GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 3, 2019

Peter Su, GSC President
Alex Joerger, GSC Vice President
Naveen Arunachalam, GSC Secretary
Robin Lindemann, GSC Treasurer

Graduate Student Council
of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
New Faces

- Welcome to General Council!
Quorum check
Approve June Minutes

• Found on GSC website and GCM announcement email
66.GSC.2 – UPDATES TO THE GSC POLICY PLATFORM
Known Options on Table

- Separate Grad & Undergrad Commencements
  - Similar ceremonies to current commencement
  - Longer ceremonies, but full Killian Court experience (including degree conferral in Killian)
  - This option was passed by Commencement Committee

- Joint Speeches Commencement & School/Department-based Degree/Hood conferral
  - Joint Commencement is the entire current ceremony except the reading off of names and handing out of diplomas
  - Shorter ceremonies (degree conferral will be much more parallel), but only speeches, not degree conferral, in Killian Court
  - This option is currently preferred by most higher administration
ORIENTATION UPDATE
GSC Orientation 2019

has already started...
Pre-Campus Programs

Summer Send-off Events

Send-off Events for this year are below. Events will continue to be added through July so please check back frequently.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domestic Locations</th>
<th>International Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MIT CLUB OF MINNESOTA</td>
<td>MIT CLUB OF PAKISTAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Link to Club Site</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 7/13/2019</td>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 6/24/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time:</strong> 4:30-7:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>Time:</strong> 4:30-5:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location:</strong> Private Residence</td>
<td><strong>Location:</strong> TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4501 Wooddale Avenue</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edina, MN 55424</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Incoming Graduate Students Welcome

https://alum.mit.edu/communitiesregional-alumni-clubs/summer-send-events
# Pre-Campus Programs

**Webinars** – For Domestic and International Families (exclusive focus)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/ Time</th>
<th>Host(s)/ Dept/ Year</th>
<th>Meeting Link</th>
<th>Meeting ID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5th July Friday 6 P.M. EDT</td>
<td>Somesh Mohapatra, DMSE, 2nd Shashank Agarwal, MechE, 4th</td>
<td><a href="https://mit.webex.com/mit/j.php?MTID=m2062d47175360f3695ff01b0d0522d">https://mit.webex.com/mit/j.php?MTID=m2062d47175360f3695ff01b0d0522d</a></td>
<td>642 729 068</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[https://grad-orientation.mit.edu/pre-campus-programs](https://grad-orientation.mit.edu/pre-campus-programs)
Hello Incoming Graduate Students
Congratulations on securing admission at MIT!

We welcome you to MIT on the behalf of Graduate Student Council (GSC) and GSC Orientation Committee (OC). As we wait for you to arrive at MIT, we, with the help of current graduate students, have set up a series of webinars in the month of July.

The aim of these webinars is to go through a checklist (including travel, housing, grocery, medical and other relevant fields) you need to take care of in your preparation to be here and the suggested do's and don’ts for MIT. We will try to take any questions during the webinar and answer them over the course of the discussion or direct you to the online resources.

Also, please visit grad-orientation.mit.edu for updated information!
# Orientation Week(s)

## 2019 Graduate Orientation TENTATIVE Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day/Date</th>
<th>Event Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon. Aug 19</td>
<td>Pub Social</td>
<td>Campus Pubs</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>10:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun. Aug. 25</td>
<td>Grad Welcome Picnic</td>
<td>Johnson Rink</td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue. Aug. 27</td>
<td>English Evaluation Test</td>
<td>10-250</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue. Aug. 27 -</td>
<td>Campus-Wide Scavenger Hunt</td>
<td>Meet Bldg 50</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[https://grad-orientation.mit.edu/home](https://grad-orientation.mit.edu/home)
New Initiatives

- **Multi-Dorm** Campus-wide Orientation Event

- Campus-wide **Scavenger Hunt**

- **Accessible** Outing – Beach or Blue Hills

- **Resources 101** Series – 6 events
Resources 101

- **Event 1** - Entrepreneurship/ Innovation Initiative
- **Event 2** - Culture and Community
- **Event 3** - Research and Academic Resources
- **Event 4** - Professional Development
- **Event 5** - Advising and Personal Support
- **Event 6** - Wellness
Help Requested
Help Requested

- Graduate Community Fellow (paid position)
- T-Shirt Design, anybody?
- Orientation Events - **Volunteers**
And we’d love to hear from you!

gsc-oc@mit.edu
OFFICER UPDATES
Welcome DEI!

• The Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is official as of 2 days ago!
OPT Complications & Push for CPT

• Many grad students this summer were affected by delays in processing of Optional Practical Training (OPT) that affected internships

• Vice Chancellor and Office of Graduate Education has supported all affected students

• Adding more impetus to get Curricular Practical Training (CPT) options in all departments
Apply for Your Council Rep Funding!

- Available to all Council members except those who are members by virtue of their GSC position
  - i.e., department rep, dorm rep, etc.

- $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
Council Rep Funding: Conditions

• Applicant must be current representative in good standing (discretion of VP)

• Events must be accessible to entire constituency

• Apply BEFORE having an event
  • Allow time for processing (at least one week)
  • Follow publicity guidelines

• Funding may NOT be used for:
  • Alcohol
  • Gifts or prizes
  • Sales tax

• All funding must be used in compliance with Institute policies

• Program info: http://gsc.mit.edu/funding/departmental-funding
Council Rep Funding

USE IT OR LOSE IT!
Up to $250\(^{(1)}\) could be yours\(^{(2)}\)!!

Apply now to take advantage of this unique offer\(^{(3)}\)!!
https://gsc.mit.edu/funding/departmental-funding

Questions? Email gsc-vp@mit.edu

1. $150/rep/term or $250/rep/term with GSC or Institute committee involvement
2. Money to be used in Events must be accessible to entire constituency
3. Terms and conditions apply, see http://gsc.mit.edu/funding/departmental-funding
COMMITTEE UPDATES
ACADEMICS, RESEARCH, AND CAREERS

Sylvai Dai & Meicen Sun
Co-Chairs
gsc-arc@mit.edu
Advisor-Advisee Relationship Initiative

- Sylvia, Alex, and Noam met with GradSAGE
  - Learned about previous efforts in College of Engineering
  - Discussed collaborations

- Advising Subcommittee has formed!
  - Has ~ 10 members
  - Still seeking members from economics and architecture

- GSC + GradSAGE chairs meeting with admins on July 17th

- First committee meeting: this Friday, July 5th @ 9:30 AM
Upcoming Events

• Thesis Lounge (formerly Destressing Your Dissertation): Week of August 5th

• Academics Job Search Panel: Mid-Late August
AC in Review

Arts Gallery Tour (6/13)

Society of Arts and Crafts

Institute for Contemporary Art
Upcoming Events

Whale Watching Trip (7/20)

• SOLD OUT!
• Waitlist will be advertised next Anno.
• Email: gsc-ac@mit.edu if you would like to help.
Upcoming Events

Six Flags Trip (8/10)
• $38 per ticket: includes transportation and full day pass.
• Tickets will go on sale on 7/22
Upcoming Events

MIT and Harvard Joint Spoken Word Event

• Planned for mid-October (at Harvard) and mid-November (at MIT)

• Applications for auditions will open soon. Audition will occur by mid-September.

• More information in two weeks.
Join AC

Next meeting: Monday 7/8 at 5:30 PM in 50-220
- Free food
- Learn about upcoming events and suggest your own
- Free tickets to events for helping out
- Free food
ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Becca Black
ASA President
gsc-asa@mit.edu
ASA Updates

- Re-recognition completed, getting final approval for fines
  - 42 groups did not complete process
  - 64 completed late

- Summer LEF/ARCADE allocations
  - $23K allocated to 17 events

- Up next: bylaws/operating guidelines changes
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Bianca Lepe
Chair

gsc-diversity@mit.edu
DEI Updates

• Welcome Becca Carlson as DEI Treasurer!
• Still looking for a new Secretary

• Lots of planning for this upcoming first year as a committee!

• Please join us!
• Next meeting: Tuesday, July 16\textsuperscript{th} @ 5 PM
• Agenda: Approving new committee bylaws; Creating guidelines for DEI Conference travel
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Jack Reid
Chair
gsc-eab@mit.edu
External Affairs Board Update

• Next Board Meeting
  • Monday, July 15th, 5:00pm-6:30pm, 50-220
• NAGPS Northeast Regional Conference is happening at MIT in Spring 2020
  • First planning session is July 15th, 10:30am-11:30am, 50-220
• Meeting next week with a Cambridge City Councilor
  • Grocery stores, non-citizen voting, all-gendered bathrooms, climate change
• Taking applications for:
  • SHINE: Student Hometown Interviews in Newspapers
  • SHIP: Student Hometown In situ Presentations
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Mohammad Islam
Chair
gsc-hca@mit.edu
Our next meeting

• Date: July 10th (next Wednesday)
• Time: 6 – 7:30 PM
• Place: GSC Office (50-220)
• Topics:
  • Establish wellness subcommittee (looking for members!)
  • Financial Distress/Stipend Recommendations
  • Family subcommittee recruitment
The Muddy Wants You!

See what the Muddy is all about!

Come to our next Board meeting (7/29)!
(7pm, GSC Office, 2nd Floor Walker Memorial)
OPEN FLOOR