

The Byte

Vol. 3 Issue 1 September 5, 2017



MIT UNDERGRADUATE
ASSOCIATION

Welcome back MIT!

We hope you had a wonderful summer and enjoyed your first week of classes. To the class of 2021, welcome to MIT :)

The Byte is a weekly newsletter sent out by the MIT Undergraduate Association with announcements, updates, and events pertaining to undergraduates at MIT.

The UA works to improve your undergraduate experience through policy, projects, and events. Our office is located at W20-401 and is open 9am - 5pm Monday - Friday. Feel free to stop by, grab a snack, or relax on our comfy couches in between classes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee Applications

[UA Committee applications](#) are now open! Committees are an easy way to

First Council Meeting

The first UA Council meeting will be next Wednesday, **September 20th from 7:30**

become involved in the UA and develop your organizational, communication, and leadership skills. We'll be in Lobby 10 and the Student Center all week to answer any questions. **Applications are due this Friday 9/15.**

Support for Those Affected by Recent Hurricanes

The UA and Peer Ears will be holding a study break this **Wednesday, September 13th at 7:30pm in W20-400** to support those affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to different student [resources](#) on campus.

- 9:00pm in the Senate Chambers (W20-400). Council meetings are open to all undergraduates. Add yourself to ua-council-listeners@mit.edu to receive the agenda, meeting reminders, and minutes.

UPDATES

OFFICER GOALS

Expanding mental health access: adding student support resources on campus

Improving first year academics: rethinking GIRs and academic advising

Building government relationships: working with our Cambridge and Boston communities to increase student voices

SUMMER ADMIN MEETINGS

President Reif to reiterate our priorities for the upcoming year

Provost Marty Schmidt about the General Institute Budget

Chancellor Cindy Barnhart and **Dean of Student Life Suzy Nelson** to address a range of student issues, including undergraduate housing overcrowding

in national policy-making

SUMMER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Added student representatives to the IS&T Student Technology Advisory Board and Information Technology Governance Committee in response to concerns from SIBP and other students about the NAT rollout

Advocated for the release of MIT janitor Francisco Guardado by signing online petitions, attending a rally, and encouraging individuals to contact state representatives

Prioritized having a meal swipe donation program and asking about social responsibility when looking for a new food provider for dining halls

Attended an all-hands meeting with Vice Chancellor Ian Waitz to reorganize the new combined Undergraduate and Graduate Education offices

Worked with MIT DC office to prioritize items that affect undergraduates, specifically expanding student aid and reducing loans

due to the Senior Haus closure and ensuring spaces for LGBTQ+ students, URM, and first-generation students across campus

Vice Chancellor Ian Waitz about advising, first-year academics, unconscious bias training, faculty engagement in living communities, and Interphase

Krishna Rajagopal, new Dean of Digital Learning, about the future of the MIT education

Ed Bertschinger, Institute Community and Equity Officer, to improve diversity and inclusion initiatives on campus and add unconscious bias workshops

Peter Cummings, Executive Director for Administration in the Division for Student Life, about ways to tackle food security

David Randall, Senior Associate Dean for Student Support and Wellbeing, about expanding mental health and S³ access across campus

EVENTS

Connect - Free Lunch!

When: Every Week

Where: MIT-wide

Contact: questions@connected.mit.edu

URL: <https://connected.mit.edu>

Connect allows you to meet new people from across campus and all walks of life through platonic lunch pairings. We know things can get busy, so meet according to your availability: every 1, 2, 3, or 4 weeks. There is such a thing as a free lunch! Log that you met, and receive \$10 in TechCash. Join over 700 other MIT students, and get connected. Meet new people from across campus, and from other universities including: Harvard, Northeastern, Tufts, and BU.

Volunteer for the MIT Fall Career Fair!

When: 9/18 - 9/30

Where: Z Center, Lobby 10, W20

Contact: cf-directors@mit.edu

URL: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4aa9a92ca6fc1-2017>

Do you want access to exclusive networking opportunities? Do you want to get into the Career Fair early? Are you interested in learning more about how Career Fair is run? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you should sign up to be a Career Fair volunteer. Help make the MIT Fall Career Fair a success by volunteering and enjoy our volunteer-exclusive opportunities! Check [here](#) for the schedule of company events.

WANT TO SEE YOUR EVENT IN THE BYTE?

Submit an event [here](#)! Events must be submitted by noon Sunday for inclusion in that Monday's issue.

ANY QUESTIONS?

Email ua-secretary@mit.edu with any questions, comments, or suggestions for improvement for future editions of The Byte.

