GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL
GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 2016 (62.8)

March 2, 2016
Quorum Check: Survey!

- Please fill out the following short demographic/interest survey

[link](goo.gl/forms/NZ0flJrBgG)

Number (zero)

Lowercase “L”
## Upcoming GSC Meetings (Mar-Apr)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Council (GCM)</td>
<td>April 6 at 5:30 PM (3-270), <strong>ELECTION</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academics, Research, and Careers</td>
<td>March 10, 5:00 PM in 50-220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>March 9, 5:30 PM in 50-220</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Committee (Excomm)</td>
<td>March 30, 5:00 PM in 50-220</td>
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<tr>
<td>GSC OneMIT Board</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing and Community Affairs</td>
<td>March 7, 5:30 PM in 50-220</td>
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<tr>
<td>LASC</td>
<td>March 10, 5:30 PM in 50-220</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>March 29, 5:00 PM in 50-220</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muddy Charles Board of Governors</td>
<td>March 8, 6:00 PM in 50-220</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>March 28, 5:30 PM in 50-220</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task Force: Engagement</td>
<td>March 10, Noon in 50-220</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Agenda

1. Quorum Check and Approval of Agenda (5:30 PM)
2. Approval of February Meeting Minutes (5:34 PM)
3. Introduction of New Faces (5:36-5:40 PM)
4. Old Business (5:40-6:25 PM)
   - 62.gsc.7.1: Legislative Platform Update
   - 62.gsc.7.2: Creation of an External Affairs Board (Bylaws Amendment; 2/3 vote to pass)
   - 62.gsc.7.3: Statement on Undocumented Students (amendment to Legislative Platform)
5. New Business (6:25-6:35; chaired by VP)
   - 62.gsc.8.1: Rescoped Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16*) Budget (special debate procedures in effect, Bylaws VI.D)
7. Brief Committee Updates (6:50-7:05 PM)
8. Brief Officer Updates (7:05-7:10 PM)
9. Open Floor (7:10-7:15 PM)
10. Post-GCM Social (After the meeting, at the Muddy)
NEW FACES?

Don’t be shy! 😊
OLD BUSINESS

Three Resolutions
Various Authors
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM
2016 UPDATE
62.GSC.7.1

Legislative Action Subcommittee (LASC)
Annual Platform Update

- Legislative Action Subcommittee (LASC) is charged to review and update Platform each year.

- 2015 update – added language on undocumented students, removed mention of no-longer-existant program

- 62.gsc.7.1 “Update to the Legislative Platform” is not intended to change any positions of the GSC.
Updates in 72.gsc.7.1

- “Legislation” changed to “policies” or “efforts” or “All measures” in many places.
- Removed detailed sub-points in several places.
  - To be documented in more detailed Issue Guidance later.
- Item #4 – Added Parental Leave
  “Access to affordable childcare and parental leave for all graduate students.”
- Reorganized “International Student Issues” section.
- Last point separated into 2.
  - “Take action on issues raised by scientific community…”
  - “Strengthen ties between policymakers and experts…”
RESOLUTION TO CREATE AN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BOARD
62.GSC.7.2

Daniel Curtis, Arolyn Conwill, Lisa Guay
Purpose of the Board

• Provides internal structure to ensure alignment across GSC for actions involving external entities or issues

• Serves as a liaison to external organizations including the government

• Allowable actions and statements are governed by Platform Documents (approved by Council)

• Expected business includes managing national association activities (NAGPS, Ivy+) and LASC portfolio (Legislative Platform)
# Standard Election Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Elected/Confirmed by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>GSC President*</td>
<td>General Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EAB Chair</td>
<td>General Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>HCA Co-chairs*</td>
<td>HCA Committee members</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>At-large Members</td>
<td>ExComm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>EAB Vice Chair</td>
<td>Existing EAB members (above)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Subcommittee Chairs</td>
<td>Proposed by Subcommittees, Confirmed by existing EAB members (incl. Vice Chair)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Ex-Officio
**Review Process**

1. **EAB resolves to take an action**
2. **President/Chair calls for Review?**
   - Yes: Proceed to next step
   - No: End process
3. **ExComm motions to consider?**
   - Yes: Proceed to next step
   - No: End process
4. **General Council motions to consider?**
   - Yes: Proceed to next step
   - No: End process
5. **ExComm approves action?**
   - Yes: Action approved
   - No: End process
6. **General Council approves action?**
   - Yes: Action approved
   - No: End process
Anticipated Amendment on the Review Process

Amend 62.gsc.7.2, Appendix A, item 11, paragraph vii by adding the following text at the end:

A Review is closed:
1. if ExComm resolves the Review positively; or
2. if the Review has been considered by the General Council; or
3. if another motion or resolution by the General Council passes indicating that the Action of the Board or Resolution of the Board was appropriate.
Revised Review Process

- EAB resolves to take an action
- President/Chair calls for Review?
  - Yes
  - No

For Yes:
- ExComm motions to consider?
  - Yes
    - General Council motions to consider?
      - Yes
        - General Council approves action?
          - Yes
            - Action approved (Review closed)
          - No
            - Action not approved (Review closed)
      - No
        - ExComm approves action?
          - Yes
            - Action approved (Review closed)
          - No
            - Action not approved (Review closed)
    - No
      - Action not approved (Review closed)

For No:
- ExComm approves action?
  - Yes
    - Action approved (Review closed)
  - No
    - Action not approved (Review closed)
Anticipated Amendment Regarding the EAB Vice Chair

Amend 62.gsc.7.2, Appendix A, item 11, paragraph iv, by striking the following text:

The Vice-Chair shall hold one vote in the General Council.
LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM AMENDMENT ON UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

62.GSC.7.3

Legislative Action Subcommittee (LASC)
Undocumented Students at MIT

- They exist! Could be your classmate or research colleague.
- Risky for them to speak out or organize – they need our support!
- Most arrived as children – no fault of their own, no intention to break the law.
- No current pathway to legal status.
Current item on Undocumented Students

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ISSUES

... 

The GSC firmly supports:

18. Efforts to streamline the immigration processes relevant to undocumented students.
The GSC firmly opposes:

19. Any government actions that would result in the deportation of undocumented students enrolled at MIT.
NEW BUSINESS

Budget Rescope (FY16*)
Within a fiscal year, we adjust the budget with an understanding of how much money will be needed in the rest of the fiscal year and how much money came into our accounts.
ELECTION PROCEDURE AND NOMINATIONS

Kyle Kotowick, GSC VP
gsc-qp@mit.edu
Leadership Transition Timeline

- Officer Elections
  - Nominations open: Now!
  - Nominations close: March 30, 2016
  - Meet the Officer Candidates Event – March 30, 5:00 PM, 50-220 (refreshments provided)
  - Nominations re-open for positions without nominees: April 6, 2016, 5:00 PM (immediately before the April GCM)
  - Officer elections: April 6, 2016 (at the April GCM, 5:30 PM, 3-133)
  - Terms begin: May 4, 2016 (at the May GCM, 5:30 PM, 3-133)

- Committee elections occur at April committee meetings
COMMITTEE UPDATES

GSC Committee and Subcommittee Chairs

gsc-excomm@mit.edu
# ACTIVITIES (AC)

**WE DO THINGS SO YOU CAN TOO**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Subcommittees</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Grad Gala</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Ski Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Outreach</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Coffee Hour</td>
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<td>• Arts</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Institute</strong></th>
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Levi Lentz and Astera Tang  
gsc-ac@mit.edu
Upcoming events

• Grad Gala Tickets
  • ON SALE NOW!
  • $45/person for early bird
  • $50/person for regular

• Coffee Hour
  • March 14th, 7-8p in Forbes Café

• Taste of Singapore
  • Mar 29th, Time TBD, Morss Hall

• Still looking for an Outreach Chair
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (HCA)

Subcommittees
- Sustainability
- Families
- Transportation
- Off-campus
- Legislative Action (LASC)

Institute
- DAPER Advisory board
- Family and Work Council
- Medical Consumers Advisory Council
- International Student Working Group
- Student Benefit Advisory Committee
- Committee on Student Life
- Transportation and Parking

George Chao and Huma Gupta
gsc-hca@mit.edu
Housing and Campus Affairs (HCA)

- Cost of Living
- Renter’s insurance being taken on by DSL

- Become an HCA Chair!
  - Interested in…
    - Mental Health topics
    - Improving transportation at MIT
    - Housing quality and affordability
    - Family and childcare
  - Next HCA Meeting – next Monday 3/7! (Free food!)
MUDDY CHARLES PUB
BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Subcommittees
- Finance
- Renovations
- Governing Documents
- (Muddy) Activities

Institute

Daniel Franke
gsc-muddy-chair@mit.edu
ACADEMICS, RESEARCH, AND CAREERS (ARC)

Subcommittees

- Graduate Women at MIT

Institute

Emily Lin and Mohammad Ghassemi

gsc-arc@mit.edu
INSTITUTE AWARDS

Taught by Fantastic Faculty?

Been mentored by an Excellent Mentor?

Know a Graduate Student/Student Group who contributes significantly to Student Life?

Inspired by someone’s innovative approach to education?

Nomination Closes: 14 March 2016. Spread the word!
MIT Connect: [https://ghamut.org](https://ghamut.org)

- MIT Connect to relaunch this month.
- MIT Kendall Square Edition in the works.
Research Talks for the Public

• In Partnership with Communicating Science @ MIT

• Students practice TED style versions of their pitches for the general public, employers, etc.

• Final presentations at the MIT Museum to the general public

• Interested
  [http://bit.ly/1o5Ag5H](http://bit.ly/1o5Ag5H)
  ldrolnick@mit.edu
  lghassemi@mit.edu
Professional Development Activities

Communications Workshop:
Authentic Confidence, and Effective Teamwork

How can you assert yourself most effectively on a team? What can you do when your teammates get off-track?
How can you improve the trust on a team? How can you get the best from the people around you?
We can’t answer these questions in 1 hour, but we will explore how to communicate in collaborative environments!
You are strongly encouraged, but not required, to attend both sessions. Priority will be given to those who will commit to both sessions.

2 March 2016;
12.15 to 1.30pm;
4-237

16 March 2016;
12.45 to 2 pm
2-105
Professional Development Activities

One Day Dissertation Boot Camp

5 March 2016,
11-6pm
Location TBD.
ORIENTATION (OC)

Subcommittees

Institute

Ina Kundu and Jenny Wang
gsc-oc@mit.edu
Next Meeting: Information Session

Monday, March 28th
5:30 p.m.
GSC Office 50-220
Questions: gsc-oc@mit.edu
ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Subcommittees

Institute

Jenny Kim
asa-president@mit.edu

Graduate Student Council
of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
OFFICER UPDATES

GSC Officer Team

gsc-officers@mit.edu
Committees/Boards
- Nominations Board
- Presidential Task Forces
  - External Affairs
- Officer Liaison
  - HCA
  - Muddy Charles Board

Institute
- Presidential Advisory Council (PAC)
- Corporation Joint Advisory Committee on Institute-Wide Affairs (CJAC)
- Commencement
- VP-Student Life Search Committee

Michael McClellan
gsc-president@mit.edu
President

- GSC Service Working Group (gsc.mit.edu/serve)
  - All-day Together in Service Event, April 19

- Engagement Task Force (gsc.mit.edu/engage)
  - Work is underway! Survey tonight

- VP-Student Life search: welcome to Suzy Nelson!

- ODGE search starting up soon
VICE-PRESIDENT

Committees/Boards

- Nominations Board
- Funding Appeals Board
- Officer Liaison
  - ARC

Institute

- Commencement

Kyle Kotowick

gsc-vp@mit.edu
Vice President

- Institute Awards nominations still open on website
- Working with ODGE/Medical:
  - Met with new Director of MIT Medical, open to new ideas
  - Invited to speak at Presidential Advisory Committee (PAC)
    - PAC and UA also interested in MIT Mental Health
- Meeting Attendance!
Budget Procedures (Bylaws, VI.D)

The Budget is passed in the following manner:

• Revenue and the beginning-of-year reserve represent the professional opinion of the Treasurer, and are not voted upon.

• Each representative is given an opportunity to object to any number of line items. If no objection is raised regarding a given line item, it is approved automatically without a vote.

• The remaining line items are approved either individually, or in groups of any size. The following rules apply:
  • Line items may be approved at the original amount or at a lower amount, but not at a higher amount.
  • A majority vote is required to approve a line item individually, while a two-thirds vote is required to approve a group of line items.

• The end-of-year reserve is set to the appropriate amount without a vote. After the Budget is passed, it may be modified by legislation, provided that the modified Budget still meets the criteria established in Article VI.B, above.
Nominations Procedures (Bylaws, IV)

- Nominations for officer positions will open at the March meeting and will remain open until one week before the elections.
- A nomination consists of a nomination vote by a Council member and a second by another Council member.
  - Both the nomination and the second may be carried out orally at the meeting or as signed statements at any other time the nominations are open.
- In the event that no one is nominated for a position at the time the nominations close, the nominations will reopen during the April meeting prior to the elections.
- An up-to-date list of the nominees will be kept at the GSC office and will be publicized a day prior to the closing of the nominations.
- All candidates shall prepare a statement of purpose within two days of their nomination.
- The Council will sponsor an informal coffee hour on the day the nominations close during which graduate students will have the chance to meet the candidates and ask any relevant questions.

http://gsc.mit.edu/about-gsc/elections/
Nominations Timeline

- Nominations open: March 2, 2016
- Nominations close: March 30, 2016
- Meet the Officer Candidates Event – March 30, 2016
- Nominations re-open for positions with no nominations: April 6, 2016, 5:30 PM (start of the April GCM)
- Officer elections: April 6, 2016 (at the April GCM, 5:30 PM, 3-133)
- Terms begin: May 4, 2016 (at the May GCM, 5:30 PM, 3-133)
SECRETARY

Committees/Boards

- Publications and Publicity Board (P&P)
- Officer Liaison
  - Activities

Institute

Eva Golos
gsc-secretary@mit.edu
TREASURER

Committees/Boards

- Funding Board
- Funding Appeals Board
- Nominations Board

- Officer Liaison
  - Orientation

Institute

Janille (Affi) Maragh
gsc-treasurer@mit.edu
OPEN FLOOR
Join us for the Post-GCM Social at the Muddy Charles Pub (Building 50)

Excomm members will have drink tickets—come and talk to one of us, and we’ll give you one!