General Council Meeting
February 3 2016, 5:30 PM in 3-133
Minutes

1. Quorum Check and Approval of Agenda (5:32 pm)
2. Approval of December Meeting Minutes (5:34 pm)
3. Introduction of New Faces (5:56 pm – skipped earlier)
4. Guest Speaker: Jinane Abounadi, Sandbox Fund (5:34 pm)
   a. Sandbox fund just introduced by Dean Waitz: response to students wanting more practical, leadership, innovation and entrepreneurship experience
   b. Program that allows financial support for students; not competition
   c. Leverage existing programs for curriculum
   d. Really need student input and involvement! Send emails to jinane@mit.edu if you’re interested or have any feedback or questions
5. New Business (to be voted on at next GCM) (5:57 pm)
   a. 62.gsc.7.1: Legislative Platform Update (5:58 pm)
      i. Most changes are cosmetic (wording, organization); e.g. changed “maternity leave” to “parental leave;” other words in place of “legislature” when appropriate.
      ii. If anyone has a comment or suggestion, email authors at gsc-lasc@mit.edu; or propose an amendment during discussion next GCM; or email officers
   b. 62.gsc.7.2: Creation of an External Affairs Board (6:05 pm)
      i. Product of the External Affairs Task Force research, report, workshops
      ii. Will establish a new board; modify bylaws; gets legislative platform. Structure inspired by Muddy Charles board
      iii. Board was viewed favorably by 73% of council during Straw Poll
      iv. Structure/membership:
         1. Chair will be elected by General Council and have 1 vote on Excomm. Manages meetings, budget, etc.
         2. Vice-chair has GCM vote but not Excomm; keep record and tasks delegated by chair
         3. Ex-officio members: President, HCA chairs
         4. At large members: elected by Excomm
Graduate Student Council  
of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

5. Subcommittee Chairs: nominated by subcommittees

v. Additional oversights: various opportunities/requirements for General Council and Excomm to appoint and remove members, approve platforms and documents; review resolutions

vi. Suggestion: send out an example of how the appointments, changes, elections, etc. may unfold.

c. 62.gsc.7.3: Statement on Undocumented Students (amendment to Legislative Platform) (6:33 pm)

i. More substantial change to the platform: add language of opposing any measures which would result in deportation of undocumented students

6. Motion to move Vice-President update for scheduling conflicts – approved (6:41 pm)

a. Vice-President:

i. Funding appeals completed; institute awards open

ii. Working with ODGE/Mental Health on grad student referral process

iii. Trying to get more grad student representation

7. Committee Updates (6:43 pm)

a. AC:

i. Grad gala tickets go onsale on Feb 29

ii. Coffee Hour beginning again; Taste of India soon

iii. Looking for an outreach chair

iv. Battle of the Bands: 2/26. Looking for bands: email gsc-ac@mit.edu

b. HCA:

i. Mind-HandHeart: held Dogs and Friends—therapy dogs came to dorms

ii. Cost of Living survey

iii. New off-campus housing listing

iv. Site 4 update/issues

v. Transfer of seniority in housing

c. LASC: voter registration

d. Muddy:

i. Passed governing documents

ii. Muddy Mondays: sign up with your cultural group!

iii. Looking for new Board Members
e. ARC:
   i. Institute Awards nominations are open
   ii. New MITConnect site
   iii. Partnering with Communicating Sciences @ MIT: Research Talks for the Public—Ted Talk-style presentation competition for students
   iv. Any interest in pairing mentors with professionals from the Kendal square area? there seems to be a lot of interest

f. Orientation: Not much; booked August cruise

8. Officer Updates and Reports (7:05 pm)
   a. President:
      i. Together in Service Day: April 19. GSC will have a working group to solve City of Cambridge issues, hackathon-style
      ii. Engagement Task Force: need more applicants, only 2 so far
      iii. Career Fair: we need grad students on board of directors
      iv. VPSL: new vice-president search is coming to an end
      v. Dean of Graduate Education is also going to be
      vi. Leadership Transition Timeline
   b. Secretary and Treasurer: come to the Excomm Open House

9. Open Floor (7:12 pm)

10. Adjournment (7:13 pm)