General Council Meeting Agenda
March 4, 5:30 PM in 6-120

1. Introduction, Dinner, New Faces (5:30 – 5:40 PM)
   a. Quorum Check
      i. 41 people
   b. Motion to approve February GCM minutes; seconded and approved.

2. Institute Discrimination and Harassment Response (IDHR) – Bianca Kaushal and Jamie Sinetar (5:40 – 6:00 PM)
   a. Bianca is education specialist in IDHR
   b. This is the same as Title IX and Bias Response
      i. Trajectory of office is a revamp every 2 years: Title IX office in 2015; at first only focused on cases involving students. But there was demand for action re. issues involving other aspects of identity.
      ii. TIXBR then focused on broader issues
      iii. What about issues involving faculty and staff?
      iv. Decided to push for centralization of all that work in one office
   c. Goal of IDHR: be a single source for resources
      i. Needed to restructure to help people know why they would come to us vs. HR.
      ii. What kinds of incidents of bias, harassment or discrimination are covered? (slide)
      iii. IDHR does intake & initial assessment, informal resolutions, formal investigations, education and training, and data collection.
         1. HR is more oriented towards inappropriate conduct against faculty or staff; handle intake of complaint, informal resolutions, and formal investigations.
   d. Data collection
      i. You might be aware of TIXBR Annual report each year
      ii. We don’t have that data for staff/faculty cases – now we want people to report all that information in one place.
      iii. Question: how did genetic data get in there?
         1. Bianca: I can get back to you on that
   e. What can we do?
      i. Only 10% of incidents are about formal investigation
ii. Rest of visits are informal or asking about resources
iii. We also do prevention education
   1. The PI is part of those conversations, to get the message across despite the power imbalance
iv. Information & Referrals: tracking/data purposes; just want information
v. Informal Remedies: housing transfer, academic support, educational intervention, no-contact orders
vi. Formal investigations: would like an official finding on a policy violation
f. How to report?
   i. File an incident on our form http://idhr.mit.edu
   ii. Anonymous whistleblower hotline: http://hotline.mit.edu
   iii. Via a “Responsible Employee”
g. Please pass on to constituents and their peers! Contact Bkaushal@mit.edu
h. Questions?
   i. Do incidents involving people from other schools require you to find contact points at the different schools?
      1. No, IDHR will work with the other schools to figure out who to involve
   ii. How much do you rely on departmental HR resources?
      1. We have some students that are housed in another department, but their department doesn’t consider them as part of their Title-IX-based efforts
3. 66.gsc.5 – Budget Rescope (6:00 – 6:20 PM)
   a. Presented last month; not too many changes
   b. Most changes are just moving money within a sheet
   c. ExComm
      i. It’s hard to hit $10/person for 4 people; average each week was $52; we took the remaining meetings, and assumed $13/person.
         This is adding an extra $500-ish to make that up.
      ii. Increasing $ for holiday reception
      iii. Taking all the extra $ out of the officer discretionary
   d. Nominations board – same
   e. Funding board
      i. Orientation dorm event fund was underspent a little bit.
f. P&P not changing
g. ASA not changing
h. AC moving $ from coffee hour into outdoor activities line.
i. ARC is not making any changes
j. HCA monthly meetings are very well attended – adding more $ to that
   i. Wellness subcommittee hasn’t done much, so they’re taking $ from there
k. Orientation is done – we put in the *actual* budgets for orientation. The only really weird thing was that one of these lines has $ from last year’s orientation in there that fall into this year’s orientation.
l. Muddy is $0 as usual
m. EAB
   i. Actuals for NAGPS and Ivy+ being moved to public outreach and northeast regional conference which is happening in a few weeks
n. DEI
   i. Relatively new committee; lots of changes. Really big change is the DEI Fellows program, which they’ll give updates on.
   ii. They’re taking the $ for that from conference travel
   iii. Diversity training going up a little bit.
   iv. New item: grad students will be trained to hold conversations about race and social justice – happening this weekend.
o. Vote
   i. 41 Yes, 2 No, 2 Abstain – the change passes

4. 66.gsc.6 – Bylaws Update for Quick Typo Fixes (6:20 – 6:35 PM)
a. Formal language being introduced right now.
b. To modify the bylaws, you have to introduce a resolution, and pass it with a 2/3 vote.
c. We noticed there are minor grammatical issues
d. This resolution will allow the Executive Committee to make minor changes by a vote within itself, and then council can vote to veto
e. Questions
   i. Comment (Alex): This will only go into effect after council has had a chance to veto.
   ii. Motion to accelerate and seconded.
   iii. Any discussion on that motion?
f. Vote with placard:
5. 66.gsc.7 – Funding Travel Grant Recipients Affected by COVID-19 (6:35 – 6:50 PM)
   a. Lots of conferences are being cancelled
   b. We will recover non-refunded $. Any $ left over can be used to fund travel to another conference of their choice within the next fiscal year.
   c. Next fiscal year is May/June
   d. Question from audience: Does MIT travel insurance cover cancellation?
      i. Travel grants are reimbursements – it’s harder to control whether people use it or not
      ii. This is basically a workaround so that before the end of the fiscal year, that’s when all the totals are counted. This resolution would take any leftover $ into reserves
   e. Comment from audience: We don’t know about what will happen next year
   f. Comment from audience: include a separate application to apply $ to a new conference
      i. Alex: I’m not sure whether travel is done through MIT or not (re. insurance)
   g. Funding board goes through appeals process – the reassessment could be through the Travel Grant committee or a similar group.
   h. Are there any safeguards against people saying they didn’t get a refund?
      i. People have to show that they tried and failed to get a refund
   i. Comment: there might be a wording issue re. “any expenses associated” – maybe just reimbursing the cancellation fee could help prevent people from being lazy and just getting the $ from GSC.
   j. Amendments were introduced to add Travel Grant chair approval for new conference / expenses
   k. Motion to approve amendment seconded; no comments.
   l. If we amend/vote on this this month, we need to accelerate.
      i. Motion to accelerate unanimous yes via placards
   m. Motion to amend
      i. Seconded
      ii. Discussion
I. Robin – “That’s legit”

iii. Vote: 43 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain – motion passes

n. Any other things?
   i. Institute is very strict about proof for refunds
   ii. Any other comments on amended resolution? (None)

o. Vote on resolution
   i. 42 yes, 0 no, 2 abstain – motion passes

6. GSC External Mediation Update (6:50 – 6:55 PM)
   a. Why we keep bringing this up – we want your feedback
   b. iREFS got back to us and are interested in being another avenue for feedback – they don’t want to be an advocate for either side, and would prefer to aggregate things and give weekly or bimonthly feedback to preserve anonymity.
   c. Next thing: need to make sure wording on Google Form is approved by both iREFS and ombuds.

7. Explainer on GSC Impeachment Protocol (6:55 – 7:05 PM)
   a. Location: Article IV Section E
   b. Starts with a vote of no confidence petition presented + signed by 3+ council members; ExComm counts too
   c. Council votes (majority vote) on a neutral presiding officer during the proceedings; they can’t be anyone on the petition and can’t be an officer
   d. Hearing should take place up to 6 weeks after. Cannot be on an MIT holiday
   e. Hearing is a case for the officers’ conduct, then a case against the officers’ conduct; requires a 2/3 vote to impeach
   f. About a 2 month process
   g. Any questions/comments/concerns?
      i. None

8. Housing Update (7:05 – 7:35 PM)
   a. Mostly around Site 4 and Eastgate
      i. Site 4 rates are much, much higher than the Eastgate rates (59%)
      ii. Eastgate transition subsidy was offered to Eastgate residents – 15% discount. Also offered an additional subsidy based on their financial situation. They were offered a subsidy on top of the
15% discount. The min subsidy was $0, and the max was 5.5% above Eastgate rates.

iii. How did subsidy go?
   1. Comment from audience: I got maximum subsidy.
   2. They were assessing based on current year income/expenses, not next year’s

b. What about other housing commitments?
   i. 550 new beds, affordable with a 3rd party developer; will likely be as cheap as possible

c. Is there any effort to see the effect of Site 4 on nearby property rates?
   i. Alex: I haven’t heard any specific plans for that. Interestingly, part of the Kendall Square idea was to help people connect with Cambridge

d. Current market for grad housing has very different segments

9. Officer Nominations are officially open (7:35 – 7:40 PM)
   a. We can start nominating people now, in theory
   b. We’ll send you a link to the elections page on the GSC website – it has a picture and you can put down a statement, and you need to put what position you’re running for. We also want to hold a “meet the candidates” coffee hour a week or so before the election.
   c. Also there’s a leadership open house if you want to talk with ExComm or future ExComm
   d. Nominations

   i. Madeleine Sutherland (msuther@mit.edu) nominated for president; seconded and accepted
   ii. Jerry Ng (jerryng@mit.edu) nominated for president; seconded and accepted
   iii. Bianca Lepe (blepe@mit.edu) nominated for president; seconded and accepted
   iv. Naveen Arunachalam (narunach@mit.edu) nominated for secretary; seconded and accepted
   v. Becca Black (rblack@mit.edu) nominated for treasurer; seconded (Becca was not at meeting)
   vi. Steven Burcat (sburcat@mit.edu) nominated for president (seconded and accepted)
   vii. Ifueko Igbinedion (ifueko@mit.edu) nominated for president by Bianca after meeting (Ifueko’s not here)
10. Officer Updates (7:40 – 7:50 PM)
   a. Leadership open house March 14th, 5-7pm
   b. Grad Gathering: grad-exclusive alumni at conference; 2-day event with keynotes, professional development, workshops, hackathon; meals all covered
      i. Please help us spread the word!
   c. Apply for council rep funding!
      i. You can use it for events – it’s a nice way to help your constituency have a nice event

11. Committee Updates (7:50 – 8:05 PM)
   a. ARC
      i. Alumni relations subcommittee had 2 fireside chats; VISTA had lots of social events
      ii. 3/9: Roads to Academia with Prof. Matthew Shoulders, 5-6:30 @ 32-144
      iii. 3/12: ARC Meeting (joint with VISTA), 6:30-7:30, GSC office (50-220)
      iv. 3/14: VISTA Hiking Day @ Blue Hills
      v. Institute awards nominations open till March 20th
   b. AC
      i. Bruins game happened
      ii. Taste of China got lot of help from CSSA
      iii. Battle of Bands on Friday, 5-9pm, will have 2 drink tix/person
      iv. Paint night 03/11 at 7pm
      v. Grad Arts Showcase 3/15 at 5-7pm; free apps and drinks.
      vi. Grad gala on 04/04/2020
      vii. Taste of India 3/17 6-8pm
      viii. Red Sox Game 06/16/2020
   c. ASA
      i. GBM will be April 6th @ 5pm
      ii. New group applications closed on Friday
      iii. LEF/ARCADE Spring application close tonight
      iv. CPW Midway 4/16 sign-ups will be sent out next week
      v. SOLE/ASA/Student Group relationship statement
      vi. NAD accessibility agreement: departmental groups might have to provide transcripts for things.
   d. DEI
i. GSC-DEI Fellows Program: ~30 fellows overall!
ii. DCI subcommittee

E.

e. EAB
i. Next meeting 2nd half of month
ii. Upcoming activities: Spring DC trips, NAGPS Northeast Regional, 3MT competition, statehouse visit, Cambridge science festival

f. HCA
i. Stipend rec on Friday 3/6 at 4:30pm in GSC office
ii. Draft presentation to faculty/staff members next week
iii. Final presentation of stipend recommendations to deans group: Tuesday March 17th, 11:11:30AM
iv. HCA meetings

M.

f. Muddy
i. VISTA-Muddy Talent show on Dec 14th
ii. Joint event with spinning arts club on Feb 18th
iii. Next meeting Mar 9th

h. OC
i. Looking for orientation chair

12. Open Floor (8:05 – 8:10 PM)
a. Motion to adjourn seconded and approved

13. Post-GCM Social @ the Muddy
## Upcoming GSC Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academics, Research, and Careers (ARC)</td>
<td>Monday, 3/16, 6:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visiting Students Association (VISTA)</td>
<td>Every Monday, 7:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activities Committee (AC)</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<td>External Affairs Board (EAB)</td>
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<td>Federal Affairs Subcommittee</td>
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<td>State and Local Affairs Subcommittee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Outreach Subcommittee</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development Subcommittee</td>
<td>Every Friday, 5:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing and Community Affairs (HCA)</td>
<td>Wednesday, 3/11, 6:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Off-campus Subcommittee</td>
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<td>Sustainability Subcommittee</td>
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<td>Transportation Subcommittee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wellness Subcommittee</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)</td>
<td>Wednesday, 3/17, 5:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muddy Charles Pub</td>
<td>Monday, 3/9, 7:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orientation Committee (OC)</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Committee (ExComm)</td>
<td>Wednesday, 3/25, 6:30 PM</td>
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*Unless otherwise indicated, all meetings are in the GSC Office (50-220)*

## Upcoming General Council Meetings (GCMs)

Note: Dinner starts at 5:00 PM and meetings start at 5:30 PM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April General Council Meeting</td>
<td>Wednesday, 4/1, in 4-163</td>
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<tr>
<td>May General Council Meeting</td>
<td>Wednesday, 5/6, in 32-141</td>
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