

# General Council Meeting

## August 9, 2017

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Sarah Goodman  
Lisa Guay  
Orpheus Chatzivasileiou  
Krithika Ramchander

# New Faces

- Welcome to General Council!

# Quorum check

# Approve July Minutes

- Found on GSC website and GCM announcement email

# Vice President for Student Life

## Suzy Nelson

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# Graduate Student Council Update: 70 Amherst St

- COMPLICATED AND DIFFICULT SITUATION
- CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION
  - Prior to decision, limited communication to those students involved
  - Met with student leaders to discuss “swap” grad/undergrad beds
  - Consulted with House teams and when possible, student leadership
  - Wrote graduate students living in residence: **July 13 & August 9**
- PRESENT STATUS
  - **100+ graduates** in 70 Amherst St. & **65+ undergrads** in 5 grad dorms
  - GRTs hired if grad student numbers greater than 10-15
  - Working with communities to support all residents
  - Murals in 70 Amherst: Photography Project, Mural Review Group, Painting/Refreshing Walls

Grad bldg <input type="button" value="▼"/>	NH	Other House	Total
ASH	2	13	15
EDG	1	3	4
NW30		5	5
SID	1	13	14
TAN	16	10	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>64</b>



# Vice Chancellor Ian Waitz

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# Administrator Emails

- Vice Chancellor Ian Waitz: [iaw@mit.edu](mailto:iaw@mit.edu)
- Vice President and Dean for Student Life Suzy Nelson: [nelsonsm@mit.edu](mailto:nelsonsm@mit.edu)

# Officer Updates

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# Professional Development

- Career Fair
  - Fair will be Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>
    - Remember to coordinate any recruitment activities during the week of September 25<sup>th</sup> with the CF Directors (cf-directors@mit.edu)
  - July 25<sup>th</sup> stakeholder meeting
    - Ian Waitz, Deborah Liverman (GECD), Denny Freeman (former Dean for Undergraduate Education), CF Directors, GSC, Senior Class, SWE
    - Ian will be point of contact in administration for CF going forward
    - Many ideas shared to improve CF for students
  - Volunteers needed!
    - CF Directors estimate that they need ~700 student volunteer hours to make the fair and week-of events happen
    - We will need your help recruiting – there will be volunteer incentives!

# Professional Development

- Graduate Professional Development Working Group
  - Vice Chancellor Ian Waitz has joined working group
  - Met with Steve Graves, previous chair of 2013 Task Force
  - Data collection plan (led by Vice Chancellor, GSC)
    - Institute Research data request
    - Establish graduate alumni survey as a regular, recurring survey
  - Working to update landscape survey of professional development opportunities available to graduate students (led by GSC, GECD, OGE)
    - Finalizing range of questions/content areas of interest
    - Recruiting PD department and student group liaisons for internal scan
    - Collecting best practices from other institutions for external scan

# PD Liaisons still needed!

- The Working Group is still looking for Department Liaisons for the following programs:
  - Physics
  - HST
  - MIT-WHOI
  - Computational Biology
  - Nuclear Science
  - Philosophy
  - Economics
  - ORC
  - HASS
- Also looking for additional student group representation
- Sign up [here](#) and/or contact [gsc-pd@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-pd@mit.edu) if interested!
  - Low time commitment and effort

# Graduate Housing Working Group

- GSC has brought grad housing to the forefront of discussions with administration
- The most recent report on the status of grad housing was in 2014 (Clay Report). This needs to be updated.
- Working Group of students, faculty and staff charged with:
  - Developing a plan to satisfy the balance of the Clay Report target
  - Asses how graduate student housing needs (and needs of grad families) have evolved since Clay report
  - Establishing a process to ensure periodic review of grad housing needs

# Graduate Housing Working Group

- Membership
  - VPSL Suzy Nelson
  - Vice Chancellor Ian Waitz
  - Senior Director of Housing Operations and Renewal David Friedrich
  - Director of Campus Planning Jon Alvarez
  - Grad students will comprise 50% of membership
- First meeting of working group will occur this month
- Apply through Nominations Board – more info coming soon

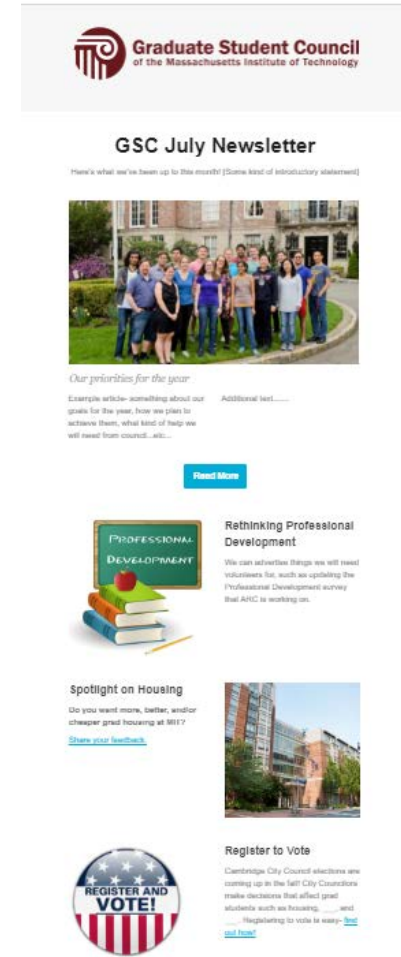
# Ad-hoc Working Group on Graduate Communities

- Two major goals:
  - Ensure that 70 Amherst has the resources it needs to run Orientation events, set up dorm government, and offer any support
  - Ensure that graduate dorms housing undergraduate students are being supported
- Membership
  - VPSL Suzy Nelson
  - Head of House Kristen Covino
  - Associate Dean of Residential Life and Dining Naomi Carton
  - GSC representatives- Officer and HCA co-chair
  - Grad dorm leaders
  - Residents of 70 Amherst who indicated interest



# Proposal – GSC Newsletter

- **Motivation:** We have the Anno for sending out event announcements, but we don't have an efficient way of making the graduate student body aware of the GSC's ongoing projects.
- **Types of content:**
  - Short updates from Committees and Subcommittees
  - Updates/short articles from Council Reps about initiatives/best practices in their departments
  - Ideas welcome!



# Proposal – GSC Newsletter

- Possibilities for format
  - Monthly newsletter that goes out to all grads
  - Blog
  - ...Other ideas??
- Volunteers needed!
  - Helping to come up with ideas for how we can expand GSC outreach
  - Creating content for newsletter
  - Compiling content for newsletter
  - Other ideas

# Committee Updates

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# ORIENTATION COMMITTEE

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German Parada and Akshata Krishnamurthy

Co-Chairs

[gsc-oc@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-oc@mit.edu)

# Publicizing Orientation

- Starts in 20 days!
- Website will be live by this week
- Emails to incoming grads, grad admins
- Ordered gifts for new students – COOP, FCU



# Volunteer @ Orientation

- Looking for 20-30 event volunteers
  - Food events, outings, panels, networking mixers, etc.
  - Volunteer t-shirt, lots of free food
- GCM reps, can you help us?
- Can you send emails to your constituencies about this?



# ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

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Karthik Akkiraju and Yijin Wei

Co-Chairs

[gsc-ac@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-ac@mit.edu)

# Event

## Harbor Island Trip : 7/22

BBQ, Sunshine, Water.

- ~65 graduate students + Co
- Georges Islands-Spectacle Island



**GREAT SUCCESS**



**Graduate Student Council**  
of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

[gsc-ac@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-ac@mit.edu)



**Massachusetts  
Institute of  
Technology**



# Upcoming Events



## GSC Six Flags Trip 2017

AUG

26

GSC Orientation  
📍 Six Flags New England  
🕒 Saturday, Aug 26, 2017 at  
9:00 AM (ET)

GSC Six Flags Trip provides discounted tickets for MIT graduate students to go to Six Flags New England with optional bus transportation. If you have your own transportation, you should buy the Six Flags tickets at \$35/person.

### Ticket Options

#### Six Flags Ticket Only

Ticket Type	Price
MIT Student	\$35.00

#### Six Flags Ticket with Transportation

Ticket Type	Price
MIT Student	\$40.00

Please log in to determine ticket availability.

# SOLD OUT!



**Graduate Student Council**  
of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

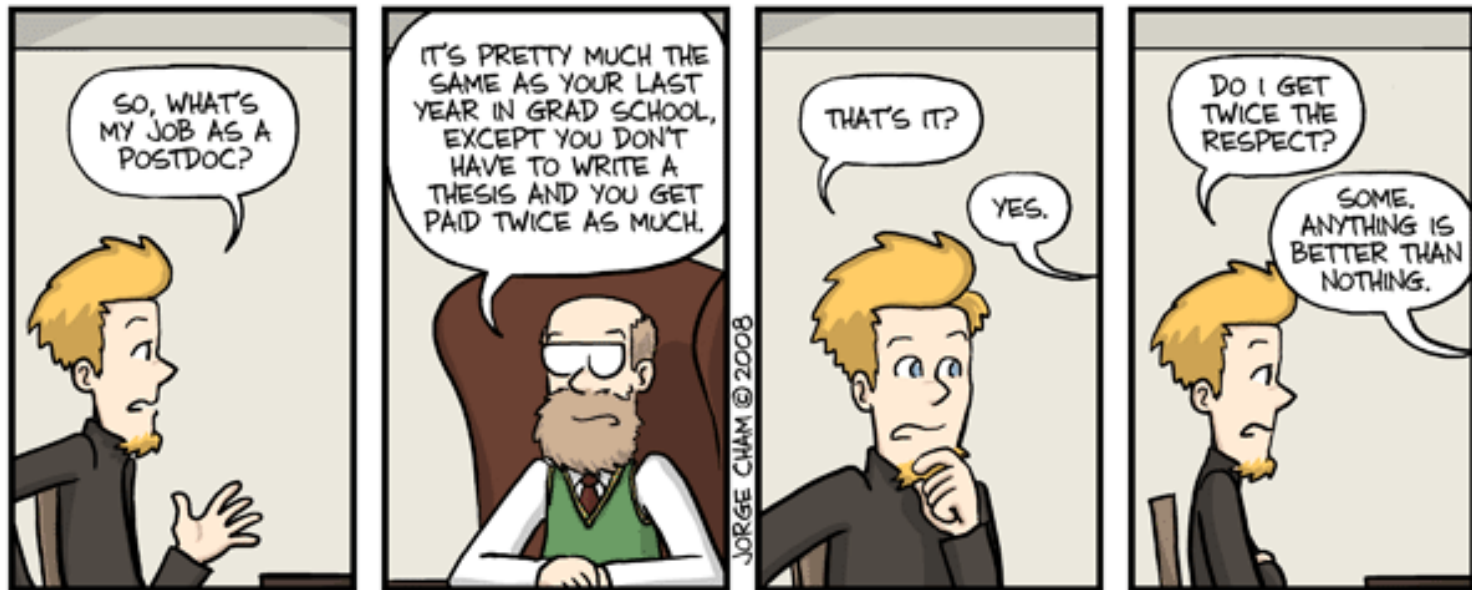
[gsc-ac@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-ac@mit.edu)



**Massachusetts  
Institute of  
Technology**

# Upcoming Events

## Volleyball **with** PDA (Postdocs are fun people.)



8/10, 8/17: Thursday at 5.30PM,  
Sand Court between 62 & 64  
Pizza at Muddy

# 'Taste of' Series

- Monthly free food events
- Funded by Alumni Association and MISTI
- Partner up with cultural organizations
  - Israel
  - Korea
  - Australia
  - Italy
  - Germany
  - Bangladesh
  - Iran
  - Romania



# ACADEMICS, RESEARCH, AND CAREERS

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Pat O'Shea and Richard Zhang  
Co-Chairs  
[gsc-arc@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-arc@mit.edu)

# July 2017 ExComm Meeting ARC Updates

- The Nuts and Bolts of an Academic Job (July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2:30pm-4pm, Rm 34-101)
  - 150 attending students
  - Productive discussions
  - Successful test of GSC AV equipment
- Finding a good Postdoc (August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2:30pm-4pm, Rm 10-250)
  - A women-majority panel of six current postdocs, including an incoming assistant professor at Tufts and the President of PDA
  - Expect a similar turnout

# July 2017 ExComm Meeting ARC Updates

- De-stressing Your Dissertations (July 31<sup>st</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup>)
  - 15-20 attending students per day
  - Susan Spilecki from the Writing Center gave individual writing sessions
- Professional Development Liaison
  - Recruiting Department Reps and developing questions now
  - Would love help from ExComm to fill out our list
- Lerman Travel Grant
  - Working with MITAA to develop crowdfunding campaigns for the travel grant that will occur in the fall and winter

# ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

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Sabina Chen  
ASA President  
[asa-exec@mit.edu](mailto:asa-exec@mit.edu)

# New Database Launch

- CampusGroups site went live July 26th
- Initial bugs now resolved – certificate mismatch, locked officer positions and roles
- User guide for new Database available on SAO's website
  - [https://studentlife.mit.edu/sites/default/files/Officer%20User%20Guide\\_0.pdf](https://studentlife.mit.edu/sites/default/files/Officer%20User%20Guide_0.pdf)



# EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BOARD

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Peter Su & Abigail Regitsky  
External Affairs Board  
[gsc-eab@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-eab@mit.edu)

# Why This Election Matters

- City Council greatly impacts day-to-day life at MIT:
  - Availability of housing in Cambridge
  - Retail and food space
  - Bike paths & local traffic laws
- Graduate students could have large impact on who wins
  - 50 votes decides last few seats on city council (0.7% of grads)
  - 1000 votes pretty much guarantees win (15% of grads)

# Voter Registration Liaisons

- Help other grad students:
  - Register
  - Learn about how the election works and who the candidates are
  - Remember to vote on election day
- We provide all the information you need to be a liaison
- All grad students welcome to volunteer, even if you cannot vote in Cambridge!

# Voter Registration Liaison Update

- Signup: [tinyurl.com/vote2017-liaison-signup](https://tinyurl.com/vote2017-liaison-signup)
- These departments don't have liaisons yet:
  - Aeronautics and Astronautics
  - Brain and Cognitive Sciences
  - Civil and Environmental Engineering
  - Comparative Media Studies/Writing
  - Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences
  - Economics
  - Global Studies and Languages
  - Humanities
  - Linguistics and Philosophy
  - Literature
  - Management
  - Media Arts and Sciences
  - Music and Theater Arts
  - Physics
  - Political Science

# Additional Election Updates

- Website up and running: [vote2017.mit.edu](http://vote2017.mit.edu)
- TurboVote online voter registration is probably going to be integrated into class registration in some way
  - [mit.turbovote.org](http://mit.turbovote.org)

# Upcoming Meetings/Events

- Housing Town Hall
  - Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, at 5pm in 32-141
- Federal Affairs Subcommittee Meeting
  - Next Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, at 12 noon in GSC Office (50-220)
- NAGPS Fall LAD
  - Advocate for graduate students at the federal level!
  - Sept 29<sup>th</sup> – Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> in Washington, D.C.
  - Interested? Email [gsc-eab-fed@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-eab-fed@mit.edu)

Next EAB Meeting:

Next Monday (8/14) at 6pm  
in GSC Office (50-220)

[gsc-eab@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-eab@mit.edu)

# HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

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Malvika Verma and Nicholas Triantafillou

Co-Chairs

[gsc-hca@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-hca@mit.edu)



# Housing and Community Affairs

## What we have done: Highlights

- Advocacy around 70 Amherst
  - Preparing for new residents (joint with Orientation)
  - Help find solution for murals
- Housing Survey + Analysis (joint with EAB, others)
- New Recycling Training Course on Atlas
- Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee
  - Keeps connecting groups across MIT, Bylaws

developed.

# Housing and Community Affairs

## On-going Projects

- Supporting 70 Amherst
- Thinking About Future of Grad Housing
- SuCCES Sustainability Survey
- Promoting Diversity and Inclusion
  - Within GSC and across campus
- Advocacy to support iREFS
- On-Demand Shuttle

# Housing and Community Affairs

## Learn More!

- Housing Survey Town Hall:
  - Tomorrow (Aug. 10) 5-6 PM (with food and live raffle!)
- HCA Meeting:
  - Aug 21st, TBD
  - **Note:** Different than in GCM agenda.
- Subcommittee Meetings:
  - Dates vary: Watch the GSC Anno!
- **Desperate Need:** Lead on Family Issues

# MUDDY CHARLES PUB

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Alex Genshaft  
gsc-muddy-chair@mit.edu

# Help shape the Muddy commun



Please fill out our Muddy survey! [muddy.mit.edu/survey](https://muddy.mit.edu/survey)

Join the board or a subcommittee and help run a small company!

Our next:

Board meeting 8/29! (GSC office)

Finance Subcommittee meeting 8/16! (GSC  
Office)

Please email: [gsc-muddy-chair@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-muddy-chair@mit.edu)

# Host a cultural event at the Muddy!



**Muddy Charles Pub**

edge  
Graduate  
Education

Host your next cultural group event  
with Muddy Mondays!

With 5:1 matched  
Food funds up to \$400

21+ always only  
@muddycharlespub

Building 50  
142 Memorial Drive



# Enjoy wings & vegetarian options weekly!



**Muddy Charles Pub**  
Join us for Weekly Wednesdays

Wings & Vegetarian Dumplings Served at 8 & 9pm  
Limit 4 per person per serving

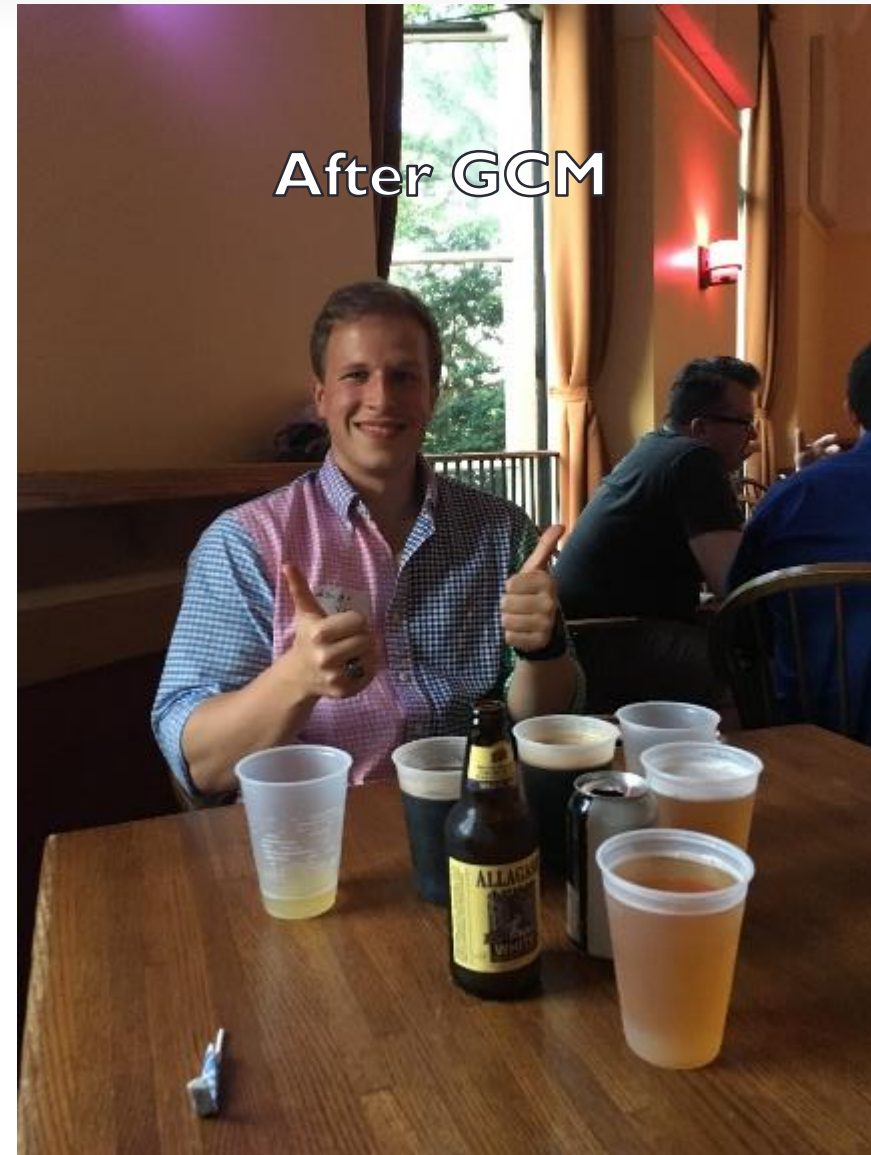
21+ always only  
@muddycharlespub

Building 50  
142 Memorial Drive

edge  
Office of the  
Graduate  
Education

# After the GCM

**Come hang out at the  
Muddy!!**





# OPEN FLOOR

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