



Graduate Student Council

of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Officers

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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

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Committees

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<http://gsc.mit.edu>

General Council Meeting Minutes

May 4th, 2018, 5:30pm in 32-141

1. Introduction, Dinner, New Faces (5:35-5:40)
Sarah: "It's been real. This is the last GCM of the 64th GSC!"
 - a. Quorum Check: 47. We have quorum
 - b. Approval of April GCM Minutes:
 - i. Motion to approve: Jeff Liu
 - ii. Seconded by Sarah Goodman
2. Updates from Future of Diversity and Inclusion Working Group (5:40-5:55): From Michael McClellan and Arolyn Conwill: FDIWG
 - a. Support sustained engagement for many years to come
 - b. Ideal structure and scope of GSC efforts
 - i. Standing committee or Board for Diversity Programs and Initiatives
 1. HCA & DIS should decide early on in the 2018-2019 leadership if the scope of this will include HCA and DIS or DIS only
 2. The result should be a standing committee or board to carry out diversity and inclusion programs and initiatives
 3. There are multiple promising options for this structure
 4. Resolution 64. Gsc.7, introduced in March 2018, which was motioned to table
 - ii. Community Values Platform and Statements
 1. Process similar to that of the Policy Platform
 2. We recommend that the community values platform include
 - a. Preamble outlining the values of the GSC
 - b. List of specific policies the GSC does or does not support
 3. Review process can be initiated by appropriate GSC leadership when additional input is needed
 - iii. Improve Representation on GSC
 1. At large membership is capped at 5
 - a. Expand the at-large positions



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- b. Could be aligned with DIS Constituency Rep positions
 - c. Expansion requires a Constitutional amendment
 2. Encourage department student governments formation
 - a. Elections for officers and representatives
 - b. Democratic process improves accountability to constituencies
 - c. Strongly push ASA to recognize graduate student department groups
 - iv. Amplify Underrepresented Voices in/through GSC advocacy
 1. Connect students to collaborate and share best practices
 2. Roundtable discussions with GSC and student group leaders
 - a. Raise issues to MIT's administration
 3. Develop & sustain relationships with affinity groups on campus
 - a. Continue to expand Constituency Representative Program
 4. Develop & sustain relationships with departments
 - a. Continue to expand the conduit assembly
 - v. Strengthen GSC Practices for Promoting Diversity and Inclusion
 1. Annually, Committees and D&I set up a system for intentional collaboration & communication
 2. DIS gives updates at General Council Meetings
 3. DIS ExComm position (64.gsc.7, introduced in March 2018)
 - a. **VOTE YES TODAY!**
 4. Intentionally mingle graduate students serving on Institute-wide Presidential and Faculty Committees
 - a. Institute Representatives
 - b. GSC can serve as a resource to gather more diverse perspectives



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- c. Led by GSC Vice President (chairs the Nominations Board)
 - c. Develop a proposal to enact necessary changes
 - d. Timeline: September to now
 3. Review of Legislative Procedure (5:55-6:00):
 - a. Just the regular stuff
 4. 64.gsc.7: Resolution to Appoint Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee Chair to the Executive Committee (6:00-6:20)
 - a. Near future: champion the working group recommendations
 - b. Long future: increase breadth of representation in decision-making processes, create a more direct link between DIS and other parts of the GSC, ensure D&I is being fostered on campus
 - c. DIS on ExComm can accomplish the majority of the recommendations
 - d. Passing the Resolution would mean that Council appoints the D&I subcommittee chair as a member of the Executive Committee
 - i. DIS Chair elections follow procedure in Bylaws II.D1
 - ii. Oversight mechanisms in the GSC Bylaws relevant to ExComm members would also apply here (Bylaws II.E and II.F).
 - e. Discussion extended by 5 minutes
 - f. Discussion extended by another 5 minutes
 - g. Discussion extended by another 5 minutes
 - h. Resolution passed 39 to 14 with 1 abstention
 5. 64.gsc.8: Resolution to Add Additional Student-at-Large to the ASA Executive Board (6:20-6:30)
 - a. Lisa present: this resolution adds a second student at-large to the ASA Board. The person is either undergrad or grad.
 - b. Resolution passed 46 to 3 with 3 abstentions
 6. Officer Updates (6:40-6:45)
 - a. DSL wants to open a low-cost grocery store in the fall
 - i. Will contain basic staples
 - ii. Student employees
 - iii. Working group – email gsc-hca@mit.edu to get involved
 - b. Commencement ticket exchange
 - i. Not ok!
 - ii. Ticket exchange form: haven't receive official approval



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- iii. Will be sent in the post-GCM report
 - c. Shuttle
 - i. Safe ride was revamped after 11pm
 - ii. A survey will be sent out to see if it is a good idea
 - iii. It will help us decide whether we will pitch the idea of grocery shuttle to the Vice Provost
 7. Budget Report (6:30-6:40)
 - a. General Rollover: \$75K
 - b. OGE: \$112K
 - c. Career Fair \$393K; actually: 352K
 - d. Grad Rat: \$30K
 - e. Stabilization fund: \$1.2k
 - f. Funding board allocations: requested \$374K, allocated \$239K
 - i. Average utilization rate over the past three cycles was ~90% (UA uses 60% boo!!!)
 - g. Travel grant (new): 45K
 - h. Athletics & performance grants: total allocation: \$11K out of \$12K
 - i. Council Rep fund: \$11K out of \$12K
 - j. Thanks Krithika!!!
 8. Final Report (6:45-6:50)
 - a. EAB & HCA: Grad Housing, 950 additional beds
 - i. Changes to housing application/lottery process
 - ii. Periodic review of grad student housing needs
 - iii. Cost of living assessment and stipend recommendation HCA
 - iv. 3% stipend increase
 - v. On-demand shuttles HCA
 - vi. Paid parental leaves
 - b. EAB: Federal Advocacy: Tax bill, DACA, Science funding
 - c. EAB State and local advocacy: fighting sexual misconducts
 - d. Quality of Life: Student funding reorganization, creating a food-secure campus, iREFS
 - e. ARC: VISTA won the Golden Beaver and Stewart award
 - f. GSC Officers: won the Compton Prize
 9. TRANSITION (6:50-6:55)
 - a. YAHH!!! Posted on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
 10. 65.gsc.1: Budget for Fiscal Year 2019 (6:55-7:05)



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- a. OGE+Career Fair amount = fixed amount from DSL
- b. 30% increase in our budget: \$650K in total
- c. Formally being proposed right now, voted on next GCM
- d. Nomination board: part of the GSC that is responsible for nominating all graduate students to institute committees
 - i. Very important
 - ii. Centers to many of the important decisions
 - iii. Increase our budget in the following: \$1550 from last year's \$800 budget
 - iv. AC: Increase taste-of events (\$250), grad-gala \$1500 increase, decrease outreach event (looking for chairs for two years), small events (new line item), and paint night (possible collaboration with Thirsty Ears)
 - v. HCA: Funding D&I Subcommittee
 - vi. OC: No A/V anymore, very similar to last year
 - vii. Muddy Board: big 0, due to its revenue-generating nature
 - viii. EAB: increases due to flights and advocacy 101 course

11. Vision for the year (7:05-7:15)

- a. Improve engagement: new form to suggest topics for future GCMs
- b. Advisors to the GSC Officers
 - i. Approve everyone individually
 - ii. Create committee for advisors and receive notification at GCM of an appointment
 - iii. We will get back to you on that because of the even split
- c. Do you want GSC Newsletter/Memo
 - i. Newsletter: Yes people want it
 - ii. Memo: irregular: Yes people want it
- d. D&I: start conversation about the restructuring of D&I Subcommittee
- e. Equity: equal distribution of funding for undergrad/grad, working with OVC on orientation, distribution of resources among departments
- f. Professional development: career exploration services (career fairs and other resources); professional development working group (what's there and identify them and try to spread best practices)
- g. Open positions:



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- i. Nominations board (3 positions, select nominees for institute committees, minimal time commitment (3 meetings over the summer), get a gift, looking for nominations now): Nas (dropped out), Yamini Krishna, and Germán, Sarah Shapiro
- ii. Funding board: review applications: Sandia, Krithika (maybe)

12. Committee Updates (7:15-7:30)

a. AC: April 23:

- i. taste of Hong Kong
- ii. Coffee hour: Monday May 14th at 6pm
- iii. Non-acoustic BBQ of the year
- iv. Escape the Room (5/19) and Bodaborg (6/16)
- v. New AC Chair: Only Xueying so far

b. ARC

- i. Entrepreneurship panel
 1. Partnered with MITAA, TLO, GECD, VPR
- ii. Growing up in science
 1. May 2nd
- iii. De-stressing Dissertations
 1. Overwhelming interest
- iv. VISTA
 1. Cultural night
 - a. >100 people attended

c. ASA

- i. Good news: departmental groups getting recognized
- ii. Make sure you do your anti-hazing forms

d. DIS

- i. DCI Conduit Assembly Reorganization
- ii. Recruiting for next year
- iii. D&I Survey: aim to finish the content by May, details to be flashed out for when, where and how.
 1. Alex suggested reaching out to IR (Institutional Research)
- iv. Transition meeting: May 8th, at 6:30pm in 7-338

e. EAB

- i. 15 MIT student showed up to the sexual assault rally in front of the Statehouse, 100 in total participated



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- ii. Bill making progress towards the House
 - iii. May 1st: advocacy in the Statehouse: voter registration, sanctuary policies, climate change, transportation safety, and sexual assault & harassment; met with 24 legislative offices
 - iv. NAGPS conference: sent over some ppl; other universities want to start something; UPenn interested in collaboration in data sharing
- f. HCA:
- i. Shuttle surveys ask about grocery shuttles; launching soon
 - ii. Evaluate routes and share improvements
 - iii. Stipend recommendation: 3% increase in many departments
 - iv. New HCA chairs
 - v. Next meeting on the 16th of May
- g. Muddy:
- i. Welcome Mattias
 - ii. Relay for Life 4/7 @6pm @Johnson Ice Rink: Friends of Brooke Williams; working with MIT News to showcase the Muddy
 - iii. Spring Pub Night 5/24 @5pm;
 - iv. join the board!
 - v. Keep Muddy Monday
 - vi. Hang out in the Muddy after the GCM

13. Open Floor (7:30)



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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