

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 5, 2020

Peter Su, GSC President

Alex Joerger, GSC Vice President

Naveen Arunachalam, GSC Secretary

Robin Lindemann, GSC Treasurer



Graduate Student Council
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New Faces

- Welcome to General Council!

Quorum check



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Approve December Minutes

- Found on GSC website and GCM announcement email

CAREER EXPLORATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Dave Darmofal, Chair – Career Exploration Committee



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66.GSC.5 – BUDGET RESCOPE



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GSC EXTERNAL MEDIATION



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Progress Update

- Quick form created:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSci8HAnu6m0nblgK4yR0keoEf0kMcTwOWEdi0AnpyyMaCO_oA/viewform
- Talked with Ombuds
 - No formal arrangement (they didn't want to become "part of" the GSC)
 - However, they are more than willing to help mediate if requested
- Waiting to hear more from iREFS



OFFICER UPDATES



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Potential Bylaws Update

- How would council feel about a bylaws update that would allow ExComm to make quick fixes for typos and grammatical errors?



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GSC Leadership Next Year

- Looking to put together the best team
- If you're even a tiny bit interested, please contact the Officers:
gsc-officers@mit.edu
- Want to make sure you have the resources to make the best decision for yourself



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GSC Leadership Open House

- Saturday, March 14th @ 5-7 PM at the Muddy
- Chat with current and future GSC leaders over food and drink
- Chance to solidify your decision about any potential GSC Leadership roles you are interested in



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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



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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/departamental-funding>



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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**



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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 and Careers (ARC)

- Co-Chairs: Sylvia Dai & Meicen Sun
- Subcommittees:
 - Alumni Relations (Chair: Richard Zhang)
 - Advising Initiative (Chair: Noam Buckman)
 - Visiting Students Associations (VISTA) (Co-Chairs: Simone Bruno & Michael Uggowitzer)
 - Travel Grant (Chair: Ang Cui)
- Recent events:
 - Postdoc Panel, Dec. 9th 6:00pm in 32-141
 - Thesis Lounge, Jan. 6-10th, Dewey Library
 - Patent Law Workshop, Jan. 10-11th, 56-154

Academics, Research and Careers

- Alumni Relation Subcommittee
 - 1/16: Alumni Fireside Chat w/ Kevin Simon, Watts Water Engineering, PhD Computational Engineering.
 - 1/28: Alumni Fireside Chat w/ Vasudha Shivamoggi, Senior Data Scientist at Rapid7 , PhD physics.



Academics, Research and Careers

- VISTA Subcommittee
 - 12/14: Talent Show at Muddy
 - 1/19: Ice Skating Day
 - 2/1: International Potluck



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Upcoming events

- **ARC February meeting:**
6-7:30pm Thursday February 20, GSC Room (50-220)
- Monthly meeting of the GSC Academics, Research and Careers (ARC) committee Explore career, research and professional development resources and opportunities at MIT (and beyond)!
- Learn more about our subcommittees incl. Advising Initiative, Alumni Relations and others!
- Find out how YOU can be part of this awesome team going forward! **This meeting is especially encouraged if you are interested in joining ARC in the upcoming year.**
- Dinner will be provided to attendees; open to the entire MIT graduate community



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Upcoming events

- **Roads to Academia: Professor Matthew Shoulders (Department of Chemistry)**
5-6:30pm Monday March 9, 32-144
- Roads to Academia is ARC's speaker series featuring **60-90 min workshops** aiming at providing a platform for professors to share their journey through graduate life and into the academia.
- Refreshments will be provided.
- Look out for an announcement with RSVP in the Anno or shoot us an email at gsc-arc@mit.edu if you're interested!



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Institute Awards nominations open February 7 – March 20

Nominations will be open for the following four Institute Awards!
(More here: <https://gsc.mit.edu/committees/arc/institute-awards/#gta>)

1. Graduate Teaching Awards (one per School): Faculty member or a teaching assistant for excellence in graduate teaching
2. Frank E. Perkins Award for Excellence in Graduate Advising (one per School): Faculty member with unbound compassion and dedication to students
3. Edward L. Horton Fellowship Award: Student(s) or student group that fosters fellowship within the graduate student community
4. Irwin Sizer Award: Member or group in the Institute community to honor most significant innovations and improvements to MIT education

Submit your nominations between 12am Friday February 7 and 5pm Friday March 20!



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ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Henry Tran & Ruoxuan Yang

Co-Chairs

gsc-ac@mit.edu



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Past Events



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Harpoon Brewery dinner 01/10/2020

Only 1 unsold ticket. Shouldn't close the ticket sale that early, coz 6 people contacted me and paid me cash.

People were happy. First social event for students who start their program in January. Should keep it.

Harpoon is too pricey. Will do it in another place with proper dinner next year (although their pretzels are great).

Forgot to take pictures.



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Taste of Louisiana 01/13/2020

Only me, Naveen and Xueying.

Not a lot of people, but food was not easy to scoop, so line moved slowly.

We let them serve themselves, so not a lot of food for late people.

Food itself was great. Better not have gumbo coz we have to keep the pot for a few days and wait for them to pick it up. And not easy to serve liquid.

Forgot to take photos.



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GradRat Ring Delivery 02/02/2020

Where: Lobdell W20-208

When: 7-8pm

Good free food and free drinks.



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Upcoming



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GSC Taste of China 03/03/2020

Where: Morss Hall, Walker Memorial

When: 6-8pm

Co-organized with Chinese Student and Scholar Association
(CSSA)

**Postponed due to travel restrictions and
cases of self-isolation.**



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AC meeting 02/20/2020

When: Thur Feb 20, 5-6pm

Where: 50-220

Dinner from Bertucci's will be served.

Contact gsc-ac@mit.edu if you want to join.



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GSC Bruins Game Night 02/25/2020

Where: TD Garden

When: 7-10pm

What: Boston Bruins vs Calgary Flames

Tickets sold out in 2 weeks. A bunch of people ask for tickets.

Event is family friendly. Will see how many kids we have.

Should do it next year.



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Battle of Bands Submission

When: Friday March 6, 5-8/9pm

Where: Morss Hall, Walker Memorial

Free pizza and drinks. Bands receive prizes.

Submission open until Feb 29

URL: <https://forms.gle/aKw3fFzn8zdWHiLs8>

At least one member is MIT affiliated.

All genres are welcome. Don't have to be a band. Solos are welcome, too!



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Grad Art Showcase Submission

When: Sun March 15 5-7pm

Where: 6F Media Lab

Free appetizers and drinks. Please bring your 21+ ID.

Submit your art <https://forms.gle/pRA5GRPGJ98mGWXH9>

Exhibiting graduate artwork.

Contact: xueying@mit.edu or shanrose@mit.edu



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GSC Grad Gala 04/04/2020

Where: Westin Copley Place

When: 8-11:59pm

3 course dinner: spring mix salad, fish/tofu entree, flourless chocolate cake. Amazing food.

Take dietary restrictions. Pre set salad on table.

One free drink per person.

DJ, dance, photo booth, bamboo fans and photo frames as giveaways.

Ticket: \$50. Sale is happening!



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No Art event organizer so far

Can't find Mukund's successor. May ask Xueying to do one more Paint Night.

I can fill in and run the Grad Art Showcase this semester.

If we don't find anyone by the time we make next year's budget, we will delete this line item. (Will save some budget for art events just in case we find someone later.)



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ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Becca Black

ASA President

gsc-asa@mit.edu



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ASA Updates

- Operating guidelines changes **IN EFFECT**
(uploaded to ASA website)
- New group applications are open, to be reviewed starting next week
- LEF/ARCADE Winter allocations distributed, spring application opens soon
- EHS walkthroughs of student group office spaces Feb. 4th/6th



ASA Goals for Spring 2020

- New groups/new group officer guide
- Space use agreement



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ASA Goals for Spring 2020

- New groups/new group officer guide
- Space use agreement
- Recruitment!!!!
 - Are *you* interested?
 - Meetings Wednesday 12-1 in 50-220 (GSC Office)
 - Free pizza!!!!
 - Email asa-exec@mit.edu 😊



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DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Bianca Lepe
Chair

gsc-diversity@mit.edu



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Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee

- **GSC-DEI Fellows Program**
 - We are soliciting applications for the GSC-DEI Fellows program!
 - Learn how to engage in conversations about race, racism, and social justice
 - Training to be done by the [Interaction Institute for Social Change!](#)
 - Encourage department colleagues to apply (by February 7)
 - <https://forms.gle/EwwzhEkGuRsfVjZA>
- **Department & Classroom Inclusion (DCI) Subcommittee**
 - Goal for the upcoming semester - hold DCI sponsored meet and greets with department and affinity student groups
 - Next conduit assembly on February 20th



Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee

Graduate Enrolled Student **Survey Data Request Form:**

- To request data, please fill out: <https://forms.gle/tuyufcV2TJW66hT77>

Upcoming Events:

- **Thursday, Feb. 20th** at **5:30 pm:** *DCI Conduit Assembly @ 32-124*

Next Committee Meeting:

TBD @ GSC Office (50-220)

Contact: [**gsc-diversity@mit.edu**](mailto:gsc-diversity@mit.edu)



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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Jack Reid

Chair

gsc-eab@mit.edu



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External Affairs Board

- **Next Meeting: Feb 12th, 4pm-5:30pm, 50-220**
- Upcoming Activity
 - Spring DC Trips (Three of them!)
 - A Congressional Caucus on graduate students
 - NAGPS Northeast Regional - April 4th here at MIT
 - Cambridge Science Festival - April 18th
- Other Recent Things
 - Met with City Councillor Sobrinho-Wheeler
 - Submitted comment on NLRB proposed rule change



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HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Mohammad Islam
Chair
gsc-hca@mit.edu



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Stipend Recommendation Committee

- Had two meetings so far
- Continue brainstorming possible proposals for stipend recommendation
 - CoL increase
 - Increase to allow everyone to maintain standard of living despite where they live
 - Peer competitiveness
- Email gsc-hca@mit.edu if you'd like to join the list



On-campus Housing Rates (2020-2021)

- Are live!
- Check 'em out here (1.5-5.5% increase, 3.7% weighted increase): <https://studentlife.mit.edu/housing/graduate-family-housing/graduate-residences>

- Site 4 Rates finalized:
 - Efficiencies – \$2274
 - 1-bedroom – \$2662
 - 2-bedroom - \$3410



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New 550 Bed Grad Dorm

- New graduate dorm (singles + families) site determined (between Simmons and police station on west campus)
- Contracted to third party group which has expertise in creating student residences
- Complete by 2023?...



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February HCA Meeting

- The deetz:
 - Who: You! (can be there)
 - What: Presentation by Committee on Campus Planning (CCP)
 - When: **February 19, 2019 at 6 PM**
 - Where: **The GSC Office (50-220)**
 - Why: (1) Learn more about the campus planning process and the discussions behind it, (2) Get to know the HCA Committee, (3) Dinner is provided

MUDDY CHARLES PUB

Richard Park

Chair

gsc-muddy@mit.edu



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ORIENTATION COMMITTEE

Somesh Mohapatra

Chair

gsc-oc@mit.edu



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OPEN FLOOR



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COMETO THE POST-GCM
SOCIAL @THE MUDDY!



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