

UA Council Meeting
September 11, 2012

Attendance: Burton Conner, East Campus, MacGregor, Maseeh, McCormick, New House, Next House, Random Hall, Senior House, Simmons Hall, IFC (3), Panhel (3), President, Vice President, Chief of Staff, Treasurer, Secretary

Introductions

Fall Semester Briefing

You are our board of directors

- Set the direction for the UA
- Provide representative opinion on behalf of students
 - Sounding board for Exec
- Final authority on finances
- Be invested in the success of the UA

Together we will achieve

- Leadership in
 - Policy development
 - Valuable projects and programs
 - Meaningful events
- Excellence in developing our members
- Prominence on campus as a trusted source for student opinion

Our Mission

Short Version – the UA seeks to improve student life

- Improve the quality of our education
- Provide ourselves with services
- Express our views and represent ourselves
- Allocate resources

Joint Summer Policy Initiatives

- PTAC (Presidential Transition Advisory Cabinet)
 - Collaboration with GSC
- RLAD
 - Collaboration with DormCon
- Student Support
 - Collaboration with GSC
- Campus Planning
 - Collaboration with GSC and Faculty
- MITx

- Collaboration with GSC

Current Activity

- New president
 - Ask students for opinions
- New UA website
 - Deployed by the end of the month
 - Reinvent our image
 - Engage more directly with students

Still to come...

- Bonfire Idea Management Platform
- Student Center Restaurants
- Campus Policy Leaders
- MIT 2030 and Campus Planning
- UA Retreat

Q&A with Jonte

Question (Alec Lai): What is a condensed list of high ranking projects this year?

- New president
 - We have the power to influence decision making through our involvement with President Reif
- Campus planning
 - Kendall Square, Central Square, campus
- Student support
 - Working with GSC and SMASH
- MITx
 - Nobody has a clear vision for what it will be and it will change the campus dramatically over the next 10 years
 - If we hear from students good ideas and active input, this will help MIT

Question (Ryan Normandin): What are we doing in response to the RLAD controversy to change student engagement?

- We will present a clear framework
- It can be easy for the administration to say that students aren't providing feedback for what is wrong
 - If we can consistently say what we expect from student engagement process, that will put us in a better position
- This conversation will go on throughout the year

Spring Nominations Slate for Institute Committees (Ravi Charan)

- Institute Committees have a wide influence throughout MIT

- There are students sitting on all of the committees listed in the nominations slate packet sent out earlier
- In the spring, an e-mail was sent out and over one hundred students applied to be on institute committees
 - All the candidates were interviewed
 - Some class conflicts altered the availability of nominees
- Vote: Motion Approved

Nominees for Election Commission, Judicial Board, and Committee Chairs

- Can be found in the same packet as the institute committees
- Very relevant since the 2016 class council elections will be taking place soon
- Everyone previously involved with the commission in the past has graduated or become uninvolved
 - No one in the UA has been involved in the elections
- Vote on Election Commission:
 - Laura Royden – approved
 - Kevin Yan – approved
 - Sharanya Srinivasan – declined
- Vote on Judicial Board
 - James Douberley – approved
- Vote on Committee Chairs
 - Johnathan Kongoletos – approved
 - Haldun Anil – approved
 - Stephanie Yu – approved

Movie on the Lawn

- Ferris Beuller's Day off on 9/30/12 at 9:30 pm on Kresge Court
- Total expense is \$1600
- Motion approved with an extra \$100 for a larger inflatable screen
- Motion approved for \$100 for publicity (postering)

TurboVote

- Recommendation from a UA alum
 - It would allow MIT students to register to vote
- Voter registration drive (in the past we have partnered with the Tech to host this during election years)
- Budget approximately \$750
- Motion declined

Fall Budget Discussion

- Draft presented at this meeting; will be voted on in the next meeting
- \$12,000 more is being spent this fall than last fall

Announcements

- Retreat October 8-9 at Cape Cod
 - Get to know each other well
 - Leave midmorning Oct 8 and come back around noon October 9
 - Columbus Day weekend
- UA Brunches to happen throughout the semester to encourage members of the UA to get to know one another and their roles
- Next meeting in two weeks
 - Will discuss budget
 - If you have suggestions, email them to Jonté by noon on Sunday
- Committees with Vacancies. Email ua-nomcomm@mit.edu if you or anyone you know is interested. Expect an all campus email tomorrow
 - Subcommittee on the HASS Requirement (Biweekly, Friday 10 - 1130)
 - Subcommittee on the Communications Requirement (Biweekly, Wednesday 9 1030)
 - COD Rules Committee (Probably biweekly, Tuesday 1130 – 1)
 - Student Citizenship Grants (Time TBA/Flexible)
- MIT 2030: The UA is presenting on Tuesday. If you have comments, questions, concerns, or, in particular, ideas about what Kendall Square should look like, email ua-mit2030@mit.edu