

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

DormCon

MIT DORMITORY COUNCIL MEETING

Sept. 27 2006, 5:30pm -- Senior Haus

ON THE AGENDA:

Get Food (5:15)

Welcome & Welfare (5:31)

Present: Baker, Burton Conner, EC, MacGregor, McCormick, Random, Senior Haus, Simmmons

Absent: Bexley, New, Next

UPDATES (5:35)

- Housing
 - no update - later
- Dining
 - survey for last location in Lobdell supposed to come out sometime this week
- JudComm
 - Veronica Mendoza has oversight of the Office of Student Mediation and Community Standards
- Risk Management
 - handed around document to all Houseteam members - outlines common alcohol and drug related infractions and gives what the expected disciplinary response is suggested to be
 - David was involved at the end of the process and the purpose is so that everyone is clear on what is supposed to be done - not any new policy
 - David raised the concern that the first responses seem a little too strong but that is the minimum response set forward by MIT
 - report came out through one of Danny's committees after last year after there were a few incidents involving freshmen and alcohol
 - this report came out because previously the instructions were to 'do something' so this is a concrete list of what is supposed to be done
- Student Groups
 - UA elections are this week - go vote!
- Meetings w/ Deans (Benedict, SLOPE)

- SLOPE wrap up meeting to talk about REX events - what was discussed at last meeting was reported
- orientation cycle starts again very soon
- Martini and David met with Larry last week which we will discuss later in the meeting

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. REX 2007 Considerations -- Guide to Residence, i3 (5:40)

- Looking for new photographer so we will also be revamping the Guide to Residences
- Possibly organize a group of freshmen to review the Guide to Residences and give new ideas for the next one as soon as possible (within the next month)
- i3 video - figure out how to pick the new i3 chair
 - ask Tim Dudley again? Or review more applicants
 - more work last year than expected so maybe have 2 i3 sub-chairs - one for filming and one for organizing
 - pay would be split between the i3 chairs
 - decide this by the end of the month because we need the chairs by the end of October
 - caused Tim a lot of time because he also had to make the new website and had some software problems
 - Tim is interested in doing it again
 - have someone be an i3 chair in training? because there is a lot involved and someone else is going to have to do this eventually
 - maybe Tim would end up doing more of the work than he should because the other person might not feel obligated to help as much
 - ask Tim if he wants an assistant and leave it up to him

Vote for Tim Dudley to be i3 Chair again:

Baker Y Burton Conner Y EC Y MacG Y McCormick Y Random Y Senior Haus Y Simmons Y

Tim is now i3 chair.

- Also need to start looking for DormCon REX chair which may get you free summer housing
 - If interested contact Martini, David, or Sarah

2. Smoking Policy, revisited (5:50)

- Talked about this a lot last meeting
- Don't need to know about smokers who live in singles - only smokers who live in multiple occupancy rooms
- Best way to do this is to contact RACs? And should we contact them or should we ask Robin to do it?
 - Problem: When talking to some smokers some of them aren't willing to give their name as being an "official smoker" - Is there any way to just identify that there are x number of smokers on this floor?

- Problem with that is we need their specific signatures - smokers could sign in person (not electronically) and this could create more privacy
- How does this affect people who start smoking in the middle of the year?
 - they need to sign the form when they start
- Is it possible to have the form say that "I allow smoking in this room" instead of "I am a smoker"?
- This would cause everyone on campus to have to sign the form and might cause parents to become upset if their children are signing a smoking policy
- Is there a way to work this in to the regular housing confirmation form?
 - Cambridge policy is that they have to say that they are a smoker - not just that they are ok with smoking
- What we would need to do is to get everyone in a smoking dorm who lives in a multiple occupancy room to say that they are ok with smoking in their room
- If you made it part of the official process their name would be attached to it - if the RACs go around and get the names this would have more anonymity
- Suggestion: 4 smoking dorms - get in touch with those RACs and whatever plan they come up with DormCon should go with it

3. Formation of W1 steering committee (5:55)

- will be opening up as an undergraduate residence in the fall of 2008 - need to set up this forming committee (btw, this is Ashdown)
- Larry Benedict has asked David to appoint 3 people -- 2 from west campus, 1 from east campus (consistent with populations).
- Should be a sophomore or junior because of experience, and the need to sit on the committee for 18 months
- Need someone who is passionate for opening new residence hall, thinking outside the box, and creativity
- If you have names send them to David by this weekend. <nedzel>
- Process: this is only the steering committee - big group of people with undergraduates, administration, housing, dining etc
 - meets monthly
 - after a while this group splits up into other subcommittees such as student government, dining etc and then more people will get involved
- When this opens this will be the largest undergraduate dorm on campus

4. DormCon Alumni Initiative (6:00)

- Jeff Roberts, Emily Cofer, Ian Brelinsky, and Harvey Jones (past DormCon presidents) developed this idea with David and Martini because DormCon does not have a large connection with their alumni
- Begin establishing this alumni base by surveying alumni to get their interests and have an event in the Spring.
- Talk to Candice Royer about fundraising?
 - Right now focus is getting interest

-to get in touch with former DormCon officers and former house officers

-McCormick tries to have an alumni dinner

-Random and EC have many alums that come back

-MacGregor, Burton Conner, and Baker not much

-Simmons alumni are very young of course

-Possibly be a dinner at Faculty Club - or a dorm (better)

-Is this distinct from the Alumni Leadership Conference?

-Yes.

-Purpose to get alumni to come back to see what campus life is like now compared to how it was when they were here

-Interested in helping out contact Martini or David

5. Formation of, and charge to DormCon SCHO (6:10)

-Andrew Spann - chair of UA Orientation Committee

-holding feedback meetings Oct 9th-13th - every night in a different dorm

-EC, MacGregor, Random, maybe McCormick will host

-Will be writing a report in order to report to Susan Hockfield

-How does REX interact with academic orientation?

-What are some of the elements of the process?

- RBA impact on Housing

-Why does RBA restrict freshmen from moving after REX?

-Lanthe will chair this group

-Jamie, Petra and others are interested. Contact Lanthe

<lanthe> to sign up.

-Could this group look at how much CPW affects people's housing choices?

-yes, but this has less to do with Orientaion.

ADJOURN

6:21 PM