49 UA Council Session 7 Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2017, 7:30pm - 9:00pm in W20-400

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

Olivia Brode-Roger
Edward Fan
Yuge Ji
Tanya Llanas
Nenye Anagbogu

President's Questions   7:00 - 7:30

1. Roll Call   7:35
2. Approval of 49 UAC 6 Minutes   7:35 - 7:40
3. Travel Grants Allocations Vote   7:40 - 7:50
4. Updated SAC Recommendations Discussion   7:50 - 8:20
5. Council Feedback   8:20 - 8:30
6. Closing Remarks and Open Discussion   8:30 - 9:00

7:45pm We have quorum!

7:46pm 49 UAC 6 Minutes Approved
Vote: 10 in favor, 0 opposed

7:46pm Added Rikhav Shah to agenda talk about off campus elections
Housing changes every semester, so wouldn't happen this semester as it says in the Election Code. Plan to hold it first and second week next semester. Voting opens February 13th, closes February 19th. This is something we have to vote on because elections in the election code were supposed to happen in December.

Megan: What do I do?
- Should check with Judboard, but you could be appointed to go to the first Council in the spring

Vote: to move the off-campus elections to February 13th-19th. 10 in favor, 0 opposed

7:49 Travel Grant Allocations Vote: Zach Schmitz (Finboard chair), Jon Coden (UA Treasurer)
There are three students going to a conference in Munich, perfectly fits the travel grants purpose. Currently capping applications at $1,000/person. We're giving them the full cap for all three students. We will have them submit receipts and post-event report to judge effectiveness of travel grant.

We aren't using Concur but they are working with Colin Codner in the SAO for this group. Colin also has office hours for these things. Concur is a reimbursement system, but it isn't used to front things.

So far we've publicized in The Tech, will work with UA Marketing over IAP to help publicize. Word of mouth is powerful as well. It would be cool to let faculty and advisors know. We can have the Vice Chancellor email out to the faculty.

In the future we'll have deadlines and we'll have to vote just like for finboard allocations a couple times a year.

Vote: To approve $3,000 for three students for travel grant pilot. 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

7:54pm Nenye, Chair for Campus Planning
Update on things that are happening with conversations in administration, also to conduct discussion about what kind of spaces help you in your communities.

How renovations work is you fill out a form, and if it's important enough it gets kicked upwards. We were talking to Dean Nelson about forming a committee comprised mainly of students that would be a direct channel for campus planning. Over time, it would take in all the large scale surveys that MIT already conducts about student spaces and fill those gaps.

One of our projects is compiling guidelines for spaces around campus to let administration knows what we value most, what is lacking, what is working.

What questions should administration be asking itself when (re-)designing spaces?
- How can this space connect students from different areas on campus?
- Accessibility?
- Multifunctional, facilitating social interaction?

Conduct visitation space, how well visited they are, modelling off that knowledge base, administration likes data. Lots of natural light, nice bathrooms.

Megan: Nap places, better than just an armchair, places that are open as late as possible

The energy lounge in the basement of lobby 10 is centrally located, colorful couches, three soundproof study spaces, coffee machines.

What spaces need to be redesigned in what priority?
- More private study spaces (ex. In libraries), group study rooms as opposed to tables in the library
- Semi private, ex. The UA office, which is behind a card reader, is a place where I can comfortably keep my backpack there
- Entire student center
- Places to put coats, which is especially helpful for off campus students. There are lockers by the study space on the fifth floor of the stud.

Are lockers something students would use?
- Yes. They are at capacity right now, so yes. It's common for student centers to have a large set of lockers for students to use. It would also be nice if they were free, because right now we need to pay for them.

What are places you hang out in a lot?
- Concourse lounge, has a full kitchen, is really homey, but they also have money which is why there is almost always food
- During the summer, commuting is more common, but library hours are shorter during the summer
- Sinks, microwaves, kitchens, kitchenettes are practical
- Nap pods

Spaces fostering social interactions? Meeting people impromptu?
- Aren't enough large spaces that would facilitate those impromptu meetings. People use the couches on the first / fifth floor of the stud that are always full
- Ayo: It's hard to find rooms that can house our chapter on campus that aren't just a lecture. It's nicer to have a cozy area without feeling like people are being lectured.
- Multi-purpose space: not enough dance spaces, which are very much multi-functional.
- Having a desk that you can claim as your own. Can drop off bag, stuff, and know that I can come back without my stuff being taken.
- Pain to carry lunch bags for off campus people, nice to have a freezer to store food.
- The atrium in the media lab with lights and adjoining kitchenette and discounted tv dinner vending machine is a very good spot.

If we were to have such a committee, administration is very confident in student transferral of data back to other students. Are there concerns with the amount of power these students will have or their ability to transfer that information to the rest of the student body?
- I think you do need to have a certain amount of faith of students on the committee, but that is the case for all institute committees. You can do forums, talking tours, etc like what other groups are doing to solicit feedback from a wider group of students

8:16pm Updated SAC Recommendations from Senior House Report

There were a couple minor wording changes based on recommendations: more ambiguity for how dorms would be implementing things and clarity on how student members for committees are chosen by student leaders.

Recommendations (emailed out to Councilors)
Maintaining Healthy Communities
1. Peer reviews for dorms
2. Continue Student Support Services in dorms -> add expanding because right now it's only in East Campus
3. Alumni body available to student leaders in an advisory capacity

Disciplinary interventions in living groups
1. Living group shall receive allegations in writing, individuals will go to COD right away, living group can consult with associated governing body
2. Investigation against community should be led by a community with OSC, Judboard, rights of students should be made clear and public and in line with those of COD
3. Committee will prepare report containing findings and recommendations. Individuals permitted to note dissent. Living group can consult with committee and suggest changes.
4. Recommendations for removing someone or living group if not unanimous will go to OSC
5. Steering committee will be formed to implement recommendations -> timeline of implementation or some structure would be nice so people have ample time to prepare for alternate living conditions
   a. Lots of extenuating circumstances, people should be conscious of time but don't know how reasonable it is, depends on floor, size of dorm, etc

Improvements to communication
1. Internal delegation of responsibilities, centralized discussion between student leaders
2. Communications between student leaders and constituents should be standardized and information should only be completely open and public or entirely internal
3. Public meeting agendas or brief meeting summaries should be published
4. In event of controversial issue, both administrators and student leaders should release a statement explaining facts of situation and their involvement.

If UA Council votes on SAC recommendations it gives them more weight in conversations with admin about implementing these recommendations into policy. Especially with things like disciplinary proceedings, which we cannot directly change.

Vote on the Findings (section 3.1) of the SAC report. 11 in favor, 0 opposed.
Vote on the Recommendations (section 3.2) of the SAC report. 11 in favor, 0 opposed.

8:41pm Council feedback
We'll send out an anonymous form for Council feedback. Please fill it out after finals. This will help improve Council for next semester. We'll ask about format, discussion, do you feel like you have the ability to bring things to Council. Please transition your new people. Please tell them what the UA is and that they have a responsibility to come to these meetings. We will be having a dinner in the beginning of February to introduce the new Councilors and talk about what the UA does and the current issues we are working on.

8:45pm Open discussion
Thank you for a great semester. I think we had some great conversations and we made some great things happen.

8:46pm Adjourned