

East Campus Dorm Tours – Detailed Info Packet

General Information

- 5 cat floors (1E, 3E, 5E, 4W, 5W), 2 smoking floors (5E, 4W)
- Dormwide: FACs, parties, end-of-term dinners, faculty dinners, holiday dinners, etc.
- Close-knit hall communities
 - Hall t-shirts
 - Hall feeds (often includes a Thanksgiving feed the weekend before actual Thanksgiving)
 - many halls also do some variation of Secret Santa
- Decent mix of majors, with some overabundances

First East

- First East is a mix of all the different kinds of people who make up EC. We may be loud, quiet, tall, short, or German speakers but we are united in the belief that there are many things in life, all of which should be awesome.
- Some interests include: movies, music, food, and dance parties. We generally feel that all night movie marathons, spontaneous jam sessions, cooking food and stuffing yourself at hall feeds and picnics, and building disco dance floors are to be encouraged.
- Disco Dance Floor: it has 1,536 LED, 128 sq. ft., 4,096 color, 30 frames/second, 20,000 hand-soldered connections, and many other impressive statistics as well. We originally built it for EC's Bad Ideas competition.
- We've hosted the Bad Ideas Ball every IAP to honor each year's best/worst ideas, because we'll use any excuse to throw a party. Last IAP we recreated Taco Town (15 great tastes rolled into one), complete with commemorative tote bag with SPICY vegetarian chili.
- We built a Ruben's tube to see what would happen when you combined fire and music. And we built a theremin stripper pole for another party, which was awesome and used by a variety of people. Also we built a digital waterfall, a 10 foot long water filled tube with 96 solenoid valves that creates images with water like graphical rain!
- Notable Murals:
 - "Yugoslavian Hemispherectomizing Velociraptor": mural based on a 3-word haiku made by the linguistics-lovers on our hall.
 - "ADVENTURE TIME", we love our inane internet humor.
 - And a twist on Van Gogh's "Starry Night:" we like to experiment with fine arts too
- More-original-to-1E-comms: GameComm who collects board games for board game playing, SuckComm who sucks at fixing vacuum cleaners that suck at sucking, and some kick-ass Birthday Bunnies (in that they'll kick your ass if you miss birthday cake)
- To summarize: We have a variety of people and interests but we manage not to kill each other.

Second East (Beast)

- Beast: We Make Shit Happen.
- Second East residents are heavily involved in Rush, CPW, Bad Ideas and East Campus government.
- Many Beasts also participate in sports (recently the IM badminton team won the league championships).
- The Catbus hugs back.
- Their residents enjoy working together on various engineering projects. Projects include an arcade machine, a custom refrigerated soda machine, and a mounted CRT projector connected to a custom water cooled media server. Individually, residents like to construct audio equipment, build lofts, and sew unique clothing.

- Beast throws Damn Good Parties.
- Thanks to Reuse, they've obtained a large server farm to back their many projects and support many hall services, including a wiki, photo gallery, media server, Athena dial-up, and IRC server. Additionally, many hall residents have their own personal servers.
- 2E's Goodale lounge sports a fetching EE workbench.
- Traditions of the hall include Shirtless O'Clock, Party O'Clock, mass heckling of bad movies, and late night hall clots.
- Beast is not the most quiet of halls; spontaneous dance parties and speaker wars occasionally erupt.
- Murals are serious business on Beast. Art parties occasionally materialize when residents are painting their rooms or out on hall. Check out the Space-themed Beast bathroom; hall members each painted their own ceiling tile.
- When bored of campus life, Beast residents take field trips. Some favorite destinations include Northend, Boston Commons, Somerville, Chinatown, and local beaches.
- Food and cooking are imperative to Beast Culture. Community cooking parties, weekly hall feeds, and holiday dinners are a common occurrence.
- On Beast, it's never too late to go to 7/11.

Third East (Tetazoo)

- Tetazoo stands for the Third East Traveling Animal Zoo.
- 5 things to describe Tetazoo: Fire, Gaming, Cooking, Building, Hacking.
- Loud hours are from 8 PM to 2 AM. Tetazoo does not observe Quiet Hours.
- Third East has some of the longest standing traditions at East Campus. Residents have maintained some traditions that were started as long ago as the 60s.
- Tetazoo has the most fire extinguishers per capita in East Campus.
- Free food on Tetazoo is called 'pancakes'. Residents often bake each other cookies or cakes as pancakes for the rest of the hall.
- Tetazoo maintains Sodalord, a soda machine that vends both soda and energy drinks. The machine runs on either cash or a debit system that accesses accounts through your ID card.
- Every year Tetazoo has a swim test for its residents across the Charles River.
- The hall goes on at least one weekend-long camping trip each term.
- Many Tetazoa are involved with rush, and love to build things in general. Past projects include Jesus: The Ride (enormous trebuchet that people were strapped to) and a 360-degree swing.
- There is an unfinished Calvin and Hobbes mural in Bemis that has been unfinished for nearly a decade. All residents who have ever attempted to finish it (including the residents who started it) have all dropped out of MIT. Hence, it is believed that the mural is cursed.

Fourth East (Slugfest)

- Fourth East has a 40-year tradition of having cocoa every school night at 11 PM. Cocoa has taken on a few new forms in recent years.
 - Special Cocoa – Features a faculty member or other guest joining us for cocoa. Recent guests have included freeware guru Richard Stallman and Akamai founder Frank Thomson Leighton
 - Happy Cocoa – Our Baking Chair makes cakes for everyone's birthday to be served at cocoa. Past cakes have included ice cream cake, tiramisu, Chocobo cake, “yo dawg” cake, and hamburger cupcakes.
 - Formal Cocoa – At the end of each term, hall members dress up or dress down to celebrate the end of term; this features fancy cocoa and desserts.
 - Interhall Cocoa – Fourth east invites each of the nine other East Campus halls over individually for Interhall Cocoa.

- Recently, there has been a boom in the mural economy. Notable murals include:
 - Drowning Man Mural – painted by Bob Sabiston, the guy who developed the animation software behind *A Scanner Darkly* and the Charles Schwab commercials
 - Magnetic Risk Board, featuring the MIT campus, complete with magnetic pieces
 - Mario Mural – works with Bemix music system
- When not tooling, many 4E residents enjoy working on various projects, including:
 - Bemix – Bemis bathroom plays music controlled by the Mario mural. Similar systems are set up in the Shallow Goodale and Shallow Walcott bathrooms. Ask resident to demonstrate.
 - Iron Curtain – A large 15x5 LED display in the Goodale Lounge, originally manufactured for Times Square. Can display a variety of things, such as scroll text and music visualization beat patterns. Great for parties and blinding unsuspecting people.
 - Walcott Lounge Fireplace – A recent freshman project that occasionally holds a digital fire
- We have many active frisbee players (check out the frisbee mural in Deep Goodale), and we play frisbee both outdoors and indoors (in Lobby 7 or 13, often played at midnight)
- The kitchen czarina rules the kitchen with an effective iron fist.
- We publish a weekly bathroom newspaper called the *Weekly Awesome* based on content submitted by hall members.

Fifth East

- Fifth East is a hall known for its black walls, red lights, and strong traditions. Hall culture is preserved and passed down through an oral tradition of stories from previous residents.
- The hall's most notable mural is the radioactive dragon in the Walcott Lounge. It was the first mural to be painted in EC, back before murals were allowed. It was done using homemade UV paint, so the paint was transparent under normal light. When housing came looking for the mural to paint over it, they couldn't find it. It's since been painted with color, but has a history of confusing the hell out of MIT housing.
- It is a loud hall, with most of the noise centered in the middle black section, called Bemis. Bemis has been black for approximately 40 years now. Residents hypothesize that after this many coats the paint is structural.
- The hall mascot is named Krotus and is known for feeding on the suffering of students during the semester and lying dormant during the summer months. He is awakened each year during the first month of term by means of a party which includes a traditional, and usually comical, mock sacrifice performed at midnight.
- Fifth East is home to a deep fryer. Away from the hall, there is an annual dinner to Royal East and trips to the Pour House rain or shine.
- The hall has larger communal meals on weekends sometimes, and every spring hosts a picnic for residents and alumni featuring inside-joke gifts and awards for various residents.
- In the past residents have worked together to build a dance floor platform (usually used for studying), an LED wall display, various servers, and bookshelves.
- Overall, it's a supportive hall that does things together, but on the surface may come off as harsh.

First West (Stickmen)

- First West may be the shortest hall at East Campus, but we're definitely not short on personality.
- Residents here have a wide variety of interests and hobbies, from musical theater and marching band, to board games and live action roleplaying, to circuitry and computer science, but we're also very close-knit.
- We take hall trips together somewhat frequently; just this summer we spent a weekend hiking and camping, and in the past we've also enjoyed bowling, canoing, and many meals out together.

- There are a number of restaurants in the area that we frequent somewhat regularly, including Pour House and Punjabi Dhaba, but many of us also enjoy cooking on hall - we pride ourselves on keeping our kitchen clean.
- We have a hall dinner every semester (Thanksgiving in the fall, and a barbecue in the spring).
- Around Halloween time our hall hosts the annual Pumpkin Drop, where we hurl pumpkins from the top of the Green Building.

Second West (Putz)

- The most unifying hall theme is building things, both mechanical and electrical. Putz residents are often heavily involved in building Rush projects, Bad Ideas projects, and tons of random side projects, such as a 10-foot Jacob's Ladder, an emergency pizza ordering system, and a programmable water fountain.
- EC's ToolComm position has been filled by a Putz resident for the last three years. One of their closets holds EC's collection of tools and building equipment.
- Slugtalks are informal talks and presentations where Putzen teach other Putzen (and anyone who wants to come!) about something neat that they want to share with others (e.g. from a UROP, from class, or even from random internet searches). In no way affiliated with 4E.
- They are the organizers of CryoFAC. Every year they make liquid nitrogen ice cream for the prefrash at the CPW activities midway.
- Putzgiving and Cruftmas are yearly Putzen holidays celebrations that bring together current residents and alums of the hall going back many years with cooking, feasting, cruffy gift giving, and many festivities.
- Cruftmas is a yearly Christmas-time celebration. It's like Secret Santa, but no one is allowed to spend money on a gift. Everyone has to find something in the catacombs of MIT or make something from things they find! Past gifts include: earrings made out of resistors, 40 lb VCR, flash gun, metal nun-chucks, 3 ft nail, etc.
- Second West's nickname originated from either a Nightwatch guard who thought the residents were "putzes" or from a hockey team in PE class where the teacher wanted the 2W residents to "stop putzing around". Either way the name stuck and accurately described the actions of hall members. Before then they were known as "Radical 2", and you can see this outside the hall entrances where a sqrt(2) is painted.
- One Putzen has been painting portraits of past and current residents of hall and hanging them in the Hayden section.
- Vigilance is the hall closed-circuit television system. Started after 9/11 when President Bush called for "increased vigilance at home and abroad," the system originally started as a single camera in the Munroe stairwell but now has 5 cameras that cover all of hall.
- Putz has weekly hall meetings with food, known as Hall Feeds. Two residents cook \$20 worth of food for all of hall, and everyone gets together at 11PM on Thursday night to eat, discuss hall business, and take a break from doing homework that's due the next day.
- In Basha Lounge (the one with all the electronics in it) there is the first webcam to ever show live humans on the Internet, which can be found at webcam.mit.edu
- You can watch our residents cook through the Vigilance system at collegecoedsgonewildinthekitchen.com
- The hall has a music system called Nice Rack that plays music in both lounges and all the bathrooms, so you can listen to music when just hanging out or when taking a shower.

Third West (Floor Pi)

- We play games, lots of games. Favorites include Starcraft, which is a big hall social activity, Super Smash Bros., Guitar Hero, and more.
- Our hall annually observes Festivus. A traditional Festivus ceremony involves a hall dinner, Airing of Grievances, and Feats of Strength where we have airborne duels on The Pipes above the TV Lounge and

hall wrestling matches. We also hold a Secret Santa gift exchange every year. Gifts need not be taken seriously.

- As you can imagine, food is a huge part of hall life. On March 14th, we celebrate Pi Day by eating all kinds of pie: dessert pie, pizza pie, pot pie. We cook and eat Thanksgiving dinner together, finishing it off with more homemade pies.
- On any given day, you can find people cooking together and socializing in the kitchen area. We hold regular food mobs to different parts of the city; we especially love to eat at Awesome (Dumpling & Noodle) Place and O' Sullivan's. Tradition says you must order the heavenly Blackjack Burger at least once.
- Our hall is very social and playful. We have a loud and mischievous sense of humor. Pranks and play-fighting are common and good natured. We have two wheelchairs that we use for general hall insanity. We like to play Frisbee or soccer on nice days. And on not-so-nice days, we'll play Frisbee or soccer on hall. Impromptu pillow fights are also popular among restless and ready-to-punt residents.
- Historically, our hall has been strongly involved in 6.270, the autonomous Lego robotics competition over IAP. Many Floor Pi alumni are involved with the hardware/software used in the competition. Hall members have been organizers, TAs, or participants of the event for the past several years.

Fourth West (41W)

- 4th West, commonly known as 41W, is a very open hall that likes to fuck shit up, smoke crack and worship Satan.
- They are very comfortable with each other and each others' bodies, despite coming from different backgrounds. They see each other naked all the time.
- The hall accepts everything about its members peers, and expects them to accept the other denizens for who they are.
- Many ex-residents still regularly come on hall to socialize, and we often allow the greater EC community onto our hall for such events as our Annual Halloween Party, Prom, and Article II party.
- Fourth Westers enjoy expressing our abilities through such varied channels as mural painting, cat smoking, hall bands, hall orgies, making movies, making music, and exotic cooking.
- **As a whole 41w does not support cake fights.**
- 41W also has a closet dedicated to Maria and her cleaning supplies.
- I, as member of 41w, the highest floor in Cambridge, pledge that everyone who is a resident on 41w is allowed to do as they please, barring interference with the personal happiness of hall denizens.
- I, as a member of 41w, pledge there will be no mandatory activities and/or responsibilities aside from those associated; with graduating, edict handed down from the gilded mouth of Susan Hockfield herself, and with having a good time.

Fifth West

- It's difficult living with all this potential energy and as a result spontaneous events dominate our hall activities. Whether they be movie screenings, games of contact (ask a resident), impromptu parties, or late night/early morning trips to the South Street Diner, there is always something to do and someone awake to join you.
- Fifth West features the highest scooter to human ratio of any of the halls in EC.
- Hall Feeds every Thursday night. Eat, discuss, and vote on hall policy.
- Fifth West holds a Champagne Hall Feed every year. This final Hall Feed is a celebration given in honor of the departing seniors.
- Hall Thanksgiving. The Sunday before turkey day Fifth West's residents and alums gather to share feast.
- Secret Santa. Random Assignments. Inexpensive Gifts. Hilarity Ensues. Every Time.
- We meet on 6th West for our annual spring picnic and pool party.
- We're like EC's grab bag--you'll never know when you'll pull out.

- Topless Tuesdays \cap Without Pants Wednesdays = Nearly Naked Run. Weekly on 5west, semiannually in the Infinite Corridor (Fall finals) and Killian Court (Spring finals).
- We are home to a small menagerie including cats, fish, turtles, rats (not the giant kind found behind dumpsters), a hamster, a hedgehog, and bunny. Yes, our rabbit is white and headbutts the cats when given an opportunity.
- Check out the hydraulic door in H505. (Ask a resident how to operate it).
- The Hayden bathroom sports a plug and play system for non-denominational portable music devices, so you can groove in the shower if that's your style.
- 9 foot wide projection screen/projector in the Monroe lounge. Movies, Superbowl, you get the idea.
- The mural that says "Hayden" with peoples' names from the 70s is one of the oldest in EC.
- We no longer run an escort service.
- Lots of participation in IM sports.
- Hold the all-time record (500 runs) in the Green Building Challenge. After one Challenge the four flights up will never bother you again.
- Wood technically is still clothing optional.
- Our kitchen is ruled with a titanium fist.
- One-foot ledge outside perimeter of hall, which residents have enjoyed either as a privileged seat with a great view of the courtyard or as a stealthy means of entry into a locked-out resident's room.