



AILG Plenary Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 12, 2017 | Mezzanine Lounge W20-307 | Meeting called to order at 7:30am by Steve Baker

In Attendance

FSILGs attending: Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Delta Phi, Alpha Phi, Beta Theta Pi, Chi Phi, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Delta Tau Delta, Kappa Sigma, Lambda Chi Alpha, Phi Beta Epsilon, Phi Kappa Theta, Pi Lambda Phi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Chi, Sigma Kappa, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Student House, Tau Epsilon Phi, Theta Chi, Theta Tau, Theta Xi, Zeta Psi

FSILGs not attending: Alpha Epsilon Phi, Alpha Epsilon Pi, Alpha Tau Omega, Delta Phi Epsilon, Epsilon Theta, Fenway House, Kappa Alpha Theta, Nu Delta, Number Six Club, Phi Delta Theta, Phi Kappa Sigma, Phi Sigma Kappa, Pi Beta Phi, pika, Sigma Nu, Theta Delta Chi, WILG, Zeta Beta Tau

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

MIT Administration and Other Guests: Dennis Collins, Bob Ferrara (TC) (DSL); Brad Badgley, Liz Jason, Kayla Lemay (FSILG Office); Austin Ashe, Kim Hunter (AP), Danielle Reddy (MIT Alumni Association); Scott Klemm, Oscar Argueta (FCI); Karie Allison, Bill Paris (Elevate)

Undergraduates: Robert Binkowski (IFC), Ayomide Fatunde (Panhel), Kyle Archer (TT), Joshua Scherrer (SPE)

Welcome and Introductions

Steve Baker started off a round of introductions.

Facilities Condition Assessment (Suzy Nelson, Bob Ferrara)

MIT Vice President for Student Life Suzy Nelson presented the idea of undertaking a comprehensive facilities assessment of all FSILGs. She is looking for guidance and support from the FSILG community. MIT is planning major facilities projects: a new dorm on the West Garage site and the New House renovations; then MIT will be cycling through dorm renovations.

The goal of the assessment is to determine the needs for each building and to create a road map, timeline, and cost estimate in a user-friendly format. Peter Cummings and Bob Ferrara will be taking the lead on the project. The last time an overall assessment was done was in 1998, and a facilities assessment is called for in the AILG Strategic Plan.

Peter Cummings noted that they are in the process of figuring out how best to conduct the assessment. They received feedback from organizations at the March AILG Board meeting. They will be working with the MIT Facilities Department and will be looking for firms that can understand our houses. Bob Ferrara stated that they are looking for some houses to participate in a pilot program over the summer. He noted that Tom Stohlman, as AILG building safety facilitator, has been involved in the process, and will continue to be a point person for the AILG.

Financing for the assessments has not been finalized. Bob suggested that a shared model with funding from MIT, the IRDF and individual organizations, similar to the model that was used for IT improvements could be implemented.

Questions/concerns raised:

- How to close the circle about funding improvements after houses get results? Bob is talking to the MIT Alumni Association about this.
- Concern about ongoing maintenance costs for improvements and how to meet ADA requirements.
- Concern about how much the shared cost would be. Bob noted that he realizes that many houses cannot handle a large expense. Steve Baker estimates in the range of \$10-20,00 per house for the total assessment.
- Suggestion that the final report not be too corporate, more like for a home assessment

Suzy Nelson asked whether in general people were favorable of the facilities assessment? The consensus was overwhelmingly positive.

Bob noted that the IRDF would play an important part in financing. He announced that the IRDF Pi Day Challenge raised more than \$37,000 from 149 gifts.

West Campus Village Steering Committee Report (Stephen DeFalco, Rob Binkowski)

Stephen DeFalco updated the plenary on the work for the West Campus Village. He reviewed a brief history of the endeavor. The Steering Committee has completed its phase 1 report, which is circulating among the MIT administration before being released to the public. Stephen said that the goal is to design an environment where FSILGs can thrive in an active community center, a purposely-designed student village. He emphasized that it would be a voluntary option to move that would be available on a space available basis.

Rob Binkowski reviewed the design process. Two student workshops were held and all groups converged on the same design concept of row houses and a separate structure. Rob noted that students' opinions are well reflected in the current presentation and the final report.

The committee has information sessions planned for the Panhel delegates meeting, IFC presidents meeting, and a community dinner meeting. 1:1 sessions can be held with any chapter or house corporation board if desired.

Discussion/Questions:

- Concerns about timeline
 - Is a fall 2021 move-in realistic? Stephen DeFalco said the timeline is aggressive, but a good goal.
 - What is the commitment timeline? (1) support from MIT administration (hoping for summer), (2) commitment from first chapters (fall).
 - It was noted that the facilities assessment could have an impact on chapters' decision-making.
- Questions about lease/ownership models
 - Is there a model lease? Can we use any current leases as models?
 - Steve Baker said the committee would be looking at three different scenarios to develop templates for:
 - Chapters that own house
 - Chapters that lease house from MITIMCo
 - Chapters that rent house from another chapter

Treasurer's Report (Eric Cigan)

Financial Dashboard – Eric presented the current balance sheet and profit & loss - budget vs. actual. Finances are on track and are detailed in handout.

FY 2018 Budget – Eric presented the AILG proposed fiscal year 2018 budget, which will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on May 31, 2017. Notable updates: AILG member dues will remain at \$500, Safety, Licensing and Inspection (SLI) program fees will include a mandatory \$550 per building fee (previously \$500 and not increased since 2005) and an optional \$775 fee for participation in the Building Safety Facilitation (BSF) program.

FSILG Office Update (Brad Badgley)

The FSILG Office will be sending out reminders about Patriot's Day/Marathon Monday restrictions.

Campus Preview Weekend (CPW): 1080 prefrosh, 1100 parents. Brad thanked the groups that hosted events. The FSILG Office hosted a parent panel and Brad thanked Bob Ferrara and Pam Gannon for serving on it with him.

Graduate Resident Advisors (GRAs): they are in the process of making offers and anticipate all will be finalized in May, well ahead of last year.

FSILG Awards: Annual award dinner will be on May 3 at 7:00pm at the Samburg Center. An email invitation will be sent out.

Brad announced that the IFC had won an MIT Change Maker Award for their Consent Awareness and Prevention (CAP) certification program.

Student Council Reports

Panhellenic Council – Ayomide Fatunde

- This year, only All-Panhel events were held during CPW
- CPW events were successful: 35 women have signed up for recruitment already
- Panhel is working on an inclusion statement

Interfraternity Council – Robert Binkowski

- CPW: Parent panel and IFC carnival had good attendance; 186 events were held at fraternities
- An FSILG Study Break is being planned with Chancellor Barnhart and VP Suzy Nelson at Alpha Phi
- The IFC held a successful Police Mixer, with good attendance

Living Group Council – Brad Badgley for Pravina Samaratunga

- CPW: the LGC developed a flyer to distribute to students and held multiple events
- The LGC organized a community sushi study break
- The LGC will be electing a new Speaker and other leadership positions

Discussion of AILG Meeting Time (Steve Baker)

At the AILG Board meeting and the FSILG Retreat, the issue was raised that perhaps the AILG should consider changing the time of the plenary meetings. There was a discussion about how best to get input from the community. The Board will send a poll to the community.

Upcoming Elections (Pam Gannon)

Pam announced that there are two open Board seats up for election at the annual meeting. Alice Leung has indicated that she will run again. Dick Larson will be stepping down from his seat on the Board. There are also three ombudsperson slots available.

Pam thanked Dick for his service on the AILG Board and he received a resounding round of applause.

AILG Committee Reports

Accreditation Committee – Herman Marshall, Chair

The committee is all set for spring accreditation. A handout lists the accreditation status of all AILG organizations.

Parent Outreach Committee – Pam Gannon, Chair

- Campus Preview Weekend: CPW was held on Thursday-Sunday, April 6-9. The Panhel held a panel for parents on Friday, the IFC held a panel for parents on Saturday, and the FSILG Office held a panel for parents on Friday afternoon. Our goal was to provide an alum and parent presence at the panels and during the weekend. Pam Gannon served on the Panhel panel, Akil Middleton served on the IFC panel (and Pam was in attendance), and Brad Badgley, Bob Ferrara and Pam Gannon comprised the FSILG panel. All panel sessions were well attended and the conversations were active and engaged. The students did a terrific job describing the values of our community and particulars about the recruitment process and other chapter activities. The FSILG Office program gave an overview of the FSILG system, a comparison of FSILG residential life versus dorm residences, and specifics about alumni and staff support. A handout provides more detail.
- Newsletters: Pam asked chapters to consider sending copies of spring newsletters to the parents of current students. Elevate can address the newsletters “To the parents of XX” and send them to the students’ home addresses.
- Open Houses: Pam reminded chapters to invite the parents of graduating seniors/new alums to the open houses during Reunion/Commencement Weekend (June 9-11). The MIT Alumni Association is encouraging FSILGs to hold their events during the afternoon of Friday, June 9 (Commencement Day), between 2:30-4pm, since there are no other commencement and reunion activities during this time. Chapters should contact Austin Ashe aaashe@mit.edu to register their event.

Facilities Committee – Tom Stohlman

Tom said that he had conducted walk-throughs of houses prior to inspections. He expressed concerns about egress pathways and cleanliness. He recommended that houses are clean, neat, and the egress pathways are clear prior to inspections.

Chapters should see Scott Klemm to sign dorm licenses for Boston.

Education Committee – Kim Hunter, Co-Chair

Bryan Bryson has stepped down as Co-chair and Kim asked for volunteers to replace him.

IT Committee –Bob Ferrara

- Switch replacement: All houses received a one-time assessment of \$2500 for the switch replacement/upgrade. The IRDF contributed more than half of the cost of the switches.
- Phones: The VOIP phones are active. This option is available to all houses.
- Telephone service: Contact Scott to see if your house still needs telephone service – it may no longer be necessary.

Reid Weedon Awards (Austin Ashe)

Austin Ashe announced that the Weedon Award Committee would be meeting the following Thursday at 11:30am. They have received 8 applications. They would like an alum to serve on the committee; Ernie Sabine volunteered to serve.

Announcements

Meetings:

- AILG Community Information Meeting on the West Village is 4/26 at 6:00pm in Flowers Dining Room (Maseeh Hall); dinner provided (reservation required)
- Next AILG Board meeting is Thursday 5/4 at 6:30pm in W59
- AILG Annual Meeting is Wednesday 5/31 at 6:00pm in the MIT Museum.

Adjournment

The plenary meeting adjourned at 8:45am.

Abbreviations

AILG	Association of Independent Living Groups
BSF	Building Safety Facilitation
CPW	Campus Preview Weekend
DSL	Division of Student Life
FCI	FSILG Cooperative, Inc.
FSILGs	Fraternalities, Sororities and Independent Living Groups
GRA	Graduate Resident Advisor
IFC	Interfraternity Council
ILGs	Independent Living Groups
IRDF	Independent Residence Development Fund
LGC	Living Group Council
Panhel	Panhellenic Association
SLI	Safety, Licensing and Inspection Program