

DORMCON MEETING MINUTES – September 27, 2012

Dorm	Representative	Absent
Baker	Michael Plasmeier	absent
Burton-Conner	Janille Maragh	
East Campus	Robert Johnson	
MacGregor	Edward Mugica	
Masseh Hall	Regina Cho	
McCormick	Sheila Lee	proxy, Katherine Silvestre
New House	Benjamin Shaibu	
Next House	Austin Brinson	
Random Hall	Alexandra Westbrook	
Senior Haus	Katy Gero	
Simmons Hall	Eli Ross	
President	Edward Mugica	
Vice President	Janille Maragh	
Secretary	Phoebe Whitwell	
Treasurer	Yukino Nagai	
Advisor	Becky Kjaerbye	

1. Visitor: Beta Theta Pi fraternity (until 6:15)
 - Ryan: on staff, asked to bring Beta to MIT community
 - Paul: travel in support of the fraternity
 - changed views of fraternities through meeting Beta members, saw strong values of growth and service and not “Animal House” style
 - want to provide a place in which people who are looking for leadership growth and shared core values can support each other
 - Would like Dormcon to support Beta recruitment in the dorms.
 - Regina: don’t we already have fraternities at MIT that are providing these things?
 - Eli: Yes, the frats at MIT do try to exemplify these things. Beta doesn’t want to be residential at first, which is more notable.
 - Katy: Who is trying to restart the fraternity?
 - Paul: This was agreed by the national organization, the university, and alumni from the chapter.

It was decided that whether or not Beta can hold recruitment events in the dorms should be decided on a house-by-house basis.

2. Visitor: Tom Roberts of GAMIT (until 6:25)
 - Treasurer for GAMIT, the largest LGBT organization at MIT
 - “Big Gay Party”, jointly hosted with Senior House, October 12. Dry event.
 - The party got funding from Dormcon last year, the money would go to a DJ and MIT Police (this is required). The budget has been decreased

from last year because they're not hiring the Muddy Charles. They're also using money from GAMIT and ResLife.

- Last year Dormcon gave \$1000, which is what they're asking for this year.
- Edward: We don't have access to our books right now or that much money.
- Is this event open to all of campus? Yes. Advertising across campus? Yes, GAMIT is taking care of it. What was the attendance last year? Between 150 and 200.
- This will not be paid for out of the Senior House budget, but it may use Senior House GRT funds.
- Regina: can we reconsider after you know if you're getting GRT funds?
- Tom: That will be too short a timeframe.
- Edward: If Dormcon funds it, it should not call be called a Senior House event. Also, we're not sure about our budget because we're not done receiving requests from REX.

Vote: Fund \$500 to the Big Gay Party	
Yes	9
No	1
Abstain	1

It was decided to fund the Big Gay Party \$500.

3. Quarter Machine

- Benjamin: I would like one in MacCon.
- Robj: There is one located in EC.
- Edward: Banks also will change money for rolls of quarters.
- Becky: Sweet Tea is bringing this up at the CAC meeting. If you get one, you should consider maintenance.

4. Events planned from last year

- Edward: I would like to see these happen. We've started working on "Iron Chef". I think we have opportunities to bring people from different dorms together and create a stronger MIT community. I've talked to administrators and they are supportive.
- Benjamin: We should make sure that we don't conflict with large-scale UA, IFC, or Panhel events.
- Yukino: Would Dormcon be interested in a "trick-or-treating" event on Halloween? People could go around to different dorms and get candy.
- Edward: I like that event, can we have a project manager?
- Yukino: I have a candy magazine, I can do it.
- Alina: I want to make it more interactive, so I can help.

- Benjamin: I think we should open ourselves up more as a campus resource for ideas like that. Maybe do some more advertising.
- Edward: At least in the short run, the best way to do that could be for dorm presidents to talk to residents.

5. "Dorm Wars"

- Edward: The Simmons Housemasters had this idea, and the Provost likes it. This would be a huge field day with traditional events and puzzle events such as a mini Mystery Hunt. It would take place on Briggs Field and dorms could have a friendly competition.
- Katy: This sounds really cool but also quite large and would require a lot of effort.
- Edward: The administration would have to be highly involved, and it would happen in the spring.
- Alina: We had a similar event at my boarding school, and it was fun.
- Rob: MIT used to have large field day events, and then someone died in 1902.
- Edward: This is the kind of event I think the Dormcon budget should be primarily focused on, so if you have ideas you should bring them to the next meeting.

6. Dining

- There will be a new UA committee, three reps from dining dorms and three reps from non-dining dorms.

7. Student Body Retreats

- Benjamin: How much does everyone spend for their Dorm Exec retreats?
- Katherine: McCormick has a house government retreat every year, it seems expensive. It's overnight, in January.
- Benjamin: New House used to have retreats every year, but people stopped it because it felt wasteful and expensive.
- Katy: I think retreats make more sense for Dormcon or UA.
- Becky: Retreats are useful if they happen right after people get elected.
- Regina: Maseeh exec went on a retreat last IAP, it was useful to have conversations that people might not normally have.