



**Undergraduate Association Council Meeting Agenda September 16, 2015**

Draft: September 12, 2015

**7:00PM - 7:30PM**

President's Questions (Optional)

**7:30PM**

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes from May 13, 2015
- III. State of the UA Report
- IV. Independent Review Committee Overview
- V. Summer Officer Decisions Review
- VI. Fall Budget Review
- VII. Elections Commission Approval Process
- VIII. Constitution and Bylaws Amendments Discussion
- IX. Adjournment



### **Undergraduate Association (UA) Independent Review Committee Undergraduate Selection**

An Independent Review Committee has been charged, at the request of the Undergraduate Association President, by the Dean of Student Life to explore how the UA ended the fiscal year 2014-2015 in debt. The charge is still being formulated.

Once the committee's charge is ascertained, it will need two undergraduate representatives.

An application will be sent out to the whole undergraduate student body, by the UA President, soliciting applications. These applications will be shared with Council.

Interested members of Council, in addition with any interested members of the Judicial Review Board as well as the UA President, will interview all applicants. They will then decide upon a slate of five (5) candidates.

This slate of five (5) candidates will be sent to the UA Council, and considered approved if two (2) days go by and five (5) Councillors have not submitted a written objection to the UA President. If a candidate is objected to, the group mentioned in the previous paragraph will determine a new candidate, and it will be presented again to Council.

Upon approval, the slate will be submitted to the chairs of the Independent Review Committee, who will choose two (2) of the five (5) to have on the committee.



### **UA Reimbursement Policy for Internal Expenses**

Expenses incurred by members of the UA in pursuit of their duties, and in line with their allocated budget, may be submitted for reimbursement to the Treasurer according to the following calendar:

1. For expenses incurred from July 1 to December 31 of a given year:  
Reimbursements must be submitted prior to or on December 31 of that year.
2. For expenses incurred from January 1 to June 30 of a given year:  
Reimbursements must be submitted prior to or on June 30 of that year.

Any expenses submitted for reimbursement outside of this calendar will not be approved under any circumstances.

This applies retroactively to all UA expenses incurred prior to the enactment of this policy.



### **Independent Review Committee on Financial Affairs**

#### **Name**

The name of this committee shall be the Independent Review Committee on Financial Affairs.

#### **Purpose**

To review the past and present budgetary and monetary practices of the Undergraduate Association (UA), identify areas of improvement, and recommend changes to the UA President and the UA Council for their improvement.

#### **Principles of Operation**

This committee will publish a final report, pursuant to its purpose, by the first Council meeting of November 2015. This deadline may be extended at the will of the committee up until the last day of the Fall 2015 semester.

This committee shall have full access to all records of the UA. All members of the UA must fully comply with a request for information from this committee. Moreover, upon request, all members of the UA must make themselves available to be interviewed by this committee. If a member has reason to object, they may appeal to the UA Judicial Review Board for arbitration.

All information obtained or generated by this committee, and all of its proceedings, will be considered fully confidential until the final report of the committee is published. No person or organization may request or be provided information from this committee, unless the committee as a whole decides that it is necessary to carry out its duties. The only exception to this, is the UA Judicial Review Board, in pursuit of its constitutional duties. In the event that the UA Judicial Review Board requires information, they may only release such information as is directly relevant to their duties until the publication of the final report from this committee.

This committee will have full ability and authority from the UA to communicate with or collaborate with other entities at MIT in the pursuit of its duties.

Recommendations of this committee will be decided by general consensus. In the event of disagreement, every effort must be made to understand the root cause of the disagreement and resolve it; if this is not possible, all views concerning a recommendation must be included in the report, with an understanding of which parties favoured which perspective.

The final wording of the report must be approved by a general consensus of the committee.

A schedule of meetings for this committee will be determined by the committee at its first meeting.

The final report of this committee will be distributed by the chair to the UA Council and the UA President via email. The chair must also distribute the report to the student body via email. A copy must also be placed on the UA website.

### **Membership Provisions**

The chair of this committee shall be the UA Vice President. The primary purpose of the chair is to facilitate the scheduling of meetings, discussions and decisionmaking, to provide access to all information needed by the committee, and to act as a liaison for the committee to others. The chair is also responsible for gathering any information needed by the committee to carry out its functions. The chair may not make recommendations for the committee in relation to its purpose, and has no vote in any decision or consensus of the committee. However, the chair may provide information relevant to the committee for its consideration.

The membership of this committee shall also consist of two members of the MIT faculty, as well as two members of the MIT staff. The membership of this committee shall also consist of two undergraduate students. These two students may have no position outside of general membership in the UA, and may not be a part of the governing structure of any student organization represented by a Council member. These members shall be chosen by the UA President, in collaboration with interested members of the UA Council.

The final membership of this committee will be presented to the UA Council via email, and considered approved unless five or more members of the UA Council object to its membership. In such a case, it may either be modified and presented again, or approved via a majority vote of the UA Council. The proposed membership will be given privately to Council members for approval; once approval is received, it will be announced publicly.

### **Period of Operation**

This committee will be operational upon the approval of its membership, and will remain operational until the publication of its final report, subject to relevant constitutional provisions. Upon the publication of its final report, this committee will be considered dissolved.



### **Undergraduate Association (UA) Elections Commission Selection**

The UA President will collect applications from the undergraduate body, starting the evening of Wednesday, September 16, 2015 until 12:00PM on Saturday, September 19, 2015.

The UA President, in conjunction with interested Councillors, will conduct interviews of applicants, to be completed by 5:00PM on Tuesday, September 22, 2015.

With input from the Councillors in attendance at interviews, the UA President will submit a slate of no less than three (3) and no more than eight (8) members to the UA Council on the evening of Tuesday, September 22, 2015.

The slate will be considered approved if, at the conclusion of forty-eight (48) hours after the slate is sent, five (5) Councillors have not objected to a member on the slate. If a member is objected to by five (5) Councillors, that member will be removed from the slate, though other members will remain and be considered approved.

Please note that the Judicial Review Board retains the ability to reject the final list of commission members.



## **Undergraduate Association Amendments to Bylaws**

September 16, 2015

### **Bylaws, Article V, Section 1, Clause A, Subsection 3:**

#### 3. Person vote:

- a. Votes will be taken according to the prescribed qualifications below. In person votes, each Council Representative shall have one equally weighed vote.
  - i.
  - ii. Approval of new Officers will require a 2/3 vote of the full voting membership of the Council
  - iii. Approval of Institute Committee representative nominations shall require a person vote of the Council as outlined by the bylaws of the Nominations Committee
  - iv. Votes to Censure will require a 2/3 vote of the full voting membership of the Council
  - v. Amendments to the Council Bylaws and Committee Bylaws must be presented one meeting before they are voted on and will require a 2/3 majority vote of the full voting membership of the Council
  - vi. Suspension of the Council Bylaws will require a 2/3 majority vote of the full voting membership of the Council
  - vii. Votes to elect a temporary Chair will require a 2/3 vote of the full voting membership of the Council

#### Proposed:

#### 3. Person vote:

- a. Votes will be taken according to the prescribed qualifications below. In person votes, each Council Representative shall have one equally weighed vote.
  - i. Approval of new Officers will require a 2/3 vote of the full voting membership of the Council
  - ii. Approval of Institute Committee representative nominations shall require a



person vote of the Council as outlined by the bylaws of the Nominations Committee

iii. Votes to Censure will require a 2/3 vote of the full voting membership of the Council

iv. Amendments to the Council Bylaws and Committee Bylaws must be presented one meeting before they are voted on and will require a 2/3 majority vote of the full voting membership of the Council

v. Suspension of the Council Bylaws will require a 2/3 majority vote of the full voting membership of the Council

vi. Votes to elect a temporary Chair will require a 2/3 vote of the full voting membership of the Council

### **Bylaws, Article V, Section B, Clause 3**

3. The voting Council Representatives may elect to have a temporary Chair for a specific agenda item or for the duration of the meeting if the Chair cannot attend the meeting. This vote follows the prescribed method in V.B.b of the Council Bylaws.

Proposed:

3. The voting Council Representatives may elect to have a temporary Chair for a specific agenda item or for the duration of the meeting if the Chair cannot attend the meeting. This vote follows the prescribed method in V.A.3.a.vii of the Council Bylaws.

### **Bylaws, Article V, Section C, Clause 3**

3. The agenda may be edited during a meeting as prescribed by V.A.b.h of the Council Bylaws.

Proposed:

Remove this clause.

### **Bylaws, Article V, Section E, Clause 7**

7. This budget will then be presented to the Council for a vote as prescribed by V.A.b of the Council Bylaws.

Proposed:

7. This budget will then be presented to the Council for a vote as prescribed by V.A.2.b of the Council Bylaws.

**Bylaws, Article VI, Section A**

1. UA Committee on Alumni Relations
2. Association of Student Activities – joint committee with the Graduate Student Council
3. UA Committee on Athletics
4. UA Committee on Dining
5. UA Committee on Education
6. UA Events Committee
7. UA Finance Board
8. UA History Committee
9. UA Housing Committee
10. UA Nominations Committee
11. UA Committee on Public Relations
12. UA Committee on Space Planning
13. UA Committee on Student Life
14. UA Committee on Sustainability

Proposed:

1. UA Committee on Alumni Relations
2. Association of Student Activities – joint committee with the Graduate Student Council
3. UA Committee on Athletics
4. UA Committee on Community
5. UA Committee on Dining
6. UA Committee on Education
7. UA Events Committee
8. UA Finance Board
9. UA History Committee
10. UA Housing Committee
11. UA Nominations Committee

12. UA Committee on Public Affairs
13. UA Committee on Involvement
14. UA Committee on Space Planning
15. UA Committee on Student Life
16. UA Committee on Sustainability

**Constitution, Article II, Section C, Clause 5, Subclause c**

c. At no time shall an officer of this Association or the Council collaborate with a member of this board on business of the Undergraduate Association with exception of committees as described in Article II, Section C, Item 2. a. iii. Additionally, officers may seek advice on constitutional issues from Judicial Board members.

Proposed:

c. At no time shall an officer of this Association or the Council collaborate with a member of this board on business of the Undergraduate Association with exception of committees as described in Article II, Section C, Item 3. a. iii. Additionally, officers may seek advice on constitutional issues from Judicial Board members.

**Proposed:**

Change all he/she to gender neutral pronouns, they/them/theirs, in Bylaws/Constitution/Election Code.

**Constitution, Preamble**

The name of this Organization shall be the Undergraduate Association (UA) of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In order to ensure that the Undergraduate Association continues to work on our behalf and in our interest, we have adopted this constitution to govern this Association.

Proposed:

The name of this Organization shall be the Undergraduate Association of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (UA). In order to ensure that the Undergraduate Association continues to work on our behalf and in our interest, we have adopted this constitution to govern this Association.

**Constitution, Article 2, Section B, Clause 10, Subsection b**

b. The President and the Vice President shall be elected by the Association in a process governed by the Election Code.

Proposed:

b. The President and the Vice President shall be elected by the Association in a process governed by the Election Code.