

# UA Senate: Monday, May 11, 2009 PENDING

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*7:00 pm: Dana Mead, Chairman of the Corporation, and Barun Singh '06, Corporation Member as guest speakers*

- Noah Jessop: they're here to talk about what the Corporation does
- Dana Mead: The Corporation is basically the trustees of the Institute. MIT was incorporated in 1861 when it was common practices to call such boards corporations. The founding charter talks about the applications of science and engineering – which has been of the hallmarks of MIT ever since.  
Soon after, Congress passed a bill that granted land to public and private universities – mostly out west. Most of the Big 10 schools and a lot of agricultural area schools are land grant schools. Massachusetts had no such schools. MIT volunteered to be an agriculture school to get the whole land grant for Massachusetts, but then someone noticed that most of the MIT Corporation wasn't actually an agricultural focused so they formed their own school (now UMass Amherst) and a lot of the land grant was reallocated to them. There are a couple provisions including having ROTC (military training) and having the Massachusetts Governor and Secretary of Education on the MIT Corporation.

The Corporation has roughly 75 members. Some people may think: "How can you run anything with 75 people," but it's like "running France with 351 kinds of cheese."

- Term members 45 total, 9 re-elected yearly, 1 recent graduate
- 3 nominated by the Alumni Association
- The rest are elected at-large - many business men and women from across the country and world. They try to focus to cover interest areas and under-represented focuses and try to provide for [ethnic and gender] diversity reflective of the student and alumni bodies.
- Life members: are elected usually after serving on the Corporation and then serve until they are 75

There are 30 Visiting Committees – for every department and nearly every lab and center. Each one has 5 members of the Corporation, 5 presidential appointees (usually experts in the field), and 5 alums. It takes a lot of Corporation members just to staff all those committees.

Also there is an Audit Committee, a Membership Committee, an Investment Committee, and an Executive Committee

A lot of the responsibility is delegated to the Executive Committee which meets nearly every month (while the whole Corporation only meets 4 times a year). Exec takes care of more of the details, like approving all diplomas and tenure cases.

There is also a subcommittee of Exec that controls the compensation of the administration – President, Executive Vice President, etc. and the annual percentage increase in salaries.

Each Visiting Committees renders an oral report to the President, me [Chair of the Corporation], Chancellor, and the Dean of the [respective] School and they also prepare a formal report and then present to the full Corporation.

They spend a lot of the time on the Visiting Committees – this is one of the things that make MIT truly unique. Most schools don't have this kind of review process. The Visiting Committees are required to talk to undergraduate and graduate students, junior faculty, senior faculty, the Dean of the School. They discuss curriculum, advising, and other specific issues.

Another major responsibility of the Corporation: fiduciary matters – preserve assets for the future of MIT. The Corporation has to approve the annual allocation and budget for MIT and oversees the raising of funds. Raise money from: tuition (which has stayed consistently 20% of total revenue), 50% from research money (most at Lincoln Lab), gifts and contributions are 10-15%, and finally the earnings from the Endowment. They had one year when the Endowment returned 54%. We follow the Tobin Rule for payout from the Endowment: we pay 80% of the previous year's payment plus any inflation at a minimum. The remaining 20% is dependent on the market. For example, this year we wouldn't pay any above the 80%, but we did give the full base allocation.

For FY09 we didn't have to take from the Principle and actually had a little surplus, but given the downdraft over the last year we are now eating up our unrestricted spending. This is where the \$150 million (over 3 years) cut comes from. This first cut is fairly easy, but it will be harder over the next couple of years. To help with this the administration has formed the Financial Taskforces. We are protecting a few particular things in these cuts: financial aid (we have actually added \$10 million expecting additional need) and we have not instated a blanket hiring freeze like other schools or companies (departments in fact encouraged to continue to aggressively recruit good young faculty that are becoming available in this market).

Disclaimer: I may not have any authority over some questions you may ask – the President and Provost and the Faculty are charged with the implementation of our goals. We are responsible for make sure it is legal, moral, and ethical. We are here for oversight and not for direct management and execution.

- Mike Bennie: what is the current composition of the Executive Committee. And do you feel this is adequate?
  - Dana Mead: 8 members elected from/by the Corporation, 5 serve 5 years and 3 serve 3 year terms. Usually people are elected to 3 year terms first and then sometimes 5 year terms. Currently includes the following people [:
    - 1 entrepreneur (Ray Stata) been there for 3 terms, Neil Pappalardo, Dennis Bovin (Bear Stearns), [all three MIT graduates]
    - Robert Millard, Barrie Zesiger
    - Chiquita White Class of about 1990 (product manager for Proctor and Gamble – Duracell)
    - Anita Jones (Deputy Defense Secretary for a while) in a 3 year term
    - Jim Champy (consultant and author) – a graduate
    - ex-officio: Samberg (hedge fund manger – chairman of the MIT Investment Company), myself, Susan Hockfield, Rafael Reif.

They are chairmen of many committees (development, fund drives, etc.)  
3-year positions there to give some younger people experience and bring in new perspectives

- Mike Bennie: follow-up: where do students and faculty fall?
  - Dana Mead: usually a layer down, for example: CJAC or involving students and faculty with the Presidential search. Some people objected to involving students because of confidentiality concerns, but I objected to this because I felt students would want to be involved and candidates would like students to be considering them and would like to meet students too. The students (got representatives from the UA and the GSC) researched and presented a report to the Corporation. There was a Corporation committee and a Faculty Advisory committee. They interviewed all the candidates together – 31 people and one candidate. They all considered the student report and thought it was so good they invited students in for a discussion. No names were ever leaked during the search. This sets a precedent for having students involved in future similar committees.  
The students got to speak to final candidates and then had input in executive session about their thoughts on the candidates.  
Over the last couple of years there has been a very focused effort to involve students in the decision process. But just because you're in the process doesn't mean you're always going to get what you want or feel like you are being heard as much as you think you should be. The responsibility still lies at the management and administration level. Recently, there is more focus on CJAC and new committees like the Taskforces and SEC.
  - Barun Singh: the students always want representatives on everything, but there are reasons why students can't be on certain places like the Executive Committee. Also, it is hard for students to tell how their input through CJAC and Visiting Committees is used and how important it is. The Visiting Committees take the student input very seriously and CJAC pushes through many important initiatives. There are existing opportunities – you need to focus your input around those venues.
  - Dana Mead: really try to get involved in Visiting Committees. They have to report on student input and it is a great way to get involved in the governance of MIT.
- Dana Mead: I'm also on the committee to look at police policy. Such as if/how you can apply sanctions for off-duty actions.
- Daniel Hawkins: why aren't MIT Police policies public like other police forces?
  - Dana Mead: We are considering this and are looking at other forces. The main roadblock to this is getting approval of the Union.

*8pm: Senate Meeting*

Call to Order: 8:15 pm

Roll Call

- Present: Jason Forte, Maggie Delano, Samuel Rodarte, Caryn Krakauer, Sammi Wyman, Vrajesh Modi, Iman Fayyad, Jorge Simosa, Eleni Orphanides, Ye Yao, Tim Stumbaugh, Catherine Olsson, Daniel Hawkins, Vinay Tripuraneni, Paul Baranay, Keone Hon, Austen McRae, Charlie Huang, Sun Kim, Alex Dehnert
- Late: Shin Nee Wong, Nelson Elhage
- Absent: Daniel Katz, Cyril Lan, Sarah Dee, Richard Dahan, Hongyou Xiong, Cody Daniel, Anila Sinha

#### Judboard Confirmation

- Nominees:
  - Cinjon Resnick [for Chair]: done this for a few years, his only other UA affiliation is DPC and that is ending
  - Andy Kalendarian: freshmen, used to be 2012 Council President
  - Mitch Westwood: past RingComm chair
- Paul Baranay: describe any experience interpreting constitution/bylaws
  - Cinjon Resnick: done this before
  - Andy Kalendarian: I've done similar technical things before with my business
  - Mitch Westwood: I was on my fraternity's bylaws review committee
- Tim Stumbaugh: How do you feel about write-ins and if/how the Election Code applies to them?
  - Mitch Westwood: yes, the same standards apply to them, I am not sure about how you enforce that
  - Andy Kalendarian: yeah [basically agrees]
  - Cinjon Resnick: you should treat them with the same respect, but they also have to follow the rules
- Candidates removed from the room, closed discussion
- Candidates are approved.

#### Reviewing 2009 Summer and Fall Finboard allocations

- Danielle Wang [Finboard Chair]: allocated only 80% so far – asked a lot of people to come back to appeals, so we're saving more money than normal for appeals.
- Paul Baranay: are you not over allocating?
- Danielle Wang: no, given financial times
- Alex Dehnert: when was this policy [of not over-allocating] established?
- Danielle Wang: not really established
- Motion to approve allocations
- Allocations approved

Jason Forte: we will do some remaining committee chair confirmations as they arrive

#### 40 UAS 11.1 - Bill to Make All Committee Chairs Members of Senate

- Note: senate includes ex-officio members beyond just elected senators
- Alex Dehnert: offers the bill

- Keone Hon: that seems reasonable
- Tim Stumbaugh: fix the typos, but otherwise reasonable, moves the previous question
- Eleni Orphanides: what does this do?
- Alex Dehnert: it means they are members of senate – can be here during executive session and probably make motions
- Bill passes by acclamation

#### 40 UAS 11.2 - Meeting flexibility

- Paul Baranay: offers the bill
- Tim Stumbaugh: how does this effect food costs?
- Mike Bennie: that's done in the budget and can be changed each year
- Daniel Hawkins: allows for flexibility, but does not requires more meetings
- Catherine Olsson: how do you know when the last scheduled meeting is, for elections and similar things?
- Paul Baranay: you still decide the schedule at the beginning of a semester, so it provides for flexibility to that level
- Eleni Orphanides: sure it's flexibility and not a requirement, but they would probably happen
- Keone Hon: [to Paul Baranay] is it your intention to have weekly meetings?
- Paul Baranay: yes, at least first term
- Alex Dehnert: we will be less efficient in each meeting. This completely eliminates the opportunity for Senators' participation in other Monday evening activities. Also, it doesn't affect time sensitive issues, because emergency meetings can be scheduled easily.
- Vrajesh Modi: emergency meetings are somewhat hard to schedule, this would help us be more effeicient
- Iman Fayyad: does this affect the number of absences?
- Paul Baranay: no, but that could be changed later
- Josiah Seale: back in the day we tried really hard to limit the length of meetings
- Paul Baranay: we have bursts of productivity before Senate meetings – we'll have more such bursts if we have more Senate meetings. Dedicating less time each Monday will allow people to participate in other activities.
- Alex Dehnert: we have not tried our other options enough
- Shin Nee Wong: it should be tied to bringing down the time
- Vrajesh Modi: Senators were strongly encouraged to participate in committees, but not as much this year. This would lead to more regular bursts of activity
- Sammi Wyman: I agree with Vrajesh. We will have more time for discussion of important issues.
- Vrajesh Modi: this allows for committees to more easily report back to Senate
- Alex Dehnert: I don't think more meetings is necessary for that
- Sammi Wyman: we need to trust the structure and not specific people

- Alex Dehnert: committee chairs are already required to come to Senate and requiring them to come to even more meetings is not encouraging to them to participate in Senate
- Vrajesh Modi: but they already don't show up
- Paul Baranay: Senate should be a priority for Senators, I call the question
- Passes 13-5-2

#### Assistant Vice-President for Orientation Confirmation – Sandra Chen

- I'm Course 10, live in MacGregor. I have worked with the people involved in this committee [SLOPE – Student Life Orientation Programming and Events Committee]. I'm an Associate Advisor so I am already involved with the UAAP. I live in dorms and I am in a sorority, so I am fairly neutral as far as REX/Rush agreement goes.
- Sun Kim: what are your summer plans?
- Sandra Chen: I'm staying on campus, UROPing
- Keone Hon: what do you see this role as?
- Sandra Chen: to work to make Orientation events happen
- Keone Hon: you are supposed to represent the UA, what is your take on this?
- Sandra Chen: I'll report to you guys and give you guys opportunities to get involved
- Candidate removed from the room, closed discussion
- Candidate approved

#### Elections Commission

##### Officers – Sun Kim for Chair and Harrison Bralower for Vice-Chair

- Sun Kim: being a senator I have a good background and have a good basis for making sound decisions
- Harrison Bralower: haven't been really involved in the UA, but we all have a vested interest in seeing the UA succeed and have successful officers
- Andrew Lukmann: do you plan to keep the same set up for ElectComm?
  - Harrison Bralower: we will have a student technical coordinator
  - Sun Kim: yes, agrees
  - Both agree that they would be able to work with the technical coordinator nominee Ian Smith
- Paul Baranay: how do you plan on being actively involved in UA elections while helping with your living groups' rush?
  - Sun Kim: I can wear multiple hats at one time
  - Harrison Bralower: I can be where I'm needed and can host forums and different events like that
- Ainsley Braun: what sort of electronic voting system are you planning on using?
  - Noah Jessop: we will work with SAO to use their code
  - Mike Bennie: this is not a relevant conversation
- Andrew Lukmann: how familiar are you with the Election Code – 1 to 10?
  - Sun Kim: 6 or 7
  - Harrison Bralower: about 5, will be looking at it much more over the summer

- Candidates are removed from the word, closed discussion
- Candidates are approved

Mike Bennie: motion to discuss elections, seconded, passes

- [arising from issues brought up in closed discussion]
- Andrew Lukmann: we made the change for UAP to nominate ElectComm a couple years ago
- Alex Dehnert: quotes the Constitution on ElectComm. This does not give JudBoard authority and it supercedes whatever the Election Code says
- Motion to close discussion, passes

40 UAS 12.5 - Resolution to Approve Constitution and Bylaws

- Note: to approve the incorporation of modifications from previously passed legislation
- Maggie Delano offers
- Tim Stumbaugh: do we need to change the date?
- Alex Dehnert: no, those changes [the ones from bills passed in this meeting] haven't been incorporated yet
- Paul Baranay: I object that we are going out of order, but I call the previous question
- Resolution passes

Elections Commission (continued)

Confirmation of members: Ian Smith, Brienne Kugler, Teresa Giblin, Isaac Bleicher, Victoria (Tori) Brumbaugh, Anthony Morelli

- Noah Jessop: I filled out Ainsley's slate with Ian and Brienne, who are both competent
- Ainsley Braun: Harrison and Isaac came through Mike Bennie, Tony wants to work on publicity, I know Tori and Teresa through my former sorority
- Tim Stumbaugh: [to Noah] they do not all have positions on your slate?
- Noah Jessop: right, I leave that up to Sun and the committee to decide – I do not know the positions well enough
- Ainsley Braun: how do you know Brienne and Ian won't flake?
- Noah Jessop: Brienne has been very involved in UA Dining Committee and Ian is always very committed to projects he starts [in other organization].
- Keone Hon: moves to attach titles to the people
- Ainsley Braun: lists/explains positions:
  - Publicity: postering, sending emails
  - Events: coordinating the debate in the spring with the Tech
  - Petition: works on time line, collects the petitions
  - Technical
- Paul Baranay: why was Ainsley not put on as a general commission member?
- Ainsley Braun: I do not want to be on it anymore after everything I've had to deal with this year
- Keone Hon:
  - Events = Teresa

- Publicity = Tony
- Technical = ismith
- Petitions = ?
- Rules Board = Sun, Harrison and 2 more
- Rachel Meyer: moves to go into Executive Session, so called by the Chair [non-Senate-members and Ainsley Braun (outgoing ElectComm Chair) leave the room], discussion off-the-record
- Question called, motion to vote passes
- The slate is approved

#### Nominations Committee Confirmations: Jacob Bredthauer for Chair and Paul Baranay for Vice-Chair

- Jacob Bredthauer – sophomore from PKT, have been on NomComm for over a semester. I'm excited to make improvements including the information that is available about Institute Committees (such as summaries about committees)
- Mike Bennie: how do you plan to deal with representatives that aren't going to their meetings?
- Jacob Bredthauer: we'll be in touch with committee chairs and have the meeting schedule so we can check up on people
- Vrajesh Modi: do plan on making that attendance information public?
- Jacob Bredthauer: not really necessary unless it becomes an issue
- Sammi Wyman: how would you keep in touch with people?
- Jacob Bredthauer: first: email, then: having NomComm reps meet with the Committee reps
- Mike Bennie: what do you do if you want to pull someone off a committee and the chair doesn't want to?
- Jacob Bredthauer: we would work within in the Exec Bylaws and try to go back to the chairs
- Vrajesh Modi: when would you bring [attendance] issues to Senate?
- Jacob Bredthauer – it depends on percentage of meetings. If they are missing more than 25-30%, then that is definitely a problem.
- Mike Bennie: motions to close discussion, motion passes
- Candidates are removed from the room, closed discussion
- Candidates are approved

#### Approval of the slate of representatives to the Corporation Joint Advisory Committee

- [as proposed by the Nominations Committee, Chair: Paul Baranay]
- Slate: top choice: John Craven, then: Keone Hon and Hattie Chung, alternate: Maggie Delano
- Candidates are removed from the room, closed discussion
- Move into closed [executive] session with the exception of members of UA NomComm, and past CJAC student members in addition to members of Senate
- Move to remove Keone Hon from the slate, seconded

- Motion to vote by secret ballot, seconded
- Motion to remove Keone Hon passes
- Motion to remove Maggie Delano from the slate, second, passes
- Motion to approve slate, seconded, passes
- Slate of John Craven and Hattie Chung is approved

#### 40 UAS 12.6 – Bill to Allocate Funding to the MIT Debate Team

- Mike Bennie: offers the bill
- Adam Goldstein: we have won international championships and need money to go back. We previously got a lot of money directly from administrators, but that is almost certainly not going to happen this year.
- Alex Dehnert: to respect Finboard policies – moves to amend the bill to \$500 from \$1000 to be allocated [falls to the floor]
- Vrajesh Modi: why haven't we heard about this – when next year?
- Adam Goldstein: we need to register for tournaments as early as June and they are throughout the entire year.
- Vrajesh Modi: will you not get money from MIT?
- Adam Goldstein: they will help us fundraise, but they won't directly fund us.
- Andrew Lukmann: I disagree that we should closely follow Finboard's policy – it's Senate Discretionary so that Senate can do whatever they want.
- Mike Bennie: motion to change to: no more than \$500 be spent on travel.
- Alex Dehnert: I'm okay with that.
- Alex Dehnert: I move to overturn the chair, seconded, falls to floor
- Alex Dehnert: retracts his previous motion [to overturn the chair]
- Motion to vote on amendment, seconded, passes by acclamation
- Motion to vote on bill, seconded, passes by acclamation

#### 40 UAS 11.3 Taskforce on Student Engagement Resolution

- Noah Jessop offers the bill
- Tim Stumbaugh: I move to change the fourth seat to Senate Vice-Chair.
- Noah Jessop: not friendly, I left it vague to allow for flexibility.
- Aziz Albahar: I was recently elected DormCon President and I really want on this committee. I am against this bill because I want representation for other governments and especially against this amendment because it specifically disallows for this.
- Martin Holmes: to mirror the GSC we should have four titled officers. The current state of TSE is unacceptable – it's the structure and not necessarily the people. I encourage you to pass this bill in one form or another.
- Alex Dehnert – I think it's necessary to leave this open to flexibility on a yearly basis so we are not requiring the Senate Vice-Chair to be interested in this when they want to focus on Senate.
- Keone Hon – are we directly excluding people not in the UA?
- Rachel Meyer – no, DormCon, IFC, and Panhel presidents and LGC Speaker are all ex-officio members of senate

- Question called [motion to change the fourth seat to Senate Vice-Chair],
- Motion fails overwhelming
- Vrajesh Modi: I move to change it to: 4<sup>th</sup> seat assigned to a reliable officer of the UA or a member of Senate
- Alex Dehnert: I move to change the clause to:
  - That the fourth seat be assigned to a suitable, reliable officer in the UA or member of UA Senate as necessary, appointed by the UA President; and
- Ainsley Braun: can we have Senate approve it?
- Martin Holmes: I don't think it needs to be an officer or senator – can it be any member of the Association?
- Noah Jessop: I move to make it: 4<sup>th</sup> seat assigned to a member of the association, appointed by the UA President
- Noah Jessop: the GSC has been playing musical chairs with some of their seats and that's where I got the idea to use this system for our 4<sup>th</sup> seat
- Alex Dehnert: I move to have the President's appointee be approved by senate.
- Noah Jessop: not friendly, the ball be dropped if we need this additional step.
- Mike Bennie: this system needs more oversight.
- Paul Baranay: this would be too much trouble for Senate.
- Martin Holmes: Exec could approve the rotating seat.
- Mike Bennie: I think it's going to a yearlong seat and I think senate should approve it.
- Martin Holmes: As mean as Phil Clay can be, he would still let you switch something or bring an extra person as necessary.
- Ainsley Braun: we should at least try to appoint somebody for the whole year.
- Tim Stumbaugh: I move to suspend the rules and eliminate all pending motions besides the top level motion. Motion passes. Previous motions to amend the bill are discarded
- Tim Stumbaugh: I move to make it: suitable reliable officer of Senate as approved by UA Exec
- Alex Dehnert: changes Exec to Senate
- The amendment passes as: "that the fourth seat be assigned to a suitable reliable member of the UA Senate as necessary as appointed by the UA President and approved by the UA Senate"
- Motion to vote [on the bill], seconded, passes
- Bill passes

#### Communications Committee Bill

- postponed

#### 40 UAS 12.7 – Bill to Allocate Discretionary Fund for the Summer

- Maggie Delano: offers the Bill
- Mike Bennie: to clarify who can spend money over the summer, needs unanimous approval of the 4 principal officers

- Andrew Lukmann: We normally do this and I actually think this number is too low. It could also be a majority of the 6: President, Vice President, Speaker, Vice-Chair, Senate Rep to Exec, and voting Exec rep
- Rachel Meyer: moves to change \$3000 to \$5000, friendly and added to bill
- Alex Dehnert: moves to change to unanimous, seconded, friendly
- Paul Baranay: calls question, seconded, moves to vote
- Bill passes by acclamation

#### 40 UAS 12.1 – Bill to Create Financial Policy Review Committee

- Alex Dehnert: offers the bill
- Maggie Delano: we've spent a lot of time on this topic this year in Senate and this committee will address these issues over the summer
- Andrew Lukmann: we did this 4 years ago and its useful for aligning the different parts of the UA
- Catherine Olsson: I agree this is a good idea – but we should keep discretionary funds discretionary
- Alex Dehnert: we will be discussing how to do this and will produce a report that needs to approved by Senate before it has any standing
- Paul Baranay: do you have a process in mind for how the Speaker would pick the Senators to serve on this?
- Alex Dehnert: I think the Speaker would solicit interested parties and contact the chair, we can take more than 3 if more than 3 people are interested
- Discussion closes, motion to vote, passes
- Bill passes by acclamation

#### 40 UAS 12.2 – Bill to Reform UA Mailing Lists

- Alex Dehnert: offers the bill
- Catherine Olsson: in support of this, we should add all members of ua-discuss to the listeners
- Paul Baranay: I am now in favor of this
- Ainsley Braun: make sure to regularly email ua-discuss informing of the different lists and election packets need to be updated
- Tim Stumbaugh: what happens to ua-discuss?
- Alex Dehnert: it continues to exist and will be for bigger and more important issues.
- Andrew Lukmann: try to avoid alienating people that aren't directly involved, you strengthen the body by letting other people be informed.
- Alex Dehnert: that's exactly why I want this bill.
- Rachel Meyer: I move to close discussion, passes
- Bill passes by acclamation

#### 40 UAS 12.3 - Bill to Create Ad-hoc Constitutional Committee

- Paul Baranay: offers the bill
- Ainsley Braun: makes sure that JudBoard is aware of this

- Paul Baranay: I have been talking to them and I have also been in contact with Class Councils and have at least one person interested in being Class Council Rep
- Maggie Delano: why aren't Vice-Chair and Vice-President?
- Paul Baranay: people were worried about the committee too big
- Maggie Delano: I move to add Vice-Chair and Vice-President (seconded)
- Alex Dehnert: I opposes this, I want the committee to be less based on titles and more just based on who is interested in participating
- Rachel Meyer: point of information: we no longer have a majority of Senate
- Discussion closes, motion to vote, passes
- Bill passes by acclamation

#### 40 UAS 12.4 – Bill to Allocate Fresh Fund Money to The Aerie

- Mike Bennie: offers the bill for Rachel
- Rachel Meyer: The Aerie is an aerobatics gymnastics group
- Question called, goes to a vote
- Alex Dehnert is added as a sponsor
- Bill Passes

#### 40 UAS 12.8 – Bill to Create the Special Projects Committee

- Noah Jessop: offers the bill
- Maggie Delano: need to have people to be responsible for things that come up
- Josiah Seale: this is absurd. This is the responsibility of the President and Vice-President.
- Noah Jessop: direct response: I'm trying to create a position for Vrajesh
- Josiah Seale: then delegate to him, don't make it a committee
- Paul Baranay: these projects are the responsibility of the UA P and VP to do or delegate, [as Speaker] I plan on encouraging senators to be more active without such extra titles
- Martin Holmes: UA President and VP already have an unfathomable amount of work. This is something for AVPs [Assistant Vice Presidents].
- Josiah Seale: this is unnecessary.
- Liz Denys: I was told this was for high risk projects so that other projects that other committees are working on don't get neglected
- Rachel Meyer: I think it's unnecessary, especially for a specific person.
- Ainsley Braun: Senators could do more and be more involved.
- Noah Jessop: you need someone specific to delegate to and that can then delegate to Senators and other.
- Andrew Lukmann: is this supposed to be a committee or to just create a chairship/single position? This seems like creating a Chief of Staff position under a different name.
- Mike Bennie: I remove my name [as a sponsor] from the bill, but this is necessary because we need a third person to help the UA President and VP.
- Noah Jessop: it is not just for Vrajesh – it should continue
- Mike Bennie: we need a chief of staff to help direct more people, so that the UA P and VP have more time to work on policy

- Rachel Meyer: I move to remove Vrajesh from the room for this discussion
- Vrajesh seconds the motion and leaves the room
- Catherine Olsson: this is useful and we can review this in a year
- Josiah Seale: I was not around for the demise of the CoComm [Coordinating Committee], but the grit work does need to be distributed
- Andrew Lukmann: admits that the demise of CoComm was his doing
- Mike Bennie: the amount of grit work has grown over recent years
- Josiah Seale: I feel that this would be taken care of by having the collaboration of various already elected officers. It is important that the UA P and VP are still ultimately responsible
- Martin Holmes: I really like merry-go-rounds, but we're going in too many circles. I think we need a position and not a committee.
- Liz Denys: you need a committee to actually get a lot of things done and make sure all the individual tasks get done
- Ainsley Braun: how will you be able to fill this committee?
- Consensus: there are a lot of interested people
- Paul Baranay: I am vehemently opposed to the sentiment that this title is needed and would be respected by administrators
- Paul Baranay calls the question, motion to vote passes
- Bill passes by acclamation

#### 40 UAS 12.9 – Bill to Support Office Renovations

- Mike Bennie: offers the bill
- Tim Stumbaugh: why do the locks need replaced?
- Mike Bennie: not replaced, removed. People don't know the combo and the mechanism is broken
- Rachel Meyer: the actual handles and physical locks are broken – for example, over Spring Break one of the doors wouldn't open and CAC had to bring in a locksmith to fix it
- Andrew Lukmann: sometimes we need to look those rooms for something like housing the elections server
- Consensus: that sometimes that is necessary, but not relevant to this bill
- Bill passes by division of the body

#### Special Projects Committee Confirmation – Vrajesh Modi as Chair

- Vrajesh Modi: somebody needs to continue to worry about improving the organization
- Andrew Lukmann: do you see yourself as a person to do projects or a committee chair?
- Vrajesh Modi: some of both. We'll need to handle projects as assigned, but you also need to lead a committee to do that.
- Paul Baranay: how do think this relates to senators that need to demonstrate activity on a project or committee?
- Vrajesh Modi: this would definitely be a good opportunity for Senators to get involved in existing projects, but not really a place for them to take whatever they are working on to call it UA work.

- Various people: express concern over where funding for this committee would come from
- Liz Denys: [to clarify] emergency funding would come through Senate or Exec Discretionary, if there's a project that needs funding
- Vrajesh Modi: I agree [with Liz's assessment]
- Josiah Seale: CoComm used to also have its own discretionary fund
- Candidate is removed from the room, closed discussion
- Candidate is approved

Noah Jessop presents the state of the UA

From one year ago:

- Lots of small improvements
- We have a strong Senate
- Things work better [internally]
- People hang out in the office
- We are more approachable

I have high hopes for what we can do moving forward

I have accomplished what I planned to accomplish

Awards, Honors, Thanks

- Noah Jessop awards Exec member of the Year to Vrajesh Modi for going above and beyond
- Noah Jessop awards Administrator of the Year Award to Steven Immerman
  - he has held many different positions and will be leaving MIT after this year,
  - he is a very strong student advocate,
  - he would always tells the students what was going on,
  - he couldn't stand by and let wrong things happen.
- Maggie Delano awards the Senator of the Year to Alex Dehnert:
  - Jason and I particularly considered people who are starting to push the envelope and consider what is right
- Mike Bennie thanks Noah Jessop and Jason Forte for their service to the UA this year

Swearing in

- Senate officers: Paul Baranay, Tim Stumbaugh and Catherine Olsson are sworn in as Senate officers – as Speaker, Vice-Chair, and Senate Representative to Finboard, respectively
- Executive officers: Mike Bennie, Maggie Delano, Liz Denys, and Alex Dehnert are sworn in as Executive officers – as President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer respectively

Motion to adjourn, passes, adjourned at 1:03 on Tuesday