

**Housing and Community Affairs (HCA) Minutes**  
**September 26th, 2019, 6 PM in 50-220**

1. Introduction of Members and Sign In (6:00 - 6:10)
  - a. Mohammad, HCA Chair
  - b. Junli, GSC Sustainability
  - c. Naomi, Associate Dean for Grad Life
  - d. Zack, Transportation
  - e. Kirby, Off-campus
  - f. John, Warehouse
  - g. Patrick, Edgerton
  - h. Marie, Warehouse
  - i. Madeleine, Ashdown
  - j. Naveen, GSC Secretary
2. Interdorm Relations (6:10 - 6:30)
  - a. Recap and Discussion of Dorm Events
    - i. Survey about Orientation will go out
    - ii. Feedback from last year - lots of repetitive programming, some more info on day to day things would be good
    - iii. Planning for GSC Orientation happened early - before the April officer transition, initial feel for goals for next year
  - b. How can GSC facilitate interdorm communication and events? Is this desirable in the first place?
    - i. Have some mechanism to get dorm reps in contact
    - ii. Supporting transitions of governments
    - iii. GSC Orientation Rep
    - iv. May to Aug - Bulletins for new students. How can we consolidate all of the information? (FAQ) Ashdown has a page on FAQs.
    - v. Graduate Student Booklet created this year - could go out to the houses - electronic next year
    - vi. Information comes from houses and depts, how do you avoid redundancy?
3. Graduate Life Series Events (w/ Naomi) (6:30 - 6:45)
  - a. Event 1 of the series could be part of Orientation, then continue after
  - b. Current 101 series had variable attendance
  - c. Each house has a liaison for Mental Health
  - d. HoH for smaller dorms like joint events
  - e. Wellness is a focus for MIT this year (not just Mental Health)
  - f. Topics: Dating, Presenting Yourself/your work to others, Perfectionism

- g. Chemistry Orientation has speaker on maximizing your time, how to negotiate with faculty (TA days) - power imbalance
  - h. There are underlying causes
- 4. Housing Updates (6:45 - 6:55)
  - a. New Eastgate
    - i. EG Transition Team - 6 - 8 students and others, HoH (lots of people applied to this group)
      - 1. Help move people, culture, interplay between families and singles, cost analysis, processes need to be put in place, house tax
    - ii. Another transition team for New Vassar for UG, some GRT positions opening up
  - b. Housing Allocation Process
    - i. Tang piloted 2-yr leases before, this has moved to all houses this year - how does this affect Ash, SP, Edg
- 5. Updating Bylaws and Operating Procedures (6:55 - 7:00)
  - a. Create expectations in one easy to find place - on the website
  - b. Possibly add a quorum requirement to the bylaws so votes require a certain number of members to be present
  - c. How do we enforce expectations - e.g. reps from each dorm will attend the meeting? Right now, no enforcement mechanism.
- 6. Committee and Dorm Updates (7:00 - 7:25)
  - a. Junli - Managed the sustainability funds, and three projects were funded compositing, reusables (Brunch), reusables package for 70 Amherst (now this is part of the larger initiatives fund)
  - b. Marie - Small group activities and events, Halloween funding for dinner
  - c. Kirby - Survey on event ideas and understand what off-campus students want. Zip code analysis of off-campus students.
  - d. Naveen - reusables
- 7. Open Floor (7:25 - 7:30)