

1. Quote of the Night

Nate Fox, 2012 Class President: “We’re all going to Disney World. It’s an all-expense-paid trip... I spent the rest of the \$100K for us to drive Porsches.”

David Chang, UA Chief of Staff: “This includes me, right?”

Nate: “Yeah. This is a joke.”

2. Summary

Senate looked at and approved the fall budgets for all of the UA Class Councils, with a plan to reexamine those of the class of 2013 and 2015 once their budgets are updated. Senators passed a bill to end Senate approval of committee vice-chairs. Another bill to shorten the length of Senate meetings was tabled indefinitely, until the UA restructuring proposal is officially voted upon. Updates were given by the UA Committees on Athletics, Elections, and History. The Athletics Committee is working on DAPER policy issues, PE class attrition, expanding the trainers program, reducing fees for extreme PEs, and increasing attendance at games, with student-run concession stands and halftime shows for home games, and more buses for away games. The Committee on History wants to create a UA dropbox, and Elections wants to eliminate paper balloting and fix and simplify the running of elections. The names of two candidates for Senate Vice Speaker were announced, with the Speaker encouraging others to run as well.

3. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm.

4. Roll Call

The following members were late: Alex Westbrook (Random), Thiago Vieira (Fraternities).

5. Exec Update

Will: Welcome to the 3rd meeting of Senate. We’re going to get started. I didn’t put this on the agenda but we always have exec updates, so I’ll let Allan give his update.

Allan: I’ll read my sticky note. There was a retreat the Saturday before this one. It was fun; there were Senators and committee chairs. Committees got ideas for the coming year; Senators got new ideas they want to take to Senate; and I’m sure they’re all going to work towards those goals. Tom came out and gave a talk; I found it very motivating. He teaches good skills. We also had Alana from SAO who did a fantastic job teaching communication skills and whatnot. I’m also going to mention what Leonid emailed out about – there’s a LaTeX generator now, for those of you who don’t have experience writing bills. You can use it to input things into a few boxes and have a LaTeX version of a bill out. You don’t have an excuse for not writing a bill because now you can do it.

I’m working on the survey still, which is taking a little longer than expected. I’ll have it for you for the next Senate meeting. You’ll take it back to your dorms. It’ll be jam-packed and fun. You’ll have the responsibility to give it to your dorm. I’ll give you more info when I give it to you.

Restructuring: I’m working on different ways to reach out to undergrads as a whole. In time, I’ll want you guys to reach out to your constituents as well. I’m thinking of focus groups as well, and I’m working with DSL on that.

I’d like to highlight another thing that a lot of the students know already. But in case you didn’t, there’s a 5% discount at the Shaw’s by Random. If your living group doesn’t know this, you should tell

them. It's something that the UA did that is really cool. Inform them in your next email to them tonight. It's 5% but groceries can really add up.

This Friday, there's a high school—Fenway High School—visiting us from 9am-1pm, and they're doing their own retreat. I've promised them this room and the offices back there. Do not scare them if you're in the office; please be nice. If you want to speak with them, they've requested a few people to speak to them about the UA and what we do. Please send me an email. I'd love to not be the only one talking to them. That's all I have. Any questions?

6. New Business

Will: Other new business? I know Laura was going to introduce a bill.

Laura: I'll hold off on that.

Will: She'll talk with Alex and present that in two weeks. Are there any other bills or topics people want to introduce? It's good to schedule things accordingly.

7. Approval of 43 UAS 2 Minutes

Will: Let's move onto the minutes.

Janet: Did you get my latest corrections?

Will: Yup. The comedy of the UA is shown through the quote of the night. Anyone have any edits? Otherwise I recommend we pass them.

Ryan: Motion to approve.

Will: Second. Any objections to approving? They're approved.

Minutes from 43 UAS 2 are approved.

8. Approval of Class Council Budgets (1/3)

Will: Now we're talking about the approval of class council budgets. I'll hand it off to Amanda.

Amanda: Do you have a screenshot of the budget?

Will: I have a copy of each one. Should we start with 2013? Are other people coming?

Amanda: Do you want me to present them?

Allan: Other classes should have people here.

Will: We could also postpone this.

Amanda: I'll just do the 2013's if that's ok.

Will: This is what I have for the class of 2013 budget.

Amanda: It's pretty straightforward. This year we have \$15,000 for the fall semester, and we separated it out as shown. I think it's redundant to talk about each line item.

Allan: For the good of the order, the class councils advise their own budgets, and we just safety check and make sure they're not running away with money. Just make sure they're not doing anything negligent, but don't think of it in the same way as our budgets.

Katy: What's Jillian's?

Amanda: We were going to host a bowling break at Jillian's, but it was expensive. We decided to cancel it. We're going to a trampoline place in the spring.

Ryan: Can we amend the budget to reflect that?

Amanda: Yeah, it would be \$3500 for miscellaneous expenses then... we decided that we're going to spend about \$400 for transportation to an outlet mall in November. There are other tweaks in this budget. Six Flags is going to cost less than \$1000. We'll spend more money on study breaks. We're having pizza nights and regular food events, so that general category would go up. Does that answer your question? I know that's vague, but to be honest, we generally allot money for specific events, and then the November study break, December study break, etc.

Ryan: I don't know how Senate feels, but I would feel more comfortable if it were updated because it sounds like a lot of it is changing.

Amanda: Yeah, you're right, we were supposed to update it a month ago.

Ryan: Is it a big deal to change it?

Amanda: Not really, but we did already start spending money. It would be beneficial for our sake to update it as well, which we could do at our budget tonight.

Ryan: I'm curious as to how Senate feels about this.

Will: We could approve it nominally and you could submit an updated budget. And if it looks ridiculous, we could revisit this at the next meeting.

Amanda: I promise we're not spending money on ourselves.

Will: Motion to approve now and then relook at the updated one next meeting.

Ryan: Second.

Will: Any objections?

2013 Class Council Fall Budget is approved, with the stipulation to reexamine an updated version at the next UA Senate meeting.

Allan: Is there anyone to represent the 2015s? Anika's not here either. Let's push it to the end and I'll harass some of these people to come.

Will: Motion to postpone the budget items to the last part on the agenda.

Someone: Second.

Will: Any objections to this? Moving along.

Discussion on Class Council Budgets has been postponed to the last item on the agenda.

9. 43 UAS 3.1 Bill to End Senate Approval of Vice Chairs

Will: We have two bills; they were produced last week by Ryan Normandin. They had to sit another week because they're amending the bylaws. I know there was discussion on the mailing list, which is awesome by the way. It's important so we can save time.

Ryan: Same thing as last week. It seems like most of you guys were in favor of this. It makes sense for committee chairs to do their own things and just cut down time since we usually don't question vice chairs anyway.

Leonid: I would like to change it to say that we're amending the constitution. Motion to amend the bill.

Ryan: Second.

Will: Objections to this amendment, so it accurately reflects what it's amending? Can you send me a doc file so I can amend this?

Ryan: I don't have one on me.

Will: K, I'll try to amend this now. Any other discussion?

Janet: Motion to close discussion.

Will: Any objections? Discussion's closed. All in favor of this bill, please raise your hand.

43 UAS 3.1 is approved.

10. 43 UAS 3.2 Bill to Cap Length of Senate Meetings

Will: Next bill is the Bill to Cap the Length of Senate Meetings. It seems more controversial because of discussion on the mailing list.

Ryan: Paul Kominers had a good suggestion which I would like to enact. Which is that we postpone this until after restructuring either passes or fails. Motion to table indefinitely.

Janet: Second.

Will: We are now discussing postponing this indefinitely. I think that's reasonable. Does anyone oppose that? Ok, I'll call the question then. Any objections to calling the question? I don't see any, so now we'll vote.

43 UAS 3.2 is postponed indefinitely.

Will: This means to say we didn't vote for or against it, but it can be reintroduced at a future meeting whenever it may be relevant. In case you're confused about the difference.

11. Presentations by Committee Chairs

Will: I'll move to presentations by committee chairs. We have Michael Walsh for Athletics. To preface, one of the sentiments felt at the retreat was that there are a lot of aspects of the UA, and Senators don't feel that they have enough knowledge about this. So committee chairs are being brought in to talk about what they're doing.

Michael: A couple weeks ago, I asked you guys for money for tshirts for Athletics Day, which went well. There were 160 participants there: 80 at the men's game, 50 at the women's, and another 40 people there. We wrote about that, and put it in The Tech and stuff, so it was good publicity.

Now for more policy stuff with DAPER. I can go through a quick list of things on our table. The biggest thing is PE credit for club sports. We're not focusing too much on IM sports because that might be pushing it with DAPER. Another problem was PE class attrition; there's about 20% attrition with the undergraduates. That's a money sink as well as a sink of space and time. We're trying to find a method to reduce that. Resources for clubs teams: varsity have access to laundry services. If clubs could pay a fee to get that, that'd be cool. Expanding the sports medicine trainers' program. It's small space-wise, which is a limiting factor, but we'll talk to DAPER and see what they can do about that. We're looking at BU students studying sports medicine, to see if they want to volunteer. Which is a cheap way to get more staff and a better ratio to athletes. Along those lines, we're looking at trying to get trainers available for higher

risk sports like rugby, which aren't varsity, since varsity already has access to them. There's also reducing and eliminating PE fees for the most extreme PEs. Like scuba diving, which is \$300. We're going to try to figure out a way to subsidize that. As far as more promotional things go, we'll try to have better email alerts. Most living groups have an IM director in charge who sends out emails on some sort of weekly basis. We want DAPER to prepare a weekly email list of varsity, IM, and other games every week, to raise more awareness, so people can go. Away buses for away games: this has happened over the past couple of years but there's no formal way. If there's enough interest, we just get an away bus. We're going to try to have an official system.

Another thing we're thinking of which is a little less important is putting a TV screen in the student center, a separate one, or renting a portion of theirs. To show highlights of games that week, since games are recorded.

Will: Where?

Michael: In the student center somewhere; it's not that specific yet. For games, we're trying to get more half-time shows. At the event on the 1st, we had a halftime show by the Mocha Moves; we want to keep that going. Funding source for tshirts for teams. If teams want to have a shirt for one of their games, they could send us a design. We're seeing if teams would be interested in this. I might come back with a proposal to get more money for that.

Will: If you have questions, please raise your hand.

Ryan: I'm curious about if you could get an estimate for what it would cost for all the PE fees, especially the expensive ones, because we do have a lot of excess money as we saw, and maybe the UA could fund them if it's in our price range.

Michael: That's a quarterly fund so we may run out of money over time. DAPER has been looking at this although it wasn't a huge priority. But if we find something, we'll definitely bring it to DAPER and have DAPER look at it. Other questions?

Ben: Not sure if this falls under you, but I was at a football game and people were wanting a concession stand.

Michael: Yup, that's on my list. The best way may be to advertise out to student groups who could advertise out and use it as a fundraiser. The entrance to DAPER is open, the basketball courts are right there, and student groups could have their own fundraiser. That would be a cheap and easy way to do it. And I think student organizations would be interested. But that's where we are in that process now. I believe that's basically what's on our agenda for the semester.

Rachel: One other suggestion: getting a formalized policy for how new club sports can be started. I know for 5+ years, the policy has been no new club sports, which is kind of harsh. And untrue. Maybe a statement of what they're looking for with new teams, or if you're cheap we can do it but if you're pricy we can't, something like that.

Will: Anything else? Feel sufficient?

Michael: I think so.

Will: At the last minute, we'll have the history chair present on what his committee's doing. I'm adding this to the agenda. Any objections for having him present for five minutes?

Daniel: I wore two hats this year. First I'll put on my Elections Commissioner hat. We finished running elections thankfully, and we finished running run-off elections. The elections process is kind of a jumbled up mess. I don't really know exactly how it works honestly. The only person who really understands everything that happens on the elections server is a guy who is no longer at MIT. I'd really like to revamp everything this year, and make it something new and easy, so it doesn't take a course 6 senior who's studied it for six months to figure it out.

The other thing I'm doing is History Chair, as Will said. Historically, the history committee hasn't done much. It's reorganized the locker a few times, and tried to put things on the Senate website. This year we'll try to do a UA dropbox, to have greater collaboration in the UA, and easier ways to share things with each other and with undergrads. We'll see how that goes. Any questions about those things?

Will: If you have questions about what's happened in the past, you can contact Hawkins. Like say, you're interested in orientation in 2006... he has knowledge and can figure out what the relevant info is and bring it to your attention.

Hawkins: Just email ua-history@mit.edu.

Allan: What's dropbox?

Hawkins: In case you don't have it, you should. It's a magic folder that works on PCs, Macs, Linux... You put things into it, and whatever computers you have dropbox installed on, it magically appears on any of them.

Will: You can access your files on any computer you have this small program on.

Ben: Tracking members year to year. Are you interested in looking at that? Group pictures of the current Senate body? Keep it in records?

Allan: We do take one for The Technique; we could take one for our own purposes.

Will: On that note... most of you currently have a question mark where your face is, on the Senators list on the website. I can put your face there if you send me a picture. So people can say, I recognize Will as the Speaker or so forth.

Allan: You should do it because the website is not pretty otherwise.

Rachel: Did you take the ones from the elections website? Why are some not question marks?

Will: Because you were here last year. I'll send out an email to clarify the situation.

Regina: So will you take those pictures from the voting site then?

Will: I'll talk to Hawkins; it's probably easy, but if not, I'll send out another email with more instructions.

Caroline: When you want to revamp the elections process, what do you mean by that?

Hawkins: One thing I would love to do is get rid of paper balloting. I don't know if people think it's more secure to put their votes on that... but we take them into a room and put them in the electronic list. Another day of electronic voting would be good.

Ryan: I think that the benefit is that people walking by could vote. But maybe just have a computer there.

Will: In the past, the UA had a voting booth in Lobby 10.

Hawkins: The other main thing is the behind the scenes stuff. As the elections commissioner, it was really difficult for me to learn how the voting website got updated, how to add candidates, put up their platform statements...

Will: For instance, sometimes there are candidates like Pikachu or Naked Abe Lincoln. Those have to be manually removed so other legitimate candidates can get the votes. It should be an automatic system.

Hawkins: For instance, we had to bring down McCormick seats from two to one. Calculating this required Quentin to go edit some code somewhere. I don't know what he did, and I'm the elections commissioner, so that's scary.

Will: Other questions? Thank you.

Allan: For the analog of the dropbox, we have the UA locker. Freshmen may not know. @ua is the ua locker, and it holds a crapton of UA files. Everything on the website is on this locker.

Will: If you go to web.imt.edu/ua/senate/43UAS/3, you can access this on any computer, and this is where all the files are. If you go back you can see the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd meetings, and everything from previous years. You can look at all the meetings from last year, and so forth. This is our locker and it gets synced up with the web browser. For Senate, our locker is web.mit.edu/ua/senate. It has all the files.

Allan: Back when men were men and women were men, everything was just there.

Ben: Can anyone upload to the locker?

Allan: I want to say yes.

Rachel: Different people have different privileges.

Leonid: If you're a committee chair, you can.

Will: Contact me, Hawkins, or Leonid, if you want to upload something. Anyway, moving on to the agenda item which we postponed.

12. Approval of Class Council Budgets (2/3)

Will: Approval of class council budgets. Say who you are so everyone knows.

Anika: I'm the 2014 class president. We uphold our promises for those of you who are 2014s. Our goals are to give some fun to the 2014s this year. We have \$1000 for our major events, the welcome back ice cream truck, pumpkin social break, study break for tomorrow, and a huge chunk for sweatpants. If you scoot over, Will – oh, am I presenting for spring too?

Allan: Go for it.

Anika: The spring budget is a little more vague since it's so far later. Carnival, tshirts, prefinals study break.

Ryan: The last class council had written theirs a while back; are there any changes to yours?

Anika: I actually sent these to Will this weekend.

Ryan: Motion to call the question.

Will: We'll close discussion and vote on this.

Ryan: Are we approving fall or both?

Will: Fall first. \$14,000. If you're in favor of this, please raise your hand.

2014 Class Council Fall Budget is approved.

Allan: I'm not sure of the protocol for the spring budget; I guess Senate can do what it wants.

Ryan: I would hold off until the spring.

Janet: Second.

Will: Any discussion on this? I'll call the question if no one has anything to say. We'll postpone this indefinitely to the spring until it's brought up again.

Approval of 2014 Class Council Spring Budget is postponed indefinitely.

Allan: Is someone from 2015 here yet? Nate is here from 2012. I should preface this with the fact that the 2012s get their money from the Career Fair. They are presenting to us as a gesture of goodwill. We're not voting on it. But it's in your interest to see it.

Will: This may take a while; my computer's being finicky.

Nate: Basically Christine decided to say that we're all going to Disney World. It's an all expense paid trip since no one really cares. It's a thoroughly planned out trip. I spent the rest of the 1000K for us to drive Porsche's.

David: This includes me, right?

Nate: Yeah. This is a joke.

Will: This is the actual budget.

Nate: It's still a little tentative since we're still getting money from the career fair. There will be adjustments. The grunt goes towards Senior Ball and Senior Week, which take up 60% of 100K we have. 25K will be pub nights. There are five throughout the year. One is coming up. Boo's Cruise is the other big expense. Study breaks, movie events. The senior class usually fails at pulling its weight volunteering at the Career Fair, so there was some money for paying volunteers. The only thing that may be a little blurry is the team building experience to work with administrators and other people to plan things out and have an impactful thing. We are anti spending money ourselves; this is the one time we're doing this.

Christine: We pay for our own class gear.

Will: Since they don't get money from the Student Life Fee and pay for themselves with the Career Fair, we don't actually have to vote on this to approve it. It's just common courtesy. So, thank you. Good luck.

We still have the 2015 class budget, but no one is here to present for them. I'll go ahead and show it. But it's up to Senate to decide what they want to do.

Ryan: Motion to postpone voting on this until the next meeting.

Jennifer: Second.

Will: Ok, so two weeks. Any discussion?

Katy: Do we really need someone to explain what this says?

Rachel: I don't need them to read it to me but I need them to answer questions.

Leonid: Given that these seem reasonable, and are sort of their budget, I have no problem approving this now.

Ryan: Can we do what we did with the first one while we approve it and then they resubmit it later?

Will: So yes, what we did with the 2013s is to approve it now and then resubmit it in two weeks. We could possibly censure them for gross incompetence or something. But basically to say we approve it and have a follow up. That's the motion.

Ryan: Motion to do what Will said.

Janet: Second.

Will: The motion is to approve this but put it as an agenda item to review at the next Senate meeting. Any discussion on this?

Rachel: My one suggestion would be to produce the expenses that are imminent. Like the two October events and the monthly one, since it doesn't matter as much for the later events.

Will: October events and weekly dorm sundaes, to reiterate what Rachel said. Any other discussion?

Ryan: Motion to close discussion.

Will: Any objections?

2015 Class Council Budget is approved, with the stipulation to reexamine an updated version at the next UA Senate meeting.

13. Announcements

Will: That is all I had on the agenda. There's an additional item. I was going to make some announcements. Or if you have new business, please raise your hand and say it. We still do have a vacancy in the Vice Speaker position. A couple people had expressed interest. Alex and Edgar. Generally we want to have a period so people are aware. To be a Vice Speaker, you need to be a former or current member of Senate. So current or past Senators. So they are the two candidates. I think we'll have the election in two weeks. If you're interested, you should say so. It is an elected position. You should email something out to Senate and we'll discuss this on the mailing list so people are informed.

Other announcements: 3 things. Some committee chairs presented today. Committees are a requirement. I did ask everyone to tell me what committee they want to be on. I only have a list that's a fraction of you. If you could come afterwards and tell me, please do that. It is a requirement. I could tell your constituency president that you're not fulfilling your position. You could also be an institute rep; that fulfills that. If you're interested in that, talk to David, as he's in charge of that. We did allocate \$1500 for constituency events. \$150-200 for each event. I highly encourage you to do this, I'm giving you \$150-200 to effectively throw a nice event slash formal slash party where you discuss some issue or relate it to the student government or the UA. It could be dining, housing, an idea... what do your residents want from the UA?

One of the things mentioned from the retreat was to have an idea bank. If you have an idea, even if you don't want to do it or don't think it's appropriate, please send it out so other people know. This is a great way to connect to the people who elected you and get them involved in the UA.

The third thing: based on this meeting, we're doing a lot of just running UA things, like budgets and stuff. If you feel like you came here to change things and do stuff, I really recommend going to a committee you're interested in, talking to them, or just finding a project. The way things function in Senate is really through bills. If you're interested, contact me or a committee chair of Allan and say you're interested in writing a bill. The more bills, the better. That's what I want to say.

Ryan: I want to add to the constituency events. That a good time to do that would be when the restructuring proposal comes out later in the semester, to inform your constituents on that.

Allan: What does the Vice Speaker do?

Will: In case you're interested in that, that's a good question. The Speaker tries to set agendas, check up on Senators, make sure you're doing your responsibilities, and keep Senate running. The Vice Speaker is my sidekick, the Robin to my Batman, and makes sure this is happening. We don't have nametags, in part because I'm lazy; I don't want to spend 8 hours a week doing that. The Vice Speaker could do that; it's a small thing, but helps Senate function better. If there are 30 Senators, you may not know everyone's names; it makes everything more personal. You order food; Janet's been doing that, but that's not her job.

Allan: You get sole discretion over what food we buy.

Will: Also integration with other student governments: contacting IFC or DormCon and letting them know what's going on. I'm willing to give a lot of flexibility to the Vice Speaker. What you do is one less thing than what I have to do.

Allan: Subcommittees. If Senate thinks something needs more thought, subcommittees are usually headed by the Vice Chair.

You could appeal the Gwen Stefani thing which has been stuck since last semester.

Will: Just for a backstory. That was a silly bill that was passed last year where Hollaback Girl has to be played before every Senate meeting.

Allan: I tried to shoot it down; Senate put it as a subcommittee.

Will: We've created subcommittees on restructuring... if it's a large enough issue, we'll have an ad-hoc committee. Like on printing. But potentially a subcommittee.

14. Approval of Class Council Budgets (3/3)

Will: Oh, the 2015 class council is here. If there are no objections, I'll let them present their budget, and then we'll call it a night.

Shruti Sharma (2015 Treasurer): Our first event, which is tomorrow: we'll have pizza, and we put \$350 for that. We'll have a Halloween carnival, and we think we'll use \$1400 for that. We haven't decided the date exactly, but each week we'll go to the different dorms and have sundaes. So we put \$750 for that, so that the class of 2015 gets to meet us. And hear about the things that we're planning. Sweatshirts that we want to subsidize, \$3000. Freshmen Formal at either the Hyatt or Marriott, that's where most of our money is going. That's it.

Will: Any questions?

Rachel: Are you actually subsidizing the sweatshirts? Taking in more money than you're spending on them?

Shruti: We want to subsidize them, so they'll be drastically cheaper. \$20/sweatshirt or so, or \$15.

Will: I think Rachel is saying it seems weird because it says \$4000 back but \$3000 cost.

Rachel: \$3000 is the subsidy or the total cost?

Amanda: You have a semester budget of \$10,000, so if you just spend \$9450 for tshirts, you're still under budget.

Will: My understanding is, if that's what you intend to spend, you get 4000 back, which will carry over to the spring or so forth.

Rachel: Isn't it 15,000 for the year?

Amanda: Freshmen get 10,000 each semester.

Shruti: I can check up on that; I'm not too certain what's happening on that. I don't think we're making money on that.

Will: We were going to have you guys come back in two weeks anyway to review the budget again. Technically we passed it but we wanted to review it in two weeks. So come in two weeks and give an update; hopefully everything will be clarified. Any other questions? We could reconsider the motion and just pass it, or just wait two weeks to approve the bill.

Ryan: I like just waiting two weeks, so motion to close discussion.

Will: Ok, so the budget's passed, but we'd like you to come back in two weeks. Any objections to closing discussion?

Leonid: What are you worried about?

Ryan: I expect she'll know exactly what's going on with the sweatshirts.

Will: Any other discussion? There's no real question. The budget is approved, so you are authorized by Senate to spend for items as you have delineated, but come back in two weeks and we can clarify about the sweatshirts. Thank you.

That's all I have on the agenda. I'll let Janet do the closing roll. After she calls your name, you can go. But please see me if you're on or not on a committee.

15. Closing Roll

No members of the Senate left early.

16. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Li
UA Secretary General