



## AILG Board Meeting

Thursday, September 2, 2021 | Zoom | Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm by Akil Middleton

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### In Attendance

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Board: Akil Middleton (ZP), Cody Chamberlain (PKS), Eric Cigan (LCA), Tyler Kemp-Benedict (pika), Mary Linton Peters (KAT), Cecilia Stuopis (AXO),

Administration, Staff, Vendors: Brad Badgley (FSILG Office), Liz Jason (FSILG Office), Scott Klemm (FCI), Kim Lesly Hunter (MITAA)

Other Alumni/ae: Bob Ferrara (TC), Tom Stohlman (KS), Mark Thompson (ADP), Stan Wulf (PDT, AILG Ombuds),

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### Review of Minutes

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None to review.

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### Treasurer's Update and Financial Report

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Eric Cigan presented the Treasurer's report (balance sheet and P&L statement). From his email to the Board, accompanying the reports:

"There's little change from last month since the FCI monthly statement usually comes in after the 2nd of the month, so these reports only reflect some minor expense items and interest income.

"...our balance sheet shows over \$100K in accounts receivable, which includes the funding we get from IRDF as well as the funds we collect from AILG member organizations. IRDF has been invoiced for their support amount...

"...I anticipate that in the next few weeks FCI will be providing AILG with the funds they collect from AILG member organizations (less their collection fees) for AILG member dues, SLI program support and BSM program support. However, we are in a very strong cash position, so we aren't sensitive to delays in collecting these funds."

The AILG 2020 Annual Report has been filed with Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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### FSILG Office and Council Update

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This is the busiest time of year, with COVID added this year. Brad, Liz, et al., have been physically back in the office for ~3 weeks. It still feels weird, but there's a lot of excitement.

Rush is under way. Panhel had a big night Tuesday, and numbers are looking good. IFC recruitment is also going well. All events are registered. The FSILG office is working with all ILG houses on their recruitment plans, and all are in alignment with guidance from MIT. The students have been great!

GRA subsidies – an email will go out in the next week or two, to remind house corporations they can submit immediately for the entire academic year (\$6K), or once each semester.

There was a virtual house leader meeting last week. Most houses sent representatives, and the FSILG office is following up with those who did not. **Please make sure the students know who to be in touch with on their house corporation**, especially house managers.

The AILG Facilities Committee held a student house manager training. A handout with best practices and other resources are posted at <https://ailg.mit.edu/committees/facilities-committee>

Students and staff are required to be vaccinated, all are using MIT Covid Pass, which mediates access to buildings on campus. Staff are required to attest once/week and student twice/week. Best advice (to avoid delayed access into campus buildings) is to test at home and then immediately attest.

Most Covid cases at other schools are associated with Greek life – all it takes is one party gone wrong. So far, we've had a few positives, but no one really sick.

Please check with Brad Badgley at FSILG first before broadcasting any Covid-related information to your organizations, to avoid miscommunication. (Cecilia will review contact tracing at the plenary later this month.) The procedures are all described on the MITnow website: <https://now.mit.edu/> A link will be added to the AILG website, to help alums easily find the procedures, in case someone gets sick.

Pam also suggests that if someone in your house gets sick, please first contact: covidapps-help@mit.edu

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## FSILG Forward Efforts

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### Weekly FSILG planning meeting update

This is what the pilot steering team turned into. Now that the semester has started, it's no longer strictly a pilot, but more focused on DSL policy. Pam and Brad are still involved (not Akil).

Pam – One big discussion was about the policies. Some people have logged in to look at the recording of that seminar about policies and how to communicate the policies to the students and alums. The group is thinking through contingency scenarios.

Brad – MIT is very conservative, one of only two schools requiring [vaccinated] students to test 2x/week, rather than once. One advantage of starting later than many other schools is that we can learn from their experiences. For example, at schools where there have been clusters, they have switched to remote.

Pam – How to manage gatherings and events is a topic of interest, lots of thought going into that. QR codes are one tool for tracking or controlling access. (The only public spaces on campus currently: W20, DAPER/athletics facilities for members, and a limited public offering in Bldg. 32 for dining.) Tim Tickets are being used for visitor access, to structure guest attestation, voluntary disclosure of vaccination status... For an event with a group, a host can scan people in. Lists are kept for 2 weeks for contact tracing.

Cecilia – We recognize from evidence that with a highly vaccinated population, most cases will occur in vaccinated people, so we didn't think it made sense to test them less frequently than the unvaccinated.

### Pilot Q&A?

We learned a lot from what the pilots did, but the situation is different now from when they were operating as pilots, so it may not be very relevant now to hold a Pilot Q&A.

### What's next?

Pam will send reminders to those who have not yet handed in a completed reopening planning checklist. Generally, organizations are doing a really good job. Focusing on facilities a lot at the start, but in another month or so, it would be good to emphasize reconnecting with students.

All AILG meetings will remain virtual for the foreseeable future.

At some point, it would be good to revisit system-wide community service initiatives.

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## Review of AILG Website

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Bob will add the link to MITNOW, and also the email address for Covid questions.

AILG Board was asked to review:

- Goals (replace pre-Covid ones with FSILG Forward initiative agenda, AILG mission is unchanged) and Committees (chairs are invited to update the Education and Outreach, and Finance and Insurance). The house bill survey has been archived. Something should be added about renter's insurance. There is no nominating committee yet. That has been discussed, but it has not been built.
- Planned dates are posted. Two usually annual dates are not yet determined – Christmas party (used to be after the December Board meeting), and Annual Meeting (date will be set for that later – presumably it will happen in June 2022).
- The History section is not very complete, but there is a list with all the significant dates for every organization
- Resources is up-to-date (it's pretty static).
- AILG Awards – This section used to be more extensive. We anticipate reviving these in some form this year.

The AILG website updates will be presented briefly at the plenary.

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## Facilities Renewal Program

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Pam – We have a signed contract between AILG and the consultant for the first part of the previously interrupted facilities renewal program, Phase 1 – doors and egress. Josh and Scott from FCI, our partners in this endeavor – coordinated a walk-through of the selected houses with the consultant. The Facilities Committee and alums will have an opportunity to give feedback on the consultant's assessment report.

Next, we'll get a cost estimate, then apply for approval for 75% IRDF funding. The goal is to make it as easy as possible for house corporations. This first phase is a way to start out with a manageable community project, to try out this system and process, see if it's easier for the houses.

If organizations already had to do work that would otherwise have been part of this community project, exterior projects would already be eligible for 75% funding from IRDF. Interior door repair/replacement would not necessarily be reimbursable, if they were not part of this project.

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## IRDF Grant Policy / EOG Updates

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Pam – as previously announced, changes are being considered for IRDF grants, to emphasize the use of the IRDF to focus on the *educational mission, livability, safety, and equity* to support as many organizations as possible. Changes will take effect this July (though MIT was still providing support to FSILGs at that time).

The biggest change is around the educational area calculation. The definition is being broadened to include 25 s.f. x the number of students living in the house. There will be a cap of 27% on educational space, to promote equity across organizations. We expect every house to see an increase in educational space.

There will also be changes to what expenses are eligible for EOGs, annual grants, to increase focus on quality of life and safety expenditures. One of the considerations is that house bills need to reflect actual expenses. For example, more houses are now using professional services. The new rules will eliminate some expenses previously included, while adding other categories. One example: professional facility management will be included, with a cap of \$15K.

The maximum annual minor project grant will be reduced to \$50K, because of limited resources. IRDF is encouraging more houses to apply and wants to make sure there is enough money for more equitable support.

Major project grants are also subject to the changes in calculation.

These IRDF changes have not yet been posted, but they have been approved. Details will be presented at the September plenary and posted on the AILG and IRDF websites. Scott will be updating forms to reflect these changes. This might also be a good subject for a seminar.

EOGs – the paperwork/applications will go out (from Scott) AFTER the MIT reconciliation process is complete.

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## September Plenary planning

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Potential agenda items for the September plenary, in addition to the usual (finances, Brad's update):

- Cecilia Medical update
- Thanks to pilots, debrief
- IRDF/EOG changes
- students reconnecting
- Sometimes we have new volunteers, who can benefit from an information refresh
- Alumni Association – could ask Amy to present (kept getting bumped by Covid last year)
- Update on how IFC, Panhel, ILGs are doing. (Note: Rush will be over before the plenary.)

Please send any other ideas for the agenda to Akil!

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## Other Business/Announcements

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### **AILG Directory**

The AILG directory will always be a snapshot in time, since there's continual turnover. Pam will send a PDF of the current version to the mitailg mailing list. Directions to the directory could be posted on the AILG website. It lists presidents, VPs, treasurers, clerks, and alum house managers.

If you have updates now, please send them ASAP to Pam!

### **Nominations Committee**

For ZP (as an example), all past presidents serve on a nominating committee, which is potentially less political than other nominating processes. We want to have a nominations slate in plenty of time for the 2022 AILG annual meeting. [Some names floated...]

Maybe lifetime achievement awardees would be good candidates. Some potential pools of younger alums who might be recruited: recent grads, soon-to-graduate students, Panhel presidents and recent previous...

### **Committee Chair selection**

The intended reminder didn't go out. Committees are asked to make internal selections of committee chairs in time for the next month's Board meeting. (Hold confirming of Tom S as chair of facilities committee until then.)

### **Announcements**

Pam – Akil was honored with the 2021 Margaret L. A. MacVicar Award, recognizing “innovation, dedication and meaningful impact for the Alumni Association or the Institute in any area of volunteer activity, on the part of an alum who has become active in Alumni Activities in recent years, demonstrating strong potential for future volunteer leadership for the Association”

Pam - At convocation, Stephen Eppinger ('83, Mech Eng.) addressed first-year students – joining a fraternity was an example he gave of expanding his interests.

Scott – MIT DSL generously donated to the houses: disposable facemasks, hand sanitizer, KN95 masks. These will be delivered next week.

Dumpsters removed – the amount of trash coming out of houses this year is unusually large, so hopefully the houses will be looking good for Rush and recruitment.

Lots of new undergrads are facing situations totally new to them. They could use a lot of help and guidance – they're eager, hungry for information!

Akil – As of next July, ZP will officially be under DSL (rather than MIT) ownership for the student space. Alums were concerned they'd be kicked out, but this is a move to more stability.

Bob – we have a new chancellor, Melissa Nobles. Maybe at some future meeting, she and Suzy could be invited. (She went to Brown, might benefit from an intro to our community.)

Next meeting: plenary on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of October for next Board mtg.

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Adjournment – 7:20 pm

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Respectfully Submitted,

Tyler Kemp-Benedict, 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	Fraternalities, 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
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