



Report to the Membership

AILG Annual Meeting

14 June 2007

AILG Goals for 2006-07

1. **Accreditation:** Expand the AILG Accreditation program to include reviews of every remaining chapter / ILG this year.
2. **SLI / BSF Program:** Institutionalize the SLI program, so that it is operational and stable with less volunteer effort required in future.
3. **MIT-Owned Housing:** Renegotiate leases where necessary to provide better incentives for our members to maintain and improve MIT-owned leased properties; and raise visibility of opportunities to migrate to campus or expand ILGs on campus.
4. **Recruitment and Retention Initiative (RRI):** Improve undergrad retention in our member chapters / ILGs; develop measures in order to establish a baseline.
5. **Educational Programs:** Continue to provide T101, HM101, and other programs, even as Board membership changes.
6. **Alumni Volunteers:** Continue to expand participation by ILG alumni in their respective organizations; provide training for new alumni volunteers.
7. **Incorporation:** Establish a legal personality for the AILG, so that it operates in compliance with relevant law and provides appropriate legal protection to volunteers.

Progress Toward Goals

1. Accreditation Program

The AILG came very close to meeting its goal of conducting accreditation reviews at every chapter and ILG this year.

If last year's great success was establishing the Safety, Licensing, and Inspection (SLI) and Building Safety Facilitator (BSF) programs, this year's is the accomplishment of the AILG's accreditation program. After 7 years of discussion, planning, and testing, the full-scale roll-out of the accreditation program finally happened. The AILG, acting through volunteer visiting committees composed of alumni/ae members, completed 24 reviews this year and has now reviewed 90 percent of all FSILGs. Reports for 63 percent of the new reviews were distributed and have been reviewed by their living groups. The public findings have been shared with the Dean's office and will soon be posted to the web.

Under the process, we anticipate that 15 to 20 FSILGs can be reviewed each year, so that the program will be fully operational next school year, with a goal of revisiting every chapter / ILG every two years. To date, every chapter has been accredited (a few with



reservations), and AILG Vice Chair Herman Marshall (ΒΘΠ) has developed a list of best practices that we will share with all AILG members.

Board members also met with student IFC and PHC leaders and discussed ways to mesh the accreditation program with the undergraduates' emerging plans to create their own standards programs. We look forward to more happening in this area next year.

The AILG Board wishes to thank Herman for the time and effort he put into making this program successful this year. We also want to thank all AILG members for participating in the reviews and for providing volunteer reviewers. And we are grateful to Dean Larry Benedict for his financial and other support of the program.

2. Facilities Committee and SLI / BSF Program

The AILG met its goal of institutionalizing the SLI and BSF programs this year.

The Facilities Committee is happy to report that the SLI and BSF programs continue to be major successes. Every AILG member property is inspected and properly licensed again this year, and this accomplishment took far less volunteer effort to achieve than it did last year. Jay Flynn, the Building Safety Facilitator, has built positive working relationships with the local inspectors. The "toothing pains" the program suffered last year have largely been resolved and it is operating smoothly.

The renegotiation of the SLI agreement between MIT, AILG, Jay Flynn and AILG members this year was accomplished expeditiously, with minimal effort. We take this as a sign of MIT's growing confidence in the program, which is also evidenced by Dean Benedict's offer to provide financial support for it going forward, for which we are thankful.

The AILG Board wishes to thank Facilities Committee Chair Steve Summit (πικα) and members Peter Cooper (ΦΒΕ), Bob Ferrara (ΘΧ), Tom Holtey (ΧΦ), and Bruce Wedlock (ΦΚΣ), for their service this year. Board members Steve Baker (ΘΞ) and Lisa Tatterson (ΑΧΟ) also participated. We are also grateful to Scott Klemm (FCI), Charley Mills (FCI), and Jay Flynn for their work, and to the IRDF Grant Advisory Committee and Board of Allocation for providing financial support for the SLI program.

3. MIT-Owned Housing Leases

The AILG made progress toward its goal of renegotiating housing leases this year.

Several of the newer members of our community, most notably the three MIT-housed sororities, are in properties with commercial leases that do not match their status as FSILG's. An ad-hoc committee consisting of Bob Ferrara (ΘΧ), Lisa Tatterson (ΑΧΟ), and representatives of all 8 affected AILG members have met regularly with the MIT Real Estate Office and the Dean's office, to help them understand the problem and seek solutions. Bob Ferrara reports that there has been movement in this area over the past year: the MIT Real Estate Office has agreed to transfer oversight of all 8 properties to the Division of Residential Life. Details are being worked out now.



4. **Recruitment and Retention Initiative (RRI)**

The AILG Board met with the undergraduate FSILG leadership in the fall, and we mutually agreed that recruitment and retention is primarily an undergraduate endeavor.

One change in recruitment that we are happy to report is that starting in this fall, all our student member groups will be recruiting during the same time period, instead of at different times. We hope that this gives our community greater cohesiveness and visibility on campus. We also note that fraternity and ILG membership has stabilized, although several chapters continue to suffer low levels of membership.

5. **Educational Programs**

The AILG met its goal of continuing to provide its educational programs this year.

All three courses offered last year (Treasurer 101, House Manager 101, and Alumni Relations 101) were provided again this year. A fourth program was also added: Information Technology 101, focusing on IT, data, and telecom infrastructure. This curriculum was developed in cooperation with MIT's Information Services & Technology department.

One concern that the Board wishes to note is that despite the value of these programs, getting our student members to attend is an increasing struggle; enrollment in the programs dropped from last year and the year before. Whether this is due to a change in how the programs were publicized and registered, the novelty wearing off, or to other factors is unknown. But we do know that the programs cannot be useful unless they are attended. We ask each AILG member to ensure that its undergraduate chapter / organization takes advantage of the opportunity these programs offer to improve financial, property management, and alumni relations programs.

The AILG Board wishes to thank Stan Wulf ($\Phi\Delta\Theta$), Peter Cooper (ΦBE), Steve Summit (pika), Bob Ferrara (ΘX), Bruce Wedlock ($\Phi\text{K}\Sigma$), Ash Dyer ($\Delta\text{T}\Delta$), Jay Flynn, Katie Casey of the Alumni Association, and the other MIT staff who prepared, led, and presented the programs this year. We are also grateful to Dean Benedict for providing financial support for our educational courses.

6. **Alumni/ae Volunteer Program**

The AILG partially met its goal of expanding participation by FSILG alumni/ae in their respective organizations and providing training for new alumni volunteers.

The Volunteer Improvement Program (VIP) Committee presented a workshop program focused on FSILG's at the MIT Alumni Leadership Conference (ALC) last September that attracted approximately 50 key alumni volunteers. Sessions on alumni advising and house corporation finances were presented. The VIP Committee is currently planning a new program for this fall's ALC; we encourage each AILG member to participate by sending one or more current or potential volunteers. In particular, newer and younger potential volunteers are welcome.

The VIP Committee is also currently working on better defining volunteer job descriptions and preparing a list of "best practices" concerning volunteerism. These will be shared with



the community next year.

One challenge the VIP Committee reports is that it has difficulty connecting with the alumni volunteers of each AILG member group, because the Committee and AILG do not know who they are. Each AILG member is encouraged to register its key volunteers (officers, board members, advisors, and others) with the AILG, so that we can establish communication with you.

The AILG Board wishes to thank Bob Schreiber ($\Theta\Delta X$), Bob Ferrara (ΘX), Larry Colagiovanni ($K\Sigma$), and Chris McGill of the FSILG Office for their work on this committee. Board member Steve Baker ($\Theta\Xi$) also participated. In addition, thanks to Tom Holtey ($X\Phi$) and Dean Danny Trujillo for their assistance in presenting programs at the ALC.

7. Incorporation

The AILG did not meet its goal of establishing a legal structure for the organization, but it did make significant progress in this area and expects to accomplish it within a few months.

The Committee on Incorporation met regularly throughout the year, reviewed legal options and by-law changes, and sought legal advice. The process was delayed by the AILG Board last fall, as it sought internal consensus on the issues of corporate structure and membership. Having achieved consensus, the Board directed the Committee to proceed, and it presented its findings to the AILG board and Plenary, which endorsed its recommendation to create a non-profit 501 (c)(6) corporation this spring. The Committee is currently meeting with interested AILG members to review potential by-law changes, in preparation for forming the corporation.

The AILG Board wishes to thank all of the members who have participated in this process, and especially, Dan Geer ($\Theta\Delta X$), Dave Burmaster ($E\Theta$), Bob Ferrara (ΘX), and Tom Holtey ($X\Phi$), for their diligence and energy in driving this project forward. Board members Chris Rezek ($A\Delta\Phi$), Steve Baker ($\Theta\Xi$), and Jim Bueche ($X\Phi$) also participated.

Other Activities and Programs

In addition to its major goals, the AILG has continued work on a number of other areas this year. Here is a brief summary of some of them.

IRDF Activities

The AILG provides advice and guidance to the MIT Independent Residence Development Fund (IRDF) through two volunteer committees: the IRDF Grant Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations to MIT on the IRDF's grant program, and the IRDF Board of Allocation, which oversees the loan program.

Responsibility for the IRDF was transferred this year from the Office of the Treasurer to the MIT Controller's Office. The IRDF Grant Advisory Committee reports that it has developed a very positive working relationship this year with the MIT officials who now manage the IRDF. The Committee attributes this to the very supportive position that MIT Controller Jim Morgan and his assistant Kevin Milligan have taken toward our FSILG



community. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Jim and Kevin, both of whom are with us tonight, for their work on our behalf and for giving the IRDF a new home. We look forward to continuing to build on this year's success.

The IRDF Grant Committee is also pleased to announce that as a result in change of interpretation by the Controller's Office, IRDF educational operating grants will be increased by approximately 20 percent next year over the current year's allocation. Please see the handout for details.

The IRDF Board of Allocation reminds all members that funds are available for low interest loans, and that because of changes in the program, interest rates will be increasing sometime next year.

The AILG Board wishes to thank Dave Latham ($\Delta\Upsilon$), Chair, and John Seeger ($K\Sigma$), Stephen Stuntz ($\Sigma\Phi E$), and Susan Woodmansee (WILG) for their service on the Board of Allocation; and Kevin Milligan of the MIT Controller's Office (Chair), Bob Ferrara (ΘX), Jacquelynn Henke ($A\Phi$), and Tom Holtey ($X\Phi$) for their service on the Grant Advisory Committee.

The IRDF can do the work it does because of the contributions our alumni make to the Fund. Please remember to encourage your members to give to MIT, and to earmark at least part of their gift to the IRDF.

Insurance Program

This year, with the assistance and support of the AILG, the FCI took responsibility for administration, billing and support for the FSILG Liability and Property Insurance program from the Dean's office. This was done to allow the FSILG office to focus on its core competence, student advising, and to give our community more control over this important program. We also want to note that the program's success can be readily measured: the program's total premiums did not increase this year due to the strong record of our organizations and programs such as SLI. MIT advanced the funds, which were then repaid promptly via billing and collections done by the FCI. All member entities paid their premium bills within two months.

We would like to thank Jim Morgan, Karen Nilsson, David Rogers, Jim Bueche ($X\Phi$), and Scott Klemm and Charley Mills of FCI for their work to make the transition successful.

Finally, the AILG Board would like to thank the Bob Ferrara for all of his effort on our community's behalf this year. Bob has been an indispensable resource to the board, and most of our accomplishments could not have been possible without his work. We should also thank Beth Garvin and Dean Larry Benedict for making Bob's position possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

AILG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Baker ($\Theta\Xi$), Chair
Jim Bueche ($X\Phi$), Treasurer
Chris Rezek ($A\Delta\Phi$)

Herman Marshall ($B\Theta\Pi$), Vice Chair
Susan Woodmansee (WILG), Secretary
Lisa Tatterson (AXO)