

*In attendance: Allan Miramonti, TyShaun Wynter, David Chang, Will Steadman, Alex Hall, Janet Li, Paul Kominers, Ben Shaibu, Daniel Hawkins, Tatiana Mamaliga, Michael Walsh, Patrick Hulin, Betsy Riley, Rachel Meyer, Leonid Grinberg, Catherine Fan, Amanda David, Anika Gupta, Emily Zhao, Alan Miranda*

**The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.**

**Allan:** This is the first exec meeting of the year. As you probably know by now, this year, we're moving them to every other week, but you guys will still have to come to Senate for an hour on the off weeks. So I'll see you next week, too. Let's do introductions since there are new people in the room.

*(Introductions)*

Recruitment events have happened, and we have people running for positions. But we need more people. Especially if you live in a west campus dorm or a fraternity, sorority, or independent living group, encourage people to run for write-ins. Think about running yourselves since it's only every other week now and you have to be there anyway.

Restructuring: My plan is to reconvene the restructuring committee next Wednesday from 5-7 pm. Tom Kochan has agreed to continue managing the committee. Where we left off last semester: we had a rough sketch of what we wanted to present to student groups, administrators, and students about what we wanted to do. We'll meet once next week and then I think we'll have an action plan of going out to people and seeing what they think. My hope is that we'll be restructured by October. I haven't announced this yet to the rest of the group, since we just decided on the date, but I will.

**Rachel:** That's the day of the career fair.

**Allan:** I was not aware of that. We may change it then.

**Janet:** Who are we publicizing the meeting to?

**Allan:** The ua-structure mailing list.

**Hawkins:** What about freshmen?

**Allan:** Ok, maybe we will email to undergrads then. Although we send too many emails already. Senate will have met by then so we could ask Senators to tell their constituents about it.

**Will:** Also, this may be relevant to restructuring as well: the first DormCon meeting is next Thursday at 5:30pm in Senior House.

**Allan:** Any other discussion items?

**Hawkins:** The elections website is a disaster. I think it's been that way for a while. I think we should pay someone to fix vote.mit.edu, the server, the website, etc.

**Allan:** Well we are actually approving a CIT today so she may be qualified to do that.

**Janet:** How is everything else with elections?

**Anika:** Are people running?

**Hawkins:** It's about average. There are a couple of contested Senate races, and the 2015 class council president position is also contested.

**Anika:** Are we extending the deadline past tomorrow?

**Hawkins:** No, and they would have had to email me today as well in order to meet the deadline tomorrow.

**Allan:** We could definitely use more candidates. No one's running for 2015 social chair, for example. Encourage people to run as write-ins, or to run yourselves.

**Alex H:** I've sent out a couple emails to committee chairs about budgets. Can you send them to me tonight? We need to have the budget done by next Monday.

**Patrick:** As a new committee chair, what do we usually budget for?

**Janet:** You can check past budgets online. Usually it's food for meetings, along with whatever other projects you need funding for.

**Will:** As Speaker, since I will be running the agenda for Senate meetings, if you guys want to bring anything to Senate, send it to me early so that we can structure it and figure out how to present it.

**Rachel:** This coming Senate meeting is non-voting, though, right?

**Will:** Yes, it is only a special budgetary meeting for looking at the budget. September 26 will be the special special budgetary committee meeting. After that, though, Senate meetings will go back to normal.

**Allan:** I will probably give a State of the UA at this first Senate meeting as well. Let's move into voting stuff now. I would like to discuss approving a new CIT, Catherine Fan. She is currently the webmaster for New House, and they have a website with a very pretty design. TyShaun and I interviewed her, and she has great web design and graphic design skills, something which the UA could really use.

**Janet:** Have you looked at the UA website, and do you have any ideas for what you'd like to do with it?

**Catherine:** The UA website looks pretty clean and professional, but I haven't seen the voting site.

**Will:** I think everything is tied in with Athena; do you have experience with that?

**Catherine:** It depends. AFS file permissions – yes.

**David:** What is your programming language of choice? Design program of choice?

**Catherine:** Photoshop, C++.

**Allan:** Other time commitments?

**Catherine:** Just the Association of Taiwanese Students.

**Allan:** Any other questions? Ok, let's vote.

***Catherine Fan is approved as the UA Assistant Vice President of Information Systems.***

**Allan:** Now we'll discuss Emily Zhao as the Vice Chair for SCEP.

**Paul:** She was the Chair of Finboard last year, so you guys probably know her better than I do. She's also involved with TechFair and SBC. Any questions?

**Betsy:** Why?

**Paul:** I've known her for a long time and I've worked with her and I want someone competent to help me with SCEP.

**Betsy:** Which projects are you guys working on?

**Paul:** We're tackling more projects related to advising over classroom education, but I haven't met with my committee yet, so we'll have a better idea then. For instance, we want to reintroduce the SCEP freshman advising brochure.

**David:** There's still a copy of that in Dropbox.

**Paul:** Yes, but we haven't distributed it in years. We want to work on the student-advisor relationship and help students form these relationships. I talked with Sam Allan about partnering with the Teaching and Learning Laboratory to write a handbook about how to develop a course. There are other things on a smaller scale.

**Will:** What year are you?

**Emily:** Senior. I know it says “G” in the MIT people directory but I haven’t graduated yet.

**Paul:** Are you M-Enging?

**Emily:** Yeah, that’s probably why.

**Will:** It’s nice to train people though so someone can stay and take over after the chair graduates.

**Paul:** True, but everyone else on my committee is a 2014 and the 2013 hasn’t responded to my emails. I would rather work with someone I know. I plan on developing leadership with all of the committee members to have as developed of a committee as possible for next year.

**Rachel:** Is there a reason we’re considering these nominations today instead of for Senate?

**Allan:** The CIT was desperately needed, and I wanted Paul to be able to get started right away. We can also do it as formality through Senate.

**Will:** My understanding is that we can bring everyone to Senate if necessary – it should be either everyone or no one that we bring to Senate to reapprove.

**Hawkins:** Senate always has the power to reverse it.

**Rachel:** But they wouldn’t anyway probably.

**Allan:** Ok, let’s vote on Emily.

***Emily Zhao is confirmed as the Vice Chair of the Student Committee on Educational Policy.***

**Allan:** I’m skipping reimbursements for now. David, let’s do Nom Comm stuff.

**David:** Ok, there are a couple new names. Basically we had a couple of critical holes in student reps on our institute committees, so we’ve been interviewing people over the summer, which was interesting, but we needed to do that so we could have people on the Committee of Student Life, the Committee on Curricula, and other critical committees. We had a first batch that went through 2-3 weeks ago. Now we have another 4 nominations. They are:

*Connie Park, Committee on Student Life (CSL)*

*Angela Wang, Committee on Family and Work (CFW)*

*Drew Whisenant, Committee on Curricula (COC)*

*John Kongoletos, CAC Advisory Board*

**Allan:** Can you explain the process for how you conducted these interviews?

**David:** Since no one was on campus, we had everyone do the application and then we did video interviews over Google+: that was the best alternative to what we had. And then we did the nominations process.

**Allan:** Let’s take some questions and then we’ll take a vote.

**Betsy:** Can you elaborate on CSL?

**David:** So I’ll talk about CSL and Connie herself. The committee currently has someone from west campus and one student from east campus. I know it’s not a critical thing but I think it’s important to have a good balance, so we were looking for someone with an affiliation. Alex Slocum, the chair, is a smart guy with an endless curiosity. We were looking for someone who could remain focused and stay on topic in addition to someone with presence. We weren’t looking for someone who would be rude, but someone who is confident. Connie is a junior in Alpha Phi, course 3. I interviewed her in person; we had an intense back-and-forth about financial aid and other things and I was happy she could joust with me for 30 minutes.

**Leonid:** Was the position contested?

**Rachel:** Yeah. We couldn't find anyone through the G+ interviews that we were super happy with.

**Allan:** We also interviewed last spring and couldn't find anyone either.

**Rachel:** We couldn't find someone good for the committee's balance.

**Allan:** Other questions? Let's vote.

***Nominations Committee slate approved.***

**Allan:** Now let's move to approving the summer budget. I would like to reimburse people for their money they spent for recruitment and whatnot.

Summer funds: We allocated \$5000 for the UA over the summer. We bought t-shirts for \$1217, which came out to ~\$8 a shirt. We have a summer newsletter that I will ask everyone to distribute to their dorms after the meeting; that cost \$500. There was a Chief of Staff dinner for \$110 with David and some representatives; it was a group session of institute reps and was helping develop good relations. The total we spent for the summer was \$1827. Any questions? Seeing none, I will call a vote for reimbursing summer funds.

***UA summer expenditures approved.***

Recruitment: There was a bill passed last spring allocating \$2000 for recruitment activities to be approved by voting exec. For recruitment, the activities midway and some info sessions: I only spent \$101 for food for ice cream out of \$1000 something allocated; \$13 for candy, \$113 for info cards, and \$195 for food for the post-midway info session. That's a total spending of \$422 out of \$2000. Any questions?

***UA recruitment expenditures approved.***

**Allan:** That's it for the formalized agenda. I have one more question I will ask before closing this meeting: committee chairs, do you know how many people you would want to add to your committee?

**Rachel:** We need a UA rep for ASA.

**Alex H:** Finboard needs at least 2, maybe 3 more.

**Tatiana:** 4 for CSL.

**Betsy:** I need some people who aren't dorm dining chairs – maybe 3.

**Will:** Space Planning needs a committee.

**Alan:** 2 for PR.

**Leonid:** By Add date, I may need some.

**Allan:** We'll address yours later since it's special.

**Paul:** 3, or as many as you can give me for SCEP.

**Michael:** 3 or 4 for Athletics.

**Patrick:** 1 or 2 for Housing.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.**