

TOWN HALL MEETING

35-40 students in attendance

Elliot begins the transition to actually talking about stuff!

ASC Introduction*: Casey, Meelena, (Jimmy), (Coryn), (Briar), Michelle, Marcel, Carlos, Liz, Scott, Lauren, Elliot, Luis, Nadya, and Naomi *not in this order

What is this meeting?

Elliot tells us! Last spring a lot of unrest...let's channel into a positive something. Let's use a survey!

Update on ASC Activity

- **Student Survey**

We've acted on the responses in selecting a series of areas: **Faculty** – search committee student reps, **Community**- events that bring people together ... hooray! **Space**, **Lectures**, **clarity of policy**, and **Thesis**.

Scott says the survey was great! Go Elliot, Michael, and Luis! Let's catalyze some change!

- **Dept. Head Search**

Props to Adele. Luis is delighted and surprised with our level of involvement. It's more than we bargained for.

Q. Stan is leaving. How will we thank him?

New head will begin August of 2005. Committee went through 60 names, but a lot of people said no. No one wants to move to Cambridge. This school requires too much work. But don't despair...a group of people knows how great we are and that is terribly exciting! There are 5 candidates. We can't make a judgment until we see them all.

If you have any comments or thoughts email them to ASC or Luis.

Luis needs a person from BT to be on the breakfast committee.

What is the purpose of the breakfast?

To get a small but communal opinion on each of the candidates.

- **MArch Thesis (is skipped)**

Community!

Current concerns

PhD 15% (gets a ringing endorsement from Michael)

Computation Group trying to get space on main campus

Other Community ideas!

The ASC has a speaker fund. Apply to the ASC for money if you want someone to come to talk and need some food and drinks. No honorariums though.

Potential Ideas: Beaux-Arts Ball (we are told it happened...wait, the department backed out) First Aid Friday...Liz talks for Chris.

Chris : Questions the energy that went into Friday events – event monitoring / drinking etc. Department perpetually cut the budget. Not enough volunteers to host events. Might be difficult to resurrect based on mit restriction on spending.

Michael – funding not problem / responsibility of students lacking

Talia suggests making events the responsibility of certain groups (like the first years do an event) this idea is endorsed by Luis. . . and others.

Talia also points out we're a little school. Why don't we go to R+D? (Michelle says she's good even though she's an undergrad, she'll come too.)

Liz points out that we can't spend social money at R+D and we should spend more money. Shall we go to the aquarium instead?

Events need to have architectural content and be open to the entire community. Further student proposals welcome

Well, just what's the ball park of our funding? \$1000 for speakers - out of that we'll fund Friday noon talks, we have at least \$500 left. For social events we have \$3500 for the year. That's more than last year.

There's also another fund for events that involve the ML, DUSP, VAP....

Treasurer Marcel says: Don't worry too much about spending all the money. Tonight's event is 30% of our budget, enjoy it!
Meeting with Stan and Ann brings up....

Department Strategic Plan

Faculty has been asked to put together a plan for how the school should go in the future. Stan wants us to tell him what students think.

There's suddenly a long debate about non-residence. <thanks, guys!> Which includes the point that it is a matter of competition for top grad students. You must pay full tuition the term you defend thesis. But maybe this is a large issue that is bigger than the individual, so let's drop them!!! And move to everyone's favorite unsolvable issue...

SPACE!

Computation and Undergrads hate N51.

There should be a Student Common Room.

Adele is focused on the N51 issue...they will move close or possibly to a connected building.

Visibility (creating more presence for the Department)

Do people want Computation to come over here? Everybody says sure. Carlos says ***there is a space, the problem is that it's occupied. so how do we get it?***

Computation has 5 points of unity:

1. They like the size and privacy of their space!
2. The fragmentation of the group is bad!
3. It doesn't represent what a group should be!
4. "We want the same space and the same privacy in Main Campus" – carlos shouts it out and cuts yanni off.
5. ? sorry

Ideas on N51 and department dispersion:

Maybe we could disperse March Thesis into Studio 5 & 7. getting rid of the thesis studio and put Computation there...mixing thesis into the studios.

Thesis is too isolated and studio 7 is all walled off. Jim H. says that if there is enough student interest we might be able to get rid of the walls. Student interest in reconfiguration!

But maybe tearing down the walls won't tear down the "walls." Go talk to people!

- Scott

Notice: Event focusing on student research in the School of Architecture on 10th of November. Whole space around AVT...digital or paper.

- **Faculty and Supply Search**

Students have an incredible amount of power! What is the avenue that individual students should take? Go through the ASC. Stephen/Steven thought that a paper cutter would be useful by the plotter. Stan gives us a rotary cutter! He's so nice.

To get a second laser cutter we have to prove that we are using this one too much. Marcel is going to take care of the monitoring so use the cutter a lot in the next 3 weeks.

Altec plastic will be delivered hopefully soon, hopefully 2 weeks.

We're getting a new plotter.

Talia gives a **report on the faculty search for a Design and Studio professor** Put out a focused call, targeting people. **Please let Talia or James know if there is anyone you suggest or talk to APJ directly.** We're looking for someone who can teach studio (built projects), intellectual achievement, digital technology. They should be able to interact with other disciplines. Tenure Track...they will be up for tenure in 3-5 years...they have to be ready to have their research reviewed by then. You hire someone that you believe will get tenure in 3-5 years.

Reaction:

How big of a stress is put on presence? you want someone who is active in their career. But what if they are too dedicated to their career? They have to be on committees and meetings. Maybe we can get rid of some of this administrative work with Adele's help.

There might be other jobs too that aren't tenure track, let Talia know if you have anyone in mind.

"5 year plan" ideas

institute-wide: technology as applied science(technology – where does architecture fit in?

practice and academy : less division ... but then there is the questionable practice of academia!

Work for free, shall we?

But what if we are paid...the department on the 3rd floor tries to interact with professors about how much they should pay students. Faculty get a lecture that they should keep your payment around the rate that you pay a TA. There is also the culture of the RA at MIT...another model of working. Scott offers a unique perspective on working for free...that is strongly disputed....then the bridge between practice and academia is disputed...

Then... (Without getting to MArch Thesis Michael and Elliot wrap it up!)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MICHAEL RAMAGE!!!!!!!

Ps. We have to come together before Dec. 1 (strategic plan meeting)!