

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 8, 2018

Peter Su, GSC President

Orpheus Chatzivasileiou, GSC Vice-President

Richard Zhang, GSC Secretary

Ian Tracy, GSC Treasurer



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Quorum check



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Approve June and July Minutes

- Found on GSC website and GCM announcement email



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New Faces

- Welcome to General Council!



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GRAD RAT

Sami Khan



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CAREER FAIR

Nicole Moody



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65.GSC.2: AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAWS CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF STATEMENTS



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Current Model

- Statements can be approved by
 - General Council (two month process)
 - External Affairs Board (based on policy platform)
- Problem
 - Council process is slow
 - Some potential statements do not relate to External Affairs

A New Process of Statement Approval

- Council can approve statements as currently
- Expand EAB statement making process to other committees
 - Council approves platform documents
 - Committees approve statements based on platform documents
- Checks and Balances
 - Conflicts between committees resolved by Statements Subcommittee of ExComm
 - Statements can be reviewed by ExComm and/or Council
 - Review is triggered by committee chairs or officers



65.GSC.3: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ONLINE VOTING PROCEDURE



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About the Resolution

- Allows ExComm and its subcommittees to make decisions (including passing statements) outside of monthly meetings
- Mirror effective External Affairs Board process
 - 72 hour voting period
 - Statements passed via this process have an additional 48 hours for review



GSC HELP DESK



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General Idea

- Central gsc-help@mit.edu email
- GSC members redirect students to helpful resources and/or answer questions
- Google form & spreadsheet helps track problems and how well we're taking care of them



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Benefits

- 1 easy-to-remember email for all grad students
 - Lower barrier to getting help
- Gives GSC overview of all problems affecting grad students at MIT
 - If problems are coming up repeatedly, we can work with relevant administrators/students/staff to resolve at system level
 - We will know which high priority problems to target for advocacy with MIT administration (or external actors)

How you can help

- Give feedback! Now and via email
- Volunteer to help implement this!
 - Getting it set up & tested
 - Responding to inquiries
 - Developing resources and training for those that want to help
- Email gsc-officers@mit.edu with feedback and if you want to help!



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OFFICER UPDATES



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Statement from Ian Tracy, Treasurer

Dear Graduate Student Council,

Please accept my resignation from the position of GSC Treasurer, effective immediately. It has been a true honor to serve MIT in this capacity over the past few months, but it has become apparent to me that the position would be better suited for somebody with more availability than I am able to commit to the role given the nature and magnitude of my several other responsibilities. I thank you all for your selfless service to MIT, and want to let you know that I genuinely relished the time we have spent together. I wish you the very best of luck as you lead the GSC through another important, transformative year.

Yours truly,
Ian Tracy



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Council Rep Funding

- **Apply for your funding!**
- Available to all Council members except those who are members by virtue of their GSC position
 - i.e. Everyone but committee/board and some subcommittee chairs
- \$150/rep/term or \$250/rep/term with GSC or Institute committee involvement
 - Spring: Feb 16–Oct 15, Fall: Oct 16–Feb 15
- Double your \$150 if you collaborate with a rep outside your department
- Events/items must be accessible to entire constituency
- Program info: <http://gsc.mit.edu/funding/departmental-funding>
- Application: <http://mitgscapp.knack.com/funding#applications/councilrepfund/>
- Questions? Email gsc-vp@mit.edu



COMMITTEE UPDATES



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ACADEMICS, RESEARCH, AND CAREERS

Sridipta Ghatak and Meicen Sun

Co-Chairs

gsc-arc@mit.edu



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ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Xueying Zhao and [THIS COULD BE YOU!]

Co-Chairs

gsc-ac@mit.edu



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GSC Whale Watching Trip

- Saturday 7/28 @ Gloucester, MA
- 43 attendees, 4 didn't show up









We saw 3 different kinds of whale:

- Fin whale
- Humpback whale
- Minke whale

1 attendee asked me, “What if the whale flips the boat?”

Upcoming Activities

GSC Six Flags Trip



- Tickets are sold out.
- Waitlist:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/19wzg6G2kJIBhUeK_pt5_sxH79eD-01qdt2FKpRgOKel/edit

Paint Night @ Thirsty Ear

- Date: Aug. 22, 2018 7 to 9 pm
- 21+, ID required
- Sponsored by
- MIT Chancellor Cynthia Barnhart will give an opening speech and paint with us.
- Ticket sales on admit one have started!



MindHandHeart

Office of the
Chancellor



Taste of Bangladesh

- Date: 9/18
- Venue: Morss Hall

ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Kelsey Becker
ASA President
gsc-asa@mit.edu



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DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION SUBCOMMITTEE

Nasir Almasri
DIS Chair
gsc-diversity@mit.edu



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DIS Updates

- First meeting on July 26
- DCI: Diversity resource brain-dump
 - May turn into one-pager for incoming students
- C-Reps
 - Missing: LGBTQ+, URM, Religious Life, and International Students
- ICEO Update: Preferences submitted in letters
- Home base for Grad. Students of Color

Next Meeting: TBD (First week of September?)



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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Katie Shulenberger
External Affairs Board
gsc-eab@mit.edu



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August Updates

- **Federal Affairs**
 - Prepping for fall LAD
 - Hosting a discussion session about organizing student advocacy at LAD
 - Working on statements on EPA regulations and Chinese student Visa's
- **State and Local Affairs**
 - Made a final push on sexual misconduct climate survey bill which passed the house, but not the senate before the legislative session ended (mostly)
 - Working closely with MITVote2018 on local and state races



August Updates (cont.)

- Public Outreach
 - Hosting science themed trivia at Aeronaut in Somerville next Month!
 - If you want to provide fun facts which are science misconceptions/myths to include in trivia, please contact gsc-eab-public@mit.edu or gsc-eab@mit.edu
 - Had a group of middle school students from Texas come demo an EM and discussed life as a scientist
- Events/MITVote
 - MITVote2018 is still recruiting department liaisons!
 - We will be hosting a training next week for liaisons (time tbd)
 - Fact sheet on MA elections in the works
 - Voter registration deadline for the primaries is next week (in MA)!



HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Jo Melville and Mason Biamonte
Co-Chairs
gsc-hca@mit.edu



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MUDDY CHARLES PUB

Matthias Ginterseder
gsc-muddy@mit.edu



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Reimagining Muddy Mondays

Muddy Mondays:
cultural groups host events at the Muddy

no longer serves MIT community as well as other formats could

revamp:

give student/interest groups a stage to promote their mission
held at Muddy/Thirsty Ear

You have a message for the community? You know student groups looking for an outlet?

Join us at the Muddy after GCM or shoot us an email at muddy-activities@mit.edu!



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The Muddy Wants You!



See what the Muddy is all about!

Come to our next Board meeting next Monday (8/13)!



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ORIENTATION COMMITTEE

[NEEDS 2 CO-CHAIRS!]

Co-Chairs

gsc-oc@mit.edu



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Volunteer for Orientation!

- Be on the lookout for an email calling for volunteers!

- Otherwise, things are going well!



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OPEN FLOOR



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