Amendment to the Muddy Charles Pub Committee Description in the GSC Bylaws

Summary and purpose of this amendment:

The description of the Muddy Charles Pub that is currently given in the Bylaws is outdated, overly restrictive and confusing. The policies of the Pub are micro-managed by the Bylaws, and more flexibility is needed by the Board of Governors in order for it to carry out the duties of the Pub in a timely and effective manner.

This amendment simplifies the description of the Pub so that it still outlines the overall purpose of the Pub as well as the membership and responsibilities of the Pub’s Board of Governors, while allowing the Board of Governors to decide upon specific details of how best to run the Pub. In addition, ex-officio membership is no longer given to the Associate and Assistant Deans for Graduate Education, since neither of these individuals has shown interest in the Board for many years.

GSC Bylaws, Article II, Section C, Subsection 10 currently reads:

10. Muddy Charles Pub
The Muddy Charles Pub (hereinafter referred to as "the Pub") is a permanent activity of the Council. A Board of Governors (hereinafter referred to as "the Board") shall oversee and direct the operations of the Pub.

i. Purpose
The purpose of the Pub shall be to provide a pleasant place for members of the MIT community to gather in an informal atmosphere to enjoy snacks, beverages and fellowship. The Pub shall be run on a non-profit basis. Great emphasis is to be placed on keeping prices affordable for students. All revenues from the operation of the Pub shall be used only for the ordinary and necessary expenses of the Pub.

ii. Membership
The Board shall comprise not less than five nor more than eleven members, chosen from among the patrons of the Pub. Board members may be MIT students, faculty, staff or alumni. Greater than or equal to 50% of the Board shall be MIT students, at least one fourth of the Board must be GSC members, and at least one Board member shall be a member of the MIT faculty. All Board members must be at least 21 years of age. The President of the GSC and the Associate and Assistant Deans for Graduate Education shall be ex officio members of the Board.
Members shall be nominated by the Board and confirmed by a majority of the GSC. They shall serve a three year term, beginning in April, and may be re-appointed indefinitely. Members shall serve without compensation and no member may be employed on the staff of the Pub. Compensation may be authorized by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board for individual contracting projects.

iii. Functions
The Board shall meet at least once per month, and may hold additional meetings at the call of the Chair. Five voting members shall constitute a quorum. The Board shall:

- Employ and supervise a manager for the Pub, chosen from among MIT students, faculty, staff, or alumni, and determine his/her wage. The Manager shall be a regular MIT employee with a one year renewable appointment, and shall be responsible for the daily operations of the Pub. The Board shall specify the duties of the Manager and the duties of staff hired by the Manager.
- Authorize part-time positions which will be supervised by the Manager. To the extent possible, these positions shall be filled by MIT students.
- Set the pay rates and hours of the Manager and staff.
- Set the menus, prices and operating hours of the Pub (in concert with the Manager).
- Determine the operating policies of the Pub.
- Plan renovations and approve capital expenditures.
- Maintain Institute accounts and bank accounts for the Pub and specify the signatories on these accounts.
- Prescribe the records to be kept and ensure that they are properly maintained.
- Receive and act on comments and suggestions by Pub patrons.

The Board is ultimately responsible for ensuring that all relevant laws and license regulations affecting the Pub are observed.

iv. Officers
The officers of the Pub shall be elected by the Board from among its members to serve one-year terms and may be re-elected indefinitely. They may be removed during their term by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board.
The Chairperson shall be elected by the members of the Board from among the Council members on the Board and shall be approved by the Council. The Chairperson shall present an oral or written report of the Pub at each regular Council meeting. The Chairperson shall serve as a signatory on all Pub accounts, set the agenda for meetings, preside over meetings, serve on the Executive Committee of the GSC, and represent the Pub in dealings with the rest of the MIT community. The Chairperson must be a member of the GSC.
The Vice Chairperson shall assist the Chairperson and act in his/her absence.
The Secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings and certify the election of officers and the signatories on Pub accounts.
The Treasurer shall be a signatory on all Pub accounts, monitor and report on the finances of the Pub, and conduct audits. Compensation may be provided for conducting audits.
GSC Bylaws, Article II, Section C, Subsection 10 should be amended to read as follows:

10. Muddy Charles Pub

i. Purpose of the Pub
The Muddy Charles Pub (hereinafter referred to as "the Pub") is a permanent activity of the Council. The purpose of the Pub shall be to provide a pleasant place for members of the MIT community to gather in an informal atmosphere to enjoy snacks, beverages and fellowship. The Pub shall be run on a non-profit basis. Great emphasis is to be placed on keeping prices affordable for students. All revenues from the operation of the Pub shall be used only for the ordinary and necessary expenses of the Pub.

ii. Board of Governors
A Board of Governors (hereinafter referred to as "the Board") shall oversee and direct the operations of the Pub. The Board shall be comprised of members of the MIT community who are concerned with the operation of the Pub. Membership shall comprise no fewer than five nor more than fifteen members. The Chair and at least one-half of the members must be current MIT graduate students. All members must be at least twenty-one years of age. The President of the GSC or his/her designate shall be an ex officio member of the Board. New members shall be confirmed by the Board. Members shall serve without compensation and no member may be employed on the staff of the Pub.

iii. Functions of the Board
The Board shall hire a paid manager to run the day-to-day operations of the Pub and oversee the manager. The Board is ultimately responsible for ensuring that all relevant laws and license regulations affecting the Pub are observed and for keeping appropriate documentation of the operation of the Pub. The Board shall be responsible for overseeing the finances of the Pub. Compensation may be authorized by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board for individual contracting projects. The Board shall determine all other policies as appropriate and maintain these in its operating procedures. The operating procedures can be approved and amended by a two-thirds vote of the Board.

iv. Officers of the Board
The Board must include the following four officer positions: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The officers of the Pub shall be elected by the Board from among its members to serve one-year terms and may be re-elected indefinitely. The Chair must be a graduate student, and shall report to the Council regarding the status and activities of the Pub. The Officers of the Pub may be removed during their term by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board or a majority vote of the Council.

Approved on 12/1/04 by the Rules Committee for review by the GSC General Council