MIT DORMITORY COUNCIL MEETING  
Nov. 15 2006, 5:30pm -- McCormick  

SPECIAL GUEST: Veronica Mendoza (Director, Office of Student Mediation and Community Standards)  

ON THE AGENDA:  

Get Food (5:15)  

Welcome & Welfare (5:30)  

Present: Baker, East Campus, MacGregor, McCormick, Next, Random, Senior House  

Absent: Bexley, Burton-Conner, New, Simmons  

UPDATES (5:35)  

- Housing  
  - MIT Cable  
    - Discovery Channel is now here! Replaced MIT Weather  
    - MIT only has a finite amount of bandwidth so we can only have so many channels so what do we purchase and which ones do we actually get to see  
    - The L.A.M.P. channels have really bad quality so those could only be used by audio  
    - International channels are paid for by the language departments and we cannot touch them  
    - Lowest channel on the survey was the GBH-Kids but that was kept because of the Westgate and Eastgate families  
    - MTV/MTV-U is still up in the air  

- HSG  
  - Release of cultural house subcommittee report  
  - David will send out the 40 page report to look at  
  - 3 recommendations:  
    - Making sure that they are achieving a core academic purpose  
    - If there are new themed houses, where will they end up? Housing will think about that  
    - Residential Scholar program should be expanded in numbers and to other dorms besides New and Simmons  

- W1 Committee  
  - At the second meeting, the feasibility design study was released
- Will be plenty of opportunities in the coming months to sit in on the subcommittee meetings
- How will the dining program be implemented?
  - Current plan would be dining hall plus a country kitchen (no additional dining space)

- Dining
  - Survey and analysis of that continues
  - Allie is working with the UA and Rich Berlin
- JudComm (see below)
- Risk Management
  - CLC hearing was very quick – reported on the Social Host Initiative Training
  - MIT is now released from the CLC’s watch
- Student Groups
  - Senate was 2 days ago

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
1. The "new" office of Student Mediation and Community Standards (5:45)
   - Veronica Mendoza began on September 1st this year
   - Her job focuses on supervising student mediation and other things (like the COD) and setting goals for things to come
   - Veronica will be hiring a full time mediation trainer that will be in charge of setting up a mediation program
   - Will be expanding the graduate mediation programs in Course 5 and Course 8 and will be trying to get this across campus

2. The Future for House JudComms and DormCon JudComm (5:50)
   - Another goal is to bring back the JudComm’s
   - Back when Veronica was here they were in almost all of the dorms however the rest of the Institute did not really know what was going on with them
   - Purpose is to have your community making decisions based on your dorm’s standards
   - Bad side was however, there was no consistency – there needs to be a basic level that shouldn’t vary from dorm to dorm
   - The intent is to not impose these on the dorms – each dorm can have a JudComm only if they want to
   - Ian and Veronica both agree that they should proceed cautiously
   - Beginning with Random and MacGregor and will be putting them through training in the next few weeks so that they will hopefully be ready to hear cases beginning next term
   - Why is administrative oversight over JudComms necessary?
     - Making sure that a case is appropriate and also a mechanism for making sure a fine or community service is enforced
   - Do all of the JudComm members have to be trained?
     - Only complaints filed against a certain individual or a group of people
     - Simmons will hopefully be trained during IAP
   - "Rules and Procedures for Dormitory Judicial Committees" document can have each dorm specify what kinds of cases they can hear
   - Hopefully by the end of the academic year can have a functioning DormCon JudComm
   - 30 hour mediation training will occur during IAP during one of the weeks
3. DormCon IAP Leadership Summit (6:00)
-Purpose is to get new and returning dormitory leaders together to talk about differences in different dorms and campus issues etc.
-Timing – towards end of January because more people will be back on campus
-Not holding it during LeaderShape
-Could be like last year - 5 hour evening session during the 3rd week of IAP on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday night etc
-Or could use weekend or parts of weekend
-If we went for the weekend some fun could be involved
-This is worth looking in to
-Time for leaving - maybe better if it’s not in the early morning so more people would come – possibly leave on Friday afternoon and return on Saturday evening
-Half of goal is to introduce new dormitory leaders to DormCon but other half is to get dormitory leaders together and talking

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 29th at MacGregor at 5:30 PM

ADJOURN – 6:11 PM