



Graduate Student Council

of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

General Council Meeting Agenda

July 12th, 2017, 5:30pm-7:30pm in 4-237

1. Introduction, Dinner, and New Faces (5:35-5:40)
2. Change from previously posted agenda:
 - i. Dean Waitz had family obligations
 - ii. People from the Chancellor's Office will come to a later GCM when they have more concrete information to share, things still in flux
 - b. Quorum check (42 people present)
 - c. Approval of June GCM Minutes
 - i. Approved
3. Updates on 70 Amherst St. (5:40-5:55)
 - a. Everyone has heard of the matter in one form or another.
 - b. Updates we received from Chancellor & VPSL are as follows:
 - c. Senior House becoming a grad dorm
 - i. Unclear how long it's going to remain a grad dorm
 - ii. Administration recognizes that adding the 70 Amherst beds does in no way suffice to meet the current need for graduate housing
 - iii. Admin will be working to make sure that there's a welcoming environment
 - d. Letter from Chancellor sent out to students listed
 - i. Dangerous behavior
 - ii. Individuals knew of the above but did not act to stop it
 - iii. Turnaround plan met with resistance
 - iv. Decision for full reset
 1. Turn into graduate housing
 - e. GSC not consulted in the decision-making process (i.e. turning SH to a grad dorm)
 - i. We have been meeting with them ever since
 - f. Grad students have chance to go to 70 Amherst

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- i. Via housing lottery (especially if dorm becomes oversubscribed)
- g. All single rooms
 - i. AC, smoke & pet free
 - ii. 128 single rooms with communal kitchens/bathrooms
 - iii. 5 single apartments
- h. Undergrads
 - i. Many chose to move off-campus
 - ii. Crowding problem in UG dorms likely to be exacerbated a bit
 - iii. Some UG (less than 60) to be placed in grad dorms
 - 1. Incentive by \$3000 per year or 10-meal plan
 - 2. Will have to go through lottery system
 - iv. Some UG placed in grad housing and who continue to MIT for grad studies will be offered a spot to grad housing during their 1st year.
- i. Moving forward
 - i. DSL will send out a housing update
 - ii. Ad-hoc working group on Graduate Communities
 - 1. Proposed membership
 - a. GSC Officers
 - b. HCA co-chairs
 - c. Grad dorm presidents
 - d. Incoming residents of 70 Amherst
 - e. At-large students
 - f. Kristen Covino
 - g. Naomi Carton
- j. Q&A
 - i. We have meeting with Jen Hapgood-White to get our updates.
 - ii. How long will the UG being in grad dorms take?
 - 1. Probably one year,
 - iii. Will the GSC be pushing back?

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1. It is a difficult situation
- iv. Why were the grad students not involved?
 1. Short timespan, no real time to consult with us
- v. How many people are going to move to grad dorms?
 1. We anticipate fewer than 60
- vi. Will Senior House be open to postdocs?
 1. No
- vii. How are they going to make sure that the grad dorms will remain grad dorms (not be turned into UG dorms)?
 1. No such plan (to turn grad dorms to UG dorms) exists
 2. We only anticipate to have 60 people (or fewer) total, only a small percentage, spread about many grad dorms
 3. Any junior-senior given the incentive to move, only assuming that there is not an appropriate space in undergrad dorms
- viii. The issue here is that there was a lack of communication. We do not want to have undergraduates be pitted against graduates.
 1. We've made it abundantly clear that we are not pleased with the way that this was carried out.
- ix. We need to have a response to be sent out to the administration?
 1. Maybe
- x. A letter will be sent to the administration
- xi. Jag or someone from the Chancellor's Office should have come to us to answer questions
- xii. We should straw poll to talk about measures?
- xiii. Maybe council needs to decide on what mandate to give the Officers

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- xiv. Mandate to the officers to detail all the facts of the matter
- xv. Our position that we should have been involved at the point that it started involving graduate students before major decisions were made.
- xvi. We should state that the presence of undergraduates does not affect rules/benefits grad dorm residents (and the dorms themselves) would be subject to
- xvii. Could we have a task force to figure out the alternatives?
- xviii. Audience for letter:
 - 1. Fully public?
 - 2. Leave it to the Officers' Discretion
- xix. How about we attempt to make this document into a joint statement between GSC-UA-Dormcon?
 - 1. Yes, if possible?
- xx. Is it possible to separate statement regarding facts and involvement?
- xxi. Should we write a statement?
 - 1. Yes
- xxii. Public written statement
 - 1. Yes, jointly with the UA/Dormcon if possible
 - 2. Facts of the matter in fully public statement
 - a. Yes
 - 3. Our position that GSC should have been involved in any discussions
 - a. Yes
 - 4. Include any recent issues where grad students were not kept in the loop (including ODGE)
 - a. Yes
 - 5. Hard cap of 60 undergrads in grad dorms
 - a. May be too late by the time letter goes out
 - b. No

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6. Presence of UGs doesn't affect current dorm rules and benefits
 - a. Maybe to put in separate statement?
Option open.
 - b. Yes
7. Ideal deadline 2 weeks
4. Professional Development Initiative (5:55-6:10)
 - a. Stage 1: Information gathering
 - i. Figure out what resources we have, what we need
 - b. Stage 2: Develop roadmap
 - i. Fill gaps
 - ii. Identify areas of interest, improve awareness
 - c. ARC: Trying to gather as much information as possible for departmental offerings, build upon the 2012-2013 Landscape survey
 - i. We want individuals from each department to help us gather information
 - ii. We need your perspective, talk to grad admins too
 - iii. There will be an email from the Prof. Development group
5. Alex Qi - Sloan Entrepreneurship & Innovation Club (6:10-6:25)
 - a. Entrepreneurship is important
 - i. 25800 active companies
 - b. Close collaboration with Martin Trust, MIT Innovation Initiative, CDO...
 - c. Our club is for you!
 - i. Open for everyone
 - d. Program overview
 - i. Hackathon
 - ii. Silicon Valley Start-Up+VC
 - iii. Start-Up recruiting
 - iv. DE Lab
 - v. Build Community Outreach

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- vi. Boulder Trek
- vii. Start-Up recruiting
- viii. Silicon Valley Start-Up+VC
- e. Lab Crawl proposal
 - i. Monthly lab crawl, Friday afternoon, explore cutting edge research under the dome
 - ii. Mingle with different people
 - iii. One MIT, One Community
 - 1. Foster cross-campus collaboration and mutual understanding
 - iv. Better utilization of Boston/MIT based resources
 - v. 4 Lab Crawl events per semester
 - 1. 3 labs per event
 - 2. 2-3 hours
 - 3. Followed by networking events at the Muddy
 - vi. Current progress
 - 1. Working with MechE, EECS, Aero&Astro graduate student body President to identify early adopters
 - 2. Built awareness with Sloan Senate, Sloan Student life & GSC
 - 3. Future work
 - a. Identify early adopters (researchers who want to commercialize technology)
 - b. Communication to the public
 - c. Finance budget
 - i. Wait for fund application
 - ii. e&l can cover fist event.
- vii. Q&A:
 - 1. Q: Do you imagine it to be a full lab tour?
 - 2. A: Yes, there will be a lottery to pick people
 - 3. Q: Will it be a student-student thing?

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4. A: Yes, it will be peer-peer. But if students need to work with PIs to share stuff, we'll help.
5. Q: How many people?
6. A: e.g. 40 total, maybe 4 groups of 10 people moving around labs?
6. Updates from Career Fair Directors Drew Weibel and Kathryn Jiang (6:25-6:35)
 - a. Future Initiatives
 - i. Company recruitment
 1. Diversification. Trying to get better diversity.
 2. Talked to admins in underserved depts.
 3. We're calling companies from the lists they give us
 4. Ensure 25% (and/or 100 companies) are not Course 6
 5. Ensure companies are talking to everyone with appropriate skills, not just by major
 - ii. Career Exploration and Freshman Experience
 1. CF not just a way to get a job but a part of Prof. Development.
 2. We'll put over 20 events for Prof. Development with GECD's involvement.
 - iii. Company placement
 1. Increase visibility for companies for underrepresented majors
 - a. Funding to attract
 2. Color coded flags for different categories
 - iv. Help us find people to reach out to companies
 - v. We'll make more changes in the future
 - vi. Q&A
 1. Q: How much do you know about companies' budgets willing to spend on CF?

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2. A: We treat companies as sponsors. Some come to and just pay for a little bit because their prestige will attract people anyway.
 - a. E.g. Google
- vii. How did you come up with the limit of 25%?
 1. We're pushing up from 18% last year
7. Housing Data Collection (6:35-7:05)
 - a. Listening tours and survey
 - i. We'll have a quantitative survey, qualitative tours
 - ii. It's more of a long-term thing
 - iii. Listening tours
 1. Math, DMSE
 2. Ask students to come talk to you
 3. Help us do it, we need volunteers, we'll synthesize data with
 - b. Break-out session: feedback on grad housing
 - c. Debrief
 - i. Expect email from us
 - ii. Schedule listening tour ASAP by replying to this email
 - iii. Join for
8. Officer Updates (7:05-7:10)
 - a. Update on Office of the Vice Chancellor
 - i. OGE, OUE instead of ODGE/DUE
 - ii. For time being, no changes to functions or roles
 - iii. Developing new structure
 - iv. We are very happy with him, biweekly meetings, unprecedented access to data, treats us as partners
 - v. We still have the same access to OGE, Chancellor
 - vi. VC will have leeway to reorganize the offices under him
9. Committee Updates (7:10-7:30)
 - a. AC
 - i. Summer Social

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1. Experimental Coffee House
 2. Non-coffee drinks & game
 3. GSC Games Bundle
- ii. Harbor Island Trip
 - iii. AC Outreach Sub-committee
- b. ARC
- i. Nuts and bolts of an academic job
 1. 5 panelists
 2. Will use our new audio equipment
 - ii. Career Hack for graduate students
 - iii. Advising Initiative
 1. Working to collect information on the Advising Privileges
 2. Planning a "Choosing your advisor" event
 - iv. Distress on Dissertation
 - v. GWAMIT looking for publicity chair
 1. Intel women engineers on Aug. 28th
- c. ASA
- i. Trying to come up with new database solution
 - ii. New database platform purchased last October
 - iii. New database rolled next month
 - iv. Background
 1. Old database no longer supported
 - v. Short transition period
- d. EAB
- i. Federal Affairs
 1. DOE statement, 2x EPA statements
 - ii. State & Local
 1. City Council Elections
 2. Sustainability survey
 - iii. Public outreach
 1. Trying to get local media to do stories on us
 - iv. Univ Liaison

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1. NAGPS Leadership summit June 28-30
 - a. Prof devel program at Stony Brook
- v. City Council Election this November
 1. Want grad students to vote
 2. Requires voter registration and get out the vote
 3. Matters for day to day life
 - a. Availability of housing in Cambridge
 - b. Retail & food space
 - c. Bike paths and local traffic laws
 4. Grad students can have a large impact on the election
 5. We want to show that we can influence the election.
 6. Get dept liaisons to help register students
 - a. Ideally be a liaison.
 - b. But probably you'll just pass on a blurb.
 - c. We'll get information about election, help us disseminate it.
 - d. Timeline longer than housing survey.
- vi. HCA
 1. Diversity subcommittee is up and running
 2. Meet with GRTs and Dining
 - a. Potentially some sort of GRT representation
 3. Recruitment for Family Subcommittee
 4. Email us if you are interested in helping with the Cost of Living survey
- vii. Muddy
 1. Professors on Tap: Who would you like to see?
 2. Fill out the Muddy Survey
 3. Muddy Mondays
 - a. 5:1 funds matched with funds up to \$400



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Committees

gsc-excomm@mit.edu

Academics, Research, &

Careers (ARC)

Patrick O' Shea

Richard Zhang

gsc-arc@mit.edu

Activities (AC)

Karthik Akkiraju

Yijin Wei

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Assoc. of Student

Activities (ASA)

Sabina Chen

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External Affairs (EAB)

Peter Su

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Housing & Community

Affairs (HCA)

Malvika Verma

Nicholas Triantafillou

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Muddy Charles Pub

Alex Genshaft

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Orientation (OC)

Akshata Krishnamurthy

German Parada

gsc-oc@mit.edu

Staff

Administrative

Lauren McLean

Elizabeth (Betsy) Granese

gsc-admin@mit.edu

GSC Office

77 Massachusetts Avenue

Room 50-220

Cambridge, MA 02139

Phone: 617-253-2195

<http://gsc.mit.edu>

b. We serve wings and veggie options on Mondays

viii. Orientation Committee Meeting

1. Publicity Team will hand out prizes
2. Orientation website is on
3. Meetings with key contacts (e.g. Presidential welcome)
4. We're looking for coordinators for some of the Orientation Events

10. Open Floor (7:30)

a. Thank you for coming

11. Join us at the Muddy!

Officers

gsc-officers@mit.edu

President

Sarah Goodman

Executive Committee

gsc-president@mit.edu

Vice-President

Lisa Guay

Nominations Board

gsc-vp@mit.edu

Secretary

Orpheus Chatzivasileiou

Publications & Publicity Board

gsc-secretary@mit.edu

Treasurer

Krithika Ramchander

Funding Board

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Committees

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Graduate Student Council

of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Upcoming GSC Meetings

Academics, Research, and Careers (ARC)	Wednesday 6/14, 6:30 pm
Activities Committee (AC)	Thursday 7/13, 7:00 pm
External Affairs Board (EAB)	Friday 7/14, 6:00 pm
Events Subcommittee	TBD
Federal Affairs Subcommittee	Thursday 7/6, 6:00 pm
Public Outreach Subcommittee	TBD
State and Local Affairs Subcommittee	TBD
University Liaison	TBD
Housing and Community Affairs (HCA)	Monday 7/3, 5:30 pm
Off-campus Subcommittee	TBD
Sustainability Subcommittee	Tuesday 8/8, 4:30 pm
Transportation Subcommittee	TBD
Diversity Subcommittee	TBD
Muddy Charles Pub	Tuesday 7/25, 6:00 pm
Orientation Committee (OC)	Wednesday 7/19, 5:30 pm
Executive Committee (ExComm)	Wednesday 7/26, 6:30 pm

*Unless otherwise indicated, all meetings are in the GSC Office (50-220)

Upcoming General Council Meetings (GCMs)

Note: Dinner starts at 5:00pm and meetings start at 5:30pm.

August General Council Meeting	Wednesday 8/2, 4-237
September General Council Meeting	Wednesday 9/13, 6-120