A Resolution
To Issue a Statement to the Executive Committee of the MIT Corporation
Urging Public Release of the Results of the MIT-Epstein Investigation

Authors: GSC Executive Committee

Whereas, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Graduate Student Council (GSC) represents all graduate and professional students at MIT; and

Whereas, the MIT GSC feels that graduate students should be involved in major MIT decisions that impact them; and

Whereas, transparency enables said students to effectively participate in such decisions; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the MIT GSC hereby ratifies the following statement addressed to the Executive Committee of the MIT Corporation urging the public release of the results of the ongoing investigation of Jeffrey Epstein’s connections to MIT.

Resolved, that the GSC Officers are hereby instructed to send the statement to the Executive Committee of the MIT Corporation and MIT President Rafael Reif as soon as possible in the manner most appropriate.
Dear members of the Executive Committee of the MIT Corporation,

The MIT Graduate Student Council exists to enhance the overall graduate experience at MIT by promoting graduate student welfare and communicating with the MIT Administration and Faculty. It is in this latter capacity that we address you today.

We were disheartened to learn of the nature and extent of Jeffrey Epstein’s connections with the Institute, due both to the pall that it casts over MIT’s moral standing and to the direct, negative impact that Epstein’s presence and institutional involvement had on graduate students.

We appreciate the quick steps taken by President Reif and other members of the MIT Corporation to investigate and respond to these revelations. We also look forward to working alongside the administration and faculty to take decisive action to improve our funding processes and to ensure that MIT can become an exemplar of good governance.

The strong working relationship between MIT and its graduate population is predicated upon transparency and trust. For this reason, we urge you to commit to making the resultant report of the Goodwin Procter investigation openly available (with any necessary redactions for legal purposes) to the students of MIT promptly upon receipt. Such a significant act of transparency would be a powerful way to begin to heal the fraying trust between students, faculty, and administration.

We understand that this prospect may be intimidating. MIT has already received significant negative press as a result of the Epstein affair, partly due to our relatively high degree of transparency about the situation compared to many other institutions. With this high profile also comes an opportunity, however. This is MIT’s chance to demonstrate to the world that we are not only capable of reform but have the will to address power imbalances and to promote inclusivity. This is our chance to innovate and provide a world-class education while strengthening our ethical principles. With these thoughts in mind, we ask you to release the report promptly upon receipt.

Passed by the MIT Graduate Student Council. October 2019