3rd Annual AILG Alumni Connections Seminar

April 26, 2012
ERNIE SABINE

AILG OVERVIEW
AILG – Association of Independent Living Groups

- **Incorporated as 501c4 in 2007**
  - formerly FSILG alumni group
  - IRS def’n: “Civic League, Social Welfare Organization, or Local Association of Employees”

- **Mission: “principal voice of the FSILG system with MIT and other entities”**
  - vehicle for sharing best practices and lessons learned
  - provide long-term continuity, advice and guidance to the FSILG community
  - act as an advocate for FSILG community to MIT, municipalities, neighbors and others

- **All volunteer organization**
  - ~ $120,000 Annual Operating Budget
  - Income
    - Sources
      - AILG member annual dues
      - IRDF Grant to fund SLI/BSF Program
      - MIT/DSL Grant
    - Expenses (all contracted)
      - FCI Administration/Web
      - SLI/BSF Facilitator
      - Accreditation Coordinator
      - Education/Training Courses

- **Vision:**
  - Ensure LGs are Operationally Sound
  - Enable long-term viability in MIT Community

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There are many ways you can volunteer – just ask!
AILG – Association of Independent Living Groups

• Board
  • members serve three year staggered terms
  • current board representation:
    Chair: Ernie Sabine, Student House       Vice-Chair: Stan Wulf, ΦΔΘ
    Treasurer : Sara Wilmer, ΣK            Clerk: Rich Possamato, NΔ
    At Large: Alice Leung, EΘ, David Hutchings, ZBT
    Ombudspersons: Tom Yu, Fenway House and Steve Stuntz, ΣΦΕ

• Programs
  • Accreditation
  • SLI/BSF
  • Risk Management

• Committees
  • Currently Active:
    • Accreditation
    • Facilities
    • Finance
    • Insurance
    • Formed at behest of AILG community
    • Volunteer based

There are many ways you can volunteer – just ask!

AILG Alumni Connections Seminar
AILG – Interaction with Many Entities

MIT
• DSL
• Faculty
• IRDF
• Facilities, etc.

FSILGs
• IFC
• Pan-Hel
• ILG
• Houses

AILG Alumni Office
• Fund Raising
• Events/Awards
• Alumni FSILG web sites

FSILG Alumni
• House Corporations
• Nationals
• Alumni

AILG
• Board
• Committees
• Plenary

FCI
• Cooperative
• BSF/SLI Program
• Web/Database

Business
• Willis Insurance
• Other

Community
• Fire & Safety
• Inspection & Licensing
• Neighborhood Associations
AILG – The Accreditation Program

- **Mission**
  - Provide a program for community to exchange ideas for self improvement
  - Support FSILG members by operating the Accreditation Program as peers
  - Provide MIT an evaluation of the overall health of each FSILG
  - Program unique to MIT

- **The Team**
  Coordinator: John R. Covert
  Committee: David Hutchings, Chairman, David Burmaster, Bob Ferrara, Sara Wilmer, and Ernie Sabine
  Review Teams: Many volunteers from Alumni FSILG community

- **Activities**
  - Manage Accreditation Review Process (~30 per year)
  - Maintain Accreditation Web Site and Basic Data Form (BDF)
  - Coordinate Reporting
    - FSILGs
    - AILG Board
    - MIT
  - Share/Disseminate best practices and lessons learned
AILG – The Accreditation Review Process

- **Review Process Steps**
  - AILG Coordinator schedules; recruits alumni volunteer review team; appoints team chair
  - Chapter and alumni officers complete Basic Data Form (BDF) Questionnaire
    - BDF data kept confidential by review team & coordinator
  - Review team reads BDF prepared by chapter
  - Chair consults with FSILG staff
  - Review occurs at FSILG
  - Organization comment period
    - AILG Board reviews & approves adverse reports
      - Report submitted to FSILG and MIT

- **Accreditation Review Finding**
  - Recommended for Accreditation
    - Next review in two years
  - Recommended for Accreditation with Reservations
    - Follow-up review scheduled in 6 months.
  - Not Recommended for Accreditation
    - Staff-led full-scale intervention launched to address major deficiencies noted.
    - Next review scheduled in 6 months or when advised by staff.
FSILG Cooperative, Inc. (FCI) Overview

- A for-profit purchasing cooperative wholly owned by all 35 of the FSILGs @ MIT
- Professional staff
- Board of Directors (5) - elected each year
- Reduce costs by presenting a single large professional purchaser to vendors
- Income source - Post invoice discounts (prompt payment credit)
- Excess income rebated back to shareholders annually
- We work for you, not MIT
FCI Available Resources

Resources we offer you:
- Recommended vendors list
- Access to MIT internal vendors
- Payroll services
- Online "lockers" of invoices, documents, licenses, plans, etc.
- SLI, IRDF services
- Historical knowledge that survives officer transitions
- Knowledge of City, IRDF, MIT requirements and options
- Problem solving the interactions between undergraduates and vendors
FCI Lockers

- Contact Management
- Invoices & Statements
- Document Storage
- Vendor List
- Vendor Contacts
- SLI Licensing Documents and status
Programs

- Vendor resource
- SLI (Safety Licensing & Inspection) Program
- MIT Lease Administration Program
- FSILG Insurance Operations Program
- IRDF Grant Program
Vendors

- Utilities: oil, gas, steam, electricity, water, phone, trash, recycling, waste grease
- Food: multi line vendor, dairy, meat, produce
- Occasional services: catering, handyman repairs, general contracting, glass repair, plumber, electrician, network, pest control, composite

- Vendors are brought in on recommendation, Recommend Vendors to us and Let us know your experience
SLI Program

- FCI tracks Licensing and Safety related documents
- Automatic reminders when things are expiring
- Help understanding the process
- Recommendations for vendors
- Allows information sharing with DSL and AILG
FSILG Cooperative, Inc. (FCI)

FCI is a resource for you

Scott Klemm, Executive Director
sklemm@fsilg.coop

Selena Rose, Systems Manager
roses@fsilg.coop

617-452-4053   W20-020a   http://fsilg.coop

Do not put off a small problem, they tend to grow!
BOB FERRARA

MIT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION RESOURCES
THE IRDF PROGRAM
FUNDRAISING HELP FOR FSILGS
Alumni Association Support for FSILGs

The MITAA helps our groups by:
- Communications
- Event Planning Help
- Awards & Volunteer/Donor Recognition
- Fundraising support
- FSILG Toolkit
- More to come (web hosting, social media, etc.)
Email Listservs

• All chapters have @alumlist.mit.edu listservs for their alumni
  – Announcement-only
  – Designated editors
    • Appropriate alumni officers
    • Current member Alumni Relations Chair
  – Members can unsubscribe at anytime
  – Go to Infinite Connection
    • “My Account” → “Email Group Subscriptions”
FSILG Toolkit

https://alum.mit.edu/volunteering/VolunteerTools/FSILGVolunteerToolkit
What is the IRDF (Independent Residence Development Fund)?

- The IRDF was created to specifically promote the interests of MIT’s FSILGs.
- All transactions between MIT & Alumni Corporation.
- Made possible through tax-deductible contributions to MIT from alumni/ae (i.e. from us).
- There are four kinds of funding assistance:
  - IRDF Construction Loans
  - IRDF Educational Project Grants
  - IRDF Educational Operating Grants
  - IRDF Community-wide Grants
General IRDF Information

- The FSILG Cooperative, Inc provides application support for all IRDF grants and loans - sklemm@fsilg.coop or 617.452.4053
- All forms available on IRDF web site at http://web.mit.edu/irdf/
- The IRDF also grants for key community-wide safety & educational initiatives, such as:
  - Carbon Monoxide sensors
  - Insurance administration
  - Part of the Safety, Licensing, & Inspection (SLI) Program
  - Fire Radio – replacement of analog phone lines for alarms
  - Community Network Upgrade Project (a $2M+ project!)
  - Coming → Bandwidth Upgrades to all non-campus FSILGs
- Applications are auditable, and may be reviewed in detail by MIT’s attorneys
- A word to the wise: consult with the FCI and apply early – well before your fiscal year end or before a project begins
Fundraising Campaign Help for FSILG Alumni House Corporations

• AILG Finance Committee
  – experienced campaign people can consult
  – maintenance model under development
  – contact tholtey@alum.mit.edu or rferrara@mit.edu

• MIT Alumni Fund – FSILG Fundraising Guide
  – Meet with Annual Fund Director Steve McAlister
  – Identify MIT donors with major capacity, discuss strategy

• Society for the Preservation of Greek Housing (SPGH)
  – Good “Third party” solution for older houses
  – Most FSILGs qualify at 90% of project cost
  – Chi Phi, Theta Chi, Sigma Chi, Lambda Chi experience @ MIT

• Donor Recognition from MIT
  – If given via IRDF, full class credit
  – If given to chapter or SPGH, new Alumni Association web site

• Other ideas on the FSILG Toolkit
MARLENA LOVE

FSILG OFFICE OVERVIEW
FSILG Team

Marlena Martinez Love
Assistant Dean and Director

Cat Sohor
Assistant Director - Fraternities

Adam McCready
Assistant Director – Sororities and ILGs

Mary Wislotski
Graduate Assistant

Visit us! Heinz Bldg W59-200
Email: fsilg-office@mit.edu
FSILG Community Snapshot

- 26 Fraternities – all but 2 nationally affiliated, 1 new colony
- 6 Sororities – five have 100+ members
- 6 Independent Living Groups – great variety
- Over 1,100 undergraduate beds
- 52% of men, and 36% women are affiliated
- 32 alumni-owned buildings, worth $100M+
- 9 other buildings, owned or leased by MIT
AILG Alumni Connections Seminar
A Complex System
Support Network

- Mental Health Liaisons, MedLinks, Student Support Services, MIT Offices CDSA, VPR, OSC

- Resident Advisors
  - Live in professionals, trained annually
  - Main point of contact for emergency response and student concern
  - Employed by house corporation, FSILG Office oversees program

- CARMA (Chapter Alumni Risk Management Advisors)
  - Holistic risk man (mental health, sexual assault, LGBT issues, safety, not just alcohol at parties
  - FSILG Office, CDSA, Wellness, AILG
  - 2 educational sessions per semester
  - One-on-one consultation
  - Programming stipend
Thank you!
FSILG Community Strategic Plan

Why a Strategic Plan?

- Set the community agenda for 3 – 5 years
- Focus on common goals
- Speak with one voice
- Align with MIT DSL strategic objectives
- Work together!
FSILG Community Strategic Plan

Plan Development Process

- Interviewed 20+ stakeholder groups
- More than 1,000 comments and ideas suggested
- Worked with community to develop 5 themes and 22 initiatives
- 5 working groups developed action plans for each theme
FSILG Community Strategic Plan

Theme #1: We will Enhance the FSILG Member Experience

- Provide educational guidance for leadership development
- Assist FSILGs to define and articulate the missions and values of their organizations
- Provide a framework for members’ personal growth
- Create opportunities for community building on the MIT campus
FSILG Community Strategic Plan

Theme #2: We will Strengthen Our Partnership with the Institute

- Clarify the relationship between FSILGs and MIT
- Ensure that FSILGs are integrated into the campus housing plan
- Build stronger relationships with faculty and staff
- Clarify the Resident Advisor (RA) program
FSILG Community Strategic Plan

Theme #3: We Will Revitalize Our Facilities

- Create a plan to bring every property up to par with on-campus residence halls
- Create “sand boxes” to encourage collaborative work and study
- Develop a sustainable property management model
- Educate our member groups about capital planning
- Address lease inequities in MITIMCo-owned housing
FSILG Community Strategic Plan

Theme #4: We Will Enhance the Reputation of Our Community

- Make the recruitment program more effective and efficient
- Engage with MIT to better integrate recruitment program with the MIT first-year experience
- Develop tools to better inform the community of the positive aspects of FSILG membership
- Develop tools to perform more outreach to parents
FSILG Community Strategic Plan

Theme #5: We Will Strengthen Alumni/ae Involvement with Our Community

- Develop new models to encourage engagement between alumni/ae and FSILGs
- Foster undergrad mentoring programs
- Expand alumni/ae communications
- Develop fundraising infrastructure and support
- Continue to improve on excellence of alumni/ae community-wide programs
FSILG Community Strategic Plan

Next Steps

- Adoption by 4 governing councils and student leadership groups
- Build community-wide engagement and support
- Recruit “champions” to lead each initiative
- Implementation begins in early fall
Thank you for your time and attention.

Please join us for a reception across the hall at the Thirsty Ear Pub!