 Notes

AILG Board Retreat

Friday, August 3, 2018 | Concord, MA | Retreat began at 12:45pm

This was not an official board meeting, but we took notes

# In Attendance

Board: Cody Chamberlin (PKS), Eric Cigan (LCA), Pam Gannon (AP), Alice Leung (ET), Akil Middleton (ZP), Cecilia Stuopis (AXO)

Administration, Staff and Vendors: Bob Ferrara (DSL/TC), Brad Badgley, Liz Jason (FSILG Office)

Students: Meredith Loy (Panhel)

# Review of AILG 2017/2018 Goals

The group discussed achievements and progress on last year’s goals. Completed achievements include the Community Benefits report and the Relationship Agreement. 2018/2019 efforts to increase AILG and FSILG volunteers, and engagement with the MITAA on the AILG Affinity Group status will build on our prior progress. Efforts related to faculty interaction will continue but are not the top priority. Efforts related to the Member Support Program will continue, probably as part of education and accreditation work.

# Facilities Assessment Phase 2

The group reviewed the Facilities Committee’s 2018/2019 timeline for Phase 2 of the Facilities Assessment. This will include formalizing a process for signed acknowledgement of confidentiality, applicable to volunteers who will access these reports and other privileged information in the course of their volunteer work. Phase 2 will include Facilities Action Plans, coordination with Accreditation and the community to develop appropriate ways to incorporate Facilities Action Plan discussions into visits, coordination with MIT and IRDF, and education about fundraising.

# Committee Reviews

Pam reported that the Phase 2 report will be coming out soon.

The group discussed the idea of disbanding the standing Parent Outreach committee and forming an Alumni Engagement committee.

# Adapting to a Changing Campus Culture

The group discussed productive ways that AILG could support MIT values around diversity, inclusion, and respect. This could include a statement of position that references or mirrors MIT core values. Specifically, with regards to supporting campus efforts on sexual awareness prevention and awareness, AILG could help publicize available MIT, IFC, and Panhel resources to member organizations, and could include information on the topic that comes from personal experiences of alums, emphasizing the relevance of the issue to MIT groups.

The group discussed tactics to increase understanding between alums and undergraduates. This could include separate surveys to gauge how both groups view their level of contact, understanding, and collaboration. It could also include simple tactics like name tags for plenary meetings, and a retreat for alum house corp boards.

The group discussed the concern that some MIT FSILGs have had recruitment and retention challenges, and reviewed recent efforts from the FSILG Office to provide support and education for effective recruitment approaches. While Panhel coordinates annual training for members on how to effectively communicate and engage with prospective members, the IFC and LGC groups have less standardized approaches.

# Accreditation

The group reviewed the history and current state of the AILG Accreditation program. Compared to the historic purpose, the current priorities may be more about collaborative continuous improvement and less about flagging reservations. With the completion of the initial phase of Facilities Assessment and question of how to fold followup into the visits, this may be a good time for wider discussion of the community vision and goals for the AILG Accreditation program.

# Wrap-up

The retreat ended at 4:30 pm. *Notes submitted by Alice Leung*

Abbreviations

AILG Association of Independent Living Groups

BSF Building Safety Facilitator

DSL Division of Student Life

FCI FSILG Cooperative, Inc.

FSILGs Fraternities, Sororities and Independent Living Groups

IFC Interfraternity Council

ILGs Independent Living Groups

IRDF Independent Residence Development Fund

LGC Living Group Council

MITAA MIT Alumni Association

Panhel Panhellenic Association

SLI Safety, Licensing, and Inspections