



MIT UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION

50 UA Council Session 4 Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2018, 7:30pm - 9:00pm in W20-400

Living Group	Representative	Present?
Baker	Rachel O'Grady	x
Burton-Conner	Katie Fisher	x
East Campus	Tesla Wells	x
MacGregor	Eleanor Wintersteen	x
Maseeh	Darius Bopp	x
McCormick	Laura Bergemann	x
New House	Emily Tang	
Next House	Erick Eguia	x
Random Hall	Mike Weiner	x
Simmons	Edward Fan	x
Interfraternity Council	Arjun Mithal	x
Interfraternity Council	Michael Trinh	[rep sent]
Interfraternity Council	Christopher Mutty	[rep sent]
Interfraternity Council	Samuel Ihns	x
Living Group Council	Emily Fleischman	
Off Campus	--	
Panhellenic Association	Meredith Loy	x
Panhellenic Association	Kyra Post	x
Panhellenic Association	Alyssa Weiss	[rep sent]

President's Questions	7:00 - 7:30
1. Roll Call	7:30
2. Approval of 50 UAC 3 Minutes	7:30 - 7:35
3. Career Exploration Presentation	7:35 - 8:10
4. State of the UA	8:10 - 8:20
5. Mental Health & Counseling Murals Discussion	8:20 - 8:30
6. MIT App Store Presentation by UA Technology	8:30 - 8:45
7. MIT and Washington Questionnaire	8:45 - 8:55
8. Councilor Updates	8:55 - 9:00

7:36 Approval of 50 UAC 3 Minutes

All in favor. No oppositions.

7:38 Career Exploration Presentation by Prof. David Darmofal

- VC Ian Waitz convened committee to review careers for undergrads and grads
- Not career fair specific, but is large part
- Most important: these are the principled objectives for helping students find careers
- Composed of UA, GSC, Staff, and Faculty
- Career services is spread out → have centralized acronym now, CAPD
- Lots of student-led (FCF), department-led initiatives
- Trying to make suggestions for campus-wide improvements
- Put together interim report for VC
- Final report expected to be done by end of IAP, draft by December (happy to pass along to Council)
- In 2017, survey on how student explore careers
 - "I am satisfied with career exploration opportunities"...80% somewhat or strongly agree
 - What's going on with the 20% students who are not satisfied?
 - Broken down by major
 - Broken down by ethnicity
 - Broken down by gender
 - "What information services did you use in career exploration?"
 - Almost everybody uses peers
 - MJ: Do 70% of people use the career services office?
 - No. Not sure if we have that data. Last year, 17984 MIT non-unique people engaged through students, alumni, interviews, workshops, etc.
- Career Funneling at Harvard and Stanford
 - 50% end up in 1 of 3 industries: finance, consulting, high tech
 - Similarly happens at MIT with 45% students first job immediately after college in 1 of 3 industries: finance, consulting, software
 - Arjun: Seems low? About industry, not job itself.
 - Mo: Does Harvard/Stanford also include people who go to grad school? Yes.
 - Students didn't know what they wanted to do when they entered campus. People didn't know what finance and consulting entailed.
 - Main mechanism by which influence occurred is peer prestige.

- On campus recruitment reinforces message with only places from those 3 industries.
- Sophia: Is MIT trying to direct people towards particular career paths? Career paths that are fulfilling to students, have an impact.
- Thomas: Did salary come up? Certainly a part, can't separate out. But also these are all 3 high salary occupations.
- At MIT, presentation given to parents shows top hiring organizations of MIT students, mimics funneling idea. Not close to breadth of where students go to.
- Fall Career Fair did an OK job of aligning with students' interests.
 - Deanna: Course 1 has high satisfaction in general, but low in career - why?
 - Mo: Even Course 6s aren't very happy with FCF.
 - MJ: What about data on financial aid tied to career exploration? Don't have data yet, will look into it.
 - Tesla: And first generation? Trying to get data.
- Recommendations
 - 1st year engagement. Help build foundation about how to make these choices. Teach them to take time.
 - How many majors feed into one career?
 - How many careers does a person have?
 - Develop a Career Exploration Fair, instead of a Jobs Fair.
 - What's it like to work in this industry?
 - Companies are taking resumes instead of explaining the industry etc. even when asked.
 - One-stop site to learn about career exploration opportunities.
- Explore alternatives to current career fairs
 - Half a dozen exist, but FCF is largest
 - Similar to peer institutions
- Asking questions if we had clean slate...not just about evolution
 - No jobs fair model
- Decoupling career fair from student activities funding
 - Possibly increasing Student Life Fee
 - Too much burden on career fair revenues
- Alumni engagement very important. Working with alumni association
- Would love to hear feedback from Council.
- Alexa: Scholarships for low-paying jobs? Some resources exist, but potential to do much more.

- Tesla: What about students who are returning back from leave, especially those from lower socio-economic background? Careers office does remote help, but yes this is something we should work on. Need to better connect people with resources.

8:31 Murals at MIT Mental Health

- Painting mural in hallways of MIT Mental Health & Counseling.
- Received student feedback in the past few weeks about controversy in placing Gandhi in mural.
- Depict important figures in history who have struggled with mental health, but still made very important contributions to society.
- Opened up call for submissions in Spring.
- Narrowed down choices to 5 finalists. Had different members of Mental Health and students vote. Narrowed down to 3. Held student vote in Mental Health Counseling, needed physical presence. Didn't publicize to everyone because wanted the students who usually use the service to vote.
- The one students voted on had different figures. Wanted people who represented different genders, ethnicities, and struggles. Wanted to remove people who took their own life.
- First interaction with this issue occurred recently.
- Dr. Singleton (Head of Mental Health and Counseling) reached out to scholar on Gandhi asking about him.
- At crossroads.
- Please reach out to UA WellComm with any suggestions, concerns, questions, comments, etc.

9:00 Adjourn Meeting

All in favor. No oppositions.