AILG Board Meeting

Thursday, July 21, 2016 | W59-237 | Meeting called to order at 6:32PM by Steve Baker

In Attendance

Board: Steve Baker (TX), Alice Leung (ET), Pam Gannon (AP), Eric Cigan (LCA), Akil Middleton (ZP), Richard Larson (PBE)

Staff and alumni: Brad Badgley (FSILG Office), Scott Klemm (FSILG Cooperative, Inc.), Judy Robinson (Division of Student Life), Tom Holtey (CP), Stan Wulf (PDT), Mark Thompson (ADP), Pat McCabe (TCAA)

Students: Pravina Samaratunga (Living Group Council), David Dellal (Interfraternity Council)

Approval of Minutes (Eric Cigan)

The board voted to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2016 board meeting.

Financial Dashboard (Scott Klemm)

Scott reported in lieu of the AILG Treasurer that we had finished 2015-16 under budget, and noted that all FSILGs had been invoiced for 2016-17 dues. There have been no issues with billing or unanticipated expenses to date.

Introduction of Judith McGuire Robinson

Brad introduced Judy to those present as the new senior associate dean for residential education, noting that he was eager to be reporting to her in the newly-realigned Division of Student Life (DSL).

Judy explained that she had come to MIT nearly five years ago, after working in student affairs on five other campuses. At MIT, she has served as senior associate dean of student life, where she has overseen various programs and functions including Office of Student Citizenship, Conflict Management, the Dean on-call program and crisis response.

Under the recent DSL realignment announced by VP of Student Life Suzy Nelson, Judy will be taking on oversight of the FSILG Office to better coordinate support for students and to meet student learning objectives for learning outside the classroom. Suzy noted that Don Camelio (Community Development and Substance Abuse) has moved to a new department along with Student Support Services (S3), Violence Prevention and Response (VPR), and Student Disabilities Services (SDS).

Judy added that she was glad to be in the role and working with Brad. Looking ahead, she expects there will be more emphasis on intended outcomes, and that there could be more strategic planning work based on that. She also expects more effort devoted to how to work with other stakeholders like faculty.

FSILG Office Update (Brad Badgley)

Brad covered a number of topics.
• The FSILG Recognition Policy is essentially done, and now has to be reviewed by legal counsel, and then be considered by student councils and AILG. The new Recognition policy would replace existing policy, Section 4 of Mind and Hand Book. Other parts of Mind and Hand Book remain the same.
• The Social Events Policy v7.6 has been posted online, and Brad thanked everyone for their contributions. Judy will serve as chair when the committee responsible for the policy will meet this fall.
• Graduate Residence Assistant (GRA) hiring has gone well: nearly all have been hired, and he’s working with the alumni organizations of the two FSILGs that have yet to finalize GRA hiring. Brittany Scancarella continues to work part time for FSILG office, and recently sent out an email to FSILGs in order to close out subsidies for 2015-16.
• The Delta Phi Epsilon sorority now has a chapter house: they worked out a lease from the SPE house corporation to use their annex property. The FSILG Office is now working to recruit a GRA for DPhiE.
• The FSILG office is going through MIT’s formal “audit” process, which is essentially a routine periodic review of its risk management procedures. Steve Baker noted that he had participated in it through an interview. Brad felt it could lead into development of a strategic plan for the FSILG Office, which Brad has favored doing since he joined the office earlier this year.
• Suzy Nelson, Judy Robinson, David Dellal and Brad had a productive meeting earlier today about putting together a memorandum of understanding on provisional recognition for Theta Tau.
• There were some risk management incidents over Independence Day weekend. Notably, some Cambridge houses had people on their roof deck even though no social events had been approved. We discussed a recent breaking and entering incident that had been mentioned in a recent email from the FSILG office. Brad felt that that the main takeaway from the incident is that FSILGs need to be more careful about securing their houses.
• Brad is starting the process to recruit a new assistant director for the FSILG Office to replace the position previously held by Jacob Oppenheimer. Brad is putting together a hiring process now, and his goal is to have a new assistant director in place by mid-October.

In response to a question, Judy discussed the incident in Brooklyn last weekend in which an LCA member was killed and two other FSILG members were seriously injured. Judy described how MIT had been providing support, and we discussed the notification process. There were some concerns expressed about the notification process as it related to students and the MIT alumni community. Judy noted there’s a communications plan for such incidents that was being followed, and she appreciated the discussion as feedback on that plan.

Student Council Updates (Pravina Samaratunga, David Dellal)

LGC – Pravina explained that LGC is looking at activities for Fall rush, noting that they would like to try some different tactics from last year.

IFC – David said that IFC is also preparing for fall rush, noting that the “Greek Griller” is being brought back as kickoff to rush week. IFC is participating in the community barbeque event being sponsored by the Community Relations committee at Sigma Chi on September 1st. David mentioned recent IFC work with Panhel on the topic of sexual assault, plans to hold an social event on October 1st, an IFC symposium event late September / early October, and planning for philanthropic activities.

Panhel – No Panhel representative was on hand to make a report, but Pam mentioned that Panhel is preparing for recruitment, noting that there will be no house tour this year due to bussing issues that occurred last year. A “Meet the Greeks” event is planned for September 1st from 12:30 PM to 3:00 PM.

Review of 2016 AILG Goals
Board members presented their prepared comments on progress on AILG goals for 2015-16. Given the extensive amount of information covered, we agreed that we would compile the comments in a separate document outside of this meeting’s minutes.

**AILG Officer Elections**

We conducted officer elections, sequentially nominating and voting on the offices of Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. One candidate was nominated and seconded for each office, and then unanimously voted into office.

The following are the new AILG officers:

- Chair: Steve Baker
- Vice Chair: Akil Middleton
- Treasurer: Eric Cigan
- Secretary: Pam Gannon

Steve thanked Alice and Eric for their past service as vice chair and secretary, respectively, and thanked Anya Kattef for her three years of service as treasurer.

**Goal setting for 2017 (Steve Baker)**

The board discussed the potential goals that had been discussed via email:

1. Continue outreach to students, parents, our neighbors, sorority / ILG alumnae and other stakeholders
2. Continue to study recruitment and retention figures to better understand membership trends and the ideal size of the FSILG system
3. Continue to advocate for more FSILG housing options
4. Encourage participation in our communities by graduating seniors and graduate students
5. Foster healthy communities and cultures through the following:
   - Complete and publicize the Accreditation rubric
   - Pilot an alumni-student mentoring program
   - Pilot an alumni education program
   - Complete and publicize the FSILG Relationship Agreement
   - Complete and publicize the Member Support program
6. Foster trusting relationships among members and stakeholders of our communities
7. Raise the profile of the ILGs on campus, in part to demonstrate the diversity of the FSILG community at MIT

In the course of discussion, we decided to combine goals 1 and 2, 4 and 5, 2 and 6, and to broaden 7 to incorporate the FSILG Village.

During the session, Steve recommended a new goal to focus on AILG providing greater support for ILGs and Dick suggested some form of student-led effort to share knowledge on officer roles: treasurer, member education, etc. David noted that he sees a demand for this sort of material.

Steve took the action to prepare a revised set of goals that board members will discuss via email.

**Announcements, Other business and Adjournment**

The Dean’s Brunch will be held Monday, August 29th. Bob reminded everyone that this is a great chance for FSILG alumni leaders to volunteer to meet and greet parents and families of first-year students.
Tom Holtey informed the board that Chi Phi’s general fraternity had recently voted to accept transgender members under certain conditions, making them the first national fraternity to have a policy accepting transgender members. The board welcomed this news and was interested in learning more about the policy.

The AILG Building Safety Facilitator contract needed to be put to a board vote. A motion was put forth to approve the BSF contract. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

A motion to adjourn was made at approximately 8:45 PM. The motion passed unanimously.