 Whereas the Graduate Student Council of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT GSC) is a body representing the interests of every single graduate student at MIT;

 Whereas the GSC has encountered difficulty—recently and in the past—filling all positions on the General Council and in Officer/Committee Chair (Excomm) positions;

 Whereas the current methods for encouraging engagement of Council Representatives, such as the fund for programming within their constituencies, are vastly underutilized;

 Whereas there are certainly situations in which viewpoints of groups, communities, and organizations on campus are not solicited, heard, or taken into consideration in every matter of the GSC; and

 Whereas the President of the GSC intends to improve the outreach and engagement functions of the GSC in a thoughtful, inclusionary manner; now, therefore, be it

 Resolved, that the President of the GSC shall convene a Presidential Task Force on Engagement and Recruitment in accordance with the guidelines for ad hoc committee creation in the GSC Constitution and Bylaws, and in accordance with the committee charge attached to this resolution.
Charge for Presidential Task Force on Engagement and Recruitment

Motivation

The Graduate Student Council (GSC) at MIT is a representative body consisting of graduate student representatives from each academic department and graduate dorm, with five additional at-large representatives. While this structure engages many students from across the institute, the ideas and viewpoints from student groups, communities, and organizations on campus are not always solicited, heard, or taken into consideration in every matter of business before the GSC or its elected leadership team.

Purpose

This Presidential Task Force on Engagement and Recruitment shall suggest improvements to ways in which the GSC can better represent the wealth of viewpoints and opinions within the entire MIT graduate student body in all of its deliberations and actions. In addition, the Task Force shall suggest structural or cultural changes to the GSC that will better ensure that highly motivated graduate students are able to take on GSC leadership positions without significant interruptions or setbacks in their research, academic progress, or wellbeing.

Timeline

The Task Force shall be convened within a month of passage of the resolution authorizing creation of the Task Force. By the March GCM, the Chair of the Task Force shall report to the General Council with a recommendation of action(s) the Council may take regarding the external affairs of the GSC. The Task Force shall terminate with delivery of this report.

Membership

The membership of this Presidential Task Force shall be determined at the discretion of the President of the GSC. An ideal Task Force will have between four and seven members, and shall represent a diverse set of viewpoints and ideas regarding the past and future of external engagement by the GSC. A short statement of purpose shall be provided to the President by all potential Task Force members. Any graduate student at MIT may serve on the Task Force. A provisional Chair shall be selected by the President to serve in the role of Chair until the General Council approves the selection. The President shall serve as an ex officio member of this Task Force. All meetings of the Task Force shall be open to all MIT graduate students.
Support

Any operating costs associated with this Task Force shall be charged to Executive Committee line item 1.9 in the FY16 budget, which supports all Presidential Task Forces.

Report

The exact format of the report shall be determined by the Task Force Chair. All potential forms of action that receive support from at least one-half of the committee shall be included as options, regardless of whether these options partially or completely conflict with each other.