

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

OCTOBER 2, 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



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New Faces

- Welcome to General Council!

Quorum check



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Approve September Minutes

- Found on GSC website and GCM announcement email

VRAJESH MODI: INTRO TO THE MIT CORPORATION



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MIT & EPSTEIN



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Email if you want to submit comments!

- student-forum-record@mit.edu



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INITIATIVE APPLICATION



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COMMENCEMENT



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Likely Scenario(s)

- Favored by Senior Admins and School Deans:
 - PhD Hooding + Degree Conferral in Killian on Thursday
 - OneMIT Speeches Ceremony in Killian on Friday morning
 - Undergrad Degree Conferral in Killian on Friday afternoon
 - **Masters Degree Conferral by school in various venues on Friday afternoon**
- Favored by GSC Officers:
 - PhD Hooding + Degree Conferral in Killian on Thursday
 - OneMIT speeches ceremony in Killian on Friday morning
 - Undergrad + **Masters** Degree Conferral in Killian on Friday afternoon

Benefits of Each Scenario

Masters by school

- Significantly shorter degree conferral for Masters & UGs
- School personalized/tailored ceremonies for Masters

Masters with UGs

- Masters also get degree conferral in Killian, like everyone else



Looking Ahead to Next Year

- Can move Masters to Thursday to open up more options
- Currently preferred option:
 - Masters Degree Conferral in Killian on Thursday
 - PhD Hooding + Degree Conferral in Killian on Thursday
 - OneMIT Speeches Ceremony in Killian on Friday
 - Undergrad Degree Conferral in Killian on Friday



OFFICER UPDATES



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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
 - Capital purchases
 - Gifts or prizes
 - Sales tax
- All funding must be used in compliance with Institute policies
- Program info: <http://gsc.mit.edu/funding/departmental-funding>

Examples of Successful Utilization

- End of semester coffee hour (Mathe, 2 reps): **500 USD**
- MEGA Muddy Monday (AeroAstro & MechE): **300 USD**
- Summer Garden Party (70 Amherst): **250 USD**
- Quals practice sessions (HST): **200 USD**
- And many more ...
- Total of allocated Council Rep Fund: **6,340 USD**

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>



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COMMITTEE UPDATES



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ACADEMICS, RESEARCH, AND CAREERS

Sylvai Dai & Meicen Sun
Co-Chairs
gsc-arc@mit.edu



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Academics, Research, & Careers Committee (ARC)

- **VISTA-Orientation Committee: Cultural Night**
Lobdell (W20-208); Friday September 13 6pm

- **September ARC meeting**
GSC Room (50-220); Thursday September 19 6-7pm

Academics, Research, & Careers Committee (ARC)

- **GSC Networking with Employers**
Lobdell (W20-208); Friday September 20 6:45pm

Capital One

Shell

Sony

Merck

Sandia National Lab

Mackenzie Investments

MBTA

DNAnexus

Health at Scale

BlinkAI Technologies, Inc.

Cisco

Blue River Technology



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Academics, Research, & Careers Committee (ARC)

- **Acing Academia: Surviving and Succeeding in the Academic Job Hunt**

Wong Auditorium (E51-115); Tuesday September 24 5:30-7pm

Cullen Buie (Mech E)

Amala Mahadevan (WHOI-MIT)

Jeffrey Grossman (MSE)

Warren Seering (Mech E)

Anne White (NSE)

- **Alum-on-Tap: Joshua Shifrinson (Boston University)**

Muddy Charles Pub (sign-up required); Tuesday September 24 5-6:30pm

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Henry Tran & Ruoxuan Yang

Co-Chairs

gsc-ac@mit.edu



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Past Events



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Taste of Bangladesh 09/17/2019

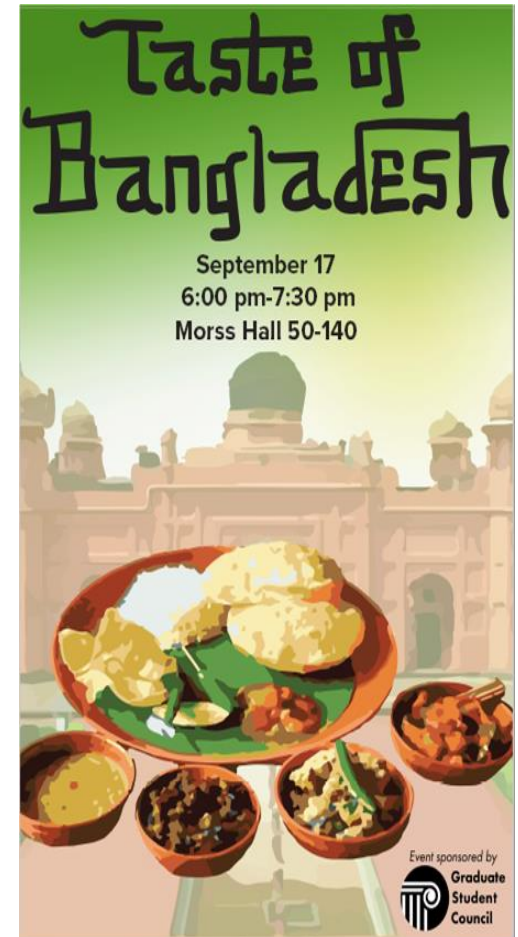
Success!

Enough volunteers.

Music was great.

Food was awesome.

GradRat Sold some rings!



September Meeting 09/23/2019

We found a new coffee hour organizer!

We found two Apple picking volunteers!



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Upcoming



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Apple picking 10/05/2019

Where: Honey Pot Hill Orchard, MA

Price: \$17.5/person

94 attendees, set up 90 tickets.

Tickets were sold out in 2 days!



Coffee Hour 10/07/2019

When: 6-7pm

Where: Forbes Family Cafe in Stata



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1st Paint night 10/16/2019

When: Wed 10/16, 7pm

Where: Morse Hall, Walker Memorial

A professional instructor will guide us!

Theme: hot air balloon in lavender field

Food will be provided

Sponsored by Atlas Center

Ticket sales will be online soon at: tickets.mit.edu



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Taste of Brazil 10/21/2019

Brazilian food from Muqueca (probably)
Brazilian music

Jan 13: open



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AC October Meeting

Very likely to be Either 10/23 or 10/25, will appear on the coming Anno

Send us suggestions for events!



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ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Becca Black
ASA President
gsc-asa@mit.edu



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ASA Updates

- Halfway through group applications
 - New groups include LGSA & other cultural groups, gaming clubs, women's urban dance team
- Fall LEF/ARCADE posted
- Official meeting time Wednesdays 12-1 in GSC Office
- General Body Meeting October 23rd 5-7 PM

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Bianca Lepe
Chair

gsc-diversity@mit.edu

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee

- **Department & Classroom Inclusion (DCI) Subcommittee**
 - Had a successful fall Conduit Assembly yesterday
 - established 3 working groups: 1) graduate application policies, 2) implementing graduate application assistance programs, 3) departmental DEI/Title IX trainings
 - Will be meeting with the Office of General Council to have them approve Application Assistance Program Best Practices
- **Student Life (SL) Subcommittee**
 - New members!
 - Vice-chair: Joey Velez-Ginorio
 - First-Generation C-Rep: Tugba Bozcaga
 - Looking for *religious-life* and *international* representatives
 - This term, formulating the structure and scope of this subcommittee



Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee

Upcoming Events:

- **Mondays, 4:15-5:15 pm:** *DCI Subcommittee Coordinator Meetings @ the Broad*

Next Committee Meeting:

Thurs. Oct. 17th at 5:00 pm @ GSC Office (50-220)

Contact: gsc-diversity@mit.edu

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Jack Reid
Chair

gsc-eab@mit.edu



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External Affairs Board

- **Next Meeting: October 16th, 5pm, 50-220**
- Recent Activities
 - DC Advocacy Trip
 - State & Local Affairs 101
- Upcoming Activity
 - Cambridge City Council Candidate Panel / Meet & Greet: October 15th, 7pm, 32-144



HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Mohammad Islam
Chair
gsc-hca@mit.edu



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Housing Updates - Eastgate Transition

- MIT Graduate Tower/Site 4 is set to come online next year (replacing the current Eastgate)
- Adds 250 beds to graduate student housing stock
- A transition team has been formed to explore a number of factors relevant to Site 4 (physical movement, costs, culture)



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Feedback on Changes in Grad Housing

- The Graduate Housing Implementation Team will attend our next HCA meeting (next Wed October 9th at 6 PM)
- Hope to collect feedback on the many changes to the housing allocation process (e.g. applying with roommates, couples housing, 2 year renewable contracts, self-selection with waitlist)
- Attend the meeting and share your thoughts!
- Especially important for dorms to attend (give feedback)!!

Graduate Life Series

- Starting a new event series as a followup to the 101 series
- Overall theme is related to wellness
- Our goal is to organize 1 event in each dorm (with respective mental health liaison) and at least 1 outside of dorms
- Promote graduate student wellness and collaboration between dorms (2 HCA priorities!)
- Meeting tomorrow at 8am in Maseeh!



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Updating Bylaws/Improve accountability

- HCA bylaws are very loose
- No information about committee structure, voting membership, expectations
- Add expectations to document (expect 1 rep from dorms, etc.). Hold dorm reps accountable for attending meetings
- HCA is the only forum for grad students to discuss housing! (UG have DormCon which meets very regularly)

Upcoming Meetings!

- Next HCA meeting:
 - Wednesday October 9th (6 PM – 7:30 PM) in 50-220
 - Dinner is provided!
 - Discussions with Housing Implementation Team to provide feedback on housing allocation process
- Graduate Life Series Discussion
 - Tomorrow (Thursday) at 8am in the Maseeh dining hall
 - Discuss topics, logistics with Naomi Carton (Associate Dean for Grad Life)

MUDDY CHARLES PUB

Richard Park

Chair

gsc-muddy@mit.edu



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Muddy Charles Pub

1. OGE Proposal (\$1500) received for Walker Exhibit Series
 - 3 events planned for the semester/IAP
2. Talks of a VISTA-Muddy joint Talent Show underway
 - Aimed at late November earliest.
3. Fundraising ideas being discussed with Alum. Assoc.
 - Pi day, online crowdfunding, etc.

ORIENTATION COMMITTEE

Somesh Mohapatra
Chair
gsc-oc@mit.edu



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OPEN FLOOR



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COME TO THE POST-GCM
SOCIAL @ THE MUDDY!



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