



## UA Cabinet + Operations Meeting Agenda - Thursday, September 21, 2017

### 5:30pm - 5:40pm:

- Officer Introductions

### 5:40pm - 6:00pm:

- Committee Introductions
  - Goals and purpose

### 6:00pm - 6:10pm:

- Information/Housekeeping
  - Bi-weekly meetings
  - Google Calendars
  - UA Website
  - Committee Bylaws
  - Dining
  - On Demand Shuttle

### 6:10pm - 6:30pm:

- Discussion
  - UA Budget FY 2018
  - Alternative Funding Pilot Program
  - DACA Statement
  - Indigenous Peoples' Day
  - Community in the UA

### **5:33pm Welcome to the first Cabinet + Operations meeting**

- Nikhil (Involvement)
- Nicholas (Marketing)
- Nenyé (Campus Planning)

- Michael (Technology)
- Yaateh (Technology)
- Ann (Events)
- Christine (Events)
- Allie (SAC)
- Tchelet (Wellcomm)
- Loewen (Alumni)
- Yazan (Alumni)
- Ashti (Public Affairs)
- Malte (Innovation)
- Szabi (Special Projects)
- Zach (Finboard)
- Joaquin (Community Service)
- Soma (Sustain)
- Jingwei (Education)

## **5:41 Committee Introductions**

### Cabinet Committees

- Campus Planning
  - Guiding document of what UG want in their campus, compiling snippets of information together, no one really knows what students want
  - Polling to make short term improvements
- Innovation
  - Future of MIT, seed, scale, support innovation on campus
  - Looking at programs on campus to make sure they are universally acceptable
  - Campus as infrastructure to help students utilize physical space
  - Kresge booked 2/19 for an event
- Public Affairs
  - Getting students involved in Cambridge city politics, voter registrations, events with running Cambridge City Councilors
  - Workshop on how to get involved in local politics
  - Connected with MIT DC's office to send students there for 1 week to find out what people are working on, see how we can get involved
  - Publishing weekly newsletter that summarizes national political events and updates on what is happening in our city
- Special Projects
  - Improving the UA office
  - Living Pink survey (LGBTQ survey) revitalization
  - Student communication platform

- Any other projects other committees don't have time for, can't commit resources for, etc
- SAC
  - Writing a report on closure of Senior House that will go to CJAC and the senior leadership team with recommendations on how to conduct investigations into living groups
  - Centralized resource for understanding MIT structure
- Student Support & Wellness
  - Food insecurity issues, alcohol use, more united tutoring service on campus across departments
  - Streamlining points of contact for FSILGs and S<sup>3</sup>, Mental Health
  - David Randall is looking at adding a resources button on the MIT app
  - Mural project in Mental Health & Counselling, encourage your friends to apply
- Sustainability
  - Continue all the projects like Trashion, Trash to Treasure, etc
  - Environmental Solutions Initiative, discussing project ideas with their directors, hoping we have enough social capital to convince admin for a large project like rooftop gardens

#### Operations Committees

- Alumni Affairs
  - Bridge gap between alumni and students
  - Dinners with alumni (sponsored), speaker series, mentorship program
  - Smaller sessions on how to make use of alumni network
- Community Service
  - Met with PKG center and formalized goals
  - Contacts within different groups like ESP, etc that go out into the community, have community service partners in the city
  - FSILGs groups, nobody really knows what they are doing outside of FSILGs, establish app with PKG to implement and support
  - Large event in the spring to do quick community service like meal packing
  - Connecting groups together on campus, like if SWE wants to teach a women education program in different schools
  - With LSC to have a social action series
- Events
  - FallFest and Springfest, integrated Tech Twinkles last year, this year expanding that, incorporating dorms into lighting up campus
  - Small study breaks
  - Integrate other student groups on campus, like Fallfest with Save TFP

- Finboard
  - Pilot program January 1st to structure how we give funds to student groups to use for a semester instead of for quarter cycle
  - More flexibility in planning and funding events
  - Spend more of their allocation, cuz spending is around 60%
  - Cooperating with Jon's grant program to target groups normally bypassed by Finboard
  - Increase outreach to student groups in conducting appeals, individual liaisons go to exec meetings of group to make sure everyone is on the same page
  - Strengthen and expand financial stewardship system to make sure they are compliant
- Involvement
  - Recruiting at the beginning of the year, following up with all the committees to make sure they have people excited
  - Hosting internal events, building community, getting food, study breaks, parties
- Marketing
  - Help publicize and promote the UA, graphic design work, designing posters for events, initiatives, promotional videos
  - How we can change student body perception of the UA, revamp social media presence
  - Talking with Willy in innovation, unified design language for labs in Media Lab, hopefully have unified logos for committees
- Technology
  - Working on on-demand shuttle system that MIT is trying to develop, making changes to current mobile app, changing actual app
  - In interviews, looking at people with backgrounds in mobile app development
  - Raise awareness about cyber security

#### 6:01 Housekeeping

- Biweekly meetings rotating around dorms, next one is 10/4 in East Campus
- Kat will be sending out schedule and location of meetings
- These meetings are open to the general student body
- Google calendars: if you don't have access, send [katj@mit.edu](mailto:katj@mit.edu) your gmail
- Room reservations: UA office can be reserved on the google calendar. Room reservations are done through Kat
- Squarespace: send [katj@mit.edu](mailto:katj@mit.edu) an email if you don't have access. Please keep your page updated.
- Read your committee bylaws, if anything is glaringly wrong we can vote in Council to change it

## Dining update

- Meal swipe donation system where you can go to S<sup>3</sup> and then you can get meal swipes
- Not happening this fall but hopefully in the future you can donate guest passes, because they don't expire

## Shuttle system

- Next meeting Tuesday, over the summer admins met with neighborhood association of Back Bay, but need to meet with Boston transportation authority to move forward

## 6:06 Budget discussion

- Handout has overall budgets, also on the website
- Some clubs need one time large chunks of money that can't go through Finboard, so we have this \$30k fund for alternative funding
- GSC has travel grants to send students to conferences for labs who don't have funding to send students to places, so it can also be used for individuals
- One of big parts is gathering data to determine if it was cyclical or deadline based
- Purview: part of UA budget, so Council would have to pass it, which they've done last night.
- Criteria: There should be a rigid framework, mix what GSC does for travel grants and Finboard bylaws so they know what will be funded
- Is it meant to be more of a discretionary fund or guidelines? Grey areas where you have two groups both with valid claims. So we have chair of Finboard on committee, SAO, Treasurer, more structure and less discretionary
- Yes it will probably have bylaws but guidelines will be less strict for ASA recognized groups that apply for funding, but very much in pilot stage to working to figure out how guidelines will best serve students
- How is taking \$100k out of the reserves sustainable? Didn't make sense to leave \$200k in reserves.
- Target of percent of annual spending in reserves.  $\frac{1}{3}$  in operating budget, anything more than that goes back to student groups
- The assumption is the \$100k will not be spent, we got an extra \$50k this year from Suzy which hopefully be continued as MIT realized as UG needs more money
- Funding structure will fundamentally be changed
- Remembering austerity measures from previous years, want to make sure it is sustainable: we are allocating money we do have, rather than money we don't have, so it will hopefully be sustainable

## 6:20 DACA Statement

GSC wrote a statement on DACA they wrote up and asked us to sign on to show a unified front on this issue, we presented it to Council last night with updated language. Passed unanimously in

Council, this is something that is going out on behalf of the UA. Last year the Public Affairs committee created a policy platform to outline the issues the UA has the authority to speak to, especially on more political issues.

### **6:21pm Indigenous People Day**

Someone from DSL asked us to support a proposal to change Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day at MIT, so it was voted on and passed by Council.

### **6:22pm UA Community Discussion**

What you like the officers to do? How can we better engage committee members? Having officers come to committee meetings.

We have a Slack channel now. You can also add google calendar to slack.

If we have an idea but don't know where it would fall under, how do we reach out? Can bring it up during these meetings or the officer team, or if you have roadblocks with admin, resources, we can help you get around that.

Do people like study breaks? Events across different schools (BU, Harvard, etc)

Sarah: I was excited to have so many committee chairs at the UA Retreat, but if you didn't go I strongly encourage you to look at the documents Kat sent out, especially the goal setting presentation. If you are not familiar with the org chart or structure of the UA look at those.

UA office improvement ideas box / google form. Also if anyone wants to help with decluttering the office. Door to the office should be open 9-5pm.

**6:33pm meeting adjourned**