

Exec Updates/agenda

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_0iNOk_gmtfPj6MCqQO3AqMK4UtNcg7ZYLs_qMQFvjGY/edit#

- Dining & Housing - nothing new
- Risk Management - meeting next week
- Miana: Did other dorms get the fans & ventilation they were promised?
 - Sarah - New didn't get them, but we're not really using them
 - Tommy - Next didn't get them, but not needed
 - Shaيدا- the rooms Simmons has them in didn't end up being used
 - Seif - (MacG) heard from David that you have to organize with your house manager to get them for your spaces
- Sarah E: Did anyone store communal things with Piece by piece? New house is considering moving to them - wanted to know how they handled it
 - Sarah A: Burton Conner did this, some people living in off campus apartments are retrieving them

Burton Conner Updates

- Sarah E: BC?
 - Sarah A: The deadline for remodeled architecture plans is in Oct, started meeting back in June, had another meeting last Friday.
 - There's a few main issues right now that transition team has:
 - An associate Head of House apartment will be added to B1, causing them to lose 8 rooms ~ 17% of population. HOH want the extra help so not likely to be reversed
 - Main concern is children potentially living on the floor, issues with noise/social events
 - Can't be a mural dorm any more :(but knew this was coming - will be getting some accommodations, will get picture racks
 - Caragay/Faraz: suggest getting fake walls?
 - B3: orange & black checkered floors might have to go
 - Admin says it bothers summer residents
 - C3: picture boards go back decades - can we hang those on the walls?
 - Shuli: This happened to EC last year, they got a new associate HOH with a kid that moved in to the floor, but it worked out well because the apt was already there, it was sort of already designated the quieter part of the floor. Suggest doors - could close off for events. Didn't feel like they had to censor themselves, just takes a bit of community adjustment.
 - Sarah A: David unwilling to take feedback, is set on apt being in this location
 - Push to put in a door!

- Think about paths to getting to the apt
- Asking about tips after the new house transition? Any suggestions on how to mitigate harm?
- Is it the norm for communities to interview candidates for HOH?
 - Shuli: Yes!
 - Sarah A: possibly giving extra weight to BIs opinions
 - Miana: Yes! Did it in 2 stages
- Future plans: gathering testimonials on why certain aspects of the dorm are important to ppl (pic boards, murals, checkered floors)
 - Faraz: getting Alumni to advocate for their importance?
 - Sarah A: yes, testing the waters with emails
- Sarah E: wasn't super present for the transition, but New had a hard time finding the layout of communities after the remodel. Had to divide placement of communities, rough time.
 - Sarah A: keeping overall suite structure, just adding accessible suites that'll connect B and C sides

Dining Updates

- Sarah E: Dining things?
 - Shaída: Currently collaborating with the UA to communicate more with dining & get feedback from students.
 - Met with the summer dining group. After the dining action plan was sent out, they discussed potential issues:
 - Logistics with walking to Lobdell dining, getting crowded - will meet with HOH next week.
 - Going to push on more signage & advertisements for the feedback form, making it accessible.
 - Don't push for the sustainability email! They're working on meeting most of those demands, efforts are doubled right now. Don't spam admin!
 - Meeting to discuss issues with food security next week.
 - Talking to the tech?
 - Shuli: Agree that we shouldn't spam, but is there a better avenue to direct complaints? And yes to talking to the tech - but run it by us first
 - Shaída: Yes, there's an email that lots of people don't know about. We're drawing up a feedback form that'll be out in the next week or so.
 - Faraz: Why talk to the tech?

- Shaída: Out of courtesy & it's a good way to reach lots of students, so that they know we're working on the problem. Feel free to email with comments!

Forming Committees

- Sarah E: Do we want to form committees this year?
 - It's a way to bring in more people and not overextend the exec team.
 - See linked doc for things we talked about before, things we should focus on this year.
 - What committees do we want? What guidelines for forming them? Who should be on them? Getting dorm presidents inputs on this specifically
 - Culture might be difficult to put in dormcon committee format, better to focus on at dorm level.
 - Faraz: Valuing the connection/support of underclassmen
 - Feel positively towards Comm 2: dorm renovation based
 - Caragay: It's important to form very clear goals for these comms, making sure things actually get done.
 - Sarah E: Also making sure we have people on them who are suited for the job, i.e. understand what the architectural plans should be like, have reference for current dorms, giving more input on building dorms in the future. Tessa was looking into this.
 - Sarah A: Comm 1, might combine with UA
 - Sarah E: agree, had talked to UA about this prev. Should investigate what's impacting student life and see what are things we can help vs UA can help
 - Faraz: Concerned that we're usually forced to adapt to facilities changes & have no idea if they'll actually take our interests into account
 - Sarah E: We're not necessarily explaining our entire culture to them, but the aspects that do matter to us. Have seen the destruction that happens to dorm culture/communities when these are ignored. They have no understanding of what health and wellbeing for students actually means. Something needs to change - it's not getting better
 - Anna: Where do admin's ideas on what will help our wellbeing come from? Admin is pretty out of touch - i.e. MacG wellbeing GRA, mutual selection, etc
 - Emma: wellness GRA is part of Suzy's larger initiative, getting students more connected to overall resources

- Faraz: Push for transparency on data/decision sources
 - Sarah A: Mutual selection at least came right from the MIT corporation
 - Emma: DSL visiting committee also had input
 - Who is pulling the strings!
- Caragay: keeping in mind that DSL has to aim for everyone at “meh” not 90% super happy and 10% unhappy. Have more opinions to take into account than just students
- Sonia: We won’t know about spring until people move out in Nov, will only really have control over implementation details
- Faraz: will there be something like SHARP to stay over thanksgiving?
 - Emma: yes!
 - Sonia: yes!
 - Emma: hasn’t been publicized yet, but will be similar to SHARP. Hopefully communicating soon.

Attendance:

Sarah Edwards
Faraz Masroor
Anna Bair
Shayna Ahteck
Sarah Aaronson
Shaida Nishat
Emily Caragay
Shuli Jones
Aline Vargas
Tommy Adebiyi
Laura Rosado
Emma Johnson
Sonia Reilly
Jordan Wilke
Alex bookbinder
Miana Smith
Seif Eses
Martin Chan
Zach Villaverde