March GCM
Agenda

1. Introduction (5:30-5:40)
   a. New faces
   b. Quorum check*
   c. Approval of February minutes*

2. Budget rescope vote* (5:40-6:10)

3. Nominations for GSC Officer positions (6:10-6:30)
   a. Intro and motivation
   b. Opening of nominations

4. Officer updates (6:30-6:45)

5. Committee updates (6:45-7:15)

6. Open Floor (7:15-7:30)
   *Requires a vote
New Faces; Quorum; Minutes Approval

• In Google Chrome (or other browser that isn’t FireFox), go to: https://gsc.mit.edu/voting-authentication
Janice was an Aero/Astro/Mechanical Engineering SM/PhD track student who came to MIT in 2020. In the MIT Aerospace Controls Lab, she was working on a robust way to have multiple robots learn in the same environment.

Janice was already an accomplished scholar before MIT – in her undergrad at U of Toronto she published a first-author paper on features favoring creativity in computer-aided design.

The light she brought our community will be sorely missed.

*Take a moment of silence for Janice and all those we’ve lost this year.*
Budget rescope vote

Steven Burcat
Nominations for GSC Officer Positions
Motivation

• Tunnel through barriers to idea implementation
  • Study of quals processes and demographic gaps across all programs
  • Fixing heating in the grad dorms
  • Creating and hiring a GSC Archivist

![Diagram showing the idea implementation path through institutional barriers]
Motivation

• Slick addition to your CV
• Learn project management and leadership
• Perks
Procedure

- Election proceedings in Article IV of the Bylaws
- Nominations **open at the March GCM**
  - Must **be seconded at April GCM**
- Nominees may submit Statement and curriculum vitae a up to one week prior to April GCM
- Informal coffee hour 5-7 days before April GCM
- Election held at **April GCM**
## Open Nominations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nomination</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Madeleine Sutherland</td>
<td>Declined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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...
Officer Updates
Transient funding for all SM/PhDs!

RISE is proud to announce...

- RISE-GSC-Administration negotiations succeeded here
- Any SM/PhD student can leave an abusive advising situation...
  - Without missing a paycheck
  - With limits on work required in old group
  - With transitional funding for a semester while they find a new advisor

- Read more here
- Working on year-6 funding to more accessible to SHASS & SA+P
Commencement Planning

Commencement Transition Team is currently planning for the virtual Commencement this Spring

We want to incorporate graduate student input!

Please find out from your constituencies what graduate students want to get out of commencement this year

• What was good/bad about last year’s virtual commencement?
• What parts are most meaningful?
• How do people want their names recognized?
• What would people be interested receiving in a “Commencement care package”?
• Other thoughts/comments/ideas

• Email gsc-treasurer@mit.edu
Committee Updates
Academics, Research and Careers Committee

Chairs: Emre Ergeçen and Simone Bruno
Email: gsc-arc@mit.edu
Committee updates

- **Next events:**
  “Academia vs. Industry” panel series

**1st event:** 02/25 at 6 PM (Engineering R&D)

The panelists are:

- **Tout Wang:** After PhD with Wolfgang Ketterle at MIT, he first worked in scientific sales at M Squared Lasers, and then served as an assistant professor of physics at Gordon College - now a research associate in physics at Harvard.

- **Joe Rife:** Based at Greentown Labs as Executive in Residence, he provides leadership on mentorship activities, moderates CEO Meetups and works with cleantech startups. Joe earned three degrees in MechE at MIT and mentors with the Sandbox Fund.

- **Zoltan Spakovszky:** Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the director of the Gas Turbine Laboratory.

- **Maha Haji:** An incoming Assistant Professor of Mechanical and Systems Engineering at Cornell University. After receiving her Ph.D. and before her postdoctoral position, Dr. Haji worked in industry as an engineering consultant at ATA Engineering.

**Next events:** 03/04 (Data driven science); 03/18 (Bio/medical sciences)
VISTA Subcommittee

No visiting students allowed to come to campus during Spring 2021
Alumni Relations Subcommittee

Event: Alumni Chat w/ Miguel Paredes (Chief AI Officer at Rimac) on Feb. 11th
Advising Subcommittee

1,081 Responses!

~ 20% of eligible MIT Students

MIT enrollment
Master's: 2,773
PhD: 3,956
Total: 6,893

MIT enrollment (without MBA, EECS MEng)
Master's: 1,087 (1686 MBA + MEng)
PhD: 3,956
Total: 5,043

Next Steps: Analyze and prepare results!
Goal: Results by end of Spring 2021
Interested in joining ARC?

Feel free to reach us anytime through gsc-arc-chair@mit.edu
Activities Committee

Chairs: Henry Tran and Somayajulu Dhulipala
Email: gsc-ac@mit.edu
Updates from February 2021

Past events –

• 2/14 – HarvardxMIT Valentine’s Day event - Partnered with Datamatch and Harvard to help students find love/friendship on Valentine's day. Sponsored free dinner/dates $20 per person. We had around 1857 people sign-up for both schools!!

Upcoming events –

• May 2021 – MIT Talent Show – Students can participate in teams of up to 5 people. Interest Declaration Deadline: March 14, 2021. Prizes (TBD) for teams that make a successful submission.

• HarvardxMITxStanford Game Night – March 19th

• Alehouse music event – End of March

• Chocolate tasting – First week of April

• Wine and Opera – Mid April
Association of Student Activities

President: Rebecca Black
Email: gsc-asa@mit.edu
ASA Updates

• Starting to plan CP* Midway → gather.town???
  • Tentative date/time April 17th, 1-3 PM EST

• GBM will be April 5th, 5-7 PM EST
  • We’re recruiting our next board!

• Spring group applications are OPEN (asa.mit.edu)

• LEF/ARCADE Applications have been and will stay open
  • take our money please
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

Chair: Bianca Lepe
E-mail: gsc-diversity@mit.edu
DEI Committee: What’s happened

• DEI@MIT Strategic Plan Update
  • Community engagement sessions will be happening during the weeks of March 15 & March 22
    • Will have townhalls for various groups (e.g. undergrads, grads, postdocs, staff, faculty)
    • Also smaller, facilitated group sessions (e.g. with BGSA, LGSA, GSC, etc.)
  • Plan is to disseminate information/materials on where strategic plan is now and will gather feedback at these sessions to incorporate

• Looking to join GSC DEI?
  • We are recruiting for the upcoming year 😊
    • Chair
    • Vice Chair, Department & Inclusion
    • C-reps: Disabilities, First Gen-Low Income
DEI Committee: Data Info + Events

• Ongoing Data Access
  • Graduate Enrolled Student Survey: [data request form](#)
  • Black Lives Matter: [departmental scorecard](#)

• Upcoming Events:
  • Fridays, 1:30-2:30 pm: DEI Coordinator Meetings @ [Zoom](#)
  • Wed. March 10, 7 pm: LGSA x LCC x RISE social – RSVP [here](#)
  • Thurs. March 11, 5-6 pm: Conduit General Assembly – RSVP [here](#)

• Next Committee Meeting: *Mon. March 15 from 9-10 am @ [Zoom](#)*

Contact: gsc-diversity@mit.edu
External Affairs Board

Chair: Jordan Harrod
E-mail: gsc-eab@mit.edu
March 2021 Updates

• Statements Passed:
  • Letters to Congressional Leadership and House/Senate Judiciary Leadership
  • Letter to the Department of State on the National Interest Exception for All Students
  • Letter to the Board of State Examiners of Plumbers and Gasfitters on All-Gender Bathrooms
  • Letter to the Department of Defense
  • Missing Middle Housing Zoning Petition
  • Letter to the Biden Administration on Climate Change

• February 2021 Meeting Notes
Upcoming Events + Advocacy

• Recruiting for Board Leadership Positions!
  • No Experience Necessary
  • Currently have openings on State and Local Affairs, Public Outreach
  • Reach out to gsc-eab@mit.edu if you’re interested!

• Advocacy Topics + Events
  • Student Wellbeing and Mental Health
  • LGBTQ+ Issues
  • Accessibility
  • Climate Policy

• Welcoming New Members! Reach out to gsc-eab@mit.edu
Research Slam (Deadline Extended to March 15th!)

• Hone your science communication skills and compete for hundreds in cash prizes with MIT's first Research Slam!

• Modeled after the 3-Minute Thesis format, participants will explain their research in 3 minutes or less.

• The Slam is open to all MIT postdocs & PhD candidates; see http://researchslam.mit.edu/ for details on deadlines and submissions.

• Final Showcase: March 29th at 5PM EST
Housing and Community Affairs Committee

Chairs: Jonathan Behrens and Denise Tellbach
E-mail: gsc-hca@mit.edu
301 Vassar Residence

- Will contain a mixture of studios, 1-bed, 2-bed, and 4-bed apartments

- Working its way through the city approval process
  - Had a hearing at the Cambridge Planning Board

- Rents are still uncertain. Hoping for estimates by April
  - We expect they’ll be relatively similar to Site 4
Stipend Recommendations

• Ongoing process to assemble presentation for the Deans Council on March 16th

• Currently running peer-competitiveness analysis

• Presenting to Faculty & Staff Members this Friday, March 12th

• Contact gsc-hca-advocacy-chair@mit.edu to learn more or get involved
Office of Student Wellbeing

- Proposed new centralized location for students to access resources related to wellbeing...

[Image: xkcd.com/927]
Muddy Charles Pub Board

Chair: Jennifer Kaczmarek
E-mail: gsc-muddy@mit.edu
The Muddy Charles Pub wants you!

- It would be **super cool** if we had you as a part of the Muddy Charles Pub Board!
- The board is **always** excited to have **new graduate student members!**
- **Next meeting 03/08/2020**
  @ 7 PM eastern

**Email Jennifer** with any questions!
  gsc-muddy-chair@mit.edu

**ZOOM LINK:**
https://mit.zoom.us/j/93266025675?pwd=Y2ppOFkwdk9EL1JONXNFbmtMek52QT09
Link is also on GSC calendar!!
Orientation Committee

Chairs: Shashank Agarwal and Maytee Chantharayukhonthorn
E-mail: gsc-oc@mit.edu
Care Packages

• Working with COOP, MITFCU and GradRat on a care package for 1st years
• Care packages packaged, mailing this week
Planning for Fall 2021

• Orientation is recruiting!
  • Meeting with new committee members next Monday, March 8^{th}:
  • [https://mit.zoom.us/j/94262615131](https://mit.zoom.us/j/94262615131)
  • Email [gsc-oc-chair@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-oc-chair@mit.edu) if you are interested in shaping orientation for our newest graduate students!
Open Floor