Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups at MIT

Division of Student Life

Association of Independent Living Groups

MIT has twenty-eight fraternities, eight sororities and five independent living groups. These organizations include traditional fraternities and sororities, co-ed fraternities, small independent living groups, and multicultural organizations.
History
Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups (FSILGs) have a long history at MIT – the first student housing was provided by fraternities back in the 1880s. Over time, the partnership between students, alumni/ae, and the MIT administration has grown deeper. Today, over 25,000 alums are graduates of this community and more than 40% of current undergraduates belong to an FSILG.

A Culture of Connections
MIT’s FSILGs provide leadership development, academic and emotional support, service opportunities, and foster mentoring relationships. Meaningful interactions with peers are important for helping students thrive at MIT and for creating lifelong connections. FSILG alums provide students with a network of professional guidance and career opportunities.

Student leaders at the Northeast Greek Leadership Association (NGLA) Conference

Alpha Phi at the American Heart Association Walk

MIT’s Interfraternity Council (IFC) was recognized at the 2018 NGLA Conference with an Amy Vojta Impact Award for their student-led Risk Management Consultant (RMC) program
FSILG COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

40% of MIT students are affiliated with an FSILG
- 48% of men belong to a fraternity
- 30% of women belong to a sorority
- 2% of undergraduates belong to an independent living group

FSILGs are reflective of MIT’s diverse student population. FSILG students participate fully in the MIT experience: in academics, in athletics, in music and the performing arts, and in scientific research and entrepreneurship. In addition, FSILGs create a vibrant social community and provide opportunities for community service and philanthropy.

MIT’s FSILG culture is one of appreciation and respect for others. Affiliated is a community-wide group formed by LGBTQIA+ students in FSILGs and supported by the FSILG student councils and FSILG Office. MIT fraternity and sorority chapters and student councils strongly advocate for inclusivity, both at MIT and within their national organizations.

COMMUNITY SERVICE & PHILANTHROPY

More than 10,000 hours of service
Over $65,000 raised for different charities
SHARED GOVERNANCE MODEL
A collaborative relationship of MIT, alums, and students

The key parts of the shared governance model are the FSILG Office, the AILG, and the FSILG Student Councils.

The FSILG Office is part of MIT’s Division of Student Life (DSL), under the direction of Suzy Nelson, Vice President and Dean for Student Life. The FSILG Office supports and advises FSILG students in a diverse and enriching learning environment. The Office collaborates with dedicated alumni/ae and campus partners to ensure that the FSILG community is achieving its goals and students and organizations are reaching their highest potential. The Office fosters a community of care to support student growth and learning both inside and outside the classroom.

https://studentlife.mit.edu/fsilg

The Association of Independent Living Groups (AILG), an MIT alum organization, is the federated group of alum/ae corporations and advisory boards involved with MIT’s FSILGs. Overall, more than 200 alum volunteers participate annually in a variety of governance, operations, property management and advisory roles. The AILG, led by an elected board of directors, is a leading organization for sharing best practices, long-term vision and support in alignment with MIT’s mission and educational goals.

http://ailg.mit.edu

MIT’s FSILG Student Councils are the student-led governing bodies for their member organizations. The Councils work to foster a strong sense of leadership, scholarship and philanthropy, to promote community participation and responsibility, and to create organizational and campus-wide programming to enhance the FSILG experience at MIT. Each council coordinates with a specific advisor from the FSILG Office.

FSILG Student Councils:
Interfraternity Conference (IFC) http://ifc.mit.edu
Panhellenic Association (Panhel) http://panhel.mit.edu
Living Group Council (LGC) http://lgc.mit.edu
Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) website under development
COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

Anna Sappington ’19, Kappa Alpha Theta, Major: Computer Science and Molecular Biology (Course 6-7)

Anna received the prestigious Barry Goldwater Scholarship after being nominated by MIT faculty and selected from a nationwide field of candidates. Anna is an MIT School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Burchard Scholar, President of TechX (a student-led collaborative innovation initiative), a MedLinks director, and worked as an intern at the National Institutes of Health.

Nicholas “Nikko” James ’17, Theta Chi, Major: Aeronautics and Astronautics (Course 16)

Nikko was named the 2017 U.S. Air Force Cadet of the Year, which recognizes the single most outstanding cadet, with criteria including leadership, academics, military performance, and physical fitness. Nikko is a member of MIT’s Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) and also received the Society of Military Engineers award. He was an intern at Northrup Grumman and conducted research in AeroAstro’s Space Systems Lab. He is currently an MIT graduate student.

Federico Bescotti ’20, Theta Tau, Major: Physics (Course 8); Minor: Finance

Federico ran the Boston Marathon and raised more than $10,000+ for AKTIV Against Cancer, an organization that incorporates physical activity into cancer treatment. He is the Interfraternity Council Treasurer and a member of the MIT Men’s Varsity Water Polo team. Federico was raised in Zimbabwe, Africa.

Selam Gano ’18, Delta Phi Epsilon, Major: Mechanical Engineering Coop (Course 2A)

Selam designed and consulted on construction of a hand-dug well for the Muti Water Project in Ethiopia. She was awarded the De Courtivron Writing Prize for a non-fiction piece on multiculturalism. Selam is an MIT Admissions blogger, co-directed the 2017 MIT Admissions video, and has held several chair positions in Delta Phi Epsilon. Selam’s father is an immigrant from Kafa, Ethiopia and she speaks four languages.

Anjali Misra ’18, Sigma Kappa, Major: Brain & Cognitive Sciences (Course 9); Minor: Music

Anjali was awarded the George J. Mitchell Scholarship to pursue a master’s degree in public health in Ireland. Anjali is a certified EMT with MIT Emergency Medical Services, and was a PKG Public Service Center Fellow, working with the Family Van to bring medical services to underserved communities. She is co-president of SHINE for Girls (middle school STEM program), co-president of the MIT South Asian Association of Students, and recipient of a McKinsey & Company Undergraduate Women’s Impact Award.

Selam designed and consulted on construction of a hand-dug well for the Muti Water Project in Ethiopia. She was awarded the De Courtivron Writing Prize for a non-fiction piece on multiculturalism. Selam is an MIT Admissions blogger, co-directed the 2017 MIT Admissions video, and has held several chair positions in Delta Phi Epsilon. Selam’s father is an immigrant from Kafa, Ethiopia and she speaks four languages.

Nicholas “Nikko” James ’17, Theta Chi, Major: Aeronautics and Astronautics (Course 16)

Nikko was named the 2017 U.S. Air Force Cadet of the Year, which recognizes the single most outstanding cadet, with criteria including leadership, academics, military performance, and physical fitness. Nikko is a member of MIT’s Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) and also received the Society of Military Engineers award. He was an intern at Northrup Grumman and conducted research in AeroAstro’s Space Systems Lab. He is currently an MIT graduate student.

Federico Bescotti ’20, Theta Tau, Major: Physics (Course 8); Minor: Finance

Federico ran the Boston Marathon and raised more than $10,000+ for AKTIV Against Cancer, an organization that incorporates physical activity into cancer treatment. He is the Interfraternity Council Treasurer and a member of the MIT Men’s Varsity Water Polo team. Federico was raised in Zimbabwe, Africa.
COMMUNITY EVENTS

Leadership Retreat

An annual retreat for student leaders held on a Saturday at MIT's Endicott House.

Jasmin Joseph ’18, Alpha Chi Omega, Major: Biological Engineering (Course 20)

Jasmin volunteered at Moringa-Connect in Ghana and studied mosquito-borne viruses through a Singapore-MIT Research Fellowship. She participated in MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI) in South Africa and MISTI Global Teaching Labs in Mexico, and is a volunteer coordinator at Camp Kesem, a summer camp for children who have been impacted by a parent’s cancer. Jasmin is a member of the MIT Varsity Softball team with an NFCA All-Region accolade.

Griffin Ansel ’21 Kappa Sigma Major: Computer Science & Engineering (Course 6); Minor: Business

Griffin was honored with a Congressional Gold Award, which recognizes outstanding community service, physical fitness, and leadership development. He started a clean water initiative in Nicaragua and was an intern for the Oakland Athletics Baseball Operations. He is a member of the MIT Varsity Football team.

Kate Scott ’18, Sigma Kappa, Major: Materials Science & Engineering (Course 3)

Kate was selected as a Schwarzman Scholar, a competitive program that provides a year of study and cultural immersion in China. Kate was the MIT Panhellenic Association VP of Programming, Sigma Kappa Membership Chair, an Intercollegiate Rowing Association All-Academic, and a chemical engineering intern at Honeywell UOP.
FSILG Community Barbecue

An annual open house, attended by Back Bay neighbors, city officials, MIT administrators, student and alum leaders.

FSILG RESIDENTIAL EXPERIENCE

1000+ MIT undergraduates live in fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups, located in Boston, Brookline, and Cambridge. Houses are managed by a leadership team of students and alums with support from MIT, creating a unique living and learning environment. Each house has a live-in graduate resident advisor.

MIT Chapter House Recognitions

Chi Phi Fraternity, MIT chapter founded 1890
Chi Phi has received a triple crown of historical preservation awards: Boston Landmarks Commission's Citizen Preservation Award in 2018, Boston Preservation Alliance's Stewardship Award in 2017, and the New England Chapter of the Victorian Society in America’s Preservation Award in 2016.

Sigma Chi Fraternity, MIT chapter founded 1882
After a multimillion dollar restoration, Sigma Chi was awarded a 2015 Preservation Achievement Award by the Boston Preservation Alliance, joining past winners such as Trinity Church, Fenway Park and other Boston landmarks.