FSILG&D Community Service Challenge Coming Up

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Last spring, 14 teams competed for The Service Cup by actively committing to serve the community as a community. Students teamed up with their fraternity, sorority, independent living group or dorm to make an impact. Team service involvement ranged from volunteering for local agencies to rallying around disaster relief to planning a team Alternative Spring Break trip to Maine.

Now the FSILG&D Community Service is coming back for its 2nd year! The challenge itself will kick off in February, but fall programming is underway. On Veteran’s Day (11/11/11), all students are invited to participate. Don’t miss this opportunity to donate part of your day off to do service work. Shortly after, prospective teams (all chapters and living groups) can start earning prizes for submitting a photo featuring the group serving the community. Video footage is also wanted! All media is due by 11/14. Either e-mail serviceChallenge@mit.edu or stop by the Public Service Center’s main office (4-104).

Winners from the FSILG&D Challenge last year (MIT PSC).

UA Officers

President: Allan Miramonti
Vice President: TyShaun Wynter
Chief of Staff: David Chang
Treasurer: Alexandra Hall
Secretary General: Janet Li
Senate Speaker: William Steadman
Senate Vice Speaker: TBD

Contact

To learn more about the UA, please browse our website at ua.mit.edu. You can also email ua@mit.edu with any questions.

Credits

Editor: Janet Li. Other authors are indicated in the articles.

Photos: From the MIT event or Google searches.
MIT Athletics Day a Success

On October 1, the UA Committee on Athletics, along with SAAC and DAPER, organized an athletics day to raise awareness of MIT athletics and encourage MIT students to support their fellow students that participate in varsity athletics. The event drew over 160 students to the men’s and women’s soccer games that were held that day.

“We had 200 participants at athletics day, even with the weather,” said Jody Melle, assistant aquatics director at DAPER. “Everyone had a great time.” The successful event included great food, rocking music, a 3-on-3 soccer tournament, a little Frisbee and some cornhole. MIT’s Mocha Moves performed at half-time for both soccer games, keeping the crowd’s energy up.

Participants also had the chance to win a free 30 minute massage, or a variety of other benefits and merchandise from DAPER. Everyone who stopped by was the lucky recipient of a free T-shirt, allowing them to show-off their MIT pride. Even Tim the Beaver made an appearance, performing some of his own dance steps.

Michael Walsh, Chair of Athletics

Get Reimbursed for Dinner with MIT Faculty!

Have a favorite professor that you’d like to get to know better? Get a few friends together, and take them out for dinner on the UA’s dime!

The Student-Faculty Dinners program gives students the opportunity to form closer relationships with faculty. You can go on three a year—one every fall, IAP, and spring term—and we’ll reimburse you for $20/person each dinner. The program is brought to you by the UA Student Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP).

You can sign up online at ua.mit.edu under “Projects and Programs.” Feel free to email us with any questions at ua-scep-dinners@mit.edu.

Paul Komins, Chair of the Student Committee on Educational Policy

Highlights of UA Fall 2011 Budget

At the first Senate meeting of the year, the Undergraduate Association passed the Fall budget proposed by the UA Treasurer. This budget is central to the efficient functioning of the UA as a whole, and especially important to the student groups that are financially supported by the UA’s Financial Board allocations. Over two-thirds of the budget is dedicated to student group funding, with the rest allowing the various committees of the UA to effect changes throughout undergraduate life.

Notable allocations include continued support for student-faculty dinners, a project run by the UA Student Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP), as well as the recently started student-alumni dinners, run by the UA Committee on Alumni Relations (CAR). Another part of the budget that was increased this year was the portion allocated under the Chief of Staff, who plans to expand relations both among student representatives on Institute committees and between Institute reps and the rest of the UA.

More detailed information regarding the specifics of the budget can be directed toward, come to a Senate or Exec meeting, contact the Senators or committee chairs listed on the UA website (ua.mit.edu), or consider joining a UA committee yourself!

Alexandria Hall, UA Treasurer


MIT’s faculty are subject to regulations regarding when and how they may hold classes and give assignments. For example, classes may not be held from 5PM to 7PM on weekdays (Rules and Regulations of the Faculty 2.12), and classes this fall with a final examination may not have any assignment’s due date fall after 12/9/2011 (Rules and Regulations 2.53). The UA Student Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP) is responsible for communicating with faculty about these regulations when problems arise.

Although faculty members are generally quite conscious of these regulations, mistakes and confusion do happen. When they do, students can anonymously report the problem to the UA Student Committee on Educational Policy (SCEP). SCP then opens a dialogue with the professors to resolve the problem.

SCFP can do more to resolve problems sooner we know about them, so we recommend that you look at the term regulations and compare them to your course syllabus sooner rather than later:

http://ua.mit.edu/committees/scep/ermregs.pdf

If you have any problems, you can report them anonymously at: http://ua.mit.edu/committees/scep/violations

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More detailed information regarding the specifics of the budget can be directed toward the UA Treasurer (ua-treasurer@mit.edu), and if you have specific things you would like to see the UA’s money directed toward, come to a Senate or Exec meeting, contact the Senators or committee chairs listed on the UA website (ua.mit.edu), or consider joining a UA committee yourself!

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Tim the Beaver shows off his soccer skills at MIT Athletics Day.
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UA Holds Run-Off Senate Elections
Several of the Fall 2011 UA Senate Elections were unresolv ed through the UA’s preferential voting system. And the Elections Commission held run-off elections to determine the final seats in these contested elections. These included seats in the Senate for McCormick, New House, Simmons, and Fraternities. The elected winners were Hannah Barrett, Emily Brown, Joanna Chen and Stephanie Chen, and George Bailey and Delan Asparuhov, respectively. Other Senate seats that still need to be filled, in a method determined by the individual living group presidents, include Baker, Belknap, and a representative for ILGs (Independent Living Groups). Second seats are also still needed for McCormick, MacGregor, New House, and Next House.

If you are a member of any of these living groups and are interested in representing your fellow students in matters discussed by the UA Senate, please contact your dorm president and notify him or her of your interest. This is a great leadership opportunity that should not be passed up.

Janet Li, UA Secretary General

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Upcoming Events
Senate Meetings
(with dinner)
Senators Chambers (W20-200)
Mon 10/31, 7:30 pm
Mon 11/14, 7:30 pm
Mon 11/28, 7:30 pm
Mon 12/12, 7:30 pm

Exec Meetings
(with dinner)
UA Office (W20-401)
Mon 11/17, 7:45 pm
Mon 11/21, 7:45 pm
Mon 12/5, 7:45 pm

Midnight Study Break
Wed 11/2, 11:59 pm
Coffeehouse, W20-308


Hey MIT,

We’ve got some great things for you to take advantage of. If you didn’t know the MIT/TA offers discounts at various locations through your CharlieCard, well here’s another cool step, Star Li has created a free iPhone app called MitDiscount to alert you of those discounts when you get close to them.

The Parking office has new offerings for signing up with MitDiscount as long as you are 18+, it’s only $15 for students for membership for an entire year! The MitDiscount app is also offering discounts on large catering orders exclusively to MIT students/

Apply for UA Committee
Whether you’ve been here for months or years, there’s got to be something you want to see on campus. It could be an improvement to something that already exists or an entirely new program, but there’s always something that can be done to improve the undergraduate experience.

That kind of work is carried out by the committees of the Undergraduate Association. The work of the UA committees ranges from projects like student-faculty dinners and the Produce Market to working with the facilities and administration on high-level issues from dining plans to advising. Whether your passion is education, sports, food, or energy and resource issues, there’s room for a wide variety of projects and goals.

So what are you waiting for? Join a UA Committee and make something happen.

To apply, go here: http://ua.mit.edu

If you have any questions, email ua@mit.edu and more information can be found at ua.mit.edu under the "issues" tab.

Best wishes,
Allan Miramonti and TyShaun Wynter
UA President and Vice-President

UPPERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION
UA.MIT.EDU

UA Newsletter
Vol. 43, Issue 2, 10/19/11

The UA is working on bringing many more resources to you, so stay tuned to your email for more information on all of these offerings and more!

Benjamin Shoibu, Assistant Vice President of Resource Development