

Attendance:

Sophia Liu
Daysi Gomez
Gabriella Baracchini
Kyle Archer
Alexa Martin
Alberto Hernandez
Lisa Ho
MJ
Gianna Garza, Senior House
Isaac Grosf, Random Hall
Billy Moses, Maseeh
Nora Enright, Next House
Courtney Diamond, Panhel
Caitlyn Mason, Panhel
Jack Gordon, IFC
Trevor Ewald, IFC
Lily Zhou, East Campus
Susan Mullen, McCormick
Yuge Ji, Simmons
Michael Trinh, IFC
Flora Liu, Burton Conner
Colin Godwih, New House
Meredith Bensch, Panhel

Minutes:

Vote: Motion to approve minutes from last week: 2 abstaining, passed

Updates on UA:

- September was our building up internally month
 - All committees have five members which is the requirement
 - We have started to meet with admins
 - Removed Alexander Sludds, History committee chair for being unresponsive

- Had UA Retreat and will have another in the Spring

- Began considering 4\$ increase in student life fee:
 - Matt advocated last year for an 11\$ increase over the next 3 years, there was a 4\$ increase last year

- Tuition of MIT: at other universities students are involved in the tuition deciding but there hasn't been much of that here- the institute committee related to that is CUAFA but they are confidential
- Isaac: From what I know they base their decisions off what other universities do, it doesn't impact the health of MIT over all. Knowing how these decisions are being made are really helpful
- Sophia has been with dorm presidents over the past few weeks:
- Issue from last semester: when Matthew left he needed to recommend 3-8 people to the election commissions and didn't so we need to do that here
- Faculty newsletter came out and there is some interesting data
 - Gender disparity in the faculty and what they want to see from MIT
 - Women have a hard time at MIT, female professors say less often that their work place is unbiased from discrimination; however, this has increased over the past years showing that women do feel more comfortable in their workplace
- Asa has been very under staffed the past years so Sophia is going to request an admin assistant for the UA
 - The GSC has one

UA Committee on Education:

- COE has been a standing committee for sometime and has some broad overarching goals: to improve education at MIT, to increase student awareness of resources, lower barrier of access to resources, send out surveys to make sure they are actually representing the students voices
- Some specific goals for this year: better collaboration with other groups (would like to work on subject evaluations), for committee members to be longer serving and autonomous, create a push for new projects (3x as many committee members as last year)
- Some ongoing projects: grade transparency which was started last year- working on setting up a focus group for those committee members, student faculty dinners to allow students to get to know their professors in a more casual setting, violations reporting process
- One main new project is the advising task force which can get students to know faculty who are interested in similar things outside of an advising type format
- AAC (Academic Advisory Council) will be a sub committee of the COE
 - First meeting will be on the algorithmic and computational thinking report
 - Lab requirement and CI requirement
 - Admin visitors
- Online education taskforce working on seeing if students want online only type classes, seeing which parts are important to be online vs in person
- Final schedule: this semester we only have one reading day, will be looking at a survey on students thoughts regarding this

- One small project we are working on is to get online transcripts available
- One project we would like to work on is getting midterm feedback for classes and working on subject evaluations

- Yuge: How do you plan on soliciting student feedback on these issues you've Presented

- Lisa: It depends on the specific issue but we will use surveys and Academic Advisory Council, as well as consider focus groups and opening up AAC meetings

Vote: Motion to discuss 4\$ student life fee: 1 abstaining

- Something Matthew recommended last year that is a good idea moving forward

- Jack : we should raise it by 7\$ this year instead of doing it gradually, the extra money can be used for student groups and clubs

Vote: on 4\$ increase: 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, passed

Vote: on 7\$ increase: 2 opposed, 2 abstaining, passed

Student quality of life survey:

- What types of questions should we ask?

- Isaac: Should have more questions about living groups, would be helpful to go more in detail on making friends and how the dorm supports the individuals with indication of their specific group

- Colin: Could use a question for gauging mental health on campus

- Noura: See if the health issue is chronic or new issue

- Isaac: Question on mit medical, how easy it is to get an appointment

- Gianna: Extensive questions or different survey on mental health

- Isaac: "studying" didn't include p-setting or completing assignments but they need to capture overall time spent on academics

- What committees thought on these questions:

- Overall getting student feedback on certain policy proposals

- Best way to get feedback for overall students groups

- How much power to students feel like they have over policy decisions

- Have presentation/writing skills improved or declined while at mit

Election Commission Candidates:

- Looking to fill election commission, last spring we elected Kathleen Chen, but the commission should be 3-8

- We have 8 people for you to approve, 4 made it this evening to speak

- Scott: Class of 2019 majoring in either 6 or 14 from Maseeh

- Deon: Class of 2020 majoring in either course 6 or 18

- Ganatra: Class of 2020 majoring in either 8 or 18 from BC

- Rose: Class of 2020 double majoring in 17 & from 18 Simmons

Vote: Approve whole slate: 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, passed

Out of Session Voting Amendment:

- Do we have to get to quorum for out of session voting: 10 people, ½ of full membership)

Vote: on this amendment to bylaws : 1 opposed, 0 abstaining, passed

Vote: Meeting ajourned: 1 opposed, 0 abstaining, passed