



42 U.A.S. 3

Summary of October 18, 2010

At 42 U.A.S. 3, the meeting was called to order and began with a guest speaker, Bish Sanyal, the Ford International Professor of Urban Development and a previous Chair of the Faculty. He talked about his role as a Chair, and provided information and insight on faculty meetings and the mindset of the faculty and administration. Bish also briefly gave advice on how to express our student opinions to the faculty.

The main discussion this time was on Educational Technology, with guest expert Vijay Kumar, the Senior Associate Dean and Director for the Office of Educational Innovation and Technology. This guided discussion covered Mastering Physics, TEAL, OCW, MIT cable and video lectures on OCW, clickers, powerpoint lecture styles, stellar, daily computer and Smartphone usage, Matlab and Athena tutorials, effective use of technology in curriculum, MIT technological advancement from the average high school, and much much more. The emphasis of the comments was on how to preserve and further MIT education in effective and efficient ways best suited for the diverse pool of undergraduate students at MIT via technological advancements.

Following that, a brief update by Senate covered the success of the UA retreat. An Exec Update, made by Alexandra Jordan, Chief of Staff, included remarks on institute committee seats and the development of the dining plan bill passed at 42 U.A.S. E1. Following that, minutes from 42 U.A.S. 1, 2, and E1 were approved. Senators also briefly mentioned the projects they are working on and the committees they have joined.

In terms of bills, 42 U.A.S. 2.2, the Bill to Amend Parliamentary Procedure, was postponed indefinitely. Also, 42 U.A.S. 3.1, the Bill to Create a Committee on Alumni Relations, was postponed until the next Senate meeting. 42 U.A.S. 3.2, the Bill to Create an Athena Printing Committee was skipped via a call to the orders of the day. Finally, 42 U.A.S. 3.3, a resolution on enrollment, was committed to subcommittee.

In terms of confirmations, Will Steadman was confirmed as the Chair of the Committee on Space Planning. Additionally, Daniel Hawkins was approved to the MIT Online Study Group.

Respectfully submitted,

Alec Lai
UA Secretary General