



49 UA Council Session 4 Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2017, 7:30pm - 9:00pm in W20-400

Living Group	Representative	Present?
Baker	Makenzie Patarino	x
Burton-Conner	Emma Desoto	excused
East Campus	Alexandra Stanton	x
MacGregor	Eleanor Wintersteen	x
Maseeh	Robert Bugilarelli	x
McCormick	Laura Bergemann	x
New House	Emily Tang	x
Next House	Elizabeth Gaylord	
Random House	Ryuga Hatano	x
Simmons	Jacqueline Liu	x
Interfraternity Council	Robert Binkowski	
Interfraternity Council	Sean Parks	x
Interfraternity Council	Arjun Mithal	x
Living Group Council	Emily Fleischman	x
Off Campus	Megan Kralj	excused
Panhellenic Association	Ayomide Fatunde	x
Panhellenic Association	Leigh-Ana Rossitto	x
Panhellenic Association	Meredith Loy	x

Leah Flynn Gallant
Nenye Anagbogu

Ann Quan (UA Events)
Tanya Llanas (ASA)
Sophia McGowan (Wellcomm)

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| 1. Roll Call | 7:35 |
| 2. Approval of 49 UAC 2 Minutes | 7:35 - 7:40 |
| 3. Revised Nominations Slate | 7:40 - 7:50 |
| 4. UA Events Tech Twinkles Presentation | 7:50 - 8:00 |
| 5. Advising Guidelines Follow-up | 8:00 - 8:10 |
| 6. Discussion on Student Center Improvements | 8:10 - 8:30 |
| 7. Discussion on Wellness Center Proposal | 8:30 - 8:50 |
| 8. Closing Remarks and Open Discussion | 8:50 - 9:00 |

7:35pm Roll Call

We have quorum! Yay!

7:36pm Approval of 49 UAC 2 Minutes

Vote: 13 in favor, 0 opposed

Last time we didn't have quorum so 49 UAC 3 Minutes will be on the website but aren't official minutes.

7:37pm Revised Nominations Slate

Chancellor's Advisory Committee was dissolved after 6 months. Cindy decided it wasn't a representative group of students and not the best way to get student feedback. So instead meeting with students on her working groups.

Vote on Group B slate: 14 in favor, 0 opposed

Group A:

- PAC Marayna Martinez 14 in favor, 0 opposed
- CUP adding Ishaun Datta 14 in favor, 0 opposed
- CUP adding Mo Eltahir 14 in favor, 0 opposed

7:48pm UA Events Tech Twinkles Presentation

Asking for living groups to make a one time purchase of lights, can apply for funding from DormCon, other groups if needed. Get your community involved!

Mackenzie: Baker did this last year, do we need to buy it again?

- No, dorms should have kept all the lights. We bought lights for all the dorms but not all the dorms used them.

Arjun: Is there a kickoff event?

- Yes, celebration is either 11/30 or 12/6, but dorms can put up lights around that time.

Sarah: If a living group get the lights, do they have to put them up themselves or is there a structure?

- Every living group has their own rules about lighting, safety.

Ayo: I think a lot of the sororities make their own lighting displays.

Jacqui: We ended up getting our own solar powered lights.

Mackenzie: How late do the lights in the Z-center stay up?

- Probably until March around Daylight Savings, but they get cut off instead of taken off :(

8:00pm Advising Guidelines Follow-up

Alexa and Sarah met with Vice Chancellor Ian Waitz today, gave him a summary of what we talked about during Council and Cabinet, things like matching, adding training, adding meetings, evaluation system at the department level. Ian is also thinking about rolling out Piazza for all requirements, similar to how it exists for Course 6.

Advisors sometimes don't have the best advice even though they are seen as a course picking entity. Focused on making the advisor-advisee relationship more personal, making students comfortable talking about long term goals. Alexa and Sarah talking to Undergraduate Advisors, part of Faculty in about two weeks.

8:03pm Student Center Improvements

Gus Burkett, Senior Associate Dean for Diversity and Community Involvement, oversees SAO and is invested in improving the student center.

Sarah, Alexa, others was part of the DSL visiting committee this week. Made the point that space is important for community and MIT doesn't have a central student space. Student Center has increased on the priorities list in DSL. Don't know yet if it means major renovation or rebuilding, so don't know if we should do smaller changes or start looking at it floor by floor.

What would be an ideal Student Center?

Ayo: Charging stations on the first floor where you can lock your phone up, leave it.

Rhat: Urgent Care type space. Athena cluster being on the top floor is super far.

Allie: Bathrooms and water fountains on the first floor.

- This is supposedly happening!

Jacqui: More / better study spaces. Current ones don't have noise control.

How do people feel about group vs private student spaces?

- Yes we need more group student spaces. We currently have 6 24-hour group student spaces. Would you be willing to sacrifice current computer spaces.

Leigh-Ana: Not gross food spaces, because it is a convenient space.

Mackenzie: More natural, bright lighting.

Ann: More lounge spaces, like the lounges on the first floor.

Arjun: New couches.

Rhat: Tunnel under Mass Ave

Ayo: You know how the fourth floor is split up by two circles? Needs more couches and more open space, big windows, a way for people to know what the groups are doing.

Mo: Rooftop study space.

Could the UA / IFC/ Panhel could live without this room?

- Allie: I like how official this room is

Sophia: Business in the basement could be more appropriate for what people actually need.

- Gus brought up the idea of having storage lockers in the basement, because currently student groups are using the fourth floor as storage.

Ann: Could rebuild it with more floors.

- Sarah: Apparently there are plans from 10 or so years ago to expand the Stud toward Mass Ave where the steps are.

Allie: Skybridge!

Mo: Cutting off the central stairs in 2nd floor to 3rd floor because it takes up space.

Rob: Recreational space! Pool tables, ping pong tables, etc.

Ayo: Change the paint so it's the swedish aesthetic with accent colors, instead of the wood panelling.

Emily T: Replace La Verdes with a grocery store.

Emily F: There's so many unnecessary stairs by the art gallery.

Leigh Ana: Making it more of a private building, there's lots of people (randos) hanging around at 11pm.

- We could have security cameras but historically students don't want them.
- Could we have card access hours starting earlier?

Mo: Handicapped accessibility is really bad, has a tight turn by the entrance.

For a lot of campus, the first floor of the stud is seen as the "heart of campus" where lots of people could gather, but that's not true of ours. Do you think that is valuable?

- Ayo: We have Kresge for events.
- Mackenzie: Take out Copytech and the weird back hallway.

Smaller changes to the fourth floor? It hasn't been renovated since it was built in the 1960s.

- Leigh-Ana: Can we make this floor make more sense?
- Ann: Fix bathroom locations. Women's bathroom is so far.
- Add more lounge spaces.
- Sophia: Like having allocated space for student groups, but should be for student groups that use their lounge space.

Do you think there are important student groups that are not represented on this floor?

- Ayo: A lot of the student groups here are those that have historically been here.

- Allie: Idk how IFC / Panhel feel but would be nice if Dormcon didn't share an office with the others because it's small.
- Leigh Ana: There are lots of theater groups, could share stuff like how everyone shares the UA office with shared lounge.
- Sophia: Student mental health peer support groups were applying for shared space.
- Ann: Resonates with what the UA does, collaborative ideas, etc.
- Ayo: Moving LCC from basement to higher floors would be nice.
 - Gus has mentioned this.
- Mackenzie: Baker has a designated nap area.
- Ann: Hammocks!
- Allie: Shared lounge that multiple student organizations feed off of in separate offices. Could also include The Tech, Technique, etc.
- Ayo: More things on the walls, celebrating the groups. Murals in the basement are great.

Ask your friends from other schools about their student centers!

- Leah: Ohio State's student center is all glass, can see all the club spaces, large auditorium on the second floor. Built more recently so more in line.
- Wellesley one is also really nice.

Can any of this happen before seniors graduate?

- Couches, carpets, paint, art is doable short term, depends on decision on how big and when the renovations are.
- CAC is also doing a big cleaning day with all student groups in the stud to get rid of things, also have scanners to digitize documents.
- Suzy's plan is to redo food.

8:27pm Wellness Center Proposal

Sarah has been thinking about having a space on main campus or west campus for all of the student support resources to be in one space and also have a satellite Mental Health office. Sometimes students don't know where to go for help, so this would help students talking to S^3 dean to be referred to another service. It also sends a message that you want mental health and students to be a focal point. I've been talking to the Chancellor and she said that Student Financial Services in Building 11, which is currently more than one story, is moving.

So off the infinite there would be a unified reception area that would be the first stop for students, and then different offices located around that space. Also more private spaces along upper floors. I think it's important to have mental health resources on main campus so it's closer to students who live in west campus.

Why this space? I think it's a really awesome space. Also SFS space is technically under the Chancellor and is moving in the next few years. Cindy's on board with this idea and will help us with this proposal so this could work out really well.

Initial idea is all the offices under David Randall: VPR, S^3, Student Disability Services, Care Team, Community Development & Substance Abuse, plus outpost for Mental Health and Counseling.

Thoughts on this proposal? Ideas for services and what should have space? Should student groups who do work on mental health also be in that space?

Sophia: Do you think bringing VPR out of from Medical to with S^3 is sending a message?

Ayo: I'm concerned about discretion. VPR is currently in a location in the back of Medical where people don't know where they are, so people might be like "oh everyone just saw me walk into VPR"

- Mo: On the other side barrier of entry for VPR, for example, is so high right now because of its location
- Mackenzie: It seems like one of the goals of this is to make it more accessible, lower the barrier, and reduce the stigma so it's more available for students.

Ayo: I think survivor's stigma is more about shame, as long as we take all those considerations about the different stigmas into account.

- It's also possible we decide that we want to keep that level of privacy and not have VPR. We could also have private entrances.

Sophia: I saw the CARE team is moving into the fifth floor of the stud and getting renovated. Why?

- I think the fifth floor is where the new offices are going to.

What is the CARE team for?

- If you have a crisis (ex. Hospitalization, serious medical issue, etc) the CARE team is a liaison to coordinate efforts between medical, friends, academics, family, etc. They reach out to you and are a new unit that is more outreach related.

Rhat: Having it in the middle of academic places may be like a barrier. We should have a building for it! But it is a good compromise for accessibility.

Mackenzie: Is it just official support? Can we add Peer Ears, etc?

- Personally I think those groups would fit better in the student center because more of their work is around advocacy and awareness and peer counselling, but don't know if people would go to an office.

This is the beginning of a process. Ultimately want a written proposal to bring to the Chancellor that will go to the Provost at a later date. This is the beginning of me feeling out thoughts, will talk to other relevant parties. Departments already want to be more cohesive. This is also something David Randall wants as well, his previous proposals are about bringing it to Building 5, but SFS is a better location.

Sarah will keep you updated when there is a more cohesive plan.

8:44pm Open Discussion!

Suzy Nelson is having a One MIT event at 11-12:30pm on Friday to bring students together, I think it will be valuable. I think folks from OME, Mental Health and Counselling, and Multicultural Center will be there.

Ayo: How's grad housing going?

- They're supposedly building more beds. They've set a number but don't know how they are going to go there.
- There's fear that MIT owns some sorority houses and they might put grad students in it. I don't think that will happen.

Mackenzie: Do you think the overcrowding next year will be as bad as this year?

- Probably not. It should go down.
- Baker is getting more GRTs.

Sarah: The dining space in Walker is begin renovated and will open in the near future. Was delayed because of permit issues. According to Suzy that space should be open by end of November. Will be a cafe and lounge space, Rebecca's will sell food. Off that space will be the new Rainbow Lounge. Will also have events there so people are excited about space.

8:53pm Adjourned