

39 U.A.S. 9
Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2008
8:00pm-11:30pm(ish)
Senate Chambers (W20-400)

1. Roll Call
2. Q&A with VP of IS&T Jerry Grochow (JG)
 - a. Martin introduces JG and also Wilson D'Souza (WD) from ISG (infrastructure software group) - online textbook initiative
 - b. JG: used to be Baker House Pres and Chair of DormCon
 - i. Had career in industry, came back to MIT four years ago
 - ii. IST is Central IT dept of MIT – responsible for main campus network, providing wireless network, stellar, MITSIS
 1. Work in conjunction w/ all IT groups across MIT
 - iii. Stellar – becoming de facto standard for courses across Institute
 1. Wilson has responsibility for stellar, can answer questions
 - iv. MITSIS – student system, provides grade, registration services
 1. Developed before Internet, in process of re-envisioning system, survey that 3000 students responded to will help direction
 2. Project will not be completed before any current students graduate
 - v. In process of going through wireless upgrade/transformation
 - vi. Want to improve networking in dorms (paid for by dorm rent)
 - vii. Upgrades in fraternities and sororities
 - viii. Telephone system will change over next few year
 - c. Question: Matthew Fischer from BC 2
 - i. IT running upgrade, building server on BC 2 – has a few questions about plan
 - ii. Floor hasn't seen plan, taking up 1/3 of space for 45 people – looking for outline of plan, any alternatives for community space
 - d. JG: don't know why location was picked
 - i. Can arrange meeting there and have people involved in decision making to discuss ways residents are affected
 - ii. Send JG email or meet w/him afterwards
 - iii. Theresa Regan responsible for Operations in Network Infrastructure and would be happy to talk about it
 - e. Question: Steve Kelch – how much upgrade costs and how long before new standards released and have to do again
 - f. JG: in 2004, spotty wireless coverage all over campus, deployed over 800 access points across campus
 - i. Need to provide good wireless across campus, hard b/c MIT has 10 million sq ft of enclosed space

- ii. Assessment in 2004 took 1.5 years, found out needed 3000 wireless points, would take \$4 million
 - iii. Impact across campus dramatic – people knew they could use laptops in many place
 - iv. Expectation every 3 years would need upgrade across entire campus, built into cost system
 - 1. Will probably take 3 years to do across campus, then will do over again
- g. Question: Kate from Random Hall
 - i. Computer Chair of dorm submitted report b/c many in dorm cannot get wireless
 - ii. Upgrade sometime soon?
- h. JG: IST will respond to that
- i. Question: Kate – is there wire upgrade anticipated in any of dorms
- j. JG: difficult to answer; wire upgrades, work w/DSL and Housing Office – Housing office decides which dorms get upgrades when (in charge of raising \$ for these upgrades)
 - i. Worked w/Larry Benedict to put together funding request so dorms can get same upgrades at same time
- k. Question: Irina - what is timeline for online textbook initiative
- l. WD: Focusing on getting pilot out that is subset of depts
 - i. Libraries starting to collect info in April/May
 - ii. Early summer – make info available on pilot sites
- m. JG: example of student-driven idea
- n. Irina: how far in advance will this be done?
- o. WD: May – June collect information, including Coop and Libraries
 - i. Some information will leak out far ahead
 - ii. Pilot in fall will give idea about how much is determined earlier on
- p. Question from Itai: Cable – updates? Student info?
- q. JG: IST has responsibility of Cable system, process by which channels picked by students completely
 - i. Experimenting w/TV over IP (running over same network that provides data, telephone services)
 - ii. Not all dorms have capabilities, but moving towards that
- r. Question from Itai: sees MIT as place providing students w/opportunity to innovate – can MIT provide public services such as Amazon w3?
- s. WD: Amazon's model has commercial idea behind it
 - i. Some groups are pushing w/this, e.g. providing scripting service
 - ii. Not sure what students looking for, e.g. storage, specific technologies
- t. JG: SIPB formed w/idea of forming these types of services to students
 - i. Looking for opportunities where students develop something and can offer to broader MIT community
- u. Question from Steve: overall model for MIT Student Organizer?
- v. JG: working w/key sponsors DUE, Dan Hastings, Registrar, Student Fin Services, Larry Benedict, DSL, Dean for Grad Students

- i. Workshops w/faculty, students, staff – idea that by end of semester, coming out w/report of high-level vision of possibilities
 - ii. Developing student system is very time consuming and expensive – close to \$50 million
 - iii. Want to make sure is long-lasting, but also cannot anticipate student needs 10, 20 years from now
 - 1. Must be careful about software/hardware architectures
 - iv. At early stages of this – report will be made available for students to review, anticipate at least 1 more year of planning before implementation, several years before many of the applications come out
- w. Question from Paul: do we plan to integrate w/more departments, e.g. math, physics?
- x. WD: are in process of this integration
 - i. Some classes need specific tools that basic stellar cannot accommodate right now
 - ii. Bigger push in the fall
 - iii. 750+ classes right now use it (out of about 1000 classes offered / term)
- y. Question from James: RIAA/MIT policy? Expulsion?
- z. JG: expulsion not in letter that went out to community
 - i. MIT wants students to obey law – notifies students/staff members if identifiable (after RIAA informs us)
 - ii. DSL who reports to Chancellor sets student discipline policy, might want to ask/clarify
- aa. Question from Cyril: grade management system?
 - i. Very convenient, are there plans for more classes to implement
- bb. WD: gradebook first released last term
 - i. Lots of feedback, need for improvement in marketing aspect (some TAs, teachers don't know)
 - ii. Talk about revamping going on – gradebook, materials, simple/advanced view
- cc. Question from Chris: some classes Stellar less usable/easy to use than older sites (e.g. some bigger sites)
- dd. WD: UI issues are among the most commented on in feedback
 - i. Providing broader service for some classes, more specific for others– difficult to cater to both ends – maybe present 2-3 templates?
- ee. Question from JG: how many classes using Stellar? – demonstrates that more classes are moving towards Stellar usage
- ff. Question from Itai: Will next Stellar include more functionalities like sharing? Uploading notes? Forum?
- gg. WD: has forum, but a bit embarrassing in terms of usability, replacing w/new forum tool
- hh. JG: Student/faculty advisory group that influences what functionalities Stellar has
 - ii. Question from Keone: OCW, some classes taped and there's a lot of time before available? Is there a way for it to be done faster, even in less processed form?
- jj. WD: some ideas of why delay

- i. Copyright issues - unique
 - ii. Maybe use TechTV as a way to distribute?
- kk. JG: OCW's primary objective is to educate outside of MIT
 - i. Some materials are under fair-use agreement that can be used w/in MIT but not available to others outside of MIT
 - ii. Wilson working on in next few years - technically: how to integrate OCW w/Stellar?
- ll. Question from Keone: Availability of workstations in FSILGs? Typically up to house, but reaction?
- mm. JG: if we can figure out way to do that, would be great
 - i. FSILGs are independent entities from funding and legal standpoints, which is why they have to make their own decisions
 - ii. 98% of MIT students have computers and 2% get computers from IST
 - 1. Why would students want workstations?
- nn. Kelch: his house has 2 work stations, but 95% of time is used for gaming
- oo. Comment: Information Technology Upgrade Grant can be used for workstations
 - i. Workstations allow for group projects/work
 - ii. Greater "horsepower" for data computational needs
- pp. Comment from Chris: would like more coursework materials to be more readily accessed
- qq. WD: now, by default, classes all open to MIT community (instead of closed last term)
 - i. Solutions is concern to some— some faculty want to limit
- rr. JG: look for change this semester
- ss. Martin: RIAA – some suggest MIT should delete all logs so subpoenas cannot be complied with – reaction?
- tt. JG: has gotten this suggestion many times – interprets as request for MIT to hide evidence of doing illegal things?
 - i. Do delete logs after appropriate period of time for network management
 - ii. those who support deletion of logs b/c would not allow MIT to comply w/subpoenas should rethink this idea
 - iii. RIAA and FDAA have gotten a lot more aggressive in suits
- uu. Discussion closed

3. Recess (Get Food)

4. Welcome and Announcements

- a. Keone: some improvements discussed seem like "bells and whistles" – who uses forums?
- b. James: some forums useful in classes
- c. Leaving early/Arriving late
- d. Senate updates

- i. Hans: does not answer question
- ii. Arti: working on Panhel event for each sorority alumni to meet w/exec boards to improve communication
- iii. Steve: reform community, hacking
- iv. Rajiv: FSILG recycling
- v. Allen: following up w/saferide project
- vi. Akash: email to class councils regarding issue
- vii. Paul: sent out slides to Senate list
- viii. Dennis: working w/Itai on east side dining
- ix. Kate: NomComm interviews done, DSL meeting this week
- x. Sun: history committee w/Hans
- xi. Keone: housing committee –MacGregor project
- xii. Grace: bought 15 boards
- xiii. Itai: emailed James and meet this week for East Campus convenience store
- xiv. Maggie: went to SLOPE meeting
- xv. James: DSL meeting later this week, EC dining later this week
- xvi. Cathy: looking for new project, work w/Riley on a couple
- xvii. Riley: working w/Athletics on Athletics Weekend

5. Call to Order 39 UAS 9

6. Approval of 39 UAS 8 Minutes

- a. Kelch: move to strike from record comment about RIAA/"expulsion" given uncertainty
- b. Alice: received emails questioning accuracy of "expulsion" – unsure if error was in typing or misheard
- c. Hans: should keep in, but just mention that uncertainty in recording statement
- d. Vote for amend minutes: "expulsion" comment removed - 1 oppose, 2 abstain, all else in favor
- e. Vote for Minutes: all in favor

7. Report from the Executive – Martin reports

- a. Met with Phil Clay and Kirk Kolenbrander (KDK) every work day since Tuesday in response to letters regarding student involvement
- b. Sheila Widnall – calls KDK many times, emails to Hockfield to work with Martin/Leeland
- c. Worked w/administrators on redrafting letter – probably go forth w/collaborative letter, still have support of faculty, some Corporation members

8. Report from Standing Committees

- a. Student Committee on Education Policy (SCEP) – Martin gives update

- i. Advising Survey – Martin asked Dan Denis to draft survey questions regarding quality of advising, draft report (published mid-April), goal to present at faculty meeting April 20th
 - ii. Senators – submit any questions that would help identify areas that are challenging
 - 1. Email Dan if you want to comment
- b. PR Committee: Suggestions boxes that have been completed are in back, put it at dorm's desk
 - i. Talk to Housemasters/Desk Captains about leaving boxes
 - ii. Follow up by checking for comments

9. UA Finboard Appeals

- a. Allocated \$14,652 in appeals; IST shut down finboard list due to complaints so many of them didn't know about appeals process
- b. Taking conservative approach to appeals
- c. Allen: groups who didn't make office hours?
- d. Hans: Finboard implementing rolling appeals system, cap of \$150 per rolling appeals meeting (trial run)
- e. Vote on appeals: all in favor except 1 abstention

10. 39 UAS 9.1

- a. Riley: Actual form of map can be discussed
- b. Paul: first "that" clause – focus on specific committee?
 - i. E.g. CSL
- c. Friendly amendment – change "UA" to "CSL"
- d. Move to Vote: all in favor except 1 oppose
- e. Vote: All in favor except 1 oppose, 1 abstention

11. 39 UAS 9.2

- a. Cyril: Event has been held for past 8 years
 - i. This year AAA did not receive funding from Large Events Fund
- b. Dennis: How much in Invested Reserve so far?
- c. Martin/Jason: should have about ~ \$17000
- d. Allen: Senate fund is for Senate, don't want to turn Reserve into emergency fund
- e. Martin: Everything we've allocated in past since May 2007 has not been withdrawn from reserve
- f. Hans: should really try not to spend Invested Reserve unless emergency
 - i. Example of Next House: invested reserve disappeared
 - ii. Question about 15 dept in external funds?
- g. Cyril: have not heard back from many departments
 - i. Turned down by LEF and Arcarde
- h. Akash: \$1000 AAA contribution, \$2000 UA contribution – wouldn't this be UA event?

- i. Hans: motion to amend to \$500
 - i. Opposition from representatives of AAA: applied to LEF
 - 1. LEF turned down application b/c not funding food
 - ii. Sun: why \$500?
 - iii. Hans: shouldn't contribute more than AAA
 - iv. Martin: purpose of invested reserve is not to fund typical events, usually big new events
 - 1. Other paths that are more typical – Senate Discretionary
 - v. Allen: Arcade update?
 - vi. Rep from AAA: have gone back to them, are not accepting any more applications
 - vii. Itai: bottom line is we should help them regardless of technicality – help them find correct fund
 - viii. Hans: what happened in communication LEF/Arcade?
 - ix. Rep from AAA: did not tell us that they weren't funding food anymore so submitted same application
 - x. Motion to extend debate for 2 min on amendment: all in favor
 - xi. Hans: maybe should give them \$, \$500 reward is appropriate, shouldn't take on LEF/Arcade burden
 - xii. Rep from AAA: takes place April 6
 - 1. Trying everything possible to secure funding
 - 2. Seeking funding also from Weekends@MIT, internal, others on pg. 2
 - xiii. Ali: should consider the effort group has made in fundraising efforts
 - xiv. Vote on amendment: 10 in favor, 7 oppose, 0 abstention
- j. Amendment to change to \$1000:
 - i. Akash: should we give \$1000 to every event/group that didn't receive funding in food?
 - ii. Ali: food is at heart of culture, event
 - iii. Martin: doesn't understand why LEF didn't have enough
 - iv. Irina: got 3x more money requests
 - v. Rep for AAA: features 2 components: demonstration of artists, pan-asian cuisine
 - vi. Vote for amendment: 10 in favor, 7 oppose, 2 abstain
- k. Vote on legislation: All in favor except 2 oppose

12. 39 UAS 9.3

- a. Laura Nicholson addresses Senate
- b. HeartSafe was never ASA recognized – private group of students
 - i. installed AEDs
 - ii. group has disintegrated
- c. EMS trying to cover this – first year sponsoring event
- d. Paul: have you talked to MIT Medical to regain funding? Medlinks?
- e. Laura: didn't know about MedLinks

- f. Hans: why didn't apply for Finboard? Some things on budget shouldn't be funded? Should contact more sources of funding? effectiveness of a day CPR training?
- g. Laura: doesn't know about applying for FinBoard b/c not financial officer
 - i. 4 hour course is sufficient to be CPR certified as Red Cross, American Heart Association approve
- h. Keone: some things wouldn't be funded
 - i. T-shirts = \$2000 which is what they're asking → why not cut out?
 - ii. Motion to amend request to \$750 and make event free, no tshirts?
 - 1. Hans: can also reduce by \$300 because Tech free space
 - 2. Akash: we shouldn't discriminate → maybe make \$1000 instead? arbitrary
 - 3. Motion to amend amendment: add "that" clause to make free to undergrads
 - 4. Paul: why are we dictating how a group should use \$? Taking away only source of revenue and reducing funding request
 - 5. Hans: should have applied to FinBoard
 - 6. Allen: different number of attendants justifies different amount of \$ granted
 - 7. Motion to extend debate for 1.5 min: 15 in favor, 0 oppose, 2 abstain
 - 8. Cyril: tshirts for 200?
 - 9. Laura – participants, instructors
 - 10. James: not arbitrary number, reasoning
 - 11. Martin motions to amend from "invested Reserve" to "Fresh Fund"
 - i. Paul: need to look at Fresh Fund
 - ii. Hans: strongly disagree b/c not new initiative or group (even if new management)
 - iii. Steve: how much interaction w/Heartsafe in past?
 - iv. Laura: took responsibility but also some of the same people
 - v. Vote: All in favor 1 oppose, 1 abstain
 - 12. Motion to extend debate for 1 min: passed
 - a. Laura: restricted time and space so would be difficult to make free, most attendants in past was 120
 - b. Vote on amendment to amendment (add "that" clause to make event free): 9 in favor, 7 oppose
 - 13. Motion to extend debate for 2 min
 - 14. Kelch: increase would give them \$ for something other than tshirts
 - a. Hans: perhaps overfunding, \$300 in tech ads probably won't be used
 - b. Motion to amend from \$750 to \$1000
 - i. Vote on amendment to amendment: All in favor except 1 oppose

- iii. Vote on amendment from \$2000 to \$1000: all in favor
- i. Vote on legislation – all in favor

13. New Business

- a. 39 UAS 9.4 – Bill to Allocate Funds to *America in the World: MIT Speaks*
 - i. Hans – you need it to be cosponsored by a Senator, UATreasurer or Finboard Chair
 - ii. Itai, Allen and others cosponsor
 - iii. Changed to “be it enacted”
 - iv. Accepted as 39 UAS 9.4
 - v. Hans: second to last whereas clause is incorrect
 - 1. Friendly amendment change second whereas clause to \$700
 - vi. Ali makes friendly amendment to change to \$800
 - vii. Vote: all in favor, 0 oppose, 2 abstain
- b. 39 UAS 9.5 – Bill to Allocate \$850 from the UA Fresh Fund to the MIT Israeli Association Passover Event
 - i. Itai authors bill
 - ii. Accepted as 39 UAS 9.5
 - iii. Itai discusses purpose of MIT Israeli Association
 - 1. Not restricted to Israelis
 - 2. Were not granted Finboard funding b/c did not get ASA recognition until too late
 - iv. Maggie: what is difference between Hillel and this group?
 - v. Itai: do Passover celebration differently
 - vi. Keone: what kind of funding alternatives have been considered? Can you make own food?
 - vii. Itai: thought about this, facilities, time are restrictions
 - 1. People will pay difference - \$11
 - viii. Martin: MIT does not fund alcohol (SAO does not reimburse)
 - ix. Itai: wine would not come out of \$60
 - x. Motion to extend debate for 2 min: passed
 - xi. Itai: not religious group → Hillel is doing traditional American Passover, different from proposed event
 - xii. Denis: there are no more funding options, new organization → qualifies as Fresh Fund
 - xiii. Itai: this event is more social, not religious
 - xiv. Motion to extend debate for 2 minutes: passed
 - xv. Steve: why does this meal need to be paid for by MIT?
 - xvi. Itai: cooking for 35 people is a lot of work, unlikely to find people who have ability and time to prepare this meal
 - xvii. Paul motions to postpone indefinitely: 8 in favor, 4 oppose, 4 abstain
 - xviii. Motion to adjourn: 2 in favor, not passed

- c. 39 UAS 9.6: Vote to bring to floor: 7 in favor, 9 oppose, 1 abstention

14. Action Items Review

- a. Talk to dorms/desk captains for suggestion boxes
- b. Email Irina for agenda discussion items
- c. Email ua-senate for feedback/discussion
- d. Work on Senate projects
- e. Submit legislation to revise Fresh Fund criteria

15. Good of the Order

- a. Dan Denis addresses Senate about advising survey/report – please pass survey to constituents
- b. Itai: UA Fresh Fund intended for new student groups who did not get funding from FinBoard
 - i. Disappointment about Senate/UA's decision
- c. Martin: Next Senate meeting is April 14th, attendance of Dana Mead, Chairman of Corporation
- d. Allen: would like to have straw poll at beginning of Senate meetings to determine how much new business to expect
- e. Akash: reminder to give fellow Senators respect
- f. Hans: FinBoard looking for new people (finboard-request)
 - i. Responds to 39 UAS 9.5– seems to be focused on group members
 - ii. Invites Itai to apply to finboard rolling appeals
- g. Paul: motion to table discussion for UAS 9.5 not personal, feels that discussion was not going anywhere
- h. Riley: UA Athletics Committee looking for help with Athletics Weekend, contact Sam Jasinski
- i. Martin: Thursday at 6pm meeting in UA Office to rally students to push for student involvement
- j. Steve: UAS 9.5 not personal – felt it was internally, not externally focused

16. Adjournment