Quorum check
Approve August Minutes

- Found on GSC website and GCM announcement email
New Faces

• Welcome to General Council!
ISSUES AND PRIORITIES FOR THE GSC AS A WHOLE
Childcare & Families

• Context:
  • Not insignificant fraction of grad students have families
  • Families have significantly higher costs (esp. childcare)

• What’s happening:
  • Discussions with MIT Administration about determining specific needs and problems so we can find solutions
  • Potential working group forming
Lower Tail of Stipends

• Context:
  • Some students receive less than the livable stipend calculated by last year’s Stipend Recommendation Subcommittee of HCA

• What’s happening:
  • Office of the Vice Chancellor is looking into specific situations of all PhD students in this category
  • Master’s students are more complicated, but will come after PhD
Student Support

• Context:
  • There’s a lot of resources here at MIT
  • Not all of it is that well advertised to grad students
  • There’s a large barrier to getting help sometimes

• What’s happening:
  • grad-help@mit.edu (GSC Help Desk) is live, trying to reduce the barrier to getting help and let grad students know about resources
  • Initial discussions with MIT Administration about workflow of grad student support
Housing

- **Context:**
  - Last year, we secured 950 new on-campus beds for grad students
  - Many additional changes to MIT’s housing lottery and general housing process were piloted

- **What’s happening:**
  - Grad Housing Implementation Team continuing to implement pilots
  - Initial survey about pilots coming later this semester
  - Grad Housing Working Group will do its annual review of the state of grad housing
IMMEDIATE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
Career Fair Volunteering

• Sign up: tinyurl.com/CFVolunteer2018
• Register for Career Fair: career-fair.mit.edu/candidates

• Benefits:
  • Early Access to the Fair (30 minutes early)
  • Prizes (incl. headphones, monitor, Fitbit, Xbox, speakers, cash)
Institute Committees

• Committees run by MIT administration/faculty that impact policy across the Institute

• Apply: gsc.mit.edu/representatives/list-of-institute-committees

• Committees with Openings:
  • Committee on MIT & Legacy of Slavery
  • Campus Dining Advisory Committee
  • Graduate Housing Implementation Team
Department GSC Representative

• List of current reps: gsc.mit.edu/representatives/list-of-council-representatives

• ~15 departments have open positions

• Apply to be a council rep: gsc.mit.edu/representatives/become-a-council-representative
  • Your department may have elections in your own department government to fill these positions
GSC COMMITTEE PRIORITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
SUBCOMMITTEE

Nasir Almasri
Chair
gsc-diversity@mit.edu
Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee

The Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee (DIS) makes institutional changes that improve diversity, equity, and inclusion at MIT. We

• **Empower and enable** students to make changes *within their departments*.

• Brings together student groups to **advocate** for their specific needs within religious, international, LGBTQ+, women, and underrepresented **communities**.
Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee

With your help, we are excited to expand diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives at MIT:

- **Departmental rising stars program** (i.e. EECS, Physics): Connects grad students and postdocs with faculty opportunities at MIT and beyond.

- **Application assistance programs** (DUSP, BE, Media Lab): Provide graduate student support to applicants from underrepresented groups.

- **Conference recruitment and outreach**: Send students and faculty to recruit at minority-serving conferences like NSBE, SHPE, SACNAS, etc.
Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee

You can make institutional changes to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion at MIT:

• Creating structure for groups with core interests and concerns: e.g. forming a religious life board among all religious groups

• Sparking boundary-pushing and cutting-edge discussions at MIT: inviting renowned luminaries like Cornel West to discuss truth, power, and justice
Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee

- Department and Classroom Initiative (DCI)
  - One (or more!) representative per department
- Constituency Reps (“C-Reps”)
  - Missing: LGBTQ+ and Religious Life reps
- Liaise between DIS and other committees
  - External Affairs Board (EAB)

Contact: gsc-diversity@mit.edu

Next Meeting: Oct. 4 at 5:00 PM (GSC Office)
Academics, Research and Careers (ARC) Committee

- **Main Programs**
  - Panels (academia, postdocs, industry, govt. and policy, corporate, entrepreneurship)
  - Growing Up In Science (how professors become professors)
  - Profs-On-Tap (prof-students mixer)
  - Travel Grant; Professional Development Exploration Grant
  - Workshops and boot camps
  - The Visiting Student Association (VISTA)
Getting Involved

1. Join our mailing list: gsc-arc-members@mit.edu
2. Email us: gsc-arc@mit.edu
3. Monthly meetings (over dinner): Next up Thursday 9/27 5:30pm in 50-220 (GSC office)
ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Xueying Zhao
Chair
gsc-ac@mit.edu
GSC Ski Trip

Jay Peak | Jan 25-28, 2019

Ticket Sales have not opened.

The Ski Trip is open to all MIT graduate students and post-docs. The trip includes 3 days of skiing, boarding and frolicking. Jay Peak ranks among the finest ski resorts in New England with plenty of trails for all levels of skiing and boarding. A system of 9 lifts will take skiers and boarders to 79 trails, slopes, and glades.

With forecasts of a snowy winter, we’re super excited to bring MIT up to Jay Peak this year. So, save the date!

Pricing

• Stay tuned for pricing details later this fall.

Timeline:

• Stay tuned for information on when tickets will go on sale later this fall.

Rental Fitting and Payment

• Stay tuned for rental fitting details later this fall.

Trip dates:

Buses will leave Friday, Jan. 25, 2019 and return evening Monday, Jan. 28, 2019. We will keep adding more details to the Trip Itinerary page. Keep checking back!

Eligibility

• ONLY grad students, post-docs and their guests are eligible.
• ONLY those over 21 years of age are eligible (IDs will be checked at the bus).

Ticket Exchange Information

• Stay tuned for details on the ticket exchange later this fall.
GSC Grad Gala

Grad Gala
March 24, 2018

gsc.mit.edu/gradgala

Tickets on sale Feb 19

Must be 21+ to attend

sponsored by

Graduate Student Council of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Arts

• Collaborating with arts@mit
• Tour of art galleries (fall)
• Grad Arts Showcase (3/15/19, media lab)
• We count on YOU to make student life more artistic!
Taste of ... Series

- Oct. 15: TBD
- Nov. 27: Taste of Belgium
- Once a month
- Email gsc-ac@mit.edu if you’d like to plan!
- Food, cultural performances, fun...
MindHandHeart plus art at Paint Nite
Social event gives graduate students an opportunity to paint, unwind, and connect.
Semester Activities

- Monthly GSC coffee hour will resume in October
- Battle of bands
- Acoustic BBQ
- Escape the room
- New ideas are welcome!
Summer Adventures

Whale Watching

Six Flags

Graduate Student Council
of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

August 11
tickets: $35 (+$5 bus)
tickets.mit.edu

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
October 13 - 14, 2018
MIT Media Lab

Build the future of co-creation at MIT’s largest festival celebrating innovation in the arts! Hackathon, panels, performances, arts & tech expo and much more. TICKETS ON SALE!

FESTIVAL TICKETS: hackingarts.com/buy

HACKATHON APPLICATION: hackingarts.com/apply
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Jo Melville & Mason Biamonte
Co-Chairs
gsc-hca@mit.edu
GSC HCA 2018-2019 Goals

- Data-informed stipend/benefits negotiation
  - Issues-based understanding of graduate student grievances
  - Working with Institute Research to collect quantitative data & develop qualitative focus groups (e.g. of grad students with families)
GSC HCA 2018-2019 Goals

- Data-informed stipend/benefits negotiation
  - Issues-based understanding of graduate student grievances
  - Working with Institute Research to collect quantitative data & develop qualitative focus groups (e.g. of grad students with families)

- Understanding and improving graduate cost-of-living
  - Analysis of on- and off-campus living situations
  - Pushing student-friendly experimental programs in on-campus dorms (e.g. 2-year housing contracts for incoming grad students)
SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE

Clint Ko
Chair
gsc-sustainability@mit.edu
The GSC Sustainability Subcommittee (GSCSS) is a gathering point for climate-conscious, action-driven students to collaborate on implementing sustainable practices on the MIT campus.

**Ongoing Projects:**

- Developing online sustainability training courses (waste sorting, Green Labs)
- Reusable Revolution (Green line @ Taste of events, Food vendors)

*Next Meeting is on September 18th from 12 – 1 PM @GSC Office*
Interested in becoming a GSC Sustainability co-chair?

Contact us: gsc-sustainability@mit.edu

http://gsc.mit.edu/committees/sustainability/
GRADUATE WOMEN AT MIT

Molly Bird & Yinying Ren
Co-Chairs
gwamit-exec@mit.edu
GWAMIT

Department Representatives

• Minimum commitment – 1 hour long GBM with dinner per semester
• Funding opportunities for your dept!

Empowerment conference

• Week of October 15th or 29th, 2018
• Past events/ideas: self-defense, solo travel, negotiation, imposter syndrome (anti), headshots

Contact: gwamit-exec@mit.edu
MUDDY CHARLES PUB

Matthias Ginterseder
Chair
gsc-muddy@mit.edu
Our Mission

We strive to provide a space to the greater MIT community

• offering a relaxed environment

• enabling engaging social interactions

• serving beer at affordable prices

…since 50 years!
How we work

• Muddy Charles Pub Board of Governors

• Finance
  How do we ensure financial stability?

• Activities
  What events would our community like to see?

• Long Term Planning
  How would we deal with a renovation of Walker Memorial?
The Muddy Wants You!

Check us out at muddy.mit.edu!

Be part of the discussion in any of our subcommittees!

Join us for our next Board meeting Oct 15!

Learn what it takes to run a small business!
PUBLICATIONS & PUBLICITY

Richard Zhang
GSC Secretary
gsc-secretary@mit.edu
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Katie Shulenberger
Chair
gsc-eab@mit.edu
Who Are We?

- We are the voice of graduate students at all levels of government
  - Local
  - State
  - Federal
- We also do public outreach to help change the narrative around scientific research
  - Move away from an “Ivory Tower” model
  - Move towards accessible science for all
What Do We Do?

1. Research topics relevant to grad students
   1. May be a current event/issue
   2. May be an issue of interest for a specific group of students
2. Write a position statement
3. Disseminate the Statement
   1. Submit comments to government websites
   2. Send letters to relevant parties
   3. Make public statements
4. Advocate!
Advocacy Trips
Get Involved!

• Come to meetings
  • Work on an ongoing project or start a new one!
• Participate with collaborative organizations
  • MITVote2018
  • Freedom for all MA
• Go on an advocacy trip
  • Statehouse (Spring)
  • Washington DC (4 trips annually)
• Run to be a Board member
  • Events subcommittee (2 chairs)
  • At large member (2 positions)
Next EAB Meeting:

Tuesday (9/25) at 5:30pm
in GSC Office (50-220)

gsc-eab@mit.edu
TREASURER ELECTION
Elections

- Candidates make 5 minute speech
- 1 minute/question with 2 minute responses/candidate
- Ranked choice voting
VOTING PROCEDURE FOR LEGISLATION
Voting on Legislation

Introduction by speaker (5 min)

DISCUSSION with intent to vote 5 min, 1 min/speaker

VOTE

MOTION to end discussion and vote before time runs out

MOTION to extend discussion (specify amount of time)

MOTION to table legislation Vote next GCM

MOTION to amend legislation (specify exact text)

Motions must be **specific**, **seconded**, and require **simple majority** to pass
Voting outcomes

Chair decides the method and means of voting (Bylaws V.C.5)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes &gt; No</th>
<th>Yes + No $\geq \frac{1}{2}$ Quorum</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>Approve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❌</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>Legislation dies</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td>Legislation tabled</td>
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<tr>
<td>❌</td>
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<td>Legislation tabled</td>
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65.GSC.2: AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAWS CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF STATEMENTS
Current Model

- Statements can be approved by
  - General Council (two month process)
  - External Affairs Board (based on policy platform)

- Problem
  - Council process is slow
  - Some potential statements do not relate to External Affairs
A New Process of Statement Approval

- Council can approve statements as currently
- Expand EAB statement making process to other committees
  - Council approves platform documents
  - Committees approve statements based on platform documents
- Checks and Balances
  - Conflicts between committees resolved by Statements Subcommittee of ExComm
  - Statements can be reviewed by ExComm and/or Council
    - Review is triggered by committee chairs or officers
65.GSC.3: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ONLINE VOTING PROCEDURE
About the Resolution

• Allows ExComm and its subcommittees to make decisions (including passing statements) outside of monthly meetings

• Mirror effective External Affairs Board process
  • 72 hour voting period
  • Statements passed via this process have an additional 48 hours for review
OPEN FLOOR