

UA Senate Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 22, 2007

1. Welcome and Announcements
 - i. Attendance Policy
 - a. Outlined in bylaws, can't miss more than 2 consecutive meetings, 3 total a term
 1. must send proxy if must miss (can vote on your behalf)
 2. must be excused, let know by Friday 10pm
 3. must have approval from Irina
 2. Senate Projects – fill out form regarding projects (can put down several), hand in by end of meeting
 - i. Senate Roster – Irina will send out by end of week
 - ii. Retreat
 - a. November 10-11, leaving on morning of 10th, returning afternoon of 11th
 - iii. Discussion Guidelines
 - a. Candidates will stand and speak about platform
 - b. Refer to Robert's Rules – anyone who wants to speak must raise hand and will be put in queue
 - c. Authors of bill will answer all questions regarding
 - iv. Senate Accolades
 - a. Thank you for reading Irina's emails
 - v. Other topics
 - a. Brittany Holland-Marcus: (PR Chair)
 1. Volunteering for UA Booth on Fridays – please sign up on list that's being passed around
 - a. DO NOT make up answers – email Brittany and she will respond to you so that you can answer the person with the question
 2. Contact Brittany at bhm@mit.edu with any questions regarding PR or booth
3. Call to Order 39 UAS 1
4. Annual State of the UA – led by President Martin Holmes
Accomplishments
 - a. UA stronger than ever been
 - b. Senators indispensable to success of undergraduates
 - c. Boston Daytime Saferide – were able to secure 40K to provide transportation for students living in Boston
 - d. Survey regarding change of
 1. 81% of 691 responders supported this change
 2. proposal has support Clay, Hastings, Benedict
 - e. 20K to take faculty member out to dinner
 1. allows faculty to know students in non-academic setting

2. dinners will take place in spring
- f. Working with Coop to list textbooks required for courses online
 1. Students have ability to see books make purchasing decisions before start of term
 2. Information will be on Stellar w/link to Coop-run website selling books
 3. IS&T and legal issues currently being investigated
- g. Working with reps from DUE, Pres. Hockfield to award faculty advisor who has made big contribution
- h. Parking/Transportation office
 1. Increase sizes of saferide buses – currently waiting inspection

Vision for upcoming year

Tradition – Hacking Committee (Martin, Ali, Steve on comm.) – revamping

Proactive in reaching out to

Suggestion boxes in dorms, off-campus residents

Representatives can convey to Senate/UA Exec constituents' thoughts

Office HOURS

Monthly newsletters regarding UA accomplishments

Dining – last year huge criticisms

Blue Ribbon Dining Committee – Dean Benedict

Come up w/new approach of dining at MIT

Any suggestions are on table

LT issues Martin and Ali hope to address

Expected increase in undergraduate population

When W1 completed, will house around 400 students (increasing undergrad size to 1100)

Currently resources are being strained (faculty, medical, etc.) → want to establish ad-hoc committee to address this

W1 (Currently Ashdown, to be converted to undergrad dorm) → currently no undergrad representation to hear about plans

i.e. plans/timeline for making the transition

REX – looking into allowing Next House and McCormick to participate

Senators sworn in

5. Appointment of Parliamentarian – will correct if proceedings are correct

- i. Nominations
 - a. Hans Anderson – accepts nomination
- ii. Statement of Qualifications (Candidates)
 - a. Has been doing it for a long time
- iii. Q&A
- iv. Discussion (If more than once candidate)
- v. Vote

- a. Unanimous vote in favor of Hans Anderson
- 6. Appointment of Sergeant-at-Arms – maintains order during Senate meetings
 - i. Nominations
 - a. Sun Kim – accepts nomination
 - ii. Statement of Qualifications (Candidates)
 - a. 6’3” and 210 pounds
 - iii. Q&A
 - iv. Discussion (If more than once candidate)
 - v. Vote
 - a. Unanimous vote in favor of Sun Kim
- 7. Removal of Judicial Board (JudBoard) member: Sarwar Hussan
 - i. Reasons for removal (Anthony)
 - a. Martin: during elections, required review of Judicial Board → did not respond to Martin’s emails requesting replies and asking if he plans to continue
 - b. Need a third person to replace him on JudBoard
 - ii. Vote—3/4ths
 - a. 22 in favor, 1 abstain, 0 opposed
- 8. Approval of JudBoard member: Cinjon Resnick
 - i. Statement of Qualifications (Cinjon)
 - a. Has wanted to be judge since 10th grade
 - b. EC sophomore
 - ii. Q&A
 - iii. Vote—2/3rds
 - a. Motion to vote
 - b. 20 in favor, 4 abstain, 0 opposed (an additional Senator just walked in)
- 9. Approval of JudBoard Chair: Anthony Rizos
 - i. Statement of Qualifications (Anthony)
 - a. Has administered JudBoard for past couple of months
 - ii. Q&A
 - a. Appointed acting chair
 - b. Role: Oversee Judboard
 - c. Interaction with Sarwar Hussan: were unable to reach him
 - d. Role of JudBoard: Constitutionality or election code
 - e. Favor of exten
 - iii. Vote
 - a. 4 in favor of extending debate, 20 opposed
 - b. Vote to close closed debate
 - c. 20 in favor, 5 abstain, 0 opposed
- 10. Approval of 39 UAS Special Budget Review minutes

- i. Will be voting on budget
 - ii. Senator Yao excused from last time
 - iii. Vote to approve budget
 - a. Budget approved
11. 39 UAS 1.1: Bill to Create the UA Fresh Fund
- i. Hans Anderson, Paul Baranay, Itai Turbahn are now co-sponsors
 - ii. Introduction of bill
 - a. Increase of student life fee → distribute \$ to new initiatives that are not ASA recognized
 - b. UA deposits minimum of 10K into this fund per term
 - c. Funding be distributed to groups/undergrad that are new, strong prospect to succeed
 - d. Potential to benefit to large part of student body, open to all undergraduates
 - e. Amend to 2/3 vote requirement
 - f. Dean Benedict used to give this money to student groups, would like to give UA this responsibility
 - 1. Don't know about converse, i.e. Dean Benedict taking \$ back if not used correctly
 - iii. Discussion
 - a. Should we limit it to “new” groups? Perhaps consider more flexibility in groups/initiatives given to?
 - b. Dean Benedict and Laurie Ward have confirmed this amount used in past
 - c. Past stories of funding misuse
 - d. Bennie proposes that this fund exists for 1 year, subject to renewal at last Senate meeting of the year (that's not use is rolled over to UA fund that will be used)
 - 1. Change: Clause added “That this fund shall exist for 1 year and shall be reevaluated by the UA Senate at the last Senate meeting of the Year.”
 - 2. Vote to debate amendment: Amendment not debated
 - 3. Vote on amendment: 20 in favor, 3 abstain, 2 opposed
 - e. Publicizing fund: PR committee will address in newsletter
 - f. Perhaps fund manager should give monthly report to track – Lucia will oversee this
 - g. Vote on bill: 25 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstain
12. Vote on UA and Committee Budget – new UA budget passed around
- i. Typo in Senate budget: called Senate meeting cost description is printing/copying - → \$500 not \$0
 - ii. Motion to postpone voting to next Senate meeting – 1 week from today
 - iii. Vote to postpone voting: 9 in favor, 12 opposed → not postponed
 - iv. Discussion
 - a. Line item discussion of committee allocations

- b. All same as last week's except for T-shirts and Traveling Exec meetings
- c. Special Events has been moved to operating budget
- d. Change in Senate meeting food budget: new \$800 (old: \$500)
 - 1. New Senate total \$1900
- e. Change in Committee on Athletics: Description name change from "Food" to "Food for Outreach Programs"
- f. Proposal to change Resource Development budget: \$100 for Operations and \$100 for Publicity → New total: \$200 (old: \$800)
- g. Change in Committee on Orientation: Change event to "Prize" and cost description to "Prize for every 10th person"
 - 1. Allocation changed to \$500 (from \$800) and adding Printing costs: \$100; new total: \$600
- h. Change in CSL: Motion to move Active Minds to New Business, to be funded w/Fresh Fund
 - 1. Legislation will be required
 - 2. Budget now \$3000 for Undergraduate Mentorship Program
- i. Change in Finboard: \$500 added to "Rework Finboard Website", new total \$2600; Lunch changed to \$300
 - 1. move to vote from \$1000 to \$1500: approved
- j. Change in Public Relations: FSILGs will be included in Dorm Storm
- k. Budget summary: total committee subtotal is 16075, UA subtotal 10780, UA total 26855, leaves finboard at 89125, with 15% allocations 102494
- l. Total committee subtotal and UA subtotals were approved via voice vote. Hans requested Finboard numbers be discussed at the next item

v. Majority

13. Vote on Finboard Appeals and Allocations

- i. Real funding total is 120k+, as opposed to the above 102494.
- ii. Keone motioned to close debate, motion carried
- iii. These funding numbers were approved.
- iv. Going back to the UA committee budget for Finboard in section I above, there is gray area between appeals and allocations. Contact Finboard for more info. The gray area includes some rollover from last year, and this is the gap between 120k and 102k.
- v. 24 in favor, 1 abstain, 0 opposed

14. 39 UAS 1.2: Election Code Amendments

- i. Bill referred to committee created last Senate meeting: Ad-Hoc Committee on Internal reform (38 UAS 13.1)

15. 39 UAS 1.3: Bill to Fund MacGregor Halloween Event
 - i. MacGregor House would like to create dorm-wide Halloween event
 - ii. Has fallen short of budgetary needs, would like \$700 from Senate discretionary fund
 - iii. Ask for \$ at DormCon meeting tomorrow
 - iv. Vote to postpone indefinitely: 25 in favor, 0 abstain, 0 opposed

16. 39 UAS 1.4: Bill to Provide Funding for MIT Professor Susan Lindquist's Public Lecture
 - i. Prof Susan Lindquist will give annual lecture about breakthroughs
 - ii. Asking for \$215 in funding from UA Senate Discretionary Fund AV services
 - iii. Lecture will be open to entire MIT body, Take place at convenient time
 - iv. Amendment: Whereas clause - details of this lecture are in attached flyer
 - v. Motion to end debate
 - vi. Vote for bill: 3 Yes, 5 abstain, 17 no

17. 39 UAS 1.5: Bill to Establish Ad Hoc Committee on Undergraduate Enrollment
 - i. 10 person ad hoc committee to prepare report on potential impacts of increase in freshman class size and implications to undergrad body as whole
 - ii. UA Pres and VP will collaborate w/UA Speaker to recruit and appoint members of committee, Chair to be approved by Senate, submitted at second Senate meeting of Spring 2008 term
 - iii. Report given to upper administration at MIT: Hockfield, Stone, Clay, Hastings
 - iv. Motion/vote to vote on bill: 25 in favor, 0 abstain, 0 no
 - v. Vote for bill: 25 in favor, 0 abstain, 0 no

18. 39 UAS 1.6: Resolution to Increase Student Involvement in W1 decisions
 - i. UA urges admin to provide UA, Dormitory Council, W1 Steering Committee w/summary regarding discussions over W1 and options are being considered
 - ii. Rumors include: Final decision should be made in 30 days, shuffle people into other dorms while renovations take place, fraternities moved there, dining hall
 - iii. Theresa Stone is point person on administration
 - iv. Move to split last "that" clause into 2 "that" clauses, emphasizing participation in meetings
 - a. New amendment:
 1. "That the administration keeps the UA, Dormitory Council, and the W1 Steering Committee informed of all future discussions on this issue; and
 2. "That the UA, Dormitory Council and W1 Steering Committee be allowed to participate in meetings about the status of and options for W1."
 - v. Motion to close debate/vote: 25 yes, 0 abstain, 0 no
 - vi. Vote for bill: 25 in favor, 0 abstain, 0 no

19. 39 UAS 1.7: Resolution to Affirm Strong Support for Career Fair Date Change
 - i. Change Career Fair date to Institute Holiday on September 22, 2008

- ii. Vote for bill: 25 in favor, 0 abstain, 0 no

20. Action Items Review

- i. Hand in committee forms
- ii. Send pictures to bhm@mit.edu
- iii. Retreat – email ua-president@mit.edu with availability
- iv. Send minutes to constituents and cc ua-senate

21. Good of the Order

22. New Business

- i. 39 UAS 1.8: Resolution to Support MIT Faculty's Proposed Policy on MIT's Press Statements
 - a. Administration avoids making statements before all facts known
 - b. Respecting members of MIT community when still in legal proceedings
 - c. Added James Ostrowski, Hans Anderson, Arnaldo Pereira-Diaz as co-sponsors
 - d. Amendment: Strike 4th whereas clause
 - e. Discussion open on amendment and vote regarding strike of “future” from second that clause: 0 Yes, 0 Abstain, 25 No
 - f. Vote for tabling bill: 23 Yes, 0 Abstain, 2 No
- ii. 39 UAS 1.9: Bill to fund Active Funds
 - a. give \$800 from Fresh Fund to
 - b. Open discussion on bill: 24 yes, 1 abstain, 0 no
“Whereas, Active Minds is an important initiative for the wellbeing of the Undergraduate student body
Whereas, extra funding is needed to send the leadership of Active Minds to a conference in Washington D.C. for training and info
That \$800 be given to Active Minds in support of this conference from the UA Fresh Fund”
 - c. Vote for approving bill: 25 yes, 0 abstain, 0 no

23. Adjournment/Throw Tomatoes at Irina