



AILG Plenary Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 21, 2022 | Zoom | Meeting called to order at 6:06 by Akil Middleton

In Attendance

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

FSILGs not attending: Alpha Epsilon Pi, Alpha Tau Omega, Chi Phi, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Delta Phi Epsilon, Nu Delta, Number Six Club, Phi Delta Theta, Phi Kappa Theta, Pi Beta Phi, Pi Lambda Phi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Chi, Sigma Kappa, Sigma Nu, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Student House, Theta Delta Chi, Theta Xi

AILG Board: Akil Middleton, Eric Cigan, Tyler Kemp-Benedict, Mary Linton Peters, Cecilia Stuopis

MIT Administration and Other Guests: Bob Ferrara, Pam Gannon (DSL), Liz Jason (FSILG Office), Patrick McCabe, Jessica Morris (DSL), Tom Stohlman (AILG Facilities), Mark Thompson (FCI)

Welcome and Introductions

Akil Middleton convened the meeting at 6:06.

Treasurer's Update and Proposed 2022/23 Budget

The balance is in good shape for this time of year. The Facilities Renewal contractor bills AILG, and IRDF reimburses. All income is in, only bank interest is coming in now. BSF and SLI happen as usual every month. AILG's insurance premium was recently paid, as for the individual organizations.

Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 (Y/E June 30, 2023)

This will be voted on at the annual meeting next month.

- Facilities Renewal is being included this year in the proposed budget (up to \$15,500, which we're asking for from IRDF, to pay out to the contractor).
- Dues line item represents a \$300 decrease in the total anticipated income. (See expenses for explanation.)
- The education budget is being zeroed out for now due to low use, but we have a cash balance, in case of need.
- No change to BSF and SLI.
- We had budgeted this year for an in-person plenary, which didn't happen because of the pandemic. We're raising the budget to a full \$6000 for the year.
- We expect to be able to contribute more than in the past for Annual Meeting.
- Administrative budget is a little lower because of the switch from Quickbooks desktop to online, which is a little cheaper.
- PVP \$6100 is largely for food, which we plan to have when the groups review.
- Administrative support is zeroed out, because we have not ended up using that. As is true for Education, AILG's healthy cash balance could cover this kind of expense if needed.
- Dues – proposing \$450 for housed organizations / organizations that own property, \$200 for unhoused organizations that do not own property (AEPi, ATO); and a new \$100 discounted dues for dormant chapters (AEPi, ATO, and LCA)

- No change to BSF fee of \$825 per building (optional)

Please email Eric Cigan with any input on the proposed budget before the Annual Meeting.

FSILG Office and Student Council Update

Liz – The **search for the new FSILG Assistant Dean** is fully underway. The search committee is conducting Zoom interviews. They anticipate 2–4 on-campus interviews in mid-May, making an offer by end of May, and a July 5 start date.

Summer – all ILG houses are allowed to accept summer boarders again. The meeting for summer house managers, with Scott and Josh, needs to be more in-depth, since no one has done this for a while. Finding summer residents is going well; some houses have wait lists. MIT will be sending out a housing agreement, confirming that all residents have to comply with MIT policies and protocols, including COVID (vax and boost).

Most houses have about half of summer residents from their own organizations, though some houses have small membership over the summer. One has none of their own students over the summer, a couple in the 5–10 range. We’re having conversations about managing having more boarders than members. We ask house corporations to help with support for that.

Be sure to talk to your undergraduates about who will be in the house over the summer. All summer students will be here for their first summer, because of the two lost summers.

The current semester is getting hectic and stressful now, close to finals.

Recruitment will be in-person in the fall as normal. Orientation starts Aug 28, and Panhel will have recruiting events during orientation.

GRA hiring is ongoing. A portion of houses have been matched with candidates, and background checks are in process. The FSILG Office will notify house corporations of new GRA hires. Be ready to welcome new GRAs no later than Aug 1 – don’t rent out those rooms.

Organizations that did not match or had a candidate decline are going through the process again. (Optimistic we won’t need a third round, but we’re ready to help with that if necessary.) Second-round offers should go out May 8, then background checks, hoping to solidify all hires by end of May/early June.

Spring Panhel **recruitment** added ~20 students across the organizations.

ILGs have all done some kind of rush this semester. A couple of groups are looking forward to summer housing, as that also contributes to recruitment for fall.

IFC added the highest number in recent years at 56 (compared to a usual of 10–15 in spring semester). It’s too early to tell whether this is a recovery bump after slow covid years, or a new normal.

CPW was held in person for the first time since before the pandemic. IFC and Panhel held a joint Greek carnival, with nice weather that Friday afternoon. It was very successful. Admissions did not invite parents this year, so some events that usually attract parents and not students were not well attended. That may inform the program in future years. There were 150 CPW events in our community alone, close to on-par with pre-Covid.

Up-to-date information **Covid** information is available at <https://now.mit.edu/>.

EOG and IRDF Overview

Pam – The MIT 24-hr Challenge got 189 donors (exceeding the hoped-for 150).

IRDF / EOGs – IRDF will not issue EOGs through the period (thru summer 2021) supported by MIT, unless an expense is related to roof and envelope, or educational space and equipment, NOT already covered by MIT.

All fees waived for the Community Network Upgrade Program.

Updates to IRDF policies - The changes focus on livability, safety, and educational mission, with a goal of supporting more houses.

The adjusted educational percentage calculation will increase the educational area for most houses (with a max of 27%). For many students, their primary educational space is in their bedroom, so we allocate 25 s.f. per student. House library, server room, study, etc., are still counted.

Educational Space will be eligible for 75% support for EOGs (up from 50%).

Some categories are being eliminated that should be covered by student rent. Those that are part of building maintenance are being retained. Categories have been added, many relating to professional services, in support of a positive living environment for the students. (Examples are cleaning, landscaping, snow removal, electrical and plumbing maintenance.)

The maximum Minor Project Grant is reduced to \$50,000. Major Project Grants will be available for projects with a grant application request of more than \$50,000.

Many house corporation members have not been through the EOG process for a while. [Please refer to the slides for details.](#)

Peer Visit Program Fall Rollout

ML Peters – <https://ailg.mit.edu/committees/peer-visit-program-committee>

Pilots have completed a test of the revised process. We learned that there can be too much scheduling flexibility, in that it gets harder to schedule. We will give fewer options but allow flexibility by exception, if someone who should be involved isn't available at the offered times.

The PVP reviews will have the group meet together over lunch to facilitate a more friendly conversation, less formal review. The proposed budget will include food, not for the reviewers alone, but the whole group, including students and alums as well (possibly purchased via distributed gift cards). We envision this taking place in the house, which helps to see it, have a little bit of a tour (not an inspection). The conversations may sometimes relate to the house.

The questionnaire won't need major changes. It is serving the goal of helping us touch on different aspects of how the chapter is working, and flag areas that could use assistance.

Over the course of four terms, we'll visit all the houses. That's ~10/term, and we'll try for ten in fall 2022.

We will need participation from this group as reviewers, including both experienced and alums new to this process, including younger alums. We aim for three alum members on the review team – if possible, representing a fraternity, a sorority, and an independent. Watch for communications coming shortly before the fall term, listing the ten houses and a call for reviewers. We're updating the roles a bit, will be as clear as possible about the expectations, including dates.

It's a time-limited, low-overhead way to get engaged. Please encourage people you think might be interested and good to get involved this way!

For more information, please contact either of the Committee Co-Chairs Roy Russell and Mary Linton Peters: roy@alum.mit.edu and mlbt@alum.mit.edu.

AILG Retreat and Annual Meeting

Akil, Pam – Scheduling didn't allow combining the two events after all.

AILG Annual Meeting will be Thursday, June 9, 5:30pm at the new MIT Welcome Center (near the Kendall T station [E-38](#)), our first in-person since the pandemic. Cecilia may be able to validate parking in the MIT Medical lot.

Annual meeting is focused on the same audience as the plenaries: AILG volunteers, interested student leaders, MIT partners. Rather than have a sit-down dinner, we'll serve heavy appetizers. There may be a speaker, and followed by the annual report, awards (they're back!), budget vote, and elections.

The FSILG Alumni Leadership Retreat ("Bob Retreat") will be Sunday, June 26, 12-5pm at MIT Endicott House. It may not be a full 5 hours, but that is the full block including mealtimes.

The primary audience for the retreat is: alum volunteers, especially new ones; alums looking to enhance/develop their own boards/corporations (similar to what students do in the winter). The event will start with lunch and maybe a speaker. The program is mostly breakout sessions and panels on issues we all face.

For the retreat, we will send out a poll to assess interest in topics for the sessions. Will announce the retreat agenda in early June. If people have suggestions for topic areas they'd like to see covered, please let Akil or Pam know.

We expect to be able to support remote attendance/viewing options. Although we plan to have in-person plenaries next year, we hope to add remote participation options.

Watch for the poll!

Facilities Renewal Update

Pam – ([See slides](#))

We are projected to complete the **Phase 1 egress doors and hardware project** for the pilot houses in summer 2022. Supply chain and other factors have slowed the anticipated timeline. Other houses will have their work done from fall through IAP. We hope to conclude by March 2023.

Please mark up your organization's survey with what you'd like to include. Recordings are available (ask Pam) of community info sessions on this.

We're developing contracts for each chapter to sign with the vendor and with IRDF. Each house will be responsible to pay for 25% of the cost, and the other 75% will be considered an IRDF grant.

Some house's floor plans are out of date and need updating. Same for some egress diagrams.

Please contact anyone from the Renewal Committee with questions.

Pam – **MIT's reimbursements** of operating expenses during the time when undergraduates were not allowed to live in the FSILGs are almost completely done. We have a handful of organizations that need to complete their summer reconciliation. We need to finish by end of MIT's fiscal year (June 30).

Starting from March 2020 when students were sent home, and MIT funded their housing fees through checks distributed via the house corporations, through summer 2021, MIT provided a total of ~\$7 million in operating expenses support to the FSILG community.

Announcements/Other Business

Announcements:

- Note from Scott Klemm (for FCI): "City of Boston Egress Inspections will be starting on Tuesday. Please reply to any emails from Josh promptly re scheduling. Please make sure that ALL the issues pointed out during your pre inspection and in the BSF report have already been addressed. There are 2 two new inspectors this year so it will be, interesting.

City of Cambridge Egress Inspection process will be starting in a week in May.

City of Boston Re Licensing is under way - Please make sure to act on the re licensing email that you should have received ASAP. The emails went out to the Manager of Record listed on the License App and the Alumni HM if different.

Please note that you must pay the re Licensing fee directly at time of renewal, this is NOT being paid by the FCI as in the past.

Once you receive the new license by email you must email a copy to FCI.

- Scott Klemm and Stan Wulf on insurance:

The AILG Insurance Program, administered by the FCI, has just completed the 2022 renewal cycle.

All participating organizations coverage was bound effective 4/1/2022.

of Participating Organizations by policy type:

24 General & Excess Liability, Crime

21 Directors & Officers

29 Properties

It is worth noting the % change for each of the policies.

Liability went down ~7% in spite of the national increase of 15 to 20%

D&O went up ~19% in line with national trends

Property went up approx ~15% in line with national trends

The total program cost is over \$614,000 this year, which was paid on 3/29.

- Pam Gannon – Sign up for Tech Reunions <https://alum.mit.edu/events/tech-reunions>
- MIT Commencement 2022 celebrations will take place during the week of May 23, with the majority of the Advanced Degree Ceremonies taking place on Thursday, May 26, followed by the OneMIT Ceremony (all members of the class of 2022 are invited) and the Undergraduate Ceremony on Friday, May 27.
- MIT will welcome the Classes of 2020 and 2021 to campus for a special celebration on Saturday, May 28.
- Amy Davis recommends FSILG receptions happen on May 27 afternoon, but if it works better for your house to do it at a different time, that's OK.
- Akil – MITAA recently changed the interface, but please make sure you can access your alum lists. If you're not an admin and should be, get in touch with Amy to be assigned as an admin.
- The next AILG Board meeting may need to be rescheduled from Thursday, May 5
- AILG Annual Meeting will be Thursday, June 9, at the MIT Welcome Center <http://whereis.mit.edu/?go=E38>
- The "Bob Retreat" will be Sunday, June 26 in the afternoon.

Adjournment – 7:07 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Tyler Kemp-Benedict, AILG Secretary

Abbreviations

AILG	Association of Independent Living Groups
BSF	Building Safety Facilitation
CPW	Campus Preview Weekend
DSL	Division of Student Life
EOG	Educational Operating Grants
FCI	FSILG Cooperative, Inc.
FSILGs	Fraternities, Sororities and Independent Living Groups
GRA	Graduate Resident Advisor
IDHR	Institute Discrimination & Harassment Response Office
IFC	Interfraternity Council
ILGs	Independent Living Groups

IRDF Independent Residence Development Fund
LGC Living Group Council
Panhel Panhellenic Association
PKG Priscilla King Gray Public Service Center
SLI Safety, Licensing and Inspection Program