

General Council Meeting

June 7, 2017

Sarah Goodman
Lisa Guay
Orpheus Chatzivasileiou
Krithika Ramchander

New Faces

- Welcome to General Council!

Quorum check

Approve May Minutes

- Found on GSC website and GCM announcement email

Budget Procedure

Krithika Ramchander, GSC Treasurer

Bylaws regarding the Budget Meeting

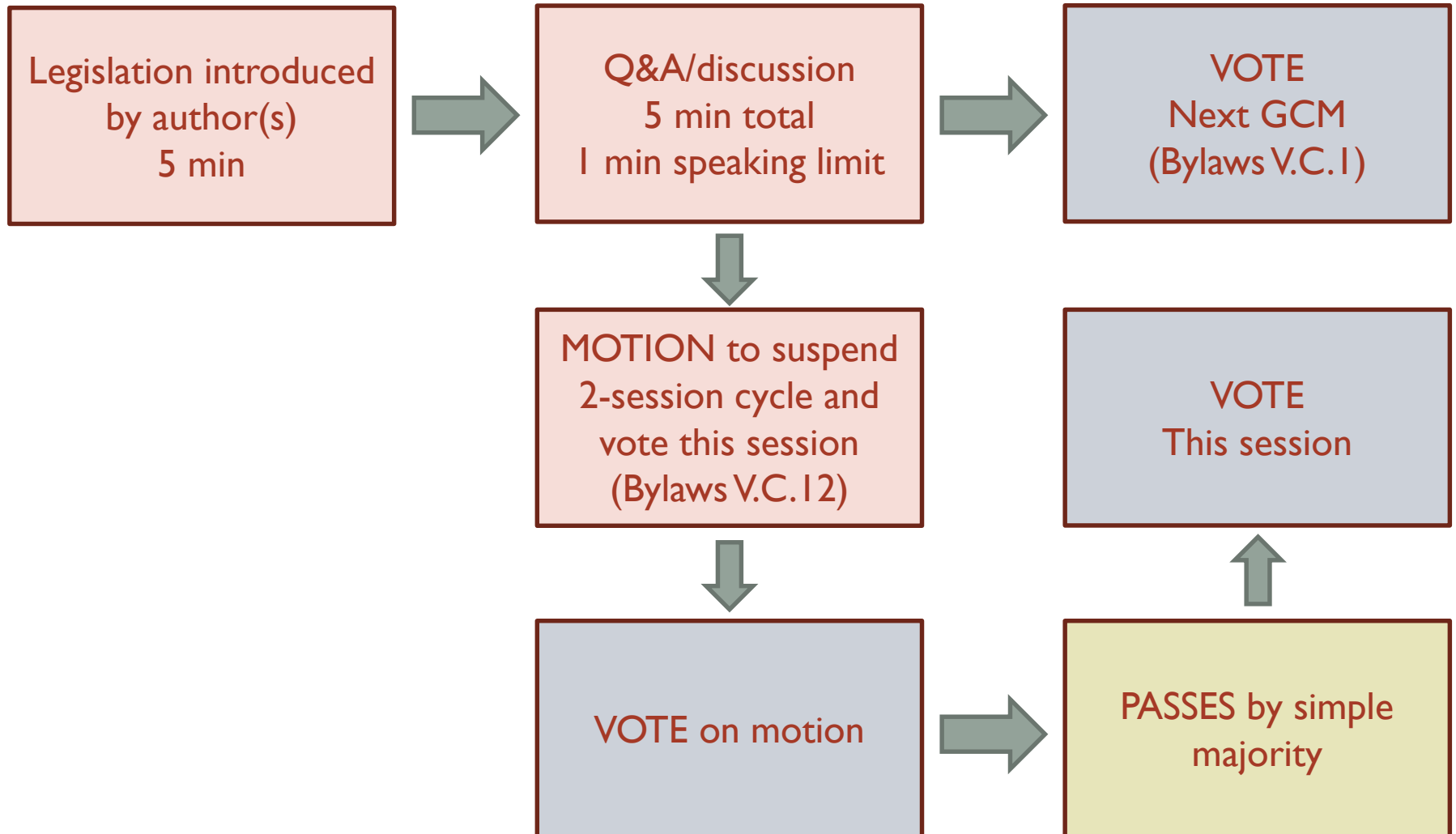
The Budget is passed in the following manner:

1. Revenue and the beginning-of-year reserve represent the professional opinion of the Treasurer, and are not voted upon.
2. Each representative is given an opportunity to object to any number of line items. If no objection is raised regarding a given line item, it is approved automatically without a vote.
3. The remaining line items are approved either individually, or in groups of any size. The following rules apply:
 - i. *Line items may be approved at the original amount or at a lower amount, but not at a higher amount.*
 - ii. *A majority vote is required to approve a line item individually, while a two-thirds vote is required to approve a group of line items.*

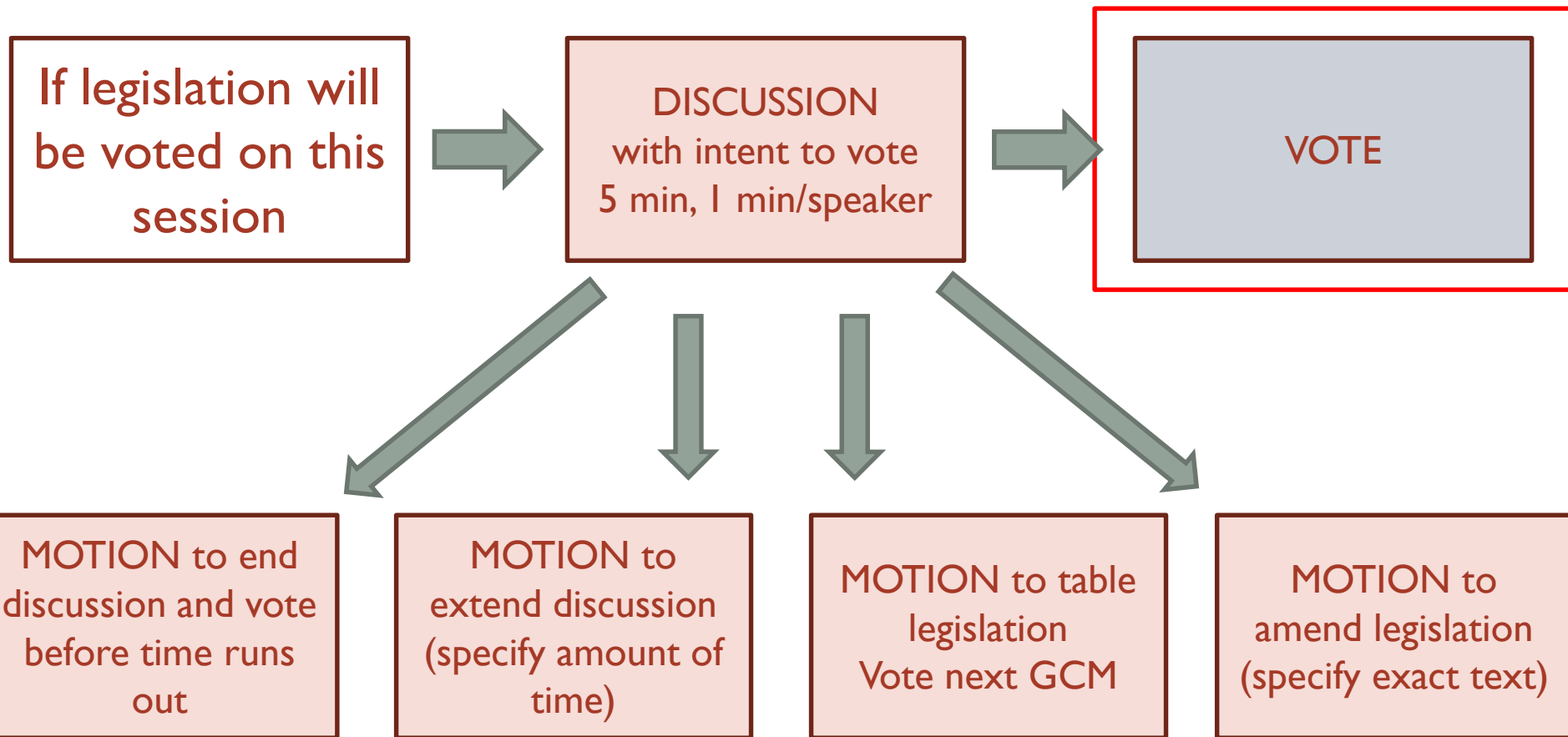
Legislative Procedure Primer

Orpheus Chatzivasileiou

Introduction of Legislation











Voting on Legislation



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)

Yes > No	Yes + No \geq $\frac{1}{2}$ Quorum	Outcome
		Approved
		Legislation dies
		Legislation tabled
		Legislation tabled

64.GSC.2

A resolution

authorizing the officers and committees of GSC to advocate for increased availability of graduate student housing and other benefits in conjunction with the redevelopment of the Volpe site

Abigail Regitsky, Daniel Curtis, Sarah Goodman

Volpe Site

- MIT selected to redevelop Volpe site - 14 acres of land near Kendall Square



Significance of Volpe Project

- Has been described as the biggest real estate development opportunity in Cambridge and a “once-in-a-generation opportunity”
- Opportunity to work with City and Cambridge community to shape the future of Kendall Square to benefit all
- Close vicinity to campus will impact graduate student life

Basis for Advocacy: GSC Platform

- The GSC firmly supports policies and developments that increase access to affordable, quality housing, accessible from MIT, for all members of graduate student households
- The GSC firmly supports policies and developments that increase the availability, quality, and affordability of transportation services and infrastructure used by students

Graduate Student Housing

- 1925 units of single housing (250 new units under construction)
- 408 units of family housing
- Only sufficient to house 38% of graduate students
- MIT graduate students compete for housing in the Cambridge area, negatively impacting the availability and cost of housing in the area, thus displacing other members of the community



Cambridge Community Support

- The External Affairs Board and other GSC contributors have found that other Cambridge-area community stakeholders, support increasing the availability of MIT graduate student housing on campus and the availability of transportation options near Kendall Square and the MIT campus, including bike and pedestrian paths
 - City Councilor Dennis Carlone - “steps we can take to ensure that Cambridge remain affordable and welcoming to people of all economic backgrounds...include...[i]nsisting long-needed university housing be built in the near future (many MIT and Harvard graduate students live in former family apartments)”
 - Friends of the Grand Junction Path advocacy group

Resolution

The General Council authorizes the Officers and Committees of GSC to pursue opportunities to advocate for benefits for the MIT graduate student body in conjunction with the redevelopment of the Volpe Site, including the following:

1. Increased availability of both single and family graduate student housing on campus at MIT.
2. Increased availability and quality of transportation options in the vicinity of Kendall Square and the MIT campus; including, but not limited to, completion of the Grand Junction Community Path.
3. Commercial centers at the Volpe Site that will increase quality of life in the area.

Current Opportunities

Internal (MIT)

- Endorse DUSP letter to MIT Volpe Working Group regarding graduate housing
- Relay graduate housing needs to senior MIT administration to work toward a development plan for more on-campus graduate housing

External

- Write letter to Cambridge City Council supporting zoning that increases availability of graduate student housing and transportation options
- Plan advocacy day to meet with City Councilors to advocate for aforementioned benefits
- Organize rally/march at City Hall to advocate for aforementioned benefits
- File zoning petition for Volpe Site with other community stakeholders that requires aforementioned benefits



Officer Updates

Vice Chancellor

- Announced on 4/27 that Ian Waitz was appointed as the Vice Chancellor



President
L. Rafael Reif



Chancellor
Cynthia Barnhart



Vice President for Research
Maria T. Zuber



Vice President for Open Learning
Sanjay Sarma



Provost
Martin A. Schmidt



Dean for Graduate Education (Interim)
Blanche Staton



Director, Lincoln Laboratory
Eric D. Evans



Dean, School of Architecture and Planning
Hashim Sarkis



Dean for Undergraduate Education
Dennis Freeman



Dean, School of Engineering
Ian A. Waitz



Vice President and Dean for Student Life
Suzy Nelson



Dean, School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences
Melissa Nobles



Dean, School of Science
Michael Sipser



Vice Chancellor Updates

- Met with Ian twice and will continue to meet with him over the summer
 - Good overlap in priorities:
 - Career Fair & graduate student professional development
 - Support for graduate student families
 - Best practices and policies for common situations (ex. changing advisors)
 - Centralizing resources on campus – prof. development, student support
 - He has not decided what structure of office will look like yet, looking for input from all stakeholders (including GSC and ODGE)
- Will attend July GCM!

Student Life Updates

- Family Grant Program
 - DSL has funds to create an urgent-needs grant for graduate student families
 - Currently in the process of putting together language to announce the grant
 - Gathering feedback about what expenses graduate student families face
- Dining and Graduate Spaces
 - Café in Pritchett Dining Room (Walker) that will offer late-night dining
 - Coffeehouse Lounge in Student Center will be designated as a community space for graduate students
 - Dining Working Group

Nominations Board

- Reviews applications and recommends grad students to serve on Institute Committees
- Members:
 - GSC VP (Chair)
 - 2 other GSC Officers
 - 3 grad students appointed by Council
- Need 3 grad students to serve this summer
 - Time Commitment:
 - ~2 meetings in June/July, plus interviews (if needed)
 - Review applications for off-cycle positions by email
 - Note: Nom Board members can still apply for Institute Committees!

FUNding Board

- Awards funds to organizations involving graduate students for their activities
- Responsible for reviewing applications on Funding Board's quarterly review cycle
- We need two volunteers to join Funding Board this year!
 - ASA graduate student at-large
 - Ty Austin
 - Graduate student at-large (appointed by Council)
 - [your name here!!]

Council Rep Funding

- Each of you (non-ExComm) has access to special GSC funding for your constituency!
 - \$150/rep/semester
 - Spring: Feb 16–Oct 15, Fall: Oct 16–Feb 15
 - Extra \$100/rep/semester for service to GSC
 - Can double the \$150 by collaborating with another constituency
- More details and application here:
 - <http://gsc.mit.edu/funding/departmental-funding/>
 - Funding is first come, first served
 - Contact gsc-vp@mit.edu with questions!

How can you use Rep Funding?

- Event/purchase advertised and available to entire constituency
 - Food up to \$5/person; No alcohol
- Examples:
 - Food for seminar series
 - Ice cream social or BBQ
 - Coffee maker for breakroom
 - Subsidized T-shirts
- GSC will make event templates to help you
 - Networking event with department alumni
 - Let us know what you would like to see!

Committee Updates

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Karthik Akkiraju and Yijin Wei

Co-Chairs

gsc-ac@mit.edu

Acoustic Barbecue 5/19

- Beatles to Ed Sheeran
- 800 ± 100 plates spent
- Empty grill and bar

Free Food | Open Bar | Live Music
GSC ACOUSTIC BBQ
FRIDAY, MAY 19TH 4 - 6PM



Graduate Student Council
of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Office of the
Dean for
Graduate
Education



**Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology**

In No Time 5/19

- In collaboration with ACT
- Art performances by students



Escape the Room Outing 5/21

- 3 rooms at Escape the Room Boston
- Capped at 30. Attended by 26. Sold 28 tickets



Upcoming Event

Summer Social Hour: **Not a coffee hour**

6PM, 6/15

Games, Food, Drinks.



ACADEMICS, RESEARCH, AND CAREERS

Pat O'Shea and Richard Zhang
Co-Chairs
gsc-arc@mit.edu

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Peter Su: Chair
gsc-eab@mit.edu

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Malvika Verma and Nicholas Triantafillou

Co-Chairs

gsc-hca@mit.edu

HCA Update

- Recruitment!
 - Sustainability Committee
 - Diversity Committee
 - Transportation Committee
 - Family Committee
- Events/Ongoing
 - Sustainability Committee -> mugs and bottles at Coffee Hours
 - MIT Dining for Grad Student -> discussion with Naomi Carton

Contact us

- Email: gca-hca@mit.edu
- Meetings on Monday following GCM at 5:30 PM in 50-220

MUDDY CHARLES PUB

Alex Genshaft
gsc-muddy-chair@mit.edu

Come and explore the Muddy



Professors on Tap - who would you like to see?

Host a cultural event with us & ODGE through the Muddy Mondays program - muddy-activities@mit.edu

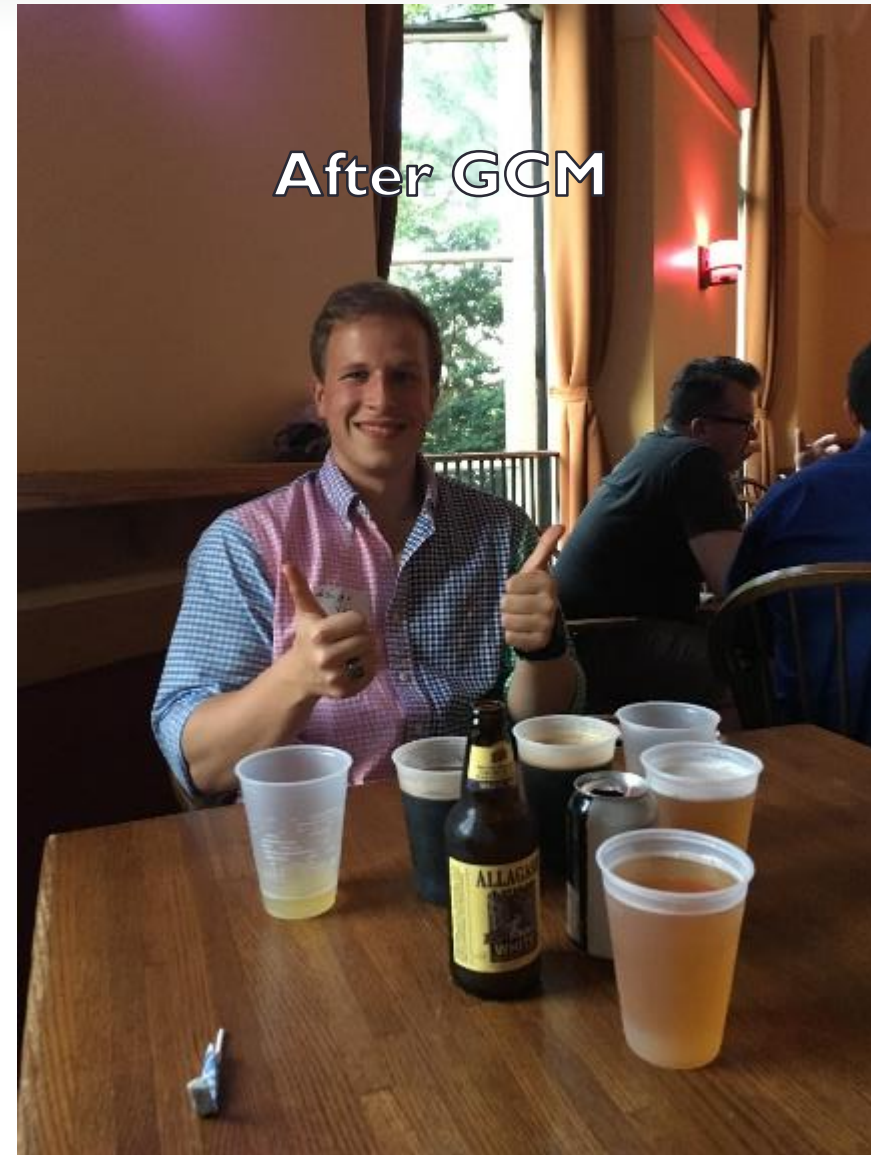
Please fill out our Muddy survey! muddy.mit.edu/survey

Join the board or a subcommittee and help run a small company!
Our next board meeting 6/27!

Please email: gsc-muddy-chair@mit.edu

After the GCM

**Come hang out at the
Muddy!!**





ORIENTATION COMMITTEE

German Parada and Akshata Krishnamurthy

Co-Chairs

gsc-oc@mit.edu

What has happened?

- OC meeting last week
 - Recruited people to help with committee roles: Treasurer, Communications, Grad Residence Liaison, Ticket Coordinator, Merchandise Coordinator
 - Still looking for Event Coordinators – HELP RECRUIT.. Or just help execute!
- Meetings with key contacts
 - Done: ODGE (funding), Sloan MBA (scheduling, funding), CAC/UAAP (room reservations and scheduling), MIT AA (event), ISO (events)
 - ODGE Diversity Init. (events), Spouses & Partners (events)
 - TBD – COOP, MIT FCU (gifts, sponsorship), school deans (funding)

What's new @ Orientation

- Graduate Panels
 - Replacing grad 102-103. Six panels (1h each), topics TBD
 - Entrepreneurship, Grad School Nuts & Bolts, Families Panel, Advising
 - Recording (Video/audio TBD) for people who can't make them
 - Should partner with ARC, HCA, EAB
- Graduate Resource Fair
 - Reg. Day, Johnson, in conjunction with Community Fair (UAAP)
 - Grad clubs, grad-related institutional resources and Spouses & Partners resources
- Networking event with MIT AA
 - Sept. 15th, to coincide with Alumni Leadership Conf.
- Beer Pairing Event @ Muddy
 - Details TBD, to be finalized with the Muddy Board

Theme, Logo

- Theme: We Welcome All
 - All nationalities, orientations, cultures, walks of life, etc.
 - All careers, interests, hobbies, etc.
- Logo Competition
 - Deadline June 19
 - Three prizes to be won – one \$150 and two \$50!