General Council Meeting
May 7th, 2008

Agenda:

1. Approval of March, April GCM Minutes

2. Old Business
   54gsc.10.1 Leadership BBQ
   54gsc.10.2 Presidents Climate Commitment

3. Executive Committee Transition

4. New Business
   55.gsc.1.1 Task Force on Alumni Relations

5. P/D/F Update – Stephen Hou & Emily Fox

6. GSC Committee Updates

7. Open Floor

Upcoming Meetings / Events:
Academics, Research & Careers 5:30 pm, Thursday, May 15th
Acoustic BBQ 4:30 pm, Friday, May 16th
Activities / HCA On-campus 6:00 pm, Thursday, May 29th
Executive 6:00 pm, Wednesday, May 28th
Foxwoods Casino Trip 12:00 pm, Saturday, May 24th
General Council 5:30 pm, Wednesday, Jun. 4th
Graduate Student News TBA - June
Housing & Community Affairs 6:00 pm, Thursday, May 14th
Leadership BBQ 5:00 pm, Wednesday, May 21st
Orientation 6:30 pm, Thursday, May 15th
$2 Dinner 6:30 pm, Thursday, May 8th

Meetings are in the GSC office and include appropriate sustenance.

Help Wanted – Get Involved with the GSC:
Alumni Relations Task Force – gsc-officers@mit.edu
Write / take photos for the GSN – gsn-editor@mit.edu
All committees looking for new members – gsc-excomm@mit.edu
Meeting started at 5:30pm
Quorum met? Yes, 45 GSC members present at 5:30pm.

Agenda:

1. **Approval of February GCM Minutes**
   No objections. Minutes passed.

2. **Old Business**

   **54gsc.9.2 Ph.D. Comics Reception & Book Signing**
   No questions.
   Motion to white ballot. Seconded. Objection. Will therefore go to vote.
   35-1 with 2 abstentions. Motion passes.

3. **New Business**

   **54gsc.10.1 Leadership BBQ**
   Kevin McComber presents the resolution.
   There was a BBQ held last Fall; the resolution will represent a commitment by the GSC to support a series of events.
   The purpose is to promote graduate student leadership, promote the GSC, to recruit for the GSC, and to promote interaction between faculty and grad students.
   Kevin wishes to cut the amount from $2000 and $1000 because only one BBQ will take place in this fiscal year.
   Question. Will other funding be necessary?
   Yes, total cost will be $3000/BBQ.
   Question. What sort of attendance can be expected?
   Last year, about 125 people came.
   Question. Who is the event open to?
   GSC members, dorm officers, departmental officers, and up to 3 invitees of each of these. Also, various faculty and administrators will be invited.
   Question. How effective was the first event to bring in new faces to the GSC?
   Hard to say quantitatively, but have found it memorable.
   Question. If it is an invitation event, what is the role of advertising?
   Advertising for GSC at the event itself.
   Question. When will this event occur?
   In May, following the May GCM.

   **54gsc.10.2 Presidents Climate Commitment**
   Ali Wyne (UA VP) reads the resolution.
   Question. Punctuation of “Presidents” in the title?
   Yes, this is grammatically incorrect, but that’s how it is in the official title.
   Question. Why isn’t MIT a signatory?
   There hasn’t been a big push for this. But MIT already has goals in line with this, and likely will sign when pressed.
   Question. Can we change the wording to “urge MIT to sign”?
   Yes.
   Question. Where can we find the bill?
   There is a link provided in the footnotes of the resolution.
   Question. What are President Hockfield’s opinions?
Given that she initiated the MIT EI, it seems that she would support this agreement.

Question. What exactly is the PCC about – it sounds nice, but what is it really about? What if this isn’t a sufficiently strong resolution.

Two reasons for the legislation. First, the fact that MIT hasn’t signed it is conspicuous (other major universities have signed on). Second, this would add some additional requirements to MIT’s energy policy, but it is already leading.

Question. This seems to be a rather heavy-handed way to do this. It makes more sense to have a private meeting with President Hockfield. Could you have a meeting with her before we vote on this in two months?

Hockfield is very busy and inundated with requests. It makes more sense to have a broader basis of support before we go to her. But still agree.

A speaker raises objections to the resolution. First, the resolution seems to suggest that very few new commitments would be added to MIT. But if you go to the PCC website and investigate, there are actually a number of requirements; there seems to be a lot going into this. How can we support this? It involves substantial changes, and Hockfield has not been consulted yet.

The PCC only requires that the university take on 2 of a long list of requirements. In addition, MIT already has a lot of infrastructure in place.

Question. Has the UA ratified?

March 10 meeting?

Question. What is GSC doesn’t ratify?

It would be modified to just show that it was approved by the UA.

Question. How does faculty feel about PCC?

Have spoken with a large number of faculty privately. There seems to be informal support over a large number of faculty interested in environmental issues.

4. GSC Committee Updates & Election Calendar

- Opening of Officer Nominations

Nominations are open. A calendar of election dates for all committees are displayed and read aloud to the Council. Johnna urges representatives to speak to current Committee chairs with any questions.

Rob Wang nominates Oaz Nir for President. Oaz accepts the nomination.

Eric Weese nominates Tanguy Chau for Vice President. Tanguy accepts the nomination.

Once nominated, candidates must submit a statement of purpose and resume.

New representatives must apply by Mar 19 in order to be able to vote in the Officer elections on Apr 2.

ARC – Diversity Colloquium will take place March 10-11. A Professional Development Seminar on difficult conversations will occur on March 18. A tax seminar will take place on March 25. Upcoming meeting on March 20 and elections on April 3. Deadline for GSC Institute Awards nominations is March 14, although this may be extended. Would really like to give out a Sizer award this year; so think about nominations for this, specifically.

Activities – March 13 is the next Two Dollar Dinner. A Bruins game in early April. Looking for an organizer for F1 racing. Ticket sales for Grad Gala begin on March 7.

ASA – Office space moves; general storage room in W-20 is set up. New online database is progressing. Applications for CPW midway are due March 16. ASA elections will take place March 10. Email asa-president if interested.
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL

HCA – Still waiting for decision on stipend increase and dental care. Have been working on transportation issues for NW corridor; trying to move the EZ ride stop one block over, so that it is directly in front of the S&P entrance. Taxation of families on stipends – working with Steve Lerman on this. Trying to make a list of advocacy issues for families that HCA should work on or continue to work on. Finally, still trying to finish up the website for off-campus housing.

Orientation – Looking for two Orientation Chairs for next year. The majority of the work occurs June-September. Also, need plenty of volunteers in addition to the Chairs.

Funding Board – Finalized Spring allocations. Deadline for IAP reimbursements is 5pm on March 7. A large number of applications were submitted for Activities Grant.

5. P/D/F Update – Stephen Hou & Emily Fox
Stephen presents a basic overview of the P/D/F proposal. The idea is to provide an option different from Listener status so that courses can appear on transcripts. Most recently, the proposal was unanimously approved by the Faculty Policy Committee. The next (and final) milestone is a vote at the Faculty Committee, at which 60% of the faculty must support it. GSC members can help by talking to faculty members about the proposal.

6. Alumni Association Overview – Katie Casey
Katie coordinates the Alumni Association outreach efforts to all students, including graduate students. The Alumni Association is looking for more ways to interact with graduate students. There is a huge number of grad student alumni, who current grad students can network with.
All grad students should register and get an Infinite Connection account. The Online Alumni Directory is another valuable resource for networking. Katie is available to talk to department or dorm groups to talk about resources. The Alumni Association is working with S&P to set up an alumni dinner there. In general, the Alumni Association would like to set up a more formal collaboration with the GSC. For example, the AA is already supporting Two Dollar Dinners (with a goal of placing 20-30 alumni at the event itself), and is looking into supporting Grad Gala and Orientation.
Two big messages – get an Infinite Connection account; and contact Katie Casey with any ideas for collaborations between the Alumni Association and graduate students.

7. REFS Program – Ruth Rosenberg & Alisha Weight
Two REFS introduce the program. This stands for Resources for Easing Friction and Stress. A number of departments (about 5) already have a REFS program. There are students who are trained to speak with students as a first line of defense when problems seem to be brewing and to help troubleshoot and mediate issues and to provide referrals for outside resources; for example, problems with advisors, personal issues, conflicts with lab members. All discussions are confidential. The idea is that the REFS program is tailored to each department.
A flyer is passed out for how to set up a REFS program in your own department. Although there isn’t formal data, there is anecdotal evidence for the REFS program positive impact. The event will be March 18.

8. Open Floor
Leeland thanks Melanie for bringing brownies.
Nan asks Mireille if the GSC FB will change its funding cycle, now that ASA has shifted its funding schedule. Mireille says that we’re required to stick by SAFO’s guidelines, which are within 2-3 weeks of the ASA dates.

**Upcoming Meetings / Events:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academics, Research &amp; Careers</td>
<td>5:30 pm, Thursday, Mar. 20th</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARC Diversity Colloquium</td>
<td>6:00 pm, Mar. 10th &amp; 11th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Activities / HCA On-campus</td>
<td>6:00 pm, Tuesday, Mar. 25th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td>6:00 pm, Wednesday, Mar. 26th</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Council</td>
<td>5:30 pm, Wednesday, Apr. 2nd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Student News</td>
<td>5:30 pm, Tuesday, Mar. 18th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grad Gala Committee</td>
<td>6:00 pm, Thursday, Mar. 6th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grad Gala Ticket Sales</td>
<td>Start Friday, Mar. 7th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing &amp; Community Affairs</td>
<td>6:00 pm, Wednesday, Mar. 12th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>7:00 pm, Monday, Mar. 31st</td>
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<tr>
<td>$2 Dinner</td>
<td>6:00 pm, Thursday, Mar. 13th</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Meetings are in the GSC office and include appropriate sustenance.

**Help Wanted – Get Involved with the GSC:**

All Officer & Committee Chairs now open – gsc-vice-president@mit.edu
Write / take photos for the GSN – gsn-editor@mit.edu
Meeting started at 5:36pm
Quorum met? Yes, 47 GSC members present at 5:36pm.

**Agenda:**

1. **Election of 2008-2009 GSC Officers**
   Johnna begins by explaining the procedures for the elections. Order of elections: President, VP, Secretary, Treasurer.

   All new nominees must be present in the GCM. If only one nominee per position, nominee courteously declines nomination and is renominated and seconded by 2 individual reps.

   Candidate will give speech for 5 min in alphabetical order. Questions not longer than 1 min, order of questions cascaded. Q&A lasts 10 min after which motion to extend.

   Johnna gives quick presentation on how to fill out ballots.

   Leeland thanks Nancy for all her work with the GSC.

   Johnna reads the nominee names:

   **President:**
   Oaz Nir. Oaz declines nomination. Natalya nominates Oaz and it is seconded

   President: talks about why he is running for president and his qualifications. Experiences and plans.
   Involved with GSC 2 years ago. Involvement with many things, health and dental care, single-married student interactions, housing issues, etc.
   Served as GSN editor and secretary of GSC and learned how to address crises that arise. Was responsible for connecting graduate students with many offices and administrators in MIT, building relationships with Deans, Chancellor and other staff. This will help him better lead the GSC.
   Focuses on importance of having continuity.
   Goals: student involvement in Institute decision making. Avoid having administration act budget-centric. Oaz will focus on seeing currently available committees do the job they are supposed to do and keep students involved. Will continue working on dental care. Career fair might not be as strong as this past year so will explore other sources such as from Alumni. Will work relationship between graduate community and the new Dean of student life.
   Oaz will work hard with new Excomm to make sure all pieces of GSC fit together to work together efficiently.

   Discussion:
   1. Eric: what else are you planning on doing next year other than GSC?
   Oaz: not much else on the plate, PhD student in HST. Is a GRT in Next House which has a light commitment and will take a few classes.

   2. Tim: what benchmarks have you set to yourself in helping grad students have a bigger voice? How have you succeeded?
   Oaz: If lack of interaction is avoided this year, then this is a success, this will be hard to measure quantitatively.

   3. What is the GSC not doing well now and what to do about it?
   Oaz: a few issues, such as ability to represent all Grad students but not currently covering all departments and living groups, thus including all grad students is one thing. Possibility of adding programs to some of the committees to stay innovative.
4. Ming: what is your priority? 
Oaz: would like to accomplish all goals, mostly dental care and more student involvement in Institute decisions, but very possible that new issues of higher priority would come up.

Johnna: other questions? No…. Oaz leaves the room other than abstaining.
Motion to white ballot is seconded with no objections. Oaz is elected president!

**Vice President:**
Floor open for nominations. Nan Gu nominated for VP, nomination is seconded. Nan accepts and gives speech.
Nan: Nan is 3rd year Physics student, has been part of his department GSC over past 3 years, was hall council of SP 2 years ago, was president of S-P last year, works as a GSO fellow, is on various committees on campus, has participated in GSC as member of HCA and AC and as Physics rep for GSC.

Will focus on leadership and recruitment. There is an opportunity to better develop the way leaders are recruited. A lot of potential, such as the Leadership BBQ started by Kevin McComber that acts as a recruiting tool. Believes that rewards of leadership are better experienced than communicated.

**Discussion:**
1. Eric: why didn’t you stand up for leader?
Nan: decided only last week and was still discussing until Thursday.

2. Obrad: how much time do you have as VP?
Nan: will no longer be SP president in April and the GSO fellow in August with no plans for renewal.

3. Shan: what about ASA member at large, do you plan to stay in that position and will this be a conflict of interest?
Nan: there won’t be less representation, there is benefit for same person to be involved in several positions to have a comprehensive viewpoint on things, the goal is to better serve the community

4. Sylvain: You can give more to undergraduates to appease them on the of graduate students:
Nan: there are other graduate students on the ASA so there will be other viewpoints and will work together to reach a consensus.

5. Sylvain: you are employed by GSO so that would be conflict of interest
Nan: has been vocal about issues within the GSO about things conflicting with the volunteer graduate governments we have. Is not afraid of speaking his mind when it comes to the interest of graduate students.

6. What kind of incentives can you give to recruit people and how to convince people of the worthy experience?
Nan: offer visibility to the officers, there is pride in being involved in such leadership positions. Money is dangerous to play with so not recommended, therefore would focus on visibility.

7. Sylvain: have you worked with Oaz before?
Nan: spoke with Oaz about some of the issues the GSC faces, both have similar styles of leadership. Nan comes from the housing side while Oaz doesn’t so they can compliment each other’s knowledge.

Johnna asks Nan to vote: Nan leaves the room. Johnna reminds that discussions are confidential.

Motion to white ballot is seconded with no objections. Nan is elected Vice President.

**Secretary:**
Johnna opens nominations for secretary.

Alex speech: first year grad student in Earth and Planetary Sciences. Past experiences: served as engineering council president as Undergrad and VP for national association for engineering at the University of Michigan. Has worked in sponsorship and bringing in funding and coordinating events whenever necessary. Has worked with students and has noticed that it’s difficult to bring in first year students to get involved. Has had experience in working with administration and making sure they are not overseen. Has met with Deans to help them understand the role of student governments. Has also worked with the office of the President. Faced similar challenges back in University of Michigan and noticed that things got better after proactive involvement with administration.

Helped develop Freshman Engineering Council to help students get involved. Will work on making GSN more accessible, will work on getting more students involved, inviting more people into GSC leadership events for recruitment. Helped develop Newsletter in Undergrad years as a relevant experience to this position.

Lorenna speech: second year in Biological Engineering and is current chair of ARC. Served as one of members of Institute Committee for Student Life. Her passion is graduate community. Spent her time this past year in ARC to better help prepare all grad students by running programs such as diversity and outside of class relationships, programs for training and academic and professional careers. The one thing she wants to still address is graduate student advising. Faculty are responsible for students. Position as secretary will give her opportunity to work with administration to push these initiatives. Is aware of roles of secretary and will work on those in addition to the ability to do other services through her position as secretary.

Discussion:

1. Shan: for both, stated many advocacy issues but why did you not run for VP and President instead of Secretary?
Alex: was interested in joining GSC earlier on but not sure if skills will fit, but now aware that skills are efficient
Lorenna: talked to officers and wants to make sure she has time commitment necessary to perform efficiently.

2. Obrad: why would you do a better job than the other? What are your strengths?
Lorenna: don’t know much about Alex, but she has been part of Excomm and has had relationships with administrators and has begun many of the things she has pushed for, has a head start.
Alex: has been involved within department such as the visiting committee. Strengths are that he has the experience the Excomm will need, also will bring a new viewpoint at things which would help the Council look at things from a fresh perspective.

3. Eric: what will you do if not elected
Alex: member at large
Lorenna: will take a smaller role and focus on Graduate advising.

4. Tim: given that officers were not contested, what will you do to change the fact that the word is not going out?
Lorenna: will change the structure of the anno so people read it more, will encourage people to subscribe to it, make it more efficient to use and read
Alex: have to put it in places where it is easily accessible, tailor for departments, such as sending newsletter to graduate common rooms, second there should also be one location in newsletter where status update important to graduate students is given so even if students don’t have time to read whole newsletter, they will know to go to this one place to get updated.

5. Sylvain: what is your take on GSN and where would you take it?
Alex: it should contain important issues dealt with, should have more general things such as the sustainability. Same answers as to question 4.
Lorenna: has enjoyed the GSN will work with editors to make it more enjoyable for others.
6. Natalija: if I would come to you and slap your face what would you do? 
Loreanna: will not react on the spot, will take it in, go home and then write email to address or 
schedule a meeting with person to have a rational discussion.
Alex: this means someone is passionate about the issue and concerned, so would want to engage 
them and get to the bottom of it. 
After 10 minute discussion, votes are collected. Loreanna is elected as Secretary.

Treasurer:
Johnna introduces Alex Chan and David Opolon.

Alex speech: honored to be running along with David. Has 4 principles on how to do the position. 
First will work on conservative budget. This might affect cash inflows for upcoming year, believes in 
preparing for the worst and hoping for the best. Believes in being surprised in cash inflow than 
deficit. Due to lack of reimbursements of chairs, will get the chairs more financially involved in 
their budgets so monthly meeting with chairs. The benefits of the current system will be continued 
and will bring flexibility in certain activities. 4th proposal is will initiate measures to counter effects 
for uncertain income sources so seek alternative revenues. 
Experience: FB requires interaction... athletic member, singer, UN envoy member. Has worked with 
different activities, corporations and has worked with very large sums of money. Important role is 
to guide groups to different sources of funding not currently met by the FB. Will work on having 
more personal connections and interactions with administration and students so he can serve all 
students to the best of his abilities. Has to allocate limited resources to as many students as 
possible. 

David speech: 3rd year PhD in Engineering systems division. Has been director of Career Fair this 
last year, which was the most successful career fair at MIT in terms of attendance and profit 
made. Has engaged with outgoing GSC treasurer and ASA treasurer to better understand key 
priorities. Will sustain and grow sources of funding because believes in conservative budgeting 
without fear of uncertainty going forward. Have a specific plan on how to secure funding by 
interacting with Dean of Student life and GSO. Must also instigate relationship from Alumni 
Association. Must build on previous work, have ideas on how to better satisfy student groups. 
Transparency in allocations and funding of groups, such that all groups are treated fairly. 
Will leverage the fact that treasurer is the financial center of groups so better connection among 
groups to make sure similar ideas are interconnected to enrich the community. Will listen to 
student responses. Will systematically collect feedback from students for better decision making of 
all events. 

Key qualities: integrity and financial skills when it comes to large sums of money, have track 
record and commitment to serving community, is available since done with classes and not seeking 
other roles in the community, also is dedicated. Fairness and open discussion of issues and conflict 
resolution skills are also what he brings to the position. 

Discussion:

1. Sylvain: what type of student group could potentially apply to FB are you members of and 
you both want to diversify sources of funding so what exactly would you do? 
Alex: talked to new AC chair about the possibility of having another Career Fair in February 
catered to employer's interest in grad students vs undergrad students. Will also consider having a 
buffer fund by not spending all funds available. On campus there are sources of funding available, 
weekends at MIT, Deans of schools, PSC, etc. Involved in International Development Network 
receive funding from Deans and PSC.

David: member of a new group not connected to the Funding Board that will not apply to any large 
sums of money, but will withdraw from the group. As to second part of the question, it is easier 
said than done, it is important to maintain the career fair without undermining it. There are two 
ways to increase other sources of funding. Be ready to go to MIT administration and ask for more 
money, this is harder to do but is committed to doing it. Does not believe in creating a career fair in 
February but will pursue alumni funds.
2. Tim: is the GSC funding board budget large enough or not large enough? David: most groups seem to be happy from what they receive based on the survey. We should increase but not right away until we realize what will happen with the Career Fair. Alex: typical funding is about $100k usually increased after career fair results. In the past we have seen success in funding events. Survey seems to indicate we are doing a good job.

3. Obrad: How familiar are you with the GSC budget, would you be conservative and what would you cut to be conservative? Alex: this year we won’t have any deficits for this year, in the past previous committees had deficits that had to be taken care of in the current year. David: was not asked this question.

4. Rosario: you will chair FB and LEF/ARCADE, what kind of events you would like to fund? David: will not make a statement as to which events will be funded but will listen to student input to make a decision. It will be premature to say will put money in one event and not another. For large events, must have a systematic evaluation of such applications and encourage seeking other sources of funding. Alex: after conversation with Shan and Mireille, funds come from different sources. Important criteria, how many grad students will benefit from these events, will also place value on diversity. Some groups would rely on FB more than others due to lack of resources to them and thus would focus on making sure they are represented.

Votes counted, David voted as treasurer.

2. Announcements / Open Floor

None

Upcoming Meetings / Events:

- Academics, Research & Careers: 5:30 pm, Thursday, Apr. 3rd
- Activities / HCA On-campus: 6:00 pm, Tuesday, Apr. 29th
- Executive: 6:00 pm, Wednesday, Apr. 30th
- General Council: 5:30 pm, Wednesday, May 7th
- Graduate Student News: TBD
- Grad Gala Ticket Sales: On sale right now!
- Housing & Community Affairs: 6:00 pm, Wednesday, Apr. 9th
- Ph.D. Comics Book Signing: 3:15 pm, Wednesday, May 7th
- TBD: 6:30 pm, Thursday, Apr. 9th

Meetings are in the GSC office and include appropriate sustenance.

Help Wanted – Get Involved with the GSC:

All Officer & Committee Chairs now open – gsc-vice-president@mit.edu

Write / take photos for the GSN – gsn-editor@mit.edu

Volunteer for $2 Dinner – gsc-ac@mit.edu
Whereas, the Graduate Student Council currently has no recurring high-profile recruitment event that targets current and possible future student leaders across campus, even though recruitment is a crucial part of maintaining a solid leadership base; and

Whereas, student leaders should be reminded that their services are appreciated and necessary; and

Whereas, interaction among student leaders and other leaders from MIT can lead to fortuitous results; and

Whereas, publicity for the Graduate Student Council among leaders at MIT will increase awareness of the Council and its positive role in both the lives of graduate students and in the life of MIT as a whole; and

Whereas, the Leadership BBQ held in September of 2007 attracted graduate student leaders from across the Institute as well as prominent faculty members;

Be it resolved, by the Graduate Student Council:

That line item 6.16 “Leadership BBQ” be created at $2000, with the stipulation that there will be one barbecue each semester of the school year.
Resolution to Make MIT’s President a Signatory to the Presidents Climate Commitment

Whereas, MIT is one of the world’s foremost institutions of science and technology, and endeavors to “best serve the nation and the world in the 21st century” [1]; and

Whereas, MIT is fast becoming a leading center of research and activism on issues of sustainability, of which climate change is one of the most notable; and

Whereas, MIT’s establishment of the Energy Research Council and increased involvement in the Alliance for Global Sustainability reflect the Institute’s growing emphasis on said issues; and

Whereas, the Presidents Climate Commitment (PCC) “is a high-visibility effort to address global warming by garnering institutional commitments to neutralize greenhouse gas emissions, and to accelerate the research and educational efforts of higher education to equip society to re-stabilize the earth’s climate” [2]; and

Whereas, hundreds of preeminent college and university presidents, including those of the University of California, Cornell University, Duke University, and New York University, have signed the PCC; and

Whereas, MIT would further demonstrate its leadership on issues of sustainability if President Susan Hockfield were to confer upon it her imprimatur; and

Whereas, MIT is already actively engaged in most of the activities in which the PCC asks committed institutions to participate; and

Whereas, in signing this agreement, MIT’s only major new responsibility would be to make its “action plan, inventory, and periodic progress reports [in regards to the objectives that are set forth in the PCC] publicly available by providing them to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) for posting and dissemination” [3];

Be it resolved, by the Undergraduate Association assembled in Senate and the Graduate Student Council:

That President Susan Hockfield sign the Presidents Climate Commitment.
Respectfully submitted,

Ali S. Wyne  
UA Vice President

Austin L. Oehlerking  
UA Campus Sustainability Committee Chair

Vrajesh Y. Modi  
Recycling Chair, Burton-Conner Dormitory

Jason J. Jay  
Member, MIT Energy Initiative Campus Energy Task Force

Forum on American Progress

Leeland B. Ekstrom  
GSC President


### Proposed Budget

**'08-'09 Fiscal Year**

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<th>Proposed Budget</th>
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**Beginning-of-Year Reserve**

| Pool C Funds | $0 |
| Rollover | $20,000 |

**Total Beginning-of-Year Reserve**

| $20,000 |

**Cash Inflows**

| Institute (via Office of the Dean for Graduate Education) | $145,450 |
| Grad Rat | $10,000 |
| Career Fair | $175,000 |
| Orientation Ticket Sales | $10,000 |
| Grad Gala Sponsorship |  |

**Total Cash Inflows**

| $340,450 |

**Cash Outflows**

1. Executive Committee | $38,650 |
2. Nominations Committee | $0 |
3. Funding Board | $132,500 |
4. Publications and Publicity Board | $29,150 |
5. Association of Student Activities | $5,300 |
6. Activities Committee | $63,470 |
7. Committee on Academics, Research, and Careers | $32,380 |
8. Committee on Housing and Community Affairs | $5,000 |
9. Orientation | $54,000 |
10. Muddy Charles Pub | $0 |

**Total Cash Outflows**

| $360,450 |

**End-of-Year Reserve**

<p>| $0 |</p>
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<th>Item</th>
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<td>1.1</td>
<td>General Council Meetings (other than September)</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meetings</td>
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<td>1.2a</td>
<td>Officers' Meetings</td>
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<td>1.3</td>
<td>Holiday Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>Executive Committee Retreat</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>National Association of Graduate and Professional Students</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5a</td>
<td>Legislative Action</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>Office Supplies</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6a</td>
<td>Photocopier</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6b</td>
<td>Telephones</td>
<td>$750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6c</td>
<td>Computers</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6d</td>
<td>Network</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6e</td>
<td>Beverages</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>Capital Equipment</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>Recruiting and Appreciation</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>Executive Committee Discretionary</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>Officers' Discretionary</td>
<td>$1,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>Alumni Relations Task Force</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subtotal** | **$38,650**
### Cash Outflows

**Funding Board**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1 Funding Board Meetings</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Funding Board Allocations</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3 Public Service Fellowships</td>
<td>$8,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4 Medium-Sized Events</td>
<td>$13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5 Council Representatives’ Funding</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6 Athletic/Performance Activities Grant</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>$132,500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Cash Outflows
#### Publications and Publicity Board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Publications and Publicity Meetings</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Graduate Student News Meetings</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3 Graduate Student News Printing Including Orientation Issue</td>
<td>$20,000  (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4 Graduate Student News Mailing and Labeling</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5 Food/Entertainment Reviews or &quot;on the town&quot; for articles</td>
<td>$350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6 Major Graduate Student News Recruitment Event</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.7 Staff Appreciation Event</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.8 GSC Brand Building</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.8a Drop Posters</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.9 Infinite Corridor Projector for Publicity</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.10 HowToGAMIT Ads</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.11 Marketing Materials and GSC Information Cards</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>$29,150</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Assumes 10 issues and $6,800 is defrayed through advertising revenues, Orientation issue and revenues included.
## Cash Outflows

### Association of Student Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08-09</td>
<td>5.1 Activities Midway</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.2 First Year Summer Mailing</td>
<td>$1,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.3 Operations</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5.4 ASA Committee Meetings</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,300</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Due to organizational structure, these disbursements are conditional on equal amounts being disbursed by the Undergraduate Association.
## Cash Outflows
**Activities Committee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.1 Activities Committee Meetings</td>
<td>$720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.1a Activities Sub-Committee Meetings</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2 Acoustic BBQ</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3 Beach</td>
<td>$700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.4 Cultural</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.5 Sports</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.6 Six Flags</td>
<td>$1,100   (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.7 Harvard-MIT Mixer</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.8 Formula 1 Go-Karting</td>
<td>$1,600   (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.9 Collaboration Reward</td>
<td>$4,500   (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.10 Foxwoods</td>
<td>$250     (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.11 Pub Activities</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.12 Subsidized Dining</td>
<td>$10,000  (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.13 Grad Gala</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.14 Leadership BBQ</td>
<td>$2,000   (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>$63,470</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Also ~$1,200 in ticket sales
(2) Also ~$1,125 in ticket sales
(3) For collaboration among student groups
    Costs will be covered entirely through ticket sales or other sources, this small amount is for transportation if needed
(4) Includes $2 Tuesdays
(5) Separate DGE contribution not included
## Cash Outflows

**Committee on Academics, Research, and Careers**

| 7.1 | ARC Committee Meetings | $880 |
| 7.2 | ARC Subcommittee Meetings | $600 (1) |
| 7.3 | Project Chair and Participant Appreciation | $250 |
| 7.4 | MIT Institute Awards | $700 |
| 7.5 | Professional Development Series | $3,000 |
| 7.6 | Academic Career Series | $400 |
| 7.7 | Grad School 101 / 201 | $1,500 |
| 7.8 | Career Fair | $250 (2) |
| 7.9 | Advising Initiative | $500 |
| 7.10 | Grad Rat | $0 (3) |
| 7.11 | International Graduate Student Mentoring | $3,000 |
| 7.12 | Diversity | $3,000 (4) |
| 7.13 | Tax Program | $1,500 (5) |
| 7.14 | Travel Grant | $15,000 |
| 7.15 | Interdisciplinary Lecture Calendar | $1,300 NEW |
| 7.16 | Dissertation Boot Camp | $500 NEW |

**Subtotal** $32,380

(1) Now Diversity, Travel Grants and Awards subcommittees (replaces 12 Pass/D/Fail meetings last year)

(2) Organizing costs are paid directly out of Career Fair revenues, but this money goes to negotiation meetings with other partners

(3) All costs (~$8,000) are defrayed by outside sources

(4) Funds will be directed as requested by the Diversity chairs, will also get DGE funding

(5) Other Institute funds may be available to defray this expense
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Expense Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>HCA Committee Meetings</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>Family Subcommittee Meetings</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>On-Campus Subcommittee</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>Off-Campus Subcommittee</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>Surveys</td>
<td>$1,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>Advocacy Topics</td>
<td>$1,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>Website for off-campus housing (RentMonkey)</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Merged with Activities Committee
(2) Funded entirely through a DGE (ex-GSO) grant ($10,000 in '07-08)
(3) To have surveys conducted by HCA and not by OIR as was before
(4) Data entry/Survey for Dental, This money is available if DGE doesn’t cover survey costs
(5) New. Money allocated for participation incentive (gift certificates) and possible support maintenance costs
| 9.1  | Orientation Committee Meetings          | $1,000 |
| 9.2  | Information Booth                      | $500  |
| 9.3  | spouses&partners (sessions and welcome lunch) | $500 (2) |
| 9.4  | Sidney-Pacific Dance Party             | $1,000 |
| 9.5  | Welcome Reception Under the Dome       | $1,500 (3) |
| 9.6  | Graduate Welcome Lunch                 | $9,500 |
| 9.7  | Welcome Banquet                        | $7,000 (4) |
| 9.8  | Boston Harbor Cruise                   | $1,000 |
| 9.9  | Ashdown Dance Party                    | $1,000 |
| 9.10 | Orientation Olympics                   | $2,500 |
| 9.11 | Graduate Student Volunteer Day         | $500 (5) |
| 9.12 | Hiking Trip                            | $2,100 |
| 9.13 | Miscellaneous                          | $300  |
| 9.14 | LBGT Welcome                           | $500  |
| 9.15 | September GCM                          | $1,500 |
| 9.16 | Publicity                              | $1,500 |
| 9.17 | Residence Day                          | $7,200 (6) |
| 9.18 | Spring Orientation                     | $3,000 |
| 9.19 | Thirsty Ear BBQ                        | $1,500 |
| 9.20 | T-Shirts                                | $1,000 (7) |
| 9.21 | Volunteer Appreciation Event           | $700  |
| 9.22 | Apple Picking Trip                     | $1,000 |
| 9.23 | Wine Tasting Mixer                     | $2,500 (8) |
| 9.24 | International Fashion Show             | $3,500 |
| 9.25 | Prudential Sky Walk                    | $500  |
| 9.26 | Airport Shuttle                        | $1,200 (9) |

**Subtotal**  
$54,000

(1) Orientation events not receiving direct funding not included - see orientation schedule for a list of all events
(2) Also funding from spouses&partners
(3) Also funding from Libraries
(4) Also $8,000 funding from Techlink, additional money requested in case Techlink does not deliver
(5) Also funding from Public Service Center and others
(6) Includes all dorms and off-campus
(7) Also funding from the Coop for students -- these are Tshirts for Volunteers (different color)
(8) Check alcohol policy. GSC funds used for food and police expenses, wine expenses from other sources
(9) This funding is to complement funding collected from departments, who will contribute to at least 70% of the cost
## General Council Meeting
### May 7th, 2008

### 55gsc.1.1

**Task Force on Alumni Relations**

(Initial Presentation at this Meeting)

Sponsors: Oaz Nir, Nan Gu

Whereas, interactions between current graduate students and graduate student alumni of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (the “Institute”) are often of great benefit for all parties involved; and

Whereas, the Graduate Student Council does not have a coordinated program of interaction with its own alumni, alumni of the Institute generally, nor with the MIT Alumni Association;

Be it resolved, by the Graduate Student Council:

That the GSC supports the President’s action to create a Task Force on Alumni Relations, charged as follows (the “charge”):

1. **Investigation:**
   - Evaluate the current GSC, departmental, Institute-level and MIT Alumni Association initiatives on alumni relations. Evaluate how the GSC can optimally interact with and support the Campaign for Students. Investigate and evaluate initiatives at peer institutions.

2. **Program Coordination:**
   - Coordinate new GSC initiatives on alumni relations and fundraising, including the implementation of a Graduate Gift campaign.

3. **Liaise with the Institute:**
   - Serve as a central resource for graduate students, faculty, and administrators on the issue of alumni relations for the GSC.

4. **Report:**
   - Produce a written report detailing the findings and experiences of the Task Force as well as recommendations for future programs and initiatives on alumni relations.

It is so moved that the GSC vote to support the President’s creation of a Task Force on Alumni Relations to commence work immediately and to present its findings at the March, 2009 GCM.