



Graduate Student Council

of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Officers

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President

Sarah Goodman

Executive Committee

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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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<http://gsc.mit.edu>

General Council Meeting Agenda

April 4th, 2017, 5:30pm in 32-141

1. Introduction, Dinner, New Faces (5:35-5:40)
 - a. Quorum Check
 - b. Approval of November GCM Minutes
2. Elections (5:40-7:10)
 - Notes about election
 - Explanation about elections. P, VP, Secretary, Treasurer, EAB chair
 - Q: Max time limit
 - A: allocated 1h30min, we'll see how long this takes
 - Q: question for only one candidate?
 - A: yes, all candidates have chance to respond. No recommended
 - Ranked choice voting
 - Ian, Orpheus and Peter. All re-nominated and seconded.
 - No new candidates
 - Ian, in Germany for family emergency. Statement from website
 - Orpheus. 4 years in GSC, 2 as Ashdown rep, 2 as secretary. Continuity and professionalism, mit is bureaucratic. Headed P&P, website and communications. Part of important working groups, grad housing and housing implementation. Other projects, funding reorg., prof. dev working group, equity between grads and undergrads.
 - Peter, EAB. Worked in grad housing, survey and strategy. Tuition waiver phonebanks, media interviews and op-eds. Focus – engagement – Pres. Memos, advisors to the GSC officers, feedback gathering (listening tours, office hours, mechanism) – tone starting in the summer. Thanks to people who helped with the ideas. We are all part of GSC.
 - Q&A
 - Q: selection of advisors, who and how they are picked? Best alternative?
 - A: Peter – issues come through committee or officers. Advisors are more visible, come to council, council may veto.
 - Orpheus – shares concerns. Should be appointed by council, or elected from committee. Council should have final say.
 - Q: Have served in the GSC, bias come from that. How to be exposed to other GSC experiences?



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- Orpheus – speak to all new chairs at retreat. Have focus groups with council reps.
- Peter – good idea from Orpheus. Focus in engagement, easy to voice concerns. Actively seeking feedback. Not a problem with dissenting opinions, listen, research,
- Q: vote on resolution as written? Invite DIS to retreat?
- Peter – yes to vote, D&I issues need to be elevated. First step have someone at the table. And invite someone to the retreat.
- Orpheus – painted as good first step, liked to be combined with other things – connections, strengthen DIS. Not vote for it. Invite DIS chair? Yes, open to straw poll to council
- Q: engagement, spectrum. Most people are in the middle, meh, no opinion. How to reach out to this people
- Orpheus – difficult, people are ok with status quo. Have feedback at the beginning of GCM. Look at data, trends, make informed estimate.
- Peter – middle people are ok at what's happening. Not pertinent for officers to spend energy seeking for this feedback – tone is to open people engagement.
- Q: what has worked from the OVC reorg.? What is missing?
- Peter – Ian works closely with GSC officers. Not sure drawbacks. Ugrads usually get more attention. Need more info
- Orpheus – I have met with ian more. Now OGE gets a visiting committee. Resources are being re-centralized. Ian and Suzy working on diversity. Orientation, got 50k. OGE needs more resources.
- Q: engagement with admin with regards to issues they are hesitant to act on
- Orpheus – Admin is hesitant for many reasons. Need to engage the grad student body. Also works if we find a problem and a solution – productive conversations work to shift focus. Redirect funds and resources
- Peter – try to find solution that matches what everyone values. Need engagement from grad students, and understand strategy and process.
- Q: leadership style, autonomy and authority of officers/president?



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- Peter – officer team should be a team, president shouldn't have power over others. Make sure as much as possible to consult council, but some issues need speed. Council should trust officers and should react if officers do something they don't agree with.
- Orpheus – team also important, welcome dissension. Need consensus/voting, and people to stick with decision. Council should keep officers on a short leash. Bylaws changed 9 times, increased accountability.
- Q: preferred resolution to have more beef. What is the solution?
- Orpheus – new subcommittee. Review to check what works or not. Open, democratic, pluralistic structure. Connections to other committees.
- Peter – need to figure out many things on how DIS runs. Need to have someone with D&I at the table.
- Q: deal with someone difficult? Who disregards GSC rules?
- Peter – don't let problems fester. Fix small problems, elevate big problems. Should not let people who harms GSC.
- Orpheus – people vs. GSC needs. Need to recognize problems, talk to person. Check and balances important.
- Q: successfully carried out this year?
- P, O – no
- Q: why Orpheus didn't upload a CV? O – too long, lazy
- Q: how to work with admin in hard issues (grad students passionate about, admin not happy about it)?
- Peter – admin understands our position and our pushback, as long as respectful and professional, they will be fine. As long as they trust the GSC, treat us as adults. Work together to find a solution
- Orpheus – represent GSC overall, but specific students. What if request contradicts GSC priorities? Find a compromise, exceptions. Meet with other admins below higher admin.
- Motion to end questions, move to discussion
- Motion to end discussion and vote
- Vote – Peter wins
- VP – motion for Orpheus, accepted.
- Motion to end questions
- Motion to end discussion



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- Vote – Orpheus wins
 - Secretary
 - Richard, students don't know about GSC or its work. Committees have to publicize their own stuff, hard. The new deal, publicity and communication. Centralize, various platforms, Humans of the GSC, videos Strong brand of GSC
 - Q: How to know about events from committees?
 - A: short updates from committee chairs, description, publicize
 - Q: How to outreach? How to stand over other communication?
 - A: use multiple channels, apps.
 - Q: What to do if people don't respond?
 - A: ask them personally, message them, bug them again.
 - Motion to end questions
 - Motion to end discussion
 - Vote – Richard wins
 - Treasurer – Ian nominated
 - No questions
 - Vote – Ian wins
 - EAB – Katie nominated
 - Katie – worked as federal affairs co-chairs, year of firsts. Want to bring more people to the board
 - Katie wins
3. Updates from Future of Diversity and Inclusion Working Group (7:10-7:20)
 - a. Will not be given. Will be reintroduced at the next meeting.
 4. Review of Legislative Procedure (7:20-7:25)
 - a. Not given.
 5. 64.gsc.7: Resolution to Appoint Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee Chair to the Executive Committee (7:25-7:45)
 - a. Tabled for next meeting
 6. Introduction of 64.gsc.8: Resolution to Add Additional Student-at-Large to the ASA Executive Board (7:45-7:55)
 - a. Introduced
 7. Officer Updates (7:55-8:00)
 - a. Office of the Vice Chancellor Reorganization
 - i. Has taken place
 - ii. Started summer 2017, announced changes



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- iii. Important – OGE remains a stand-alone office, advocate for grad students
 - iv. GECD to come under DUE, reports to OVC directly – broader mission
 - v. Creation of OVC council on D&I
 - vi. Teaching and learning lab is thematic center of OVC
8. Committee Updates (8:00-8:10)
- a. AC
 - i. Taste of HK coming up, grad gala happened (feedback welcome), battle of the bands tomorrow, acoustic bbq coming up
 - b. ARC
 - i. Not many events but VISTA doing lots of events. Upcoming profs on tap and panel. Two growing up in science coming up. Prof. dev. Survey in progress
 - c. ASA
 - i. Board is full, secretary is grad.
 - d. DI Subcommittee
 - i. Conduit assembly, working on survey. Elections coming up.
 - e. EAB
 - i. Two federal trips, more money for research. Coming up mass house visit. Hunting grounds screening and panel. Rally against sexual violence with other schools.
 - f. HCA
 - i. Quiet month, working on policy updates. Elections happening soon
 - g. Muddy
 - i. Relay for life in honor of recently-deceased muddy board member, MIT news video coming up. Elections coming up. Spring pub night also happening
9. Open Floor (8:10-8:15)



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Upcoming GSC Meetings

Academics, Research, and Careers (ARC)	Wednesday 4/18, 6-7 pm
Activities Committee (AC)	TBD
External Affairs Board (EAB)	TBD
Events Subcommittee	TBD
Federal Affairs Subcommittee	TBD
Public Outreach Subcommittee	TBD
State and Local Affairs Subcommittee	TBD
Development Subcommittee	Friday 4/6, 6:00 pm
Housing and Community Affairs (HCA)	Monday 4/16, 5:30-7 pm
Off-campus Subcommittee	TBD
Sustainability Subcommittee	TBD
Transportation Subcommittee	TBD
Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee	TBD
Muddy Charles Pub	TBD
Orientation Committee (OC)	TBD
Executive Committee (ExComm)	Wednesday 4/28, 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.

May General Council Meeting	Wednesday 5/2, 32-141
June General Council Meeting	Wednesday 6/6, Location TBD