



MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL

General Council Meeting November 4, 2015 – 5:30 – 7:00 pm Minutes

Officers

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Eva Golos
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Committees

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- I. Quorum check and approval of agenda (5:35 pm)
 - a. Motion to move committee updates to end
 - b. Agenda passes
2. Approval of October meeting minutes (5:37 pm)
3. Introduction of New Faces (5:38 pm)
4. Guest Speaker: David Nino, Gordon Engineering Leadership (5:39 pm)
 - a. A new class: ESD S32: Leading Creative Teams
 - i. Pillars: Building leadership skills, enabling creativity, developing real teams, building self-awareness
 - ii. 6 units; offered in the spring
 - iii. Capped at 40 participants
 - b. Gordon Engineering Leadership program: mainly for undergraduates; similar classes throughout US
 - c. Myth of Technical Achievements: that great innovations or technical achievements come through a single person. In truth, they are group efforts.
 - d. Questions
 - i. Q: Is it the same as the undergraduate class? How do you cater this to grad students? A: Similar, but assumes some work-environment familiarity
 - ii. Q: Are you working with Sloan? A: Not collaborating now, since Sloan has many classes. But this will be open
 - iii. Q: Specific field for Rice class? A: No, more general—geared towards engineering, but is going to be more accessible.
 - iv. Q: Anywhere that requires training for professors/lab heads? A: No, haven't heard of that. MIT does have one professor who teaches a class for professors.
 - v. Q: Format? A: Readings, assessments of skills, role-playing in class to practice skills.
- e. How to market?



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- i. (blank)
 - ii. Anno, email lists; go through faculty
 - iii. Have a practice session, maybe during IAP
 - iv. Note: some courses cap # of units that students can take
 - f. Application online now: gelp.mit.edu
5. Committee Updates (6:03 pm)
- a. AC
 - i. Taste of Spain coming up – these events have been very popular!
 - I. Q: Do you have a plan for queue management? A: Yes, they will line up outside Morss. And have line volunteers.
 - ii. Coffee Hour
 - iii. Next AC meeting next Thurs.
 - iv. Boston Graduate Leadership Organization: Event next Friday at Wild Rover
 - v. Ski Trip: tickets go on sale November 19
 - b. HCA
 - i. Student Mental Health: innovation fund from Mind+Hand+Heart has been released; next round will be released
 - ii. Costco shuttle is back: first run is November 8th
 - iii. LASC is doing things—OPT rules; Statehouse visit day on 10/27
 - c. ARC
 - i. Conflict resolution, improv comedy workshop
 - ii. PhD Movie
 - iii. MIT Connect
 - iv. Interdisciplinary journal club: practice public speaking, disseminating research, etc.
 - v. Looking for someone to get involved in the Travel Grant Award
 - vi. Graduate Student Advising: best practices document
 - d. OC: on hiatus, since everyone is oriented.
 - e. Presidential Task Force on External Affairs
 - i. All options basically still on the table, but some options:
 - I. Create External Affairs sub-committee—would be in excomm



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3. Or External Affairs full committee – need a bylaws change

4. GSC Advocacy Platform: establish what our positions are

5. GSC Identity documents: establish

6. Some groups even raise external affairs to VP duties

ii. How is this better/different than LASC? LASC is already reaching beyond its own scope and into public interest.

1. Also, there are some decentralized duties, e.g. liaising with other universities.

2. LASC mission statement specified by council, but not established who it reports to.

6. Officer Updates (6:23 pm)

a. President

i. Tomorrow: 5:30-7 pm – hosting a forum for grad student feedback on VPSL search. Chair of search committee will be present.

ii. GSC MIT2016 Service Day: Tuesday, April 19. Working with PKG public service center

1. Crowdsource civic challenges—getting feedback from city and MIT community to find challenges

2. Requesting proposals: gsc.mit.edu/serve

3. Q: is there a website, way for community to vote? Yes, we want community input. Hosted on GSC and city manager's website.

iii. NAGPS happened; Ivy+ summit coming up at Dartmouth

iv. Kansas City Royals won the world series. Really, Michael??

b. Vice President

i. Nominations Board: another round!

ii. Note: if you fail to attend 3 meetings in a semester, your status as a representative is in jeopardy. Several reps now are close to that threshold.

c. Secretary

i. NAGPS highlights

ii. Secretary: New CMM; also changes to Anno happening/anticipated

d. Treasurer



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ii. GSC- PSC fund has guidelines, is underused. You should apply!

7. Mid-Year Check-In (6:43 pm)

a. How are we doing?

i. Hackathon style event: it seems like the hackathon is styled for a purpose, rather than a concrete goal which makes them a little less practical and may attract less people.

ii. GCM format?

iii. A heartfelt thank-you for those who make the GSC work 😊

iv. How do we think we're doing? Michael: we know that we were operating under-capacity during the absence but considering that we didn't let too many things slide

b. What can the GSC do better?

i. Some people not a huge fan of the guest speakers; variation of opinion on speakers.

1. Maybe we can shorten the talk a little bit? 10 minutes rather than 20

2. Maybe have the speaker arrive a little earlier, during dinner?

3. Some people say these speakers are very valuable.

4. Maybe a speaker-facilitated discussion

ii. Brainstorming sessions for things that would be interesting?

iii. New member manual for representatives? Org chart, what each group does, etc. Distill information from website

iv. We will send out an anonymous document or form

c. Do you feel empowered to make change happen at MIT?

8. Open Floor (7:05 pm)

9. Adjournment (7:06 pm)