



MIT UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION

52 UA Council 14 Agenda

September 30th, 2020, 6:00-7:30 PM EDT, Zoom

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Roll Call | 6:00 - 6:05 |
| 2. Minutes Approval | 6:05 - 6:10 |
| 3. Academic Violations | 6:10 - 6:30 |
| 4. 2024 Election Updates | 6:30 - 6:40 |
| 5. Discussion Topics | 6:40 - 7:10 |
| - First Year Integration | |
| - Research | |
| - Compliance and Testing | |



MIT UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION

52 UA Council Session 14 Meeting Minutes
September 30, 2020, 6:00-7:30 PM EDT, Zoom

Living Group	Representative	Present?
Baker	Laura Rosado	Y
Burton-Conner	Sarah Aaronson	Y
East Campus	Miana Smith	Y
MacGregor	Seif Eses	Y
Maseeh	Octavio Vega	N
McCormick	Yara Komaiha	N
New House	Sarah Edwards	Y
Next House	Meghana Vemulapalli & Thomas Adebiji	Y
Random Hall	Sonia Reilly	Y
Simmons	Shaida Nishat	Y
Interfraternity Council	Maximilian Porlein	Y
Interfraternity Council	Jaya Kambhampaty	Y
Interfraternity Council	Sam Costa	N
Interfraternity Council	Nico Salinas	Y
Living Group Council	Jason Ye	N
Off Campus	Sam D'Alonzo	Y
Panhellenic Association	Lindsey Bjornstad	Y
Panhellenic Association	Stephanie Zhang	Y
Panhellenic Association	Valerie Chen	Y

Minutes Approval

Stephanie motions to approve minutes. Miana seconds.

Living Group	Representative	Vote?
Baker	Laura Rosado	Y
Burton-Conner	Sarah Aaronson	Y
East Campus	Miana Smith	Y
MacGregor	Seif Eses	Y
Maseeh	Octavio Vega	-
McCormick	Yara Komaiha	-
New House	Sarah Edwards	-
Next House	Meghana Vemulapalli & Thomas Adebisi	Y
Random Hall	Sonia Reilly	Y
Simmons	Shaida Nishat	Y
Interfraternity Council	Maximilian Porlein	Y
Interfraternity Council	Jaya Kambhampaty	Y
Interfraternity Council	Sam Costa	Y
Interfraternity Council	Nico Salinas	-
Living Group Council	Jason Ye	-
Off Campus	Sam D'Alonzo	Y
Panhellenic Association	Lindsey Bjornstad	Y
Panhellenic Association	Stephanie Zhang	Y
Panhellenic Association	Valerie Chen	Y

6:08 Academic Violations

- Collaborating w/ Ian Waitz to solve over 84 violations
- Comments from the council floor:
 - (From Nico S., Stephanie Z., Maximilian P.) Concern about professors referring to past years' materials rather than teaching live
 - (From Seif E.) Concern about professors teaching during the weekend
 - (From Meghana V., Yu Jing C.) Classes requiring cameras on during Zoom calls
 - (From Maximilian P.) Unrealistic/untruthful weekly hour requirements

6:18 PM Class of 2024 Elections

- 2024 Class Election Updates
 - Discussing changes detailed in the document sent out by Danielle (led by Sarah P.)
 - Managing the one post per page requirement, for instance, on MIT confessions
 - Signature Requirement
 - Voting to approve proposed campaign changes
 - Proposed campaign changes pass

Motion to vote on Election Code rule changes

Sarah Edwards motions to approve. Meghana seconds.

Living Group	Representative	Vote?
Baker	Laura Rosado	Y
Burton-Conner	Sarah Aaronson	Y
East Campus	Miana Smith	Y
MacGregor	Seif Eses	Y
Maseeh	Octavio Vega	-
McCormick	Yara Komaiha	Y
New House	Sarah Edwards	Y
Next House	Meghana Vemulapalli & Thomas Adebisi	-
Random Hall	Sonia Reilly	Y
Simmons	Shaida Nishat	Y
Interfraternity Council	Maximilian Porlein	-
Interfraternity Council	Jaya Kambhampaty	Y
Interfraternity Council	Sam Costa	Y
Interfraternity Council	Nico Salinas	Y
Living Group Council	Jason Ye	Y
Off Campus	Sam D'Alonzo	Y
Panhellenic Association	Lindsey Bjornstad	Y
Panhellenic Association	Stephanie Zhang	Y
Panhellenic Association	Valerie Chen	Y

6:25 PM Discussion Topics

- First Year Integration
 - Many feeling disconnected to campus despite friends in classes
 - Zoom exhausting and hard to mimic spontaneity of friendships in real life
 - Lots of people hanging out with highschool friends
 - Excitement around them being on campus in the spring
 - Academic concern and feeling alone in their struggles-- isolating
 - Panhel just finished recruitment cycle
 - Game nights and informal rush events for IFC
 - Seniors apathetic to welcoming first years because will never be on campus together
 - SCUFFY in maseeh 18 first years to 6 or so upperclassmen, Next house closer to 1:1 ratio (finding times to meet is difficult), random attempting to match up people more organically via discord
 - Academically
 - 14.01: Watch last year's videos, super strange
 - Other classes doing that too 6.042 and UAD and 6.849
 - 6.042 have lectures over the weekend
 - 15.401 11.01 Requiring everyone to have videos on
 - 4 units of inclass time listed but none of the recitations aren't necessary but get information there which makes it 5 hours
 - Flexibility bc people are struggling outside of academics
- Research
 - Building status is difficult to manage, getting kicked out of COVID Pass access if you don't do lab training etc.
 - Can't build a habit of doing attestation at a certain time if 24 hour window (easier when 25 hours)
 - Some people get notifications go to phones or emails but others don't
 - App over notifies you so not useful/hard to tell when it is important
 - Overall need to streamline notification
 - Really slow to VPN into MIT's network if off campus
- Compliance and Testing
 - Reif passionate about having everyone on campus in spring
 - How to encourage continued to compliance
 - Weather will make things harder in the spring
 - Include off campus in covid testing plan? Because people may visit friends off campus indoors instead of outdoors
 - Likely a need for stringent cases regardless
 - Need to have fun things for people to do safely and socially distanced on campus (bored and nothing to do on weekends)
 - Still in early process of spring planning
 - Increased sensitivity around student needs nearing election day

Additional notes:

- Administrators' desired feedback
 - First-year inclusion
 - i. (From Maximilian P.) Freshmen are feeling disconnected from campus
 - ii. (From Meghana V.) Exhaustion from limited social interaction on Zoom
 - iii. (Sam D.) Isolation while struggling with classes, lack of academic community
 - iv. (Nico S.) Informal game nights, watch parties, etc.
 - v. (Sarah E.) Seniors don't have motivation to engage with first-years
 - Research
 - i. (Nico S. & Miana S.) Student researchers randomly locked out of buildings

- Spring 2021
 - i. (Sam D.) Considering cross-school interactions, especially indoors
 - ii. (Jaya K.) Suggests that restrictions and social distancing policies will not relax
 - iii. (Sarah E.) Creating a routine around attestation - which expires every 24 hours
 - iv. (Sarah E. & Sam D.) Obnoxious app notifications, isn't helpful to maintain compliance
 - v. (Sarah E.) Accessing resources to hold safe, fun, socially-distanced events; engaging with people not in your pod
 - vi. (Several councilmembers) ensuring faster communication about the final decisions on the Spring semester
 - vii. (Meghana V.) Increased sensitivity around election-time

6:50 PM Motion to Adjourn.