GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2018

Peter Su, GSC President
Orpheus Chatzivasileiou, GSC Vice-President
Richard Zhang, GSC Secretary
Nicole Moody, GSC Treasurer
Quorum check
Approve September Minutes

• Found on GSC website and GCM announcement email
New Faces

• Welcome to General Council!
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION REORGANIZATION

Nasir Almasri
Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee Chair
DIS Restructure: Background Information

• Background
  • Many previous committees
  • DIS started 2017-18
  • Subcommittee of HCA

• Broad support for committee
  • Within DIS
  • From GCM
  • From HCA Chairs
DIS Restructure: Big Picture

• Three big tasks:
  • **Department**: academic; program-specific initiatives related to DEI
    • Statements and initiatives, recruitment, advising
    • E.g.: Establish best practices, identify gaps in resources,
  
  • **University**: student life issues related to DEI; affinity-group based
    • Social/economic concerns; student organization recommendations; ICEO
    • Deliverables: Helping assess, and respond to, campus reports and initiatives
  
  • **GSC**: DEI in initiatives, projects, recruitment
    • Committee recruitment, internal/external statements
    • E.g.: External Affairs, ARC, Nominations, etc.
**DIS Restructure: Structure and Membership**

- **Proposed Structure: Full Committee**
  - *Subcommittee*: Department and Classroom Subcommittee (DCS)
  - *Subcommittee*: Student Life Subcommittee (SLS)

- **Membership**
  - **Officers** – Chair, VC-DCS, VC-SLS, Secretary, Treasurer
  - **SLS Members** – 5 Constituency Reps*
    - Constituencies: LGBTQ+, URMs, Grad. Women, Int’l Students, Religious Life
  - **DCS Members** – 5 School Conveners (elected by school)
  - **At-Large Members** (Non-voting)
    - Liaisons to GSC Committees, other interested community members
DIS Restructure: Proposed Timeline

- Proposed Timeline
  - **End of Spring Semester**: Official deadline, to avoid funding hassle,
  - **November ExComm**: Present Bylaws
  - **End of Fall Semester**: Complete revisions of Bylaws
  - **First Spring GCM**: Present Bylaws to GCM
DIS Restructure: Questions

- Remaining Questions:
  - Name! For Committee and Both Subcommittees
  - Does organization of subcommittees make sense?
    - Is there any alternative to Academic and Student Life model?

Other questions or concerns?
GRADUATE SPACES ON CAMPUS
Background

- Always tough to get space on campus
  - Many competing priorities whenever space is available

- No existing general grad-focused space on campus

- Undergrads have generally felt more welcome everywhere on campus
Discussion of Space 1

• If half the space outside the GSC Office (2nd floor Walker Memorial) was walled off and made grad exclusive:
  • What would make you go there? When?
  • What would you like to see there?
  • What type of programming, if any, to put there?
  • Should the space be reserved or open? For what hours?
Discussion of Space 2

• If a space in the Student Center was made grad exclusive:
  • What would make you go there? When?
  • What would you like to see there?
  • What type of programming, if any, to put there?
  • Should the space be reserved or open? For what hours?
General Spaces Discussion

• Are there any other spaces on campus you’d like to see repurposed?
OFFICER UPDATES
Statement Process Implementation

• Statements Subcommittee has formed
  • Members:
    • Richard Zhang, GSC Secretary
    • Peter Su, GSC Officer appointee (GSC President)
    • Chloe Morgan, EAB appointee (EAB Vice-Chair)
    • Orpheus Chatzivasileiou, ExComm At-Large (GSC Secretary)
    • Katie Shulenberger, ExComm At-Large (EAB Chair)
    • [One ExComm At-Large position still open]

• Peter (GSC President) has been appointed by GSC Secretary Richard to review historical statements
Grad Student Advising Study Fellow

- Teaching and Learning Lab and Office of Vice Chancellor are potentially hiring a new Graduate Community Fellow to help study graduate advising across the institute
  - Catalogue and document current advising practices at MIT departments
  - Review and catalog best practices at other institutions
  - Help develop, design, and implement programs to improve grad advising

- Interested? Email gsc-officers@mit.edu
Imposter Syndrome Event

Why Capable Graduate Students Suffer from
The Impostor Syndrome
and How to Thrive in Spite of It

Dr. Valerie Young

- Do you chalk your success up to luck, timing, or other external factors?
- Do you believe “If I can do it, anybody can”?
- Do you agonize over even the smallest flaws in your work?
- When you do succeed, do you secretly feel like you fooled them again?
- Do you worry that it’s just a matter of time before you’re “found out”?

If you join us! Come learn from this internationally-recognized expert and author!
Wednesday, October 17th, 6:30-8:30PM, 10-250

Refreshments will be served.
All MIT community members welcome to attend!

Graduate Student Council
of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Council Rep Funding

- **Apply for your funding!**
- Available to all Council members except those who are members by virtue of their GSC position
  - i.e. Everyone but committee/board and some subcommittee chairs
- $150/rep/term or $250/rep/term with GSC or Institute committee involvement
  - Spring: Feb 16–Oct 15, Fall: Oct 16–Feb 15
- Double your $150 if you collaborate with a rep outside your department
- Events/items must be accessible to entire constituency
- Program info: [http://gsc.mit.edu/funding/departmental-funding](http://gsc.mit.edu/funding/departmental-funding)
- Application: [http://mitgscapp.knack.com/funding#applications/councilrepfund/](http://mitgscapp.knack.com/funding#applications/councilrepfund/)
- Questions? Email gsc-vp@mit.edu
COMMITTEE UPDATES
ACADEMICS, RESEARCH, AND CAREERS

Sridipta Ghatak and Meicen Sun
Co-Chairs
gsc-arc@mit.edu
ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Xueying Zhao and [THIS COULD BE YOU!]
Co-Chairs
gsc-ac@mit.edu
Taste of Bangladesh

September 18
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Morss Hall 50-140
GSC Coffee Hour 10/1 6pm
Upcoming Activities
Vegetarian gravy for poutine!
Next paint night: 10/17
7pm@Thirsty Ear, sponsored by IS&T, tickets.mit.edu
Grad Gala 2019
Spirit of Boston Cruise
Spirit of Boston Cruise

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=elPhxF3l1s
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
SUBCOMMITTEE

Nasir Almasri
DIS Chair
gsc-diversity@mit.edu
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Katie Shulenberger
External Affairs Board
gsc-eab@mit.edu
October Updates

• Federal Affairs
  • Just attended fall LAD (Sept 29-Oct 2)
    • Advocated on Research funding, Infrastructure research, and Immigration issues
    • Hosted two sessions/talks at conference portion
    • Met with ~30 offices
  • Passed statement on Chinese STEM Student Visa

• State and Local Affairs
  • General Election Voter Guide
  • MITVote2018 Collaboration Continues!
October Updates (cont.)

• Public Outreach
  • Hosted science themed trivia at Aeronaut in Somerville!
  • Hosting Thirsty Ear Trivia next month!
  • First hometown hero publication
  • Astrogazers collaboration

• Development
  • POLICY PLATFORM UPDATE
    • October 18 6-8 PM in the GSC Office (50-220)
    • There will be food!

• Next Meeting Oct 22 @ 5:30 PM
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Jo Melville and Mason Biamonte
Co-Chairs
gsc-hca@mit.edu
MUDDY CHARLES PUB

Matthias Ginterseder
gsc-muddy@mit.edu
Muddy Recap

Muddy Beer and Food Pairing

Future of Furniture
The Muddy Wants You!

See what the Muddy is all about!

Come to our next Board meeting!
10/15 @ 7PM in GSC Office (50-220)
ORIENTATION COMMITTEE

Somesh Mohapatra
Community and PR Director
gsc-oc@mit.edu
Pre-Orientation WebEx – Pilot Project

- Current with Incoming students, by countries/language

- Objective –
  - Familiarize with Area/Customs
  - Travel/Packing Suggestions
  - Prevent Culture/Climate Shocks

- More than 60 students reached across 6 sessions

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<th>Country/Group</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time (EDT)</th>
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<td>Arabic Speaking</td>
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<td>10:00 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Aug 9, 2018</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
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Schedule (2018)

Graduate Student Council of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Orientation (Pre- and During)

- Official Letters
  - Office of President
  - Team Chancellor

- Mini-Annos for Summer
  - Logistics of Living in Cambridge Area
  - MIT Culture/Finding Community
  - Financial Matters
  - Advising, Personal Support and Safety
  - The Last Bulletin!

- Guidebook App
Post Orientation

• Survey
  • Ready to go out!

• MIT Alumni Association
  • Involvement of Pre-MIT Committee
OPEN FLOOR