangari (Ashdown), Yuxi Zhang (SP), Julia Nickel (GSC HCA), Karan Mistry (Ashdown), Brandon Russell (GSC AC), Brian Spatocco, Michelle Sander (GSC HCA), Todd Schenk (Institute Rep), Leonid Chindelevitch (Math), Nan Gu (GSC), Alex Chan (GSC), David Guarrera, Matt Walker (Physics), Caroline Cochran (Off-Campus), Paul Monasterio (Tang/CJAC), Martins Blums (Warehouse)

1) MIT Graduate Student Dental Plan - Updates

- Wendy explains plan for advocating for a more comprehensive dental plan for grad students. Explains procedure for collecting usage and claims data from Delta Dental and MIT Medical. Will have results from dental survey in Mid-October.
- Advertising for dental: email from Dean Lerman, "In Short" article in the Tech, fliers, Grad School 101 talk, ad in GSC Anno, ad in the Tech.
- Update on dental plan enrollment: as of today, roughly 450. (Last year – 873 total).
- Will launch dental survey this weekend (9/13, immediately after advising survey closes).
- **Action item: please fill out the survey tonight and let Wendy know if there are any bugs.**

2) Inman Square stop – Saferide Cambridge East

- Julia discusses possibility of adding a stop near Inman Square to the Saferide Cambridge East route.
- **Action item: Collect data on where students live (data from Rent Monkey is not comprehensive) and usage data from Larry Brutti.**

3) Dining Updates

- Thirsty Ear: hired new chef. Kitchen is already open.
- Five Dollar Fridays: Julia explains proposal for an expanded version of Two Dollar Tuesdays.

4) Educational Outreach Subcommittee (Michelle Sander)

- New initiative for this year. Collaboration with Science Club for Girls – after school tutoring program with mostly female volunteers. Focus on Cambridge Schools (Fletcher-Maynard, King Open). Informational meeting tomorrow, 5pm in the GSC office.