Agenda

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

2. Committee Updates and Presentations (5:40-6:10)

3. Officer Updates (6:10-6:30)

4. Open Floor (6:30-6:45)

*Requires a vote
Committee Updates
Activities Committee

Ruoxuan Yang & Somayajulu Dhulipala
gsc-ac@mit.edu
Who we are?

Event organizers. Implementing your cool ideas and meeting cool people. A lot of fun!
AC Events

- Taste of ... series
- Apple picking
- Ski trip
- Battle of the Bands
- Grad gala
- Paint night
- Grad Art Showcase
- Alehouse music
- Wine and Opera

- Acoustic BBQ
- Whale watching
- Six flags
- Brewery tour
- Art Gallery tour
- Bruins game
- Red Sox game
- Talent show
- MIT-Harvard game night
Get involved!

- One hour meeting per month with food subsidy
- Free tickets or priority of food for events you help with, always insider early access to event registration
- What events we have depends largely on committee members, come and throw something new!
- **We want your ideas, your help, for this Covid-modified year and beyond**
- Email gsc-ac@mit.edu
Next meeting

When: Wed. Sep 15 6pm
$15 meal subsidy (reimbursement) for attendees
Upcoming events

If the current Covid event policy stays
Red Sox vs Orioles Sat. Sep 18 1pm

- **Fenway Park** (not Zoom)!
- Upper bleachers, 30 tickets, $15/person on [adMIT One ticket sale webpage](#), or cash (TBD) (original price $33)
- Kike (Hernandez) shades giveaway!
- max 2 tickets, collect guest name, email and MIT ID no. Kids are prohibited.
- Non refundable, ticket exchange coordinated by us only;
- Distribute E-tickets at 11am on Sep 18
MFA “Monet and Boston: Legacy Illuminated”

• MFA “Monet and Boston: Legacy Illuminated” and conversation with art historian Jane R. Becker – September 30, 6PM.

• Following your own asynchronous engagement (both virtual and in-person options available) with the exhibition, we’ll have a real-time Zoom discussion with art historian Jane R. Becker, Collections Specialist in the Department of European Paintings at The Met Museum in New York.
Harvard vs MIT Game Night

• Planning for another Game Night on October 14th.
• More details to come out as we get closer to the event.
Recruitment

- **Gradrat** is looking for members
- Perks - you get a free gold MIT ring.
- Commitment - for 2 years.

- **Grad Gala** - In a bit of a limbo but we’ll let you know soon.
- **Ski trip** - Not this year, but be prepared for the years beyond. Past committee seems to have graduated but we’ll confirm.

- **Grad Arts Forum**
- **General members for ad-hoc events**
- [gsc-ac@mit.edu](mailto:gsc-ac@mit.edu)
Academics, Research, and Careers Committee

Simone Bruno
Yifan Wu
gsc-arc-chair@mit.edu
## Committee overview

**ARC Chairs:** Simone Bruno and Yifan Wu

### Academy

**Events:**
- Road to academia
- Post-doc panel
- Thesis lounge

**Subcommittees:**
- Travel grant
- Advising

### Industry

**Events:**
- Industry panels
- Professional development grants
- Networking

**Subcommittees:**
- Alumni relations
- VISTA

### Entrepreneurship

**Events:**
- Intro to entrepreneurship
- MBA/PhD Mixer

**Subcommittees:**
- Alumni relations
VISTA Subcommittee

- Visiting student association @ MIT
- Help visiting students in their short period at MIT

- Visiting student program suspended
- New visiting students will be allowed on campus next year
Alumni Relations Subcommittee

Alumni relations subcommittee is looking for new members! If interested, please reach out to gsc-alumni-relations-chair@mit.edu

Advocacy:
- Alumni mentor support for underrepresented prospective graduate students
- Alumni support for professional development of graduate students

Upcoming events:
- GSC Alumni networking event - upcoming fall (in collaboration with MIT Alumni Association)
What have we been up to?
Preparing department results and emails out to department heads & department leadership

Interested seeing in MIT-wide results?
Visit: gsc.mit.edu/advising-survey/results

Want to join the advising subcommittee (2 meetings/month)?
Contact nbuckman@mit.edu
Interested in joining ARC?

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

Presented by Vincent Zu, GSC Treasurer
asa-president@mit.edu
President: Alex Bookbinder (Undergrad)
What do we do?

• We oversee 400+ student groups and provide access to
  • Funding (LEF/ARCADE)
  • Space
  • Publicity
  • Use of MIT name and logo
• We run Activities Midway twice a year
  • September for orientation
  • April for campus preview weekend
• We meet weekly Monday 5-6pm
  • Plan to meet in-person next week, probably with a Zoom option
  • Email asa-exec@mit.edu if you are interested
Updates

• CampusGroup is working
  • Register events
  • Request access to spaces and accounts
  • Update membership list

• Application open for new groups and LEF/ARCADE

• Tim Tickets is online, but not yet for event check-in
DEI Committee

Bianca Lepe
gsc-diversity@mit.edu
Who we are: Join GSC DEI!

Let’s make MIT a more just, equitable institute!

We are recruiting for the upcoming year:

- Chair, Treasurer, & Secretary
- General Membership
What’s happened: RISE campaign

**Goal**: Address root causes to diminishing mental health among graduate students at MIT

**Original Demands**
- Reform graduate admissions and faculty hiring
- Increase resources for education and support
- Reform policies for prevention and response of faculty misconduct
- Advance funding equity at MIT

Campaign is in collaboration with the BGSA, G4HMIT, & GSC DEI

[https://www.rise4mit.com/](https://www.rise4mit.com/)
What's happened: RISE achievements

DEI Officer Hires
- MechE, EECS, Architecture, Bio, Chem/EAPS, and Institute-level

Removed GRE in admissions
- 7+ depts permanently removed
- 9+ more suspended

Increased student participation in admissions and hiring

Guaranteed transitional funding
- Institute wide
- Guide to navigating transitional funding
DEI@MIT Strategic Action Plan

- Set of Institute level commitments organized under 3 pillars:
  - Composition, Achievement, & Belonging
  - Timeline: 5 years from 2022-2027
- Launch of the second draft of the strategic plan will be this Fall
- Smaller department & school level plans to be made
  - We will ensure student input and participation in this!

For more details visit: https://deiactionplan.mit.edu/
GSC DEI Welcome Event!

**What:** learn about past + upcoming advocacy work & about opportunities to get involved!

**When:** Monday, Sept. 20th, 5-6 pm EST

**Where:** Zoom!

RSVP @ [https://tinyurl.com/GSCDEI-welcome](https://tinyurl.com/GSCDEI-welcome)
Ongoing Data Access

- Graduate Enrolled Student Survey: [data request form]
- Black Lives Matter: [departmental scorecard]

Upcoming Events:

- Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 am EST: DEI Coordinator Meetings @ [Zoom]
- Next Committee Meeting: *tbd in September*

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

Chair: Jordan Harrod
gsc-eab@mit.edu
Mission of EAB

• Advocate for MIT graduate students to all external (outside of MIT) entities
  • Governments from local to national
  • General public, especially those not normally exposed to MIT & its research

• Educate MIT graduate students about policy and politics
  • Events on campus – Seminars, panels, workshops, etc
  • Getting students directly involved – phone banks, email campaigns
Current Board Leadership

Chair: Jordan Harrod
gsc-eab-chair@mit.edu

Vice Chair: Benjamin Lane
gsc-eab-vc@mit.edu

Federal Affairs Chairs
Jimmy McRae, Shea Lombardo
gsc-eab-fed@mit.edu

State and Local Chairs
Tom Tseng, Hamid Doost Hosseini
gsc-eab-state@mit.edu

University Liaison
Jack Reid
gsc-eab-liaison@mit.edu

Development Chair
Mason Ng
gsc-eab-development@mit.edu

Public Outreach Chairs
Currently recruiting for both positions!
gsc-eab-public@mit.edu
Federal Affairs

- Passes statements on federal policy issues pertaining to grad students
- Regular advocacy trips to Washington DC for meetings with legislators
- Develops partnerships/collaborations that support graduate student issues

Past and Ongoing Focus Areas
- Immigration/Visa Issues
- Science Funding
- Mental Health
State and Local Affairs

- Passes statements on state/local policy issues pertaining to grad students
- Regular advocacy trips to MA Statehouse and Cambridge City Council
- Past and Ongoing Focus Areas
  - Student Housing
  - State and Local Elections
  - Local Infrastructure
Public Outreach

- Three Minute Thesis/Research Slam
  - Training graduate students to present their research to the public, with the chance to win cash prizes!

- Student Hometown In-situ Presentations (SHIP)
  - Compensating graduate students for giving presentations about their research/journey to students from their alma mater.

- Recurring + Upcoming Events
  - Cambridge Science Festival
  - Volunteer Opportunities at the Museum of Science
  - Astrogazers
September 2021 Updates

Statements:
• Recognizing the Right of Graduate Students to Unionize at Private Universities

Meeting Notes:
• [July 2021 EAB Meeting Notes](#)
• [September Grad Advocacy Newsletter](#)
Upcoming Events + Advocacy

• Recruiting for Board Leadership Positions!
  • No Experience Necessary!
  • Looking for a Public Outreach Chair
  • Reach out to gsc-eab@mit.edu if you’re interested!

• Advocacy Topics + Events
  • Policy Platform Update
  • Orientation/Recruitment
  • Student Wellbeing and Mental Health
  • Grad Caucus

• Welcoming New Members! Reach out to gsc-eab@mit.edu
Housing & Community Affairs

Jonathan Behrens
Denise Tellbach
gsc-hca-chair@mit.edu
Are you interested in …

… advocating for your fellow graduate students?

… negotiating for higher stipends?

… improving housing offers for graduate students?

Then join HCA!
2020/2021 Achievements

- A 3.25% stipend increase
- Formal elimination of below baseline stipends
- Frozen rent levels
- Major reductions in PhD students on partial appointment
- Creation of ‘Grant for Graduate Students with Children’
2020/2021 Housing Improvements

- Guide for students to file complaints
- Major heating system renewal in:
  - Tang
  - Westgate
Join HCA

Email us at
gsc-hca-chair@mit.edu
to learn more & get involved!
Muddy Charles pub

Jennifer Kaczmarek
jkacz@mit.edu
The Muddy Charles Pub wants you!

As we begin planning for reopening this fall semester (we do not have an official date) the board is looking for graduate student input!

**Next meeting 09/13/2021**

@ 7 PM eastern

Zoom link:
https://mit.zoom.us/j/97424578499?pwd=WFBXVENtRkhqVVJiQXpxOWZYSHRTZz09

Email Jennifer with any questions!

gsc-muddy-chair@mit.edu
Orientation Committee

Akshit Singla, GSC Secretary (temp)
gsc-oc@mit.edu
Goals

- Knowledge Sharing
  - MIT Resources
  - MIT Processes

- Networking
  - Socializing with peers across programs

- Familiarity with new environment
  - MIT
  - Boston Area
  - USA (for internationals)

- Transitioning into MIT lifestyle
  - Imposter Syndrome
  - Firehose Experience
  - Industry (Academia)
  - Mental Health Resources

- Welcome (Back) to campus
  - For 2nd year students
  - MIT resources
  - Networking & Socializing
Content

Email Bulletins  Slack  Website  Ask your GSC

Canvas

Ice-Breaker Events  Grad Welcome Lunch  Grad 101s

Dept Presentations  Welcome Back Event  Smaller Socials  Partner Socials  Resource Fair

JUN  JUL  AUG  SEP
COVID Policies

- **Masks** - mandatory indoors excerpt for eating, or alone in a fully enclosed space, or speakers (audience must mask up, only one speaker mask down at any given time, Aug 30) + (if not vaccinated & within 3 ft) outdoors (Aug 20 - OVC 8AM calls)
- **Vaccinations** - mandatory (July 28); not required for event attendees (Aug 23)
- **Quarantine** - None if no symptoms and vaccinated (July 28 MIT Now says June 7)
- **Social Distancing** - none for fully vaccinated, greater distance for indoor dining (Aug 2)
- **Indoor/Outdoor** - outdoor is encouraged, especially dining (Aug 23)
- **Events** (Aug 23)
  - **Food** - All serving methods and food types are allowed, mask required during serving; reusable items NOT allowed (Aug 23)
  - **RSVP** - Required with contact info to be maintained for 2 weeks (Aug 20 - OVC 8AM calls)
  - **Minors** are not allowed (Aug 24 Town Hall)
  - **Non MIT Attendees** - Allowed with Tim Tickets (coming in Sep, currently escorted by Covidpass user), need vaccination/exemption (Aug 20 - OVC 8AM calls)
- **Off-Campus events** - Allowed (Aug 20 - OVC 8AM calls)
Team
Officer Updates
Officer Updates

- Department Orientation presentations went very well
  - Presented to 22 different programs and departments
  - Will continue pushing recruitment as we come back to campus and the new students continue to acclimate
- HEERF Update
- Walker is open again
  - GSC Office access?
- Re-evaluating Covid policies post move-in in two weeks
  - Once MIT has data on how big of a spike we saw
- Ivy+ Collaboration
- GSC mailing list
Officer Updates

- ExComm is in the process of passing two statements
  - Statement Confirming the GSC’s Support for the Findings and Recommendations of the Covid-19 Research Impact Survey
    - Run by Madeleine and MIT Covid Relief
    - Results: [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/19wuKjql8rcSs1B0gWqm3ySrZ6Gbfxf27](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/19wuKjql8rcSs1B0gWqm3ySrZ6Gbfxf27)
  - Statement Reaffirming the GSC’s Position on Harassment and Discrimination of Graduate Students
    - To address recent events related to an MIT lab
    - To promote a safe environment for all graduate students free from harassment and discrimination
Officer Update

• Expectations of General Council Representatives
  • Attend the GCM
  • Join at least one Standing Committee
    • Email the chairs
    • Attend the meetings as listed on the GSC Office Calendar
  • Interface with your representative unit
• Planning to meet with all Department Governments
  • We want the Reps to join us
• Still have open Institute Committee position
  • Creative Arts Council has 2 spots!
• Website update progress
• Need a new archivist
• Graduate Advising Committee will be presenting at next GCM
Old Business
Open Floor