



AILG Plenary Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 13, 2016 7:30 AM | Mezzanine Lounge W20-307 | Meeting called to order at 7:30 AM by Alice Leung

In Attendance

FSILGs attending: Alpha Delta Phi, Alpha Epsilon Phi, Phi, Alpha Epsilon Pi, Alpha Phi, Beta Theta Pi, Chi Phi, Delta Upsilon, Epsilon Theta, Fenway House, Kappa Sigma, Lambda Chi Alpha, Phi Beta Epsilon, Phi Delta Theta, Phi Kappa Sigma, Phi Kappa Theta, Pi Lambda Phi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Student House, Tau Epsilon Phi, Theta Chi, Theta Xi, Zeta Beta Tau and Zeta Psi

FSILGs not attending: Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Tau Omega, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Delta Phi Epsilon, Kappa Alpha Theta, Nu Delta, Pi Beta Phi, pika, Sigma Chi, Sigma Kappa, Sigma Nu, Theta Delta Chi, WILG.

AILG Board: Alice Leung, Eric Cigan, Richard Larson and Akil Middleton

MIT Administration and Guests: Bob Ferrara (DSL); Brad Badgley, Jacob Oppenheimer and Brittany Scancarella (FSILG); Scott Klemm and Oscar Argueta (FCI); Kim Hunter, Austin Ashe and Danielle Reddy (MIT Alumni Ass'n); Stephen Kimball (Elevate)

Undergraduates: Sasha Crandall Fleischman (Living Group Council), Courtney Diamond (Panhellenic Council), David Dellal (Interfraternity Conference), Obasi Onuoha (ZBT), Emily Giurico (AEPi)

Treasurer's Report / Presentation of the 2017 Budget

Alice noted that AILG expenses for the 2015-16 year are on track. The 2016-17 budget was circulated as well: Alice commented that the budget included a slight increase in dues, but that dues would still be less than in past years. Alice said that if anyone had questions, they should contact either her or Anya Kattaf. The AILG 2016-17 budget will be voted on at the AILG annual meeting in June.

FSILG Office Update (Brad Badgley, Brittany Scancarella, Jacob Oppenheimer)

Campus Preview Weekend (CPW) took place the previous weekend, with record numbers of admitted students and parents attending. Brad explained were a few issues over noise violations, and there was generally good observance of dry requirements. The FSILG office is following up with FSILGs responsible for noise violations, working with chapter undergraduates and alumni/alumnae.

The **Graduate Resident Assistance (GRA)** program is winding down its search process, according to Brittany. She sent FSILGs that expect to need new GRAs for the 2016-17 year an email several weeks ago. She noted there are 42 candidates in the system now, and she has been impressed with quality of the candidates this year. FSILG alums who are interested in the process should contact her. The FSILG Office will complete candidate ranking by April 22nd, and then start making offers.

Brittany explained there is a proposal to modify the **Summer GRA plan**. The proposal is under review, and she expects a resolution by the end of April.

Regarding **GRA subsidies**, Brittany has list of which FSILGs have submitted them and which have been paid. GRA subsidies are paid out once per month. Check with her if you have questions.

The Panhellenic Council (Panhel) will hold a **Panhel alumnae mixer** with the FSILG office on evening of May 19th. The location for the mixer is yet to be determined.

Brad explained two recent **incidents of concern at FSILGs**.

1. A **noise complaint** became a significant issue, with potential implications with Boston Licensing Board. The episode was worsened when members of the FSILG involved told BPD officers responding to the complaint that they didn't have authority to respond. Most FSILG members were away so those left in charge weren't didn't understand the appropriate way to treat BPD officers. Brad worked with Sarah Gallop, and their proposal to handle the complaint within the MIT community was accepted by the BLB. He noted that noise complaints concerning Boston FSILGs have been increasing and encouraged plenary attendees to work with their undergraduates on these topics.
2. A Risk Management Consultant assigned to monitor an FSILG event found that the member assigned to be **the door monitor was intoxicated**. Jacob thanked IFC Risk Manager Jason Morrison for his quick response to the incident, and encouraged everyone with Boston chapters to remind undergrads to work with FSILG Office or IFC on risk management, especially for larger events. Door management is critical since denying entry to problematic visitors is the best way to prevent many problems during FSILG social events.

Brad finished with announcements concerning Marathon Monday, Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the FSILG awards ceremony and summer house managers training.

Student Council Reports (David Dellal, Sasha Crandall Fleischman, Courtney Diamond)

Interfraternity Council – David told us CPW went well, with good attendance at events. He noted that Rise Partnerships will speak at Presidents Council this week; over a dozen fraternities will be holding events for Sexual Assault Awareness Month; and there are ongoing efforts making efforts to work with Boston and Cambridge in coordination with the AILG Community Relations Committee.

Living Group Council – Sasha reported LGC would be holding election for new community relations chair next week. Elections for new officers will be held in May. Bob Ferrara noted that Daniel Palumbo of the LGC has done a great job working with the Community Relations Committee.

Panhellenic Council – Courtney said CPW went well for Panhel. Panhel will host a representative from the National Panhellenic Council to discuss the algorithms used in recruitment, and they expect a follow-up visit from NPC in September to review procedures. Junior Panhel now underway and planning events.

FSILG Village Presentation (Stephen DeFalco)

Stephen started by saying his goal is to “demystify” the FSILG Village concept and start recruiting interest in alumni. He gave the background on the project and how it started with work with Jim Champy of the MIT Corporation and Steve Baker. They started talking with senior administration, worked with interested alumni last year, then met with Visiting Committee on Student Life.

Stephen emphasized that the early goal was get a green light from MIT to proceed rather than to have a detailed plan. He went on to present data from MIT Institutional Research on the positive impact that FSILG alumni have had on MIT and the world at large. He went on to explain results from a survey by DSL that showed support for discussion of on-campus FSILG Village.

He covered the stresses on the FSILG community over last 20 years, including issues of occupancy and finances, and went on to explain the goal is to build a residential system for the next generation of MIT. He sees there being a 3-8 year window through MIT's West Campus Planning Committee effort, and is concerned that after that the chance will be lost. The area being considered is between Westgate and Memorial Drive.

Stephen emphasized that participation of FSILGs in the village would be voluntary option, and that each house would make their own decision on involvement.

There is now an FSILG Village Steering Committee that includes Brad Badgley and Bob Ferrara from MIT DSL, representatives of FSILG student councils, as well as Pam Gannon, Steve Baker and Stephen. He explained their upcoming tasks that will include analyzing trends, benchmarking with other universities, and conducting student design workshops.

Stephen said there will be a letter sent out to the AILG community to get volunteers, and the committee will get underway in May.

When asked how many chapters the village could hold, Stephen answered he would like it to be sized for 12, possibly with four in the initial configuration.

Locals Committee Report and Next Steps (Eric Cigan)

Eric Cigan, co-chair of the Locals Committee, reported on the committee report that has recently been posted online, encouraging members to review it and provide feedback. The plan includes survey results on perceptions of the value of Nationals among undergrads and alumni of MIT FSILGs, and discusses the possibility of an “FSILG Alliance” that could complement the support currently provided by AILG and others.

The report has been provided to MIT stakeholders for their consideration. Eric noted that he and Alice Leung will update the AILG community as further developments occur, and thanked the committee members for their contributions.

AILG/IFC Recruitment Study (Akil Middleton and Jack Gordon)

Akil Middleton, co-chair of the new ad-hoc Recruitment Committee, reported on the work of the committee over the past year.

Akil explained that there is an increasing sentiment among MIT faculty that IFC recruitment, with its heavily reliance on Fall Rush week, should be revamped. This new AILG effort is intended to help AILG get out in front of this subject with a data-driven study effort. The study’s aims are to 1) discover trends, 2) evaluate how and how well FSILGs recruit, 3) investigate how other schools recruit and compare to MIT system and 4) determine the lasting effects of recruitment.

Akil showed some preliminary MIT data showing trends from 2001 to 2015, including the percentage of men in each 1st-year class and percentage of men pledged to fraternities. He intends to collect additional data to fill in some gaps and to obtain retention metrics.

He thanked Jack Gordon, IFC rush chair, for helping to get recruitment data from chapters on rush spending by each chapter, and showed the relationship between rush spending and the number of members recruited.

Next steps include finishing focus groups, completing data collection, drafting a first version of the report by end of May and finalizing in the early summer.

Committee Reports

Accreditation (John Covert) – Only four reviews are taking place this semester, one review will need board review, two more reviews will occur on April 30th. However there will be 12-14 reviews in the Fall 2016 semester, so he expects 30 volunteers will be needed. Also, the committee just distributed its report for the 2014-15 academic year.

Community Relations (Jim Lattimer) – The committee’s goal is to promote and publicize good things about FSILGs. Recent meetings have included a talk by the chair of Back Bay Neighborhood Association Community Connections

committee, a presentation by IFC Risk Manager Jason Morrison on the Social Event policy and a presentation by Courtney Diamond on Panhel's STAR program. They are gearing up for an end-of-term clothing drive to capture clothing from chapters and provide it to Goodwill Industries. Jim discussed snow removal for neighbors, noise complaint issues, and Pam Gannon discussed parent outreach.

Education (Bryan Bryson) – AILG has run officer programs yearly, and their goal is for the programs to be going online this summer. The committee wants to look at new topic areas and will be conducting a survey. Bryan discussed collaboration with the Mentorship Committee, and discussed cohosting an event at the Alumni Leadership Conference in September for FSILG alums and friends.

Facilities (Pat McCabe) – Pat said that Tom Stohlman, AILG Building Safety Facilitator, had inspected all Boston houses and put out reports to groups to encourage them to be up to standards of what City expects. Scott Klemm added that he has municipal license forms for Boston and Cambridge houses, and alumni should see him to sign the forms.

IT/Telecom (David Lawrence) - MIT VoIP phone numbers now available to all FSILGs, with two per house: one for alums/house corporations, and one for undergrads. The service is provided by IS&T for free, and is officially supported by the IS&T helpdesk. Can be forwarded to other phone numbers and/or ring physical phones. Houses wishing to order physical phones for \$100 per phone must contact info@fsilg.coop by April 22nd, after which the group order will be submitted. Pilot program for FCI management of the house corporation telephone number to automatically forward to the designated FCI Contacts - additional cost of \$100 per semester in which those contacts are updated, contact info@fsilg.coop to join. Undergraduate network contacts already have access to their house's phone numbers. Any questions or issues gaining access, contact ailg-it@mit.edu.

Netgear switches servicing wired drops in houses are approaching end of life. They are house owned equipment and eventually will need to be replaced at the house's expense. IT committee is in the early stages of investigating options for partial IRDF and IS&T support, but houses should plan on additional network expenses of roughly three thousand dollars per 48-port switch within the next few years. Houses are also advised to consider the current usage levels of their wired network and figure out how many of the 100 to 200 existing drops they will wish to keep connected -- more switches will be needed to keep more drops live.

Insurance (Stan Wulf) – AILG insurance was renewed April 1st with rates similar to last year. The increase for liability was modest based on our low risk profile. Scott to send out email to groups with D&O coverage, and asked for list of all officers and committee, noting that need this is essential to make sure you have coverage.

Mentorship – Rise Partnerships is developing curriculum. The committee is working on their AILG web page.

Parent Outreach (Pam Gannon) – CPW was big weekend for parent outreach, with record numbers of students and parents. IFC and Panhel ran panels with good attendance, but the attendance at an FSILG Office panel was impacted by schedule crowding. MIT COB held parent reception on Friday night.

IRDF (Tom Holtey) – Tom explained they are reviewing grant program and policies, and explained changes in reimbursement rates. Dave Latham of the IRDF Board of Allocation discussed the state of loans for construction and renovation, noting that at present nearly all funds have been deployed as loans. There are still funds to cover smaller projects (up to \$200K) but we noted are in "new era" for major projects.

Finance (Ernie Sabine) – Ernie noted that the latest house bill survey went out, and encouraged everyone to make sure that their undergrads completed the survey.

Following announcements, the plenary meeting adjourned at 9:08am.