



MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL

October General Council Meeting
October 7, 2015 at 5:30 pm pm in 32-155
Minutes

Attendees: General Council

1. Quorum check and approval of agenda
 - a. Quorum (6:07 pm) (had to delay until clickers were working)
 - b. Agenda (5:34 pm) – motion to move agenda item of committee updates to end (so as not to lose quorum) – agenda approved
2. Approval of August meeting minutes (5:36 pm) – approved
3. Presentation: Maryanne Kirkbride on MindHandHeart (5:37 pm) (from MIT Medical)
 - a. Having a strong GSC is essential to goals of MindHandHeart
 - b. Jed & Clinton Campus Program: promotion of mental health across college campuses. Research-based, flexible, community-centered. 9 elements.
 - i. Collier Memorial as an example of task, urgency, community-building, working together
 - c. Want to bring together students, faculty as well as Medical, mental health services, administration
 - d. Lots of support (~150 volunteers so far! 25 applications to Innovation Fund!)
 - e. Campus Program Framework: Student wellness; identify students at risk; increase help-seeking behavior; provide mental health/substance use disorder services; means, restrictions & environments; policy, system and strategic planning; develop life skills; connectedness; academic performance
 - i. Action meetings rather than committee meetings
 - f. Concerns brought up against S³, e.g. students turned away, or unwilling to check into the status of a current student.
 - g. Question: Involvement in campus residences/houses? A: Working with RDs on curriculum. Also involved in Wellness Fair, Nov. 13th
4. Introduction of New Faces (6:01 pm)
5. Old Business (6:03 pm)
 - a. Confirmation of External Affairs Task Force Chair
 - i. Daniel Curtis, LASC chair has been appointed. He's not present today, but we will vote.
 - ii. George Chao: he's a good candidate, very involved in GSC, active in SPI and other groups as well.
 - iii. Vote by placard; 6 abstentions, no opposing. Passes, Daniel is approved (6:07 pm)
 - iv. Until GCM, he will act as a committee on Excomm and give updates
6. Election for GSC Vice President (6:08 pm)
 - a. Review of format
 - b. Outline of Vice-President duties
 - i. Chair of Nominations Board

Officers

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Daniel Smithwick
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Eva Golos
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Janille Maragh
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Association of Student Activities

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Muddy Charles Pub

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- ii. (blank for format)
- iii. Elections: coordinate officer and committee elections (spring)
- iv. General council matters: membership, attendance, participation of council members; council rep fund
- v. Special projects that the VP would like to develop
- c. Nominee 1: Angie Crews
 - i. 1st year grad student in Aero Astro; graduated from Naval Academy and served as a naval officer; space policy for marine corps also
 - ii. Leadership experience: mission commander; president of honors society in university; briefed marine corps
 - iii. Why interested in GSC: impressed by Orientation and Career Fair
- d. Nominee 2: Kyle Kotowick
 - i. 3rd year, Aero Astro.
 - ii. Impressed by how involved MIT students are in their community
 - iii. Served as president for departmental student government (GA³); joined in high-level department meetings; also worked as EMT here; residence hall tutor & advocate
 - 1. Before MIT: Board of Directors for community sailing center
 - iv. Why interested in GSC: looking to serve institute-wide.
- e. Questions:
 - i. What special projects are you interested in pursuing? Or what is your focus?
 - 1. Kyle: Want to fill the rest of Institute Committees without graduate student representation
 - 2. Angie: Outreach with community—integrating Cambridge with MIT community
 - ii. Francesco Bellei has agreed to help with the transition (for about a month). After that, about 6 months left. What are you thinking of in terms of involvement after the current term ends?
 - 1. Angie: Would like to remain active in GSC. Involved in Aero Astro general grad students + womens' group.
 - 2. Kyle: Has already spent a couple years exploring opportunities. Would prefer to continue with GSC, maybe as an officer.
 - iii. It sounds like you have a lot to do. Do you think you'll have time to do everything?
 - 1. Kyle: That's why I didn't run in spring elections, because spring was very busy. Should have more time now: GRT is low time commitment, EMS can be flexible in scheduling.
 - 2. Angie: Should have plenty of time; research hasn't started to pick up yet.
 - iv. How many hours do you think it's going to take?
 - 1. Kyle: large part of administrative work is complete as VP; maybe estimating ~10 hours a week
 - 2. Angie: Wasn't given a time estimate: 5-10 hours per week?



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- vi. (blank for format)
- vii. (Specifically for Angie) Since you're a first year, how long will you expect to learn the culture of MIT?
 - 1. Angie: Schedule is a little more flexible. The transition month should be plenty of time.
- viii. Follow-up: what do you think would be a disadvantage about being new (also to Angie)?
 - 1. Angie: Catching up on learning all the groups. But will make an effort to attend lots of meetings and hit the ground running.
- ix. (Specifically for Kyle) What can you bring to GSC from your experience as an EMT?
 - 1. Kyle: Advocating for students; leadership groups, have often taken on difficult tasks that no one else has wanted to do.
- x. What will be the difference between Marine Corps and MIT student government?
 - 1. Angie: In the military, things are very hierarchical; but overall as a leader things are similar—looking out for people and trying to achieve a common goal
- xi. If this were a general election, not special election, which position would you want to run for?
 - 1. Angie: would start with president, since it's a cascade; would be glad to serve any position
 - 2. Kyle: vice-president; wouldn't want to jump directly into president without executive experience first
- xii. Clarification on Katherine's program/MIT student status
- xiii. Any plans to get involved in mental health effort?
 - 1. Kyle: As GRT, helps students regularly with academic/personal/wellness. Has had training and experience with mental health issues among students; dealt with several cases.
 - 2. Angie: Mental health is also a big issue in the military. Emphasis on resiliency (bouncing back after loss/disappointment). Interested in implementing some sort of initiatives. Also, would like to look into crisis hotline
- xiv. Is there something you dislike about the institute, something that should be represented better?
 - 1. Angie: Not sure at this point, lots of people seem very involved
 - 2. Kyle: Institute committees without student representation; e.g. medical management board
- xv. Who are you rooting for in the World Series?
 - 1. Kyle: Is Canadian; only knows about hockey.
 - 2. Angie: Cubs, since she's from Chicago.
- xvi. Did you get a chance to speak to previous vice presidents?



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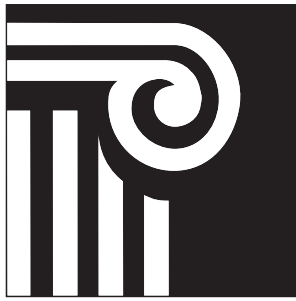
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1. (Blank)
2. Angie: have not, if selected would reach out.
3. Kyle: spoke to Francesco a little bit.
- f. Closed session without the candidates: allow council to discuss (6:45 pm)
 - i. Did the candidates reach out to Officers?
 1. Both Angie and Kyle reached out to GA³ department representative and then contacted us; Angie met in person.
 2. Henry has emailed us about how to get involved over the summer and is now a council rep; had a job interview so couldn't attend tonight's meeting.
 3. Katherine just sent in an application.
 - ii. Is it a disadvantage to be a first-year? Has never happened before.
 1. Opportunity for developing a future GSC leader.
 2. Not sure about MIT culture, time commitment less easy to gauge.
 3. Note that Angie does have a research project lined up already and has had research experience.
 - iii. About GRT time commitment: depends on which dorm and which time of year. Probably less than 10 hrs/week. Kendall Nowocin was President while a GRT as well.
- g. Voting motion: approved. Mohammad Ghassemi verifies ballots. (6:57 pm)
 - i. First round: all 4 candidates + 1 no-one vote: Kyle is elected VP.
Voting results will not be made public.
7. Committee Appointments (6:59 pm)
 - a. GSC OneMIT Funding Board: so far A+P, one Sloan candidate applied, so will be provisionally elected. Don't need a council vote; will contact representatives from schools and vote online.
 - i. School of Science: Hendrik Utzat – hutzat@mit.edu
 - ii. School of Engineering: Nestor Sepulveda – nsep@mit.edu
 - iii. SHASS: still need to look.
 - b. GSC-GEL Task Force on Graduate Leadership:
 - i. Sarah Goodman – goodmans@mit.edu
 - c. Student and Affiliates Health Insurance Advisory Council: sets rates, benefits for students and affiliates on health insurance plans
 - i. No one yet. Will keep looking.
 - d. Title IX Student Advisory Committee (also no volunteers)
 - e. DSL Health Promotion Committee (also no volunteers)
8. Committee Updates (7:09 pm)
 - a. AC
 - i. Taste of Brazil happened
 - ii. Looking for a webmaster for ski trip (paid)
 - iii. Coffee Hour next Monday
 - b. HCA
 - i. Student Mental Health: involved in MHH



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- ii. (Blank)
- iii. Family Childcare Network: has been announced
- iv. Costco Shuttle: not running now but they're working on it
- v. Campus housing: new Eastgate design will be finalized in January
- vi. Please let George and Huma know if off-campus students are being displaced by rent/housing market in Cambridge.
- vii. LASC:
 1. Startups in America/immigration session held
 2. Legislative Action Days, with NAGPS: grad student debt; immigration reform; grad student funding; open access, publications. Made some good contacts!
- c. Orientation (7:19 pm)
 - i. Orientation happened!
- d. Muddy Board Chair (7:19 pm)
 - i. Muddy Mondays! Cultural groups can hold events on Monday.
- e. ARC (7:20 pm)
 - i. Conflict management in the workplace
 - ii. Improv/improptu speaking panel
 - iii. MIT Connect
 1. Don't have a great way of managing the front end. Help on that would be appreciated!
 - iv. GWAMIT: Fall Leadership Conference planning
 - v. Travel grant: ~25 people requested funding
- f. ASA (7:23 pm): Joint committee with UA; we gave them money for Undergraduate Association from our reserves and will recover it.
9. Officer Updates (7:24 pm)
 - a. President
 - i. Michael is on the Vice-President for Student Life search committee. Send him feedback if you have any!
 - ii. MIT2016; working with Priscilla King Grey Center (formerly PSC)
 - iii. More closely meeting with UA
 - iv. EA Task Force is set up and meeting
 - v. NAGPS and Ivy+ Conferences upcoming
 - vi. Use the Council Rep fund!
 - b. Secretary
 - i. We need a Creative Media Manager. (paid)
 - c. Treasurer:
 - i. Funding board: heavy cycle; will implement a priority-based system
 - ii. APAG: This fund is severely underutilized.
 - iii. The Sustainability Award is also underutilized.
 - iv. The Public Service Fund
 - v. The Diversity Fund is not running now but will be soon.
10. Open Floor (7:34 pm)
11. Adjournment (7:35 pm)