



AILG Plenary Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 8, 2017 | Twenty Chimneys W20 | Meeting called to order at 7:33am by Steve Baker

In Attendance

FSILGs attending: Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Delta Phi, Alpha Epsilon Pi, Alpha Phi, Chi Phi, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Delta Tau Delta, Epsilon Theta, Fenway House, Kappa Alpha Theta, Kappa Sigma, Lambda Chi Alpha, Number Six Club, Phi Beta Epsilon, Phi Delta Theta, Phi Kappa Sigma, Phi Kappa Theta, pika, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Chi, Sigma Kappa, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Tau Epsilon Phi, Theta Chi, Theta Tau, Theta Xi, Zeta Psi

FSILGs not attending: Alpha Epsilon Phi, Alpha Tau Omega, Beta Theta Pi, Delta Phi Epsilon, Nu Delta, Phi Sigma Kappa, Pi Beta Phi, Pi Lambda Phi, Sigma Nu, Student House, Theta Delta Chi, WILG, Zeta Beta Tau

AILG Board: Steve Baker, Akil Middleton, Eric Cigan, Pam Gannon

MIT Administration and Other Guests: Bob Ferrara (DSL); Brad Badgley, Liz Jason, Kayla Lemay (FSILG Office); Dennis Collins (MIT Housing); Austin Ashe (MIT Alumni Association); Scott Klemm, Oscar Argueta (FCI); Charlie Frick (Greek Giving, Heritage Management Group)

Undergraduates: Robert Binkowski, Zachary Duguid (IFC), Ayomide Fatunde, Stephanie Zhang, Laura Eckman (Panhel), Kyle Archer (Theta Tau)

Welcome and Introductions

Steve started off a round of introductions. Steve noted adjustments to the published agenda since some speakers would arrive late due to the weather.

Treasurer's Report (Eric Cigan)

Eric presented the Balance Sheet and Year-To-Date Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual. Eric noted that everything is on track; they are waiting on some contractor invoices. The cash position is as expected. Eric added that since the November plenary, the AILG Board had voted for an off-budget \$3,000 expenditure to migrate the web site to a new platform.

FSILG Office Update (Brad Badgley, Kayla Lemay)

Brad summarized:

- There were no incidents with FSILGs due to Super Bowl and nothing of note occurred during IAP.
- Last Saturday the FSILG Office hosted a leadership retreat at Endicott House. Representatives from all three student councils attended. All ILGs and sororities were represented, as well as all but four fraternities. Brad was pleased with the outcomes of the retreat, and thanked Pam and Akil from the AILG Board and Scott Klemm for participating.
- The FSILG Office is currently conducting GRA interviews, needing to fill 14-18 spots for next academic year. Alums and students will be involved in GRA interviews.
- There is a Social Events Policy meeting planned for tomorrow, weather permitting

- Campus Preview Weekend (April 6-9): events are being planned out; programs are being submitted by FSILGs.

Student Council Reports

Interfraternity Council – Robert Binkowski

- Officer transitions have gone well
- IFC is reviewing the REX/Recruitment schedule, and planning for CPW
- IFC will be making changes to their bylaws
- A Mental Health and Wellness Committee is being added

Panhellenic Council – Ayomide Fatunde

- First Panhel Delegates Meeting is this Thursday
- New officers are in place
- Panhel is planning events for CPW

FSILG Cooperative, Inc. Report (Scott Klemm)

FCI is rolling out a new web interface; Scott apologized for any spam emails that are generated. They are reimagining the FCI, and more information on focus groups will be coming out soon.

IT Committee Discussion on Network Costs (David Lawrence)

David stated that the wired and wireless networks have been replaced over last couple of years. The IT Committee wants to take step back and look at a schedule for refreshing in the future, assess the cost, and see if the network management program is working for all members.

David reviewed the Network Management Program Costs (handout), which lists total and annual costs for network management program fee, wireless network hardware, wired network hardware, backbone wiring and patching, fiber optic cable installation and telephone service. Many of the annual expenses can be subsidized by the IRDF. In total, the community spends \$9600 per house per year, of which \$4725 is paid by the house. For a house of 25 people, this comes to \$32 per person per month (\$16 after IRDF support).

The Network Management Program is an opt-in program whose direction is steered by the AILG IT Committee, working closely with MIY IS&T. The network management fee is billed annually through FCI, and the bill for the wired networking upgrade will be coming this month. David noted that in the future, costs may creep up, but fiber optics is one-time expense, which goes away after 2023.

Bob noted that the community has not seen much use of the new telephone service. Each FSILG has two telephone numbers, which are MIT extension via VoIP. FSILGs can customize numbers to forward as necessary, or can purchase phones (\$100) each. The service is free.

Tom Holtey reminded people that IRDF support is available for some network costs, either from IRDF grant or EOG annual grants.

David said they are looking for new IT committee members; they are open to having remote members as well. People can contact him at ailg-it@mit.edu or dlaw@mit.edu.

Recruitment Committee Study Update (Akil Middleton)

Akil presented an update on the work of the Recruitment Study Committee (powerpoint):

Purpose:

- In-depth analysis of MIT fraternities and ILGs (sororities use separate recruiting process)
- Make recruiting more efficient and fair (Strategic Plan Theme 4)
- Get out ahead to preemptively address criticisms

Goals:

- Discover general trends
- How well we recruit
- Look at how well we perform compared to other schools
- Look at lasting effects of recruitment

Studying recruitment trends:

- Over 20 chapters have allowed access to sharing data
- Aggregation and anonymization underway (John Covert)
- Going to collect data on new members, including freshman new members vs upper class members
- Chapter recruitment target vs. reality
- In general: who are we recruiting, and are we meeting goals?
- Timing fall vs. spring

Retention

- Akil noted that this is where we have the least data: how many move in to houses, how many not retained as new members, how many stay in dorms
- In general: want to see how well do we hold onto members?

Plan to develop comparisons of:

- Effectiveness of recruitment periods (spring vs fall)
- Effects of changes in Orientation and Rush due to changes from year to year
- Consequences of new policies (e.g., social event ban)
- Impact of dorm openings/closings

Next steps

- Reconvene committee, work on reducing numbers from research
- Set schedule for final report
- Organize and reduce data
- Encourage participation by fraternities and ILGs that haven't yet opted in.
- Each house will be able to look at how it compares to the aggregated houses

Akil said that after the initial study the committee will have a different approach since they will be focused on processing current year data rather than past years' data. In response to a question, Akil said they will not publish which houses participated, and they will not be looking at house bills.

MIT Giving Day Challenge (Bob Ferrara)

Bob described that the MIT Annual Fund and others want to create new tradition on Pi Day (Mar 14) of giving, hoping to attract younger alums as donors. There will be a big social media campaign around the endeavor. The AILG Board voted to participate in the effort to raise funds for the IRDF.

Steve Baker announced that Board members and friends will be doing a donor challenge to incentivize participation: from the last AILG Board meeting, the total is at least \$2,000, and they are looking for others to participate. If people are interested, they can contact Bob or Steve. Steve will be sending an email to the community with details.

MIT Alumni Association (Austin Ashe)

The Reid D. Weedon'41 Grant Program was launched in Fall 2016 to provide small grants to alumni outreach activities. Austin summarized the results of the first year of the program (see handout):

- Number of applicants 11, number of grant awards 9
- Maximum grant available \$2000, largest grant awarded \$1500
- Average grant requested \$1,090, average grant received \$527
- Awardees required to provide report of the use of funds

Deadlines:

- Weedon Grant spring deadline – Feb 20
- Weedon Award deadline – March 27
- Email Austin if organizations want to participate – aaashe@mit.edu

West Campus Village Update (Steve Baker, Pam Gannon, Bob Ferrara)

Pam Gannon updated on the West Campus Village progress:

- Benchmarking Report is complete:
 - Interviewed and researched 22 colleges/universities that have undertaken Greek Village construction projects
 - Found many differences among the projects, and lots of good ideas
 - Final report, appendices, and image gallery are posted on the AILG web site.
- Meeting with VP Suzy Nelson and Chancellor Cindy Barnhart:
 - Suzy is very supportive of this effort
- 2nd Student Design Workshop:
 - Goal was to identify what features appeal to students
 - Rob Binkowski, Co-Chair
 - Attended by 28 students, good cross-section from the FSILGs
 - Workshop was run by architects Steve Baker and Tom Stohlman; other attendees were Bob Ferrara, Pam Gannon, Walter Colby and Brad Badgley.
 - Briefing by two MIT architects who worked on the concept plans for the West Campus
 - Students broke down into small groups to develop design concepts
- Steve described general program principles:
 - Totally optional
 - Expect variety of models of management and ownership, not one-size-fits-all
 - Likely to be 6 houses initially
 - Students want a home-like space that does not feel like a dorm

- All groups came up with a similar plan: several row houses, green space, a dorm/student center with flexibility for FSILGs to use for apartments, and shared amenities in the dorm/student center that include a gym, coffee shop, parking, and large meeting rooms.
- Students desired to replicate the Back Bay brownstones model, which they saw as working well for their groups.

Steve stated that he believes that the West Campus Village has traction at higher levels of MIT administration, with great support from Suzy Nelson. Steve noted that the West Campus Plan is happening – it's up to us whether it will include the FSILGs; MIT wants to make West Campus a strong community.

The West Campus Steering Committee plans to have a draft final report at end of February, and will present to plenary in April. The committee may ask for financial information to be volunteered to complete the sustainability portion.

An email address is available for general feedback on the project (also posted on the AILG web site): west-village-feedback@mit.edu

AILG Committee Reports

Accreditation Committee – Herman Marshall, Chair

The committee is seeking help on reviews for twelve organizations this spring. A handout lists dates and organizations. The committee is looking to make the accreditation visit more friendly and informative, emphasizing communication and discussion, so the review doesn't feel like a "final exam."

Community Relations Committee – Jim Latimer, Chair

A short summary is on the handout. The next meeting is on Monday, Feb 13 at 5:15 in the Heinz Building and will be the first meeting with the new student council officers.

Parent Outreach Committee – Pam Gannon (AP), Chair

The next big event for parent outreach is Campus Preview Weekend (CPW) on April 7-9. Approximately 700-1000 parents attend the weekend. Last year, the IFC and Panhel hosted presentations with Akil and Pam representing fraternity and sorority alums. The FSILG Office also hosted a panel with Bob, Pam, and Brad. Similar events are planned for this year.

Web Site Migration Team – Pam Gannon, Bob Ferrara, Alice Leung

Pam summarized:

- The Board had approved funding to migrate the site to a platform that is better supported by MIT IS&T.
- Alice and the ET webmaster team will do the migration.
- Pam and Bob are reviewing all content on the current website, looking for areas to improve and update
- The team is hoping the site will go live on March 30
- Pam asked committee chairs to review their pages, and let the team know if they want any changes in their information by March 1.

Insurance Committee – Stan Wulf, Chair

AILG Insurance for the 2017-18 coverage period is being renewed on April 1, 2017; they are currently negotiating with the broker. The overall cost will be similar to 2016-17: property insurance rates are down ~7%, but property assessments are up; liability insurance is projected to increase by 5%. Scott Klemm will send out bills at the end of February, due March 24.

Facilities Committee – Scott Klemm, FCI

Scott noted that they are updating the SLI specs. He invited people to attend the next FCI Board meeting next Wednesday 2/15 at 8:00am.

Announcements

Meetings:

- Next AILG Board meeting is Thursday 3/2 at 6:30pm in W59
- Next AILG Plenary meeting Wednesday 4/12 at 7:00am in Student Center W20
- AILG Annual Meeting is Wednesday 5/31 at 6:00pm in the MIT Museum. The Annual Meeting is before commencement this year, so the hope is to have more students and MIT administrators attend.

Board elections (Steve Baker):

- The Board seats held by Dick Larson and Alice Leung are up for re-election, so new candidates have an opportunity.
- Dick will not be running for re-election: the Board would prefer to that an MIT faculty member have a seat on the Board. If people have suggestions of faculty members for the seat, please let Steve know.
- Alice is undecided on whether to run: the Board would like to see an ILG alum continue to hold a seat on the Board.

Adjournment

The plenary meeting adjourned at 8:42am.