



MIT UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION

52 UA Council 21 Agenda

March 16th, 2021, 8-9:30 PM ET, Zoom

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|---|-------------|
| 1. Roll Call + Minutes Approval | 8:00 - 8:05 |
| 2. Task Force 2021 | 8:05 - 8:40 |
| 3. Climate Action Plan Consensus Decision | 8:40 - 8:55 |
| 4. Budget | 8:55 - 9:10 |
| 5. Election Commission | 9:10 - 9:20 |
| 6. Divest | 9:20 - 9:30 |



MIT UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION

52 UA Council Session 21 Meeting Minutes

March 16th, 2021, 8-9:30 PM ET, Zoom

Living Group	Representative	Present?
Baker	Edenna Chen	Y
Burton-Conner	Sarah Aaronson	Y
East Campus	Sara Zangi	Y
MacGregor	Shruti Ravikumar	Y
Maseeh	Octavio Vega	Y
McCormick	Adina Golden	Y
New House	Duha Syar	N
New Vassar	Tina Lu	Y
Next House	Meghana Vemulapalli	Y
Random Hall	Margaret (Ret) Wang	Y
Simmons	Shaida Nishat	Y
Interfraternity Council	Jaya Kambhampaty	Y
Interfraternity Council	Orrie Page	N
Interfraternity Council	Nick Mannhardt	N
Interfraternity Council	Max von Franque	N
Living Group Council	Jason Ye	N
Off Campus	Leif Clark	Y
Panhellenic Association	Ashleigh Teygong	Y
Panhellenic Association	Catherine Washburn	Y
Panhellenic Association	Maria Ascanio	Y

8:00 Meeting begins

8:05 Minutes approval

Living Group	Representative	Present?
Baker	Edenna Chen	Y
Burton-Conner	Sarah Aaronson	Y
East Campus	Sara Zangi	Y
MacGregor	Shruti Ravikumar	Y
Maseeh	Octavio Vega	Y
McCormick	Adina Golden	Y
New House	Duha Syar	-
New Vassar	Tina Lu	Y
Next House	Meghana Vemulapalli	Y
Random Hall	Margaret (Ret) Wang	Y
Simmons	Shaida Nishat	Y
Interfraternity Council	Jaya Kambhampaty	Y
Interfraternity Council	Orrie Page	-
Interfraternity Council	Nick Mannhardt	-
Interfraternity Council	Max von Franque	-
Living Group Council	Jason Ye	-
Off Campus	Leif Clark	Y
Panhellenic Association	Ashleigh Teygong	Y
Panhellenic Association	Catherine Washburn	Y
Panhellenic Association	Maria Ascanio	Y

Minutes approved.

8:05 Task Force 2021

- Rick Danheiser and Lisa Schwaile join use for a conversation about Task Force 2021
 - Rick and Sanjay Sarma chair the task force

- Thought of in May, kicked-off in June
- Rationale for Task Force
 - Impact of the pandemic for 2021 and beyond, the post-COVID world
 - Heightened concerns over social injustice
 - Taskforce website: <https://tf2021.mit.edu/>
- Four workstreams
 - Academic
 - Administrative
 - Finance and Data
 - Community and Culture
- Working groups under the workstreams
 - 180+ people total working on this effort
 - Around 20 students
 - Mostly admin and staff
- Phases
 - Phase 1: Working groups generate ideas (Early summer to late fall)
 - Review until Early Spring
 - Phase 2: Refinement and implementation planning committees (RICs) until late spring
 - Consolidate ideas when needed
 - Develop a plan for implementation - transfer responsibility to existing offices/personnel or create ad-hoc committees
 - RICs are ~50% phase 1 team, ~50% decision-makers on implementation side
 - 16+ RICs including:
 - Undergraduate program
 - Social responsibility
 - Graduate student professional development
 - Graduate student advising and mentoring
 - Undergraduate experience: Advising, mentoring, and development
 - Under-recovery commission
 - Finalization until early summer
 - Finally, implementation
- Councilors, continue to gauge constituents and ask them to comment on the website <https://tf2021.mit.edu/>!

8:45 PM Climate Action Plan Consensus Decision

- Proposed Consensus Decision [document](#)
- Major points of CAP consensus decision document
 - Climate Council
 - Iterative drafting process of CAP with regular updates
 - Public sector engagement
 - Private sector engagement
 - Ambitious net zero goals
 - Education

Motion to vote on CAP Consensus Decision.

Jaya motions. Ian seconds.

Living Group	Representative	Present?
Baker	Edenna Chen	Y
Burton-Conner	Sarah Aaronson	Y

East Campus	Sara Zangi	Y
MacGregor	Shruti Ravikumar	Y
Maseeh	Octavio Vega	Y
McCormick	Adina Golden	Y
New House	Duha Syar	-
New Vassar	Tina Lu	Y
Next House	Meghana Vemulapalli	Y
Random Hall	Margaret (Ret) Wang	Y
Simmons	Shaida Nishat	Y
Interfraternity Council	Jaya Kambhampaty	Y
Interfraternity Council	Ian McJohn	Y
Interfraternity Council	Nick Mannhardt	-
Interfraternity Council	Max von Franque	-
Living Group Council	Jason Ye	-
Off Campus	Leif Clark	Y
Panhellenic Association	Ashleigh Teygong	Y
Panhellenic Association	Catherine Washburn	Y
Panhellenic Association	Maria Ascanio	Y

Consensus decision passes.

8:58 PM Budget

- Usually done all in the fall but because of the pandemic, we did two separate budgets for each semester (to see who will be on campus,
- Special budgetary committee was convened to look at budget
- 7 committees asked asked for more funds
 - Total is about 73,000 in funds
 - Funds are to supplement what is already in the committees' cost objects
- Groups which asked for additional funding for spring
 - Innovation
 - Finboard
 - Public Affairs
 - Officer Budget
 - Sustainability
 - COVID committee
 - Community & Diversity

Motion to vote on budget.
Meghana motions, Catherine seconds.

Living Group	Representative	Present?
Baker	Edenna Chen	Y
Burton-Conner	Sarah Aaronson	Y
East Campus	Sara Zangi	Y
MacGregor	Shruti Ravikumar	Y
Maseeh	Octavio Vega	Y
McCormick	Adina Golden	Y
New House	Duha Syar	-
New Vassar	Tina Lu	Y
Next House	Meghana Vemulapalli	Y
Random Hall	Margaret (Ret) Wang	Y
Simmons	Shaida Nishat	Y
Interfraternity Council	Jaya Kambhampaty	Y
Interfraternity Council	Ian McJohn	Y
Interfraternity Council	Nick Mannhardt	-
Interfraternity Council	Max von Franque	-
Living Group Council	Jason Ye	-
Off Campus	Leif Clark	Y
Panhellenic Association	Ashleigh Teygong	Y
Panhellenic Association	Catherine Washburn	Y
Panhellenic Association	Maria Ascanio	Y

Budget passes.

9:15 PM Election Commission

- Since we don't have a spring break, cannot follow the election code bylaws as written
- Election commission has proposed a new timeline
 - Friday, March 19: Petitions Available
 - Wednesday, March 24: General Interest Meeting (with officers) • Friday, April 2: Petitions Due

- Friday, April 9: Petitions Late Deadline, Platforms up on Engage • Saturday, April 10: Campaign Rules Meeting
- Monday, April 12: Campaigning Begins
- Friday, April 16: Debate Night
- Monday, April 19 – Friday, April 23: Election Week

- May 20th is formal transition date
- Elections are for class councils and UA P+VP

Motion to vote on timeline.

Sarah motions. Jaya seconds.

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Maseeh	Octavio Vega	Y
McCormick	Adina Golden	Y
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Simmons	Shaida Nishat	Y
Interfraternity Council	Jaya Kambhampaty	Y
Interfraternity Council	Ian McJohn	-
Interfraternity Council	Nick Mannhardt	-
Interfraternity Council	Max von Franque	-
Living Group Council	Jason Ye	-
Off Campus	Leif Clark	Y
Panhellenic Association	Ashleigh Teygong	Y
Panhellenic Association	Catherine Washburn	Y
Panhellenic Association	Maria Ascanio	Y

Timeline passes.

9:23 PM Divest

- [Overview of Fossil Fuel Divestment](#) by MIT Divest
 - Removal of investments and holdings in the fossil fuel industry. Why?
 - Inconsistency with sustainable future
 - Anti-science and anti-democratic practices by these companies
 - Environmental justice
 - Climate disinformaiton
 - Anti-climate lobbying
 - Divestment
 - Increases pressure on government and these companies to change
 - Invest in our future while supporting our endowment
 - MIT setting an example, would be the first technical institute to do so
 - Currently behind its peers on this
 - Common argument against divestment
 - Engagement works
 - Engaging with these industries helps move things forward
 - But, these efforts have failed to effectively transition these companies
 - Logistically impossible
 - Commingled funds
 - Feels like a cop-out as other institutions with similar structures
- All 8 ivy league and 10 big ten schools support it (via their student governments)
 - UA sustain survey shows that undergrads largely support this
- Divest asks to MIT administration
 - Disclose their relationships, divest from fossil fuels, and reinvest in fossil free industries
- Asks to UA council
 - Endorsement of Divest petition
 - Contact mit-divest-leads@mit.edu for further questions
 - [Google form](#) for further questions for Divest
- UA sustain hosting meeting at 7 PM this thursday about Divest and constituent engagement

9:35 PM Motion to Adjourn.

Sarah motions, Meghana seconds.