



Graduate Student Council

of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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GSC Office

1. Introduction (5:30-5:40)
 - a. New faces
 - b. Quorum check*
 - i. To be done at 6pm ET
 - ii. Passes with 42 present
 - c. Approval of September minutes*
 - i. Passes with 36 yes's
2. The upcoming election (5:40-5:50)
 - a. How to register to vote/help your friends register to vote
 - i. Voter registration deadline is Oct 24!!
 - ii. Voting for Massachusetts residents:
 1. Check your voter registration [here](#)
 2. Also shows your ballot and polling location!
 3. Registration: start [here](#) by Oct 24
 4. [Circumstances under which you need ID with you](#)
 - iii. Other States:
 1. MITVote has state-by-state guides <http://mitvote.mit.edu/>
 2. Including Absentee Ballot process
 - iv. Be a **Voter Liaison** for your DLC/living group/org
 1. Disseminate voter information, answer questions
 2. Sign up [here](#)
 - v. **Impact of your vote** Panel October 24 @ 6:30
 1. Free, non-partisan academic panel discussing how your 2020 votes have an impact
 2. Register [here](#)
 - vi. Stay plugged in with MITVote
 1. [Facebook](#) , [Instagram](#)
 - vii. UA is bringing Yo Yo Ma to campus (Sunday, Oct 11 6pm) (<http://tinyurl.com/gotv-fest>)
 - b. NEW GCM TIME for November
 - i. The US federal election is Tuesday the 3rd
 - ii. GSC General Council Meeting will be moved so it's not right after the election



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3. Sharing suggestions for virtual events (a collaboration between AC, OC, and ASA) (5:50-6:00)
 - a. What type of virtual event?
 - i. Informational (mostly one-way communication)
 1. Zoom has two main call types:
 2. Webinar
 - a. Only host, co-hosts, and panelists are shown
 - b. Can interact with audience via polls
 - c. Audience can interact back via Q&A
 - d. Need to have special license to host a webinar!
 3. Meeting
 - a. Everyone on the call is shown
 - b. Great for smaller groups
 - c. Can have large group broken out into small groups via breakout rooms
 - d. Limitation in the amount of control the host has
 4. Avoiding Zoom fatigue
 - a. Have some audience interaction, especially with webinars
 - b. Interaction among the hosts/panelists to break up single speaker
 - c. Share duties!
 - d. If someone is presenting, another should be monitoring questions
 - e. Always assign co-hosts that can take over if the main host disconnects
 - ii. Social
 1. Host controlled?
 2. Everyone equally participates?
 3. Event should have a central focus
 - a. Game?
 - b. Social hour?
 4. Number of people at the event



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- a. If greater than 10, should think about splitting up into groups
 - b. Some moderator, volunteer, or organization member should lead in those groups
5. Platforms:
- a. Zoom
 - b. External websites, communication through Zoom
 - c. Gather.Town (free for up to 25 people)
 - d. There are many sleek tools that just don't work – sometimes they'll fail the day of the event. Make sure to read reviews carefully.
 - e. One important thing is to see how interactive the platform is.
4. Final call for Housing Working Group applications! (6:00-6:10)
- a. Officers/ExComm worked with Admin to re-charter the housing working group
 - b. Reconvened to oversee Site 4 transition + Vassar St design + response to COVID
 - c. High-impact: Reports used to justify major decisions
 - d. Apply [here](#) by tonight!
5. Officer updates (6:10-6:20)
- a. (Jerry) We're working on improving issues around the qualifying exam via department scorecards.
 - i. If anyone's here from Architecture, please respond ASAP
6. Committee updates (6:20-6:40)
- a. ARC
 - i. Talk series: "Innovation during the days of COVID19"
 1. Possible teams: COVIDSafePaths, ProjectManus PPE, E-Vent etc.
 2. When: 8th (tomorrow)- [5th of October]
 3. Speakers: Freddy Nguyen (M/Tcovid19challenge), Ramesh Raskar (Safe Paths: A privacy-first approach to contact tracing)
 4. Location: Zoom
<https://mit.zoom.us/j/96984363483>



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5. RSVP Link: <https://forms.gle/LBspbzB5ELrahR2K9>

ii. Next events:

1. Co-Sponsorship of Patent Webinar Series @ MIT
2. "Academia vs Industry" event
3. When: November

iii. Improving Advisor-Advisee Relationship:

1. Noam Buckman & Emre Ergecen
2. Weekly meetings on Tuesdays at 6.30 pm
3. Advising Climate Survey ready.
4. Pruning - current survey is too long :)
5. Will solicit feedback from IR, REFS & you!

b. ASA

i. General Body Meeting will be October 29th 5-7 PM ET

1. Dorms, club sports, non-ASA department groups do NOT have to attend
2. Using ASA reserves plus unspent LEF and ARCADE to cover event costs

ii. Any group with an event that would normally be applicable to those grants should apply via the link on our website

1. <https://asa.mit.edu/group-resources/funding-large-events>

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v. Group apps closed last week, 24 applications

1. Starting to work through those this week,

vi. Can be up to 3 weeks until groups hear back depending on how much discussion is needed



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- vii. Student group survey to get info on what challenges are facing groups (no responses yet...)
- viii. Walker and Student Center offices have been left mostly untouched
 - 1. Food was left in office fridges... it ain't food anymore. #yikes
 - 2. CAC will do fridge & food cleanouts ASAP in the next couple weeks
 - 3. Risk of rats, cockroaches, etc.
 - 4. Coordinating with SOLE and CAC on deeper space cleaning
 - a. Give student groups adequate time to get in beforehand
- c. DEI
 - i. GSC DEI, BGSA, & G4HMIT RISE Demands
 - 1. Cambridge City Council passes unanimous support for RISE campaign
 - 2. Had town hall on Faculty Hiring & Grad Admissions on Sept. 30%
 - 3. Heard about student advocacy from Physics, ChemE, EAPS, EECS, & DUsP
 - 4. Creating a graduate admissions reform handbook — help us make it!
 - ii. Black Lives Matter Departmental Demands Scorecard
 - 1. Progress on departmental BLM demands through public scorecard to enforce accountability
 - a. Starting in Physics, BE, EAPS, & DMSE — will be on GSC website too!
 - iii. New GSC DEI Event Coordinator — Kebbie Ghaderi
 - iv. Looking to join GSC DEI?
 - 1. Open positions for c-reps: First Generation-Low Income, & Disabilities
 - 2. Become a general member!
 - v. Graduate Enrolled Student Survey Data Request Form:
 - 1. To request data, please fill out:
<https://forms.gle/tuyufcV2TjW66hT77>



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vi. Upcoming Events:

1. Fri., Oct. 9" at 2:00 pm: GSC DCI Organizer Meeting via Zoom

2. Next Committee Meeting:

a. Thurs., Oct. 22nd at 4:00 pm via Zoom

vii. Contact: gsc-diversity@mit.edu

d. EAB

i. Statements Passed

1. Supporting Early-Career Researchers Act

2. Bipartisan AI Resolution

ii. Currently Working On:

1. Welcoming new members! (gsc-eab@mit.edu)

2. Ivy+ Summit (gsc-eab-liaison@mit.edu)

3. DHS Proposed Rule Public Comment

4. Affordable Housing Overlay (PASSED!)

5. Defense Task Force Report (gsc-eab-fed@mit.edu)

6. Voter Guide for Ballot Questions

iii. The Impact of Your Vote (GSC + UA + MITvote)

1. October 14th @ 6:30pm

2. Register to attend (link also on the newsletter, see below):

3. [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-impact-of-your-vote-tickets- | 23946482265](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-impact-of-your-vote-tickets-|23946482265)

4. Panelists will be discussing how your vote counts in a multitude of 2020 elections, far beyond the presidency, and how these elections have a serious impact on the topics that matter to you, like climate change, racial justice, and other issues impacting young people.

iv. Graduate Advocacy Newsletter

1. A monthly newsletter to help students take action and advocate on issues important to our communities at the local, state, and federal levels.

2. Sign up or view past issues on the GSC website

e. HCA



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i. Graduate Housing Working Group

1. High impact institute committee that shapes the direction of graduate housing at MIT.
2. Will be providing guidance on current grad housing
3. developments, including the new West Campus residence.
4. Apply by tonight!
5. <https://gsc.mit.edu/represent-graduate-students-on-the-housing-working-group/>

ii. Advocacy newsletter:

<https://gsc.mit.edu/committees/external/advocacy-newsletter>

iii. Residence Hall Guest Policy

1. Ongoing conversation with administration.
2. Pushing to implement some form of “bubbles” which would enable small groups of friends to visit each other’s apartments with relaxed physical distancing.
3. Details are still TBD, hopefully more news soon.

iv. Heating Issues

1. State sanitary code requires all dwellings to be heated to at least 68°F during the day and 64°F at night.
2. Not supposed to let any rooms surpass 78° in the process
3. Received reports that some dorms weren’t meeting this
4. requirement; should be resolved soon.
5. Know your rights! Refer to the state sanitary code, and schedule inspections if necessary. You can also file complaints via the MIT whistleblower hotline (<http://hotline.mit.edu>)

f. Muddy

- i. Same as usual – Muddy board meetings are open

g. OC

- i. Orientation Follow-Up



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1. Survey sent out last week to gauge effectiveness of different events
2. Looking into delivering shirts/masks to first year students on campus
3. Depending on public health, may host an in-person welcome event next semester

h. AC

- i. Fall Activities Survey sent out — about 55 students have filled out the survey.
- ii. Fall planned events
 1. Murder Mystery
 2. Jackbox
 3. Powerpoint Karaoke
 4. Photography scavenger hunt
 5. Virtual arts and photography workshop
 6. Virtual Stand-up event
- iii. Join the Henry Purcell Society of Boston for an evening of rousing tavern music from the Restoration-era Alehouse songs of Henry Purcell and his contemporaries. We'll also have recommended English Ale pairings, so you can join us in raising a glass during these rowdy songs!
 1. Event date — Second/Third Week of October
 2. The event is co-hosted by Robert Lublin, Professor of theatre history and professional libations reviewer, and MIT's own Shannon Rose McAuliffe, arts professor, musicologist, and singer, and will include live performances by some of HPSOB's most-beloved singers.
- iv. Gardner Museum visit and discussion
- v. The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum has extended their exhibition of Boston's Apollo, which highlights issues of Black and queer erasure through Sargent's relationship with his artistic model, Thomas McKeller. More details are below!



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1. For those in the Boston area, we will make free tickets available to those who wish to view the exhibit in person. For those who are outside of Boston, the Gardner is preparing some materials for asynchronous/remote access.
2. Please RSVP we'll be sharing this in the Anno next week.
3. Visit the museum anytime before 10/8 — 5:30 PM. Join us for a discussion after.

7. Open floor (6:40-6:50)

- a. Why is agenda so short?
 - i. Things are running more or less smoothly
 - ii. Though wait till November... 🤔
- b. Watch the VP debate!