Framing the problem

Decision-makers:
  • President Reif and the MIT Senior Management Team

Our role:
  • **Rigorously evaluate a range of options and describe their advantages and disadvantages** relative to different scenarios for the future
Framing the problem

Research will ramp-up gradually over the summer

Graduate students will return

**Key questions:**
- How to operate our curriculum (for grads and undergrads)?
- How many undergraduates to invite back and when?
Range of options

• Fully-online fall
• Bring some undergrads back
• All undergrads back

This is where we need your help and input
Why is bringing some undergrads back hard?

Needs exceed capacity

• ~50% UGs can be housed in MIT and FSILG space at 1/room
• > 100 subjects rely on in-person campus presence and involve 3000 students
• Perhaps a quarter of students currently live in conditions that make learning challenging
• Campus instructional spaces can accommodate 4000 at a time (of 11,000 students)
• Etc.

Who to invite back and when?

• Those who most need the in-person presence for academic reasons?
• Those who most need the in-person presence for living/learning reasons?
• Etc.
Two broad options

Two-semester model
• Tried and true, lower implementation risk, well-understood
  • Many other advantages and disadvantages depending on how it is implemented

Three-semester model
• Distributes the teaching out over more time
• Can address more needs given limited capacities on campus and in residences
  • Many other advantages and disadvantages depending on how it is implemented
For the charrettes (May 26 and 27)

We DON’T need you to pick your favorite option

We would like you to:

• Work with others to create a “BEST” version of the two-semester model
• List advantages and disadvantages

• Work with others to create a “BEST” version of the three-semester model
• List advantages and disadvantages