



# Interfraternity Council

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY

## ■ Minutes from IFC President's Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

### 1. Presidential Report

*Ryan Schoen (rschoen)*

1. IFC has formed a "Unified Voice" task force with Panhel, DormCon, and the UA to determine student opinions and issue formal statements of general student opinion on hot issues both in writing to the Tech and to the administration.
2. Pi Kappa Alpha (Pike) is on campus and has begun meeting with student and student groups to begin their recruitment process.
3. Review of Recognition Process: organization petitions for membership, majority vote grants associate membership with half dues and no voting rights, approximately one year later probationary membership is granted with three quarters vote granting full dues and voting rights and requiring a three quarters vote for removal.

### 2. Vice-Presidential Report

*Clark Minor (clarkm)*

1. Delegates' Council is next week at the same time and every other week after that.
2. Those interested should email Clark.
3. Next week's topic is the recent (since 1990) history of recruitment at MIT.
4. This has been a recent item of discussion in the Tech and around campus, so this session will aim to educate and prepare those present for a discussion following the presentation.

### 3. Judicial Committee Report

*Garrett Fritz (fritzg)*

1. RFIs have been sent out. Those receiving them have seven days to respond.

### 4. Risk Management Report

*Ian Matts (ianmatts)*

1. An RMC training email is out. The Presidents are asked to share this with their organizations.
2. The registration deadline for events is Thursday at 5pm.
3. Continue to register all events. This does include Super Bowl parties for this coming weekend.

### 5. Recruitment & Programming Report

*Spencer Parra (sparr)*

1. Greek Week will take place during the first week of May this year (May 1-7). Email Spencer with any interested volunteers.
2. Notify Spencer of any Rush Chair changes so that mailing lists can be updated.
3. Bi-weekly rush chair meetings will start sometime near the end of the month. The topic of the first meeting will be Campus Preview Weekend (CPW).



# Interfraternity Council

## MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY

### 6. Public Relations Report

*Kris Swick (kswick)*

1. Working with Spencer to develop programming for CPW.
2. We want a presence at the Activities Fair and a panel discussion for parents is being organized.
3. Please share any CPW ideas or feedback with Kris.

### 7. Executive Assistant Report

*Ben Harvatine (bdharva)*

1. Please send Ben any changes in officers so that our records can be kept up to date.

### 8. Alpha Phi King of Hearts

*Sojung Lee (sojung)*

1. Proceeds from the event will benefit Cardiac Care.
2. Please sign up soon. Normally there are approximately fifteen contestants but they're looking to expand this year's show. They want to finalize candidates by March 15.
3. Tickets for an entire house can be purchased for \$60. A prize will be awarded for the organization with the best attendance.

### 9. IFC Advisor Report

*Marlena Martinez (marlenam)*

1. Please provide updated email addresses and cell phone numbers for House Managers, Risk Managers, and Presidents on the sheet being passed around or via email.
2. Also update the IFC list of Presidents.

### 10. Discussions

1. Petition to allow freshmen to live off-campus/in FSILGs during second semester.
  - 1.1. Alumni supporters of the petition shared their opinions.
    - 1.1.1. "The numbers" support the change, so what's missing is subjective.
    - 1.1.2. Much more radical proposals are currently being entertained, and this takes a shot at solving some of MIT's current problems with housing and finances.
    - 1.1.3. This is a practical and common sense solution widely supported in the community
    - 1.1.4. The proposal can also fix the current crowding issue in the Spring and allow dorm cultures to better solidify at that time.
  - 1.2. Presidents Question the Guest Speakers
    - 1.2.1. Would this require re-rooming? Will the economic viability of dorms be hurt?
      - 1.2.1.1. Expect limited movement of students (approximately 100). This won't be enough to "shock" the system.
      - 1.2.1.2. Spring transfers within and between dorms are already more prevalent than thought.



# Interfraternity Council

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE *of* TECHNOLOGY

- 1.2.2. What's the administrative hang-up if this is such a logical solution? Dean Columbo and other members of administration have in the past and even recently given flat answers of "no" to this. Has this changed?
  - 1.2.2.1. Enough popular support at least forces a conversation on the topic. "You don't call a question until you have all of the votes."
  - 1.2.2.2. Right now it's in the stage where interest and support are being gauged, more than the issue being forced.
- 1.2.3. The AILG says that is proposal isn't viable. Why?
  - 1.2.3.1. Too early in the process for them to have made a fully informed decision and the numbers in support of the proposal have grown since their evaluation.
- 1.2.4. Haven't the numbers of Greek men risen? How will this effect the ability of houses to fully house members if freshmen were allowed to move in during Spring term?
  - 1.2.4.1. There is still plenty of capacity. A Phi Kappa Sigma Alumni Association report has the numbers to support this. (See the aforementioned report at: [http://alumweb.mit.edu/upload/PKS/PKSplight\\_553.pdf](http://alumweb.mit.edu/upload/PKS/PKSplight_553.pdf) ).
- 1.2.5. What are the origins of this proposal? What was the tipping point?
  - 1.2.5.1. The Institute-wide Planning Task Force began the discussions and asked the community for suggestions. We started to reach out to seize the moment and collaborated on the proposal designed for consideration over IAP, and we're now looking for support/consideration.
- 1.2.6. The AILG finding the proposal unviable is still a big issue. Could you please further address this?
  - 1.2.6.1. We expect that perhaps they did not disagree with the points of the proposal, but rather found it simply unviable at that point in time, and things have certainly changed since then, and this proposal has only gained support and publicity.
- 1.2.7. You say that the winds are in our favor right now, but our meeting with Dean Columbo makes it seem quite opposite. He still needs to develop a strong track record here, and is under pressure to make us comparable to other elite institutions . Right now he's focused on his goals and developing a stronger 1<sup>st</sup> year experience, so pressure now may only elicit stronger resistance. Could you address these concerns?
  - 1.2.7.1. MIT now tries to battle the likes of Stanford, Harvard, Yale, etc. rather than the great technical institutes. We're trying to compete with schools where the "hotel quality" of dorms is the primary focus. The fact that MIT is "bizarre" and different from those schools is being hidden when it should be trumpeted.
- 1.3. Closing Remarks by the Guest Speakers
  - 1.3.1. They wish that all who might sign the proposal have the chance to do so.
  - 1.3.2. As far as a 1<sup>st</sup> year experience is concerned, there's nothing that says that FSILGs cannot be a part of that experience, and they will work to instill that view with Dean Columbo and help him to recognize how we can help.
  - 1.3.3. They want individual signatures as well as organizational endorsements. Those wishing to sign the petition can find it online at [fsilg-housing.org](http://fsilg-housing.org).
  - 1.3.4. They are more than willing to visit individual chapters to further discuss and educate on the issue.