

## AILG Board Meeting

*Thursday, December 7, 2017 | Ashdown House | Meeting called to order at 6:00pm by Akil Middleton*

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### In Attendance

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

Administration, Staff and Vendors: Bob Ferrara (DSL/TC), Judy Robinson, Julie Rothaar-Sanders, Kristin Covino (DSL), Brad Badgley, Liz Jason (FSILG Office), Scott Klemm (FSILG Cooperative, Inc.)

Alums: Tom Holtey (CP), Herman Marshall (BTP), Patrick McCabe (TCAA), Mark Thompson (ADP)

Students: Arjun Mithal (IFC)

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### Approval of Minutes

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The approval of minutes was deferred until the next meeting. Draft minutes are posted on the web site.

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### Finance Report

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Eric Cigan reported that finances are on track.

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### FSILG Office and Student Council Updates

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Brad Badgely reported that student elections for IFC and Panhel were held.

MIT Interfraternity Council (IFC): Arjun Mithal, new IFC president, reported that new officers were elected. Officers held a retreat over the weekend to recap last year and to look at programming for next year.

MIT Panhellenic Association (Panhel): Julie Rothaar-Sanders reported that new officers were elected; Meredith Loy is the new Panhel president. All MIT sororities participated in the Greeks Give program before the holidays.

MIT Living Group Council (LGC): Brad introduced Kristin Covino, the new advisor to the LGC. She is connecting with Sasha Rickard, LGC speaker.

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### Recap of Facilities Assessment Town Hall (Bob Ferrara and Pam Gannon)

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Bob Ferrara and Pam Gannon presented a summary of the Facilities Assessment Community Meeting. At the meeting, Bob described the history of the endeavor and Tom Stohlman presented the specifics of the assessment process. The overall goal is to provide a safe and healthy environment for students. The vendor chosen by the Facilities Assessment group, which includes reps from the AILG (Bob Ferrara, Tom Stohlman) and MIT Facilities, is Arup ([www.arup.com](http://www.arup.com)), and representatives were present at the community meeting. The meeting was well-attended.

Tom Stohlman, who is the AILG liaison for the project, said that he will be personally contacting chapters. A questionnaire and a simplified sample report is posted on the website and was distributed via email. They are planning for a Jan 15 start and their goal is to do four houses a week.

Discussion touched on several issues:

- Our goal is to set a standard for our communities
- Concern about this setting a precedent for future requirements and expenditures by MIT
- We should indicate to alumni that money is well spent
- Suggestion to contact each chapter individually
- Suggestion to speak about facilities assessment and the West Village at IFC and Panhel meetings; also at FSILG Retreat in February

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## Discussion: Fraternities in the News

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Given recent negative national news about fraternities, the group discussed the issues and how this affects MIT FSILGs.

Discussion included:

- FSILG Office has had inquiries from concerned MIT alums
- Strengths of our system:
  - Our community is a very positive place;
  - At many schools, alums are not involved as they are at MIT
  - Our student leadership is strong
- Recommend that we keep an eye on neighbors in Boston
- West Village Phase 2 work is going well and shows the support of the MIT administration
- MIT joined the national anti-hazing alliance Hazing Prevention Consortium ([www.stophazing.org](http://www.stophazing.org))
- It is important to have the conversation; explain the positive student experience
- IFC will be meeting with the Chancellor to update about and discuss initiatives with VPR (Violence Prevention & Response) and Title IX Office
- MIT fraternities need to show how different they are
- Need to have a PR campaign
- IFC has contacted Ian Waitz, new Vice-Chancellor, who belonged to a fraternity (not at MIT); they want to get support and maybe a comment or video
- ILGs are part of the ecosystem
- Chapters are doing things to improve, but all separately; should be a consolidated effort
- Community Benefits Report
  - First edition is AILG annual goal
  - FSILG Office is developing criteria, and way to collect information
  - Focus on positive, extension of the work of the Fraternity Culture Committee
- “If we don’t tell our story, someone will tell it for us”

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## Other Business / Announcements

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### Accreditation Committee (Herman Marshall)

Herman presented a proposal by the Accreditation Committee to eliminate the private comments section from the accreditation reports and instead have those comments incorporated into a cover letter. Herman noted that comments can be good or express concerns. The living group could still comment on the report, and comments on private information would remain private. In addition, the committee would like Board approval to apply this retroactively to one accreditation report.

Cecilia Stuopis made a motion, seconded by Eric Cigan, that the Board accept the recommendation of the Accreditation Committee and approve that the authors of the original report may move the private comments to a cover letter.

Paul Gray Memorial Ceremony – Bob Ferrara gave the poster signed by members of the AILG and PSK brothers to the Gray family. They were very appreciative.

Faculty Outreach – Pam Gannon is working on the list from Austin Ashe (MITAA) of MIT faculty and staff.

AILG Annual Goals – Akil Middleton said that we are making good progress on annual goals. Akil proposed that we have an optional January meeting to work on some of the annual goal tasks. This gathering could be focused on a particular topic.

Community Benefits Report – Akil noted that we need to start thinking about what information to include and how to gather the information.

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## Adjournment

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The meeting adjourned at 7:02pm.

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## Abbreviations

AILG	Association of Independent Living Groups
DSL	Division of Student Life
FCI	FSILG Cooperative, Inc.
FSILGs	Fraternalities, 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