

The Dormitory Council

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
dormcon-exec@mit.edu



Minutes of First Meeting – Next House

07 October 2004

Attendance			
<i>Executive Committee</i>			
President:	Ian Brelinsky	Secretary:	Aayesha Siddiqui
Vice President:	Joshua Velasquez	Treasurer:	Seth Dorfman
REX Chairs:	<i>(all absent)</i>	JudComm Chairs:	David Nedzel
Housing Chair:	<i>(absent)</i>	Webmaster:	Joshua Velasquez
<i>Dormitory Representatives</i>			
Baker:	Martijn Stevenson	New House:	Joshua Velasquez
Bexley:	<i>(absent)</i>	Next House:	<i>(deferred affirmative votes to Ian)</i>
Burton-Connor:	Nick Baldasaro	Random Hall:	Jeff Cohen
East Campus:	<i>(absent)</i>	Senior Haus:	Matt Brooks
MacGregor:	Aayesha Siddiqui	Simmons Hall:	David Nedzel <i>(proxy)</i>
McCormick:	Amy Luxenberg <i>(proxy)</i>		
<i>Also In Attendance</i>			
RLAs:	Sharon Snaggs (Patron Saint) Dan Kirsh	Freshmen:	Austin Chu (Random) Estevan Martinez (East Campus)
Social Chairs:	Merritt Tam (MacGregor) Jennifer Liang (Simmons)		

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM

Funding Policy presentation and discussion

- events should be advertised well to all the dormitory residents – mass email is required
- should be emphasized that event is open to *all* – leave in broad terms (perhaps revise later)
- subsidy for residents of sponsoring dorms (i.e. lower admission)? Funding petitioners should bring this up during their petition during the meeting → will be evaluated on a case-by-case.

VOTE: Funding Policy adopted (8 affirmative, 1 negative, 2 absent)

Policy adopted contingent on the revision of #3 of the requirements:

To be advertised substantially in all undergraduate dormitories. It is required that an email advertising the event be sent to all dormitory residents.

The full text of the funding policy is attached to the end of the minutes.

Security Presentation by Guest Speaker Officer Cheryl Vossmer

Crime around campus has not risen dramatically in numbers. But the number of suspects apprehended is remarkably low.

Thefts at MIT target the 5 C's: cash, checks, credit cards, camera, computers.

Suggestions for enhancing security:

- realize that the media and solicitation are security risks
- uniforms for all house workers (contact Facilities)
- motivate student desk workers to actually do their job
- MIT-wide access card (student ID card) that allows entrance of MIT students into *all* dorms
- reconfigure construction to mandate passing by front desk – but this is unfeasible, really
 - perhaps turnstiles – a fire hazard and an unwelcoming feeling
- **crux of the matter – must foster personal responsibility among all residents**

How do we get residents to be responsible and understand the real dangers?

- patrol around dorm and find unlocked rooms – leave a paper message in their rooms detailing what *could have* been stolen, close door behind
- stage fake robberies for dramatic illustration
- make rounds of dorm with a video camera and show what *could have* been stolen – later show this video to residents

Who to contact?

Email Cheryl Vossmer with suggestions <crimbite>

Contact Dennis Collins (Baker House Manager) <colins>

Random Business

Meeting with Dean Redwine

- Friday, 08 October 2004 – Ian, Josh, and Mitra attending
- planning to present DormCon's goals concerning REX and orientation
- come to an agreement with Redwine in regards to these goals
- emphasize the support net of undergrads and the necessity that freshmen feel safe
- aim for REX being scheduled *prior* to orientation

Mass emailing lists

DormCon is spending residents' money, so they have the right to know what we are doing with it. Therefore, a **weekly event bulletin** should be sent out in order to keep them informed.

Lists are sorted by dorm, so if a president is in need of dorm mailing list, contact Ian <ian>.

Petition for DormCon funding

Simmons/MacGregor/McCormick fall formal

VOTE: \$3000 approved (8 affirmative, 1 negative, 2 absent)

Funding is contingent on dorms' adherence to the funding policy adopted earlier in the evening.

REX

Goal is to have REX *prior* to Orientation.

REX allows for a support network for the freshmen, a chance to find a community in which they may thrive and and grow as a person. (Random)

Moving situation – thoughts on the matter

Intertia – freshmen don't move because of inertia. (Random)

Need to address why people are/aren't moving around. Who/what is encouraging them to move/stay? Need to survey freshmen and get their perspective. This info is necessary for an argument against administrators. (Snaggs)

Upperclassmen defend their community, but the freshmen are just complacent, and this is doesn't sit well with the upperclassmen. (Burton Connor)

Obtain statistics from last year of formal rush (Class of 2005). (Snaggs)

Important concluding thoughts...

MIT *is* different from other universities regarding our residential system. i3 is not sufficient in choosing a house, nor is CPW (since freshmen are deciding on a *school* still). REX fulfills this need of exploration.

What is the goal at the end of orientation? *Ours* needs to align with *theirs*, i.e. that of the admins.

Break into fundamental pieces of **what Redwine/ARC needs and wants from Orientation**. Address these issues directly and align with them. Use them in support of our goals.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Dormitory Council Funding Policy

Adopted 07 October 2004

The Dormitory Council funds dorm-run events in order to encourage events that benefit the entire undergraduate dormitory community. Such events often involve cooperation and interaction between members of different dormitories and different parts of campus.

To apply for DormCon funding your event needs:

- At least one undergraduate dormitory sponsor.
- To be open to all dormitory residents.
- To be advertised substantially in all undergraduate dormitories. It is required that an email advertising the event be sent to all dormitory residents.
- To include “Sponsored by DormCon” on all promotional materials.

As of October 2004, DormCon has a total of \$8000/term to allocate to events that meet these four criteria. Events that involve substantial work on the part of two or more dorms will be favored if funds become tight.

To apply for funding:

- Send an email to dormcon-treasurer@mit.edu with a description of the event, the date and time of the event, a detailed budget for the event, how much funding you expect from other sources, and how much money you are requesting from DormCon.
- Within a few days, you will receive an email inviting you to a DormCon meeting (they occur every other Thursday night at 7:00pm in one of the dormitories) to explain your proposal.
- Come to the DormCon meeting, explain your proposal, and await approval (via voting).
- If you receive funding, sign a contract that you agree to the terms and conditions laid out here and the money will be transferred to the appropriate account.

If your event receives funding, but you violate the agreement outlined herein, the dormitory presidents may vote to withdraw funding from your event.

To apply for DormCon funding for an item that is not an event, you should still follow the four steps outlined above. Such items will be considered by the presidents on a case by case basis based on the spirit of these guidelines.