Welcome from the UA President and Vice President

Fellow undergrads,

For those of you returning to MIT, welcome back. To the new members of our community, we welcome you to MIT, and we are confident you will enjoy your time here. The Undergraduate Association is ready to jump back into action, but we could use your help. Our student government has many facets, and thus many ways for you to get involved in improving our community. You can serve your living group as a senator, join a UA committee to focus on a specific topic that you are interested in, or join a faculty committee to work alongside MIT faculty to create new policy and initiatives at MIT. Freshmen, you also have a chance to join your class council and work to build unity and spirit in the 2015s.

In order to be a senator or class council member, you must turn in an election packet and run in fall elections. We will be providing more detailed information and packets at our information session on Friday, August 2nd from 4:30-6:30 pm in the Student Center Coffeehouse (3rd floor). Information will also be available at ua.mit.edu.

We have many things planned for the coming semester. A few, but not all, of our goals include:

- Lighting and drinking facilities in Briggs field
- A review of student life at MIT
- Discount cards for Kendall Square restaurants
- Working with IS&T to develop small introductions to Athena classes for IAP
- Maintaining or increasing student group funding through Finboard

If any of the above interests you, or you see something not on list this that should be, consider joining the UA and helping us exceed our goals.

Yours,
Allan Miramonti, UA President
TyShaun Wynter, UA Vice President

Join the UA

Join our circle and be the change that you want to see at MIT. Be a vital force for bettering our community and starting innovative, exciting projects and programs on campus. Where else can you collaborate with 150 other passionate students from all sides of campus, across all disciplines, to bring great ideas to life and to fight for students’ wants and needs?

If this sparks your interest, don’t hesitate to get involved right away! Depending on the position, you will either apply or run for office. To represent students’ opinions on issues in relation to faculty and administrators, apply to be on an Institute Committee. To focus on projects, programs, or policy in specific areas of undergraduate life, including sustainability, athletics, dining, educational policy, etc., apply to be on a UA Committee.

As for elected positions, if you would like to represent your living group in tackling general student life issues, run for the UA Senate. If you are a freshman and want to help plan class events, run for the 2015 Class Council.

Whatever you are interested in, we can help you find a way to get your voice heard and your ideas implemented. Please come to any information session (listed under “Upcoming Events”) or visit ua.mit.edu to learn more.
Shaw’s Discount for MIT Students

This coming school year, we will be having some great discounts at Shaw’s, exclusively for MIT students. By adding a special sticker to your MIT ID card, you can get a 5% discount on all items at the Shaw’s/Star Market at 20 Sidney Street, right down Massachusetts Avenue heading west.

How do you get a sticker? On September 2nd, Shaw’s will be having a promotional event on campus. If you come to the event, in addition to grabbing a sticker, you will be able to pick up rewards cards for even more store discounts and some easy microwave-friendly recipes. Shaw’s will also be giving away some free merchandise like reusable bags, water, fruit, and more.

If you can’t make it to the event, just head over to Shaw’s, walk up to the Service Desk with your MIT ID, and you can request a sticker. Once you have it, simply present it at the cash register and you’ll receive your 5% discount.

Remember that the UA is still running weekend shuttles to Shaw’s, Trader Joe’s, and Whole Foods this year to satisfy all of your grocery needs. See the updated schedules at ua.mit.edu under “Projects & Programs.” Watch out for even more exciting events, discounts, and projects coming in the future!

Benjamin Shaibu, Assistant Vice President of Resource Development

New Pharos Printing System

Over the summer, IS&T finished rolling out the new Pharos printing system to all Athena printers and machines. The most visible change is the new "hold and release" system which replaces the old printer queues. Instead of printing to a specific printer, users now just print to "mitprint" and then can release their job at any Athena printer by swiping an MIT ID in the Pharos card reader. Also as part of this change, each user is allocated a quota of 3,000 pages per year (counted in terms of physical pieces of paper, so users who print double-sided will effectively have 6,000 pages).

These changes were designed and implemented with student input and feedback gathered through the UA Committee on Printing and the IS&T Student Technology Advisory Board (ISTAB). The most commonly reported complaints involved large jobs that get sent to printers and are never collected, preventing other users from printing and wasting tons of paper and ink. The UA and IS&T hope that the new changes introduced by Pharos will help alleviate these issues without causing any significant problems for the majority of users.

The UA Committee on Printing has now been dissolved and replaced with the UA Committee on Technology, which will be working on many different issues relating to the use of technology at MIT, including printing. Comments, concerns, and questions should be sent to student-printing-feedback@mit.edu or uatechton@mit.edu, as appropriate.

Leonid Grinberg, Chair of Technology
UA Restructuring Still in Works

Last year, the Undergraduate Association began to look at the overall structure of its organization and how it can be improved. As we move into a new semester, we will not forget our hard work on the topic; instead, we will reconvene the UA Restructuring Committee and pick up where we left off.

We are committed to providing the strongest and best government to our fellow students as possible. In a few weeks, we should be prepared to start talking to as many people and stakeholders who have an interest in the UA as possible to understand their needs and concerns. We should have a sketch of what a new UA could look like, and will be reaching out for feedback.

In the meantime, please feel free to join ua-structure-listeners@mit.edu for updates from the committee. A schedule of meetings, chaired by former Chair of the Faculty Tom Kochan, will also be accessible via the mailing list ua-senate-listeners@mit.edu. If you have any suggestions or comments, please do not hesitate to send them to ua-structure@mit.edu.

Allan Miramonti, UA President

MIT Produce Market in Its Third Year

The family-run MIT Produce Market, which began in March 2009, is now in its third year of operations. The fresh fruit and vegetable stand is run by Russo’s, a company that took top prizes in Boston Magazine’s 2007 Best of Boston contest in Best Produce.

The MIT Produce Market runs weekly on Tuesdays from 11AM-5PM in the East Campus Courtyard, weather permitting. The produce sold is both affordable and nutritious.

From the end of October to the end of March, the location of the market will be moved to the Stata TMSC Lobby (Building 32).

Get your weekly supply of fresh fruits & vegetables at the MIT Produce Market every Tuesday!
Keep Updated

To learn more about the UA, please visit our website at ua.mit.edu.

You can also add yourself to our mailing lists:
- UA-senate-listeners@mit.edu to keep up-to-date with UA Senate
- UA-exec-listeners@mit.edu to keep up-to-date with UA Exec

Please do not hesitate to email us at ua@mit.edu or drop by our office on the 4th floor of the Student Center (W20-401) if you have any questions.

Credits

Editor: Janet Li. Other authors are indicated in the articles.
Photos: From the MIT event or Google searches.