MINUTES
AILG Plenary Meeting

Thursday, February 15, 2024 | in-person and zoom | Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Akil Middleton

In Attendance

Board: Akil Middleton (ZP), Cecilia Stuopis (AXO), Herman L. Marshall (BTP), Alex Pina (DTD), Beverly Borden (WILG), ML Peters (KAT)

Administration, Staff, Vendors: Pam Gannon (AP/DSL), Liz Jason (FSILG Office), Scott Klemm (FCI), Jessica Morris (FSILG Office), Anthony Dominguez (FSILG Office), Nellie King (FCI)

Undergraduate Officers: Kami Garland (Panhel), Kush Bavaria (IFC)

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

FSILGs not attending: Alpha Epsilon Phi, Alpha Epsilon Pi, Alpha Tau Omega, Delta Phi Epsilon, Delta Psi/Number Six, Nu Delta, Phi Kappa Sigma, Phi Kappa Theta, Sigma Nu, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Theta Delta Chi, Zeta Beta Tau

Roundtable Discussion

The roundtable discussion topics were “how would the AILG best serve our group” and “how can we improve recruitment”. A sample of answers regarding support were:

- Reaching out to parents to support FSILGs, with some help from alumni
- Publishing “best practices”, key resources, and updates about upcoming meetings
- Enlisting experts to get “back on track”
- There could be templates for chapter officer descriptions, based on best practices

Examples of suggestions regarding recruitment were:

- Add non-MIT members of house corporation boards
- Getting new and prospective members involved in house activities as early as possible
- Reaching out to parents during rush and member training
- Consider digital recruiting
- Recent alumni and members of the national organization (if available) could help with rush

Treasurer’s report

Bev said IRDF money arrived to support the Facilities safety program.
FSILG Office / DSL, Alumni Association, and Council updates

IFC: Kush was just elected. There are over 30 accepted bids from Spring Rush.

Panhel: Kami reported about calling out goals to increase diversity and their developing a new recruitment video. Five of 6 chapters are participating in “open recruitment”.

ILGs: Jessica reported that they are interested in meeting more often and to be more collaborative.

MGC: Jessica reported that they had a good turnout at a retreat.

There was a leadership retreat with 111 participants that concentrated on a few topics such as recruitment and leadership.

Liz reported that there will be some inspections of living group residences to ensure safety for young students. Liz highlighted that there were six burglaries at FSILGs over the last month or two, so everyone should pay more attention to building security and be reminded that students may not have renter’s insurance to cover lost property. It would be useful to include clauses in housing contracts that the house corporations and MIT are not responsible for reimbursing losses.

Liz announced the update to the FSILG Social Events Policy, available on the FSILG web site (https://studentlife.mit.edu/fsilg/fsilg-office-policies-protocols). We should all be aware of the many updates. For example, events must end by 1AM and events during the summer are allowed but require permission from the FSILG. A motion to endorse the new policy was moved, seconded, and passed with xx in favor, no one against, and 5 abstentions.

Pam announced that Anya Kateef (’98, Alpha Phi) will be replacing her as Director of FSILG Alumni Programs.

AILG Focuses for Spring Semester

We will try to hold a tour of New Vassar for AILG members in April or May.

Akil described a process for updating the AILG by-laws.

There will be a “FSILG Campus Partners Social” in conjunction with the April Plenary.

We plan to conduct a survey of AILG Board roles and responsibilities.

Member support outreach kicked off with a meeting between Liz Jason, Alex Pina, and Herman Marshall. A few living groups were identified that would bear some attention.

AILG Committee Updates

Facilities: Pam reminded folks about the Facilities Renewal activities that started with work on egress and are now starting on fire alarm systems. FCI is the project manager. Tom Stohlman mentioned a few steps to take to improve facility security such as door locks, lighting, and installing camera systems.

Nominating: Bob reminded the group about the purpose of the committee, which is to ensure there are candidates for various AILG positions.

IT: Many IT switches will need to be replaced. The living group web sites hosted at MIT will have to be undergo updates.

Announcements

There will be another 24 Hour Challenge to donate to the IRDF on Pi Day (3/14).
Pam announced that 16 of the 20 undergraduates in the Forbes “30 under 30” list are MIT students in FSILGs. See https://alum.mit.edu/slice/forbes-30-under-30-list-spotlights-35-mit.

The insurance policy renewals are coming up soon and have to be paid by March 15.

The next AILG Board meeting will be Mar. 7.

The next Plenary Meeting will be on Apr. 18, 2024 at 6PM, followed by the Annual Meeting to be held the week of June 10.

Adjournment – 8:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Herman L. Marshall, AILG Secretary

Abbreviations
AILG Association of Independent Living Groups
BSF Building Safety Facilitator
CPW Campus Preview Weekend
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
IS&T Information Systems & Technology
LGC Living Group Council
MCG Multi-Cultural Greeks
MITAA MIT Alumni Association
NIC North American Interfraternity Conference
NPC National Panhellenic Conference
Panhel Panhellenic Association
RFM Release Figure Methodology (algorithm for optimizing Panhel recruitment)
SLI Safety, Licensing, and Inspections
VPF Vice President for Finance
VPR Vice President Recruitment