



Graduate Student Council

of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

General Council Meeting 62.10
May 4, 2016, 5:30 PM in 3-270
Minutes

Officers

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President

Michael McClellan

Executive Committee

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Vice-President

Kyle Kotowick

Nominations Board

gsc-vp@mit.edu

Secretary

Eva Golos

Publications & Publicity Board

gsc-secretary@mit.edu

Treasurer

Janille Maragh

Funding Board

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<http://gsc.mit.edu>

1. Quorum Check and Approval of Agenda (5:35 PM)
 - a. 35 present
 - b. Agenda approved
2. Approval of April Meeting Minutes (5:36 PM)
 - a. Minutes approved
3. Introduction of New Faces (5:36 PM)
4. Old Business (5:38 PM)
 - a. 62.gsc.9.1: Graduate Student Government Conference Bid Fund
 - i. Brief recap of resolution
 - ii. Discussion
 1. Q: What happens if it's not used? A: Rolls back into the reserve after FY21
 - a. Clarification: Reserve vs. Stabilization fund
 2. Q: What about ODGE guarantee? A: Dean Ortiz cannot promise us money from the new Dean.
 3. Motion to vote; seconded
 - a. 27 y, 4 no, 5 abstain. Too many abstentions, does not pass.
 4. Motion to reconsider vote, since this is the last council and all old business will be cleared after the GCM.
 - a. Q: What is the difference between having this money put aside, vs. having them pull money from reserves later? A: This is allocated for this specific purpose.
 - b. Q: What is the quorum/outcome to get passed vs. tabled? A: Quorum is 34 people, so no more than 2 can abstain. A simple majority is necessary for passing.
 - i. Vote: 28 yes, 4 no, 6 abstain. Resolution is tabled (Cleared).
 - b. 62.gsc.9.2: Proposed Amendment to GSC Bylaws Elections (5:52 PM)



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i. Recap: discrepancy between Constitution and Bylaws about the election timeline (nomination at April meeting vs. only before 1 week before, re-open only if no one else is nominated).

1. Proposal is to modify Bylaws to keep nominations open throughout that week, and open for all positions at GCM.

2. If candidates submit online up to 1 week in advance, their statement will be posted online, to encourage nominations early in the month.

ii. Motion to move to questions and vote, seconded.

1. Q: What is the proportion necessary? A: 2/3 majority, and over quorum.

2. Vote: 35 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain – passes.

5. Committee Updates (5:56 PM)

a. Activities Committee:

i. Acoustic BBQ. Friday, May 13. Also looking for volunteers

ii. Last coffee hour is May 9. The cake is not a lie.

iii. Taste of Italy May 10.

b. HCA:

i. Election next Monday for second HCA chair.

ii. Gender-neutral paid parental leave initiative.

iii. Discussion of MIT withdrawal/readmission policies: ongoing, will be continued.

c. Muddy Board:

i. Muddy Mondays are still going on, few spots left.

d. ARC:

i. Overview of 2015/2016: major programs and initiatives.

e. Orientation:

i. Still need 2 co-chairs.

ii. Jenny and Ina are starting to organize for next year so the new team doesn't start behind.

f. External Affairs Board:

i. First business meeting May 5th. Seeking board members, several positions.



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- ii. Visits to local offices and Somerville Zoning meeting. Drafting Quality of Life Platform.
 - iii. Planning Fall 2016 activities: Voter registration, LAD, conferences
- g. Engagement and Recruitment Task Force
- i. Presidential task force, looking into whether GSC adequately represents our constituents, ways to support students who want to get into leadership positions
 - ii. Survey of the student body:
 1. 23.8% International
 2. 57.1% Male/42.9 Female
 3. 69% White, 33% Asian, 4.8% Hispanic, 2.4% Black, 2.4% Other
 - iii. Q: How far are we off compared to the student body on race/ethnicity? A: The student body isn't reflective of the general population, but the GSC is more extremely skewed.
 - iv. Issues identified included increasing representation (underrepresentation/turnover/empty council positions), difficulties in recruitment for ExComm and other committees, engagement and lack of GSC knowledge outside of GSC.
 - v. Recommendations include making internal changes to the GSC (changes to GCMs such as repurposing dinnertime, international community at large position, one month legislative calendar, placard cheat and more social time), building ties with other student groups (Sloan Senate, BGSA, ASA, non-GSC participation in committees) and increasing our publicity.
 - vi. Next step: The recommendations span a wide range of feasibility & complexity, changes with different difficulty levels. Tell GSC representatives to tell their friends about GSC, come to GCMs, volunteer for events.

6. Officer Updates and Reports (6:20 PM)

- a. VP: Thank you to Nominations Board members
- b. Treasurer: Thank you to Funding Board and other grant committee members

7. Year-End Presidential Report (6:25 PM)

- a. Task Forces: External Affairs; Engagement and Recruitment
- b. Collaboration with Institute Offices:
 - i. MIT2016 Together in Service; good relationships with Institute.
 - ii. CJAC work: Thesis credit course evaluations; a way for students to provide feedback on their advisor/relationship with advisor.



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- c. Funding: All-time high for Funding Board allocations; GSC OneMIT Board events started.
 - d. Increasing connections with GSC alumni, City of Cambridge.
 - e. Suggestions for future directions.
8. Official Transition, Adjournment of 62nd Council (6:41 PM)
 9. Introduction of New Executive Committee (6:42 PM)
 - a. Theme for the next year: Connectedness.
 - b. New administration at MIT to make connections with.
 - c. Resources: funding, information. Hope to increase funds and collaboration with other groups.
 - d. Within the GSC: representation and communication. New representative Orientation; outreach Task Force for communication improvement. Institute Representatives.
 - e. Accessibility: raising profile with publicity, market as an advocate and resource for students.
 10. New Business (6:54 PM)
 - a. 63.gsc.1.1: GSC Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17) Budget
 - i. Description of format; first sheet is slightly modified from what we have seen in the past.
 1. Anticipating lower Career Fair income than previous years; have allocated using an updated number.
 - ii. Q: Isn't stabilization fund created to account for career fair discrepancies? A: This does not account for everything; in addition, this lower income may be more likely going forward. Finally, Treasurer has the discretion to determine inflow estimate.
 - iii. Q: What will happen to unused money that had been targeted towards National Conference fund? A: Goes into rollover. No current plans, but can make new resolution in future.
 11. Open Floor (7:03 PM)
 - a. Ways to get involved for summer: Funding Board, Nominations Board, Orientation Committee
 12. Adjournment.