



MIT UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION

52 UA Council 22 Agenda

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

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| 1. Roll Call | 8:00 - 8:05 |
| 2. Minutes Approval & DEI Strategic Plan Announcement | 8:05 - 8:10 |
| 3. Divest | 8:10-8:17 |
| 4. Grade Transparency Petition | 8:17-8:25 |
| 5. Student Support | 8:25-8:35 |
| 6. MBTA Pass Discussion | 8:35-8:45 |
| 7. Proposed UA Policy Platform | 8:45-9:00 |



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52 UA Council Session 22 Meeting Minutes

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

Living Group	Representative	Present?
Baker	Madison Wong	Y
Burton-Conner	Sarah Aaronson	Y
East Campus	Brendan Vaughan	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	N
Interfraternity Council	Jaya Kambhampaty	N
Interfraternity Council	Ivan Marshall	Y
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	Madison Wong	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	-
Interfraternity Council	Jaya Kambhampaty	-
Interfraternity Council	Ivan Marshall	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

Minutes approved.

8:05 Divest

- Divest proposes a [resolution](#) for councilors to vote on
 - Sustain will be sharing an infographic for councilors to share with constituents

- Q&A
 - When does a decision need to be made?
 - Councilors can take as long as they need to gauge their constituents
 - Who would be making divestment actions
 - Likely MITIMCO, Cambridge Associates, or other financial arms of MIT
 - Next steps
 - Divest would be to publicize the UA Council decision to help apply pressure to administration and bring our petition to the admin with the full support of the UA
 - Divest and the UA could work together in some regard, in perhaps increasing visibility of the resolution's asks
- More engagement opportunities with divest will happen in the future
 - Email divest-leads@mit.edu with any questions

8:15 PM DEI Strategic Plan

- Engagement sessions happening for the DEI strategic plan which is out now
- Kelvin will send email to counselors about further details
 - Be sure to engage constituents
 - If you have any questions/comments/thoughts about the DEI strategic action plan and/or engagement sessions, please feel free to reach out at UA-diversity@mit.edu

8:18 PM Grade Transparency Petition

- Coordinated by UA education
- Three section petition
 - tiny.cc/mitgrades
 - Make sure that all classes give five week flags
 - Make sure largely weighted assignments/tests/grades are contextualized (A, B, C, etc. cutoffs are clear, how students stand relative to class expectations)
 - Make sure that student can be provided justification for any and all grades
- Would like to gauge constituents opinions before April 10 when it will be presented to faculty

8:20 PM Student Support

- Student support and wellness are very important during this challenging time of the semester and everything going on nationally
 - Especially for first years who may be having their first semester on campus
- How can we better support students
 - Letter going out from administrators and the UA soon
 - MIT confessions have been very dark lately
 - No spring break or real breaks to look forward to
 - Lots of burnout
 - Could include a buffer between four day weekends and having assignments due
 - Does a typical spring break actually feel like a break? For some people more than others.
 - Professors also under a lot of pressure to condense their classes into a shorter semester
 - Outside world can also serve as nonstop stressor

8:30 PM MBTA Discussion

- MBTA (Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority) Passes, better known as T-Passes, are barely subsidized for university students
- New program by MBTA allows universities to fund T-passes for students
 - The resolution asks for institute to dedicate \$2,000 to a pilot of this program
- Email any questions to mpajjuri@mit.edu

8:40 PM Proposed UA Policy Platform

- The GSC, graduate student council, has a policy platform every year to help them advocate for certain policies
- Our policy platform covers a variety of policy topics
 - Accessibility
 - Civic engagement and voting rights
 - Community, Diversity, and civil rights
 - International student issues
 - Quality of life
- Nitya will circulate a copy of this platform that will be open for commenting

8:55 PM Motion to Adjourn.

Sarah motions. Catherine seconds.