

# EC HouseComm 2016-10-12

4W didn't bring dry oatmeal. There are, however, Milano cookies. Acceptable.  
1W isn't here again. Piper trusts in our representative government, though.

## **TalbotComm's Mural Policy**

We used to have a mural in Talbot. Now it is in an office because there's an office there. There wasn't a set mural policy last year when people were working on that mural. We decided to deal with an actual mural policy later. It is now later. The policy will be that people send out a sketch/reference image for what they want to paint, and give people some time (usually roughly a week) to veto or object to it. You should reach out to TalbotComm, exec, house team, etc. if you feel it is offensive. If you don't find it offensive but also don't like it, direct your feelings to exec or TalbotComm for further discussion/decision on whether or not the mural will happen.

Do people think we should have to get x number of approvals versus no objections? rkestin has this written out and can send it to exec. We should probably make this policy a little more robust, depending on how thorough the written-out policy is.

There is leftover OSB mural stuff from rush. People want to put that up. That's why we care about talking about Talbot's mural policy.

## **DSL's Mural Policy**

It seems DSL's mural policy request is more on the lines of, "If someone decides to escalate something outside of the dorm, instead of going through exec and resolving it within the dorm," this gives them a way to ensure that we did our part.

If people are okay with this, exec will draft some series of people someone objecting to murals could go through/process they could follow, have that done by early November, and release it to the dorm for feedback and discussion, anonymous or not, before finalizing it as a mural policy. Mostly meant to be a venue for people to safely communicate when they are upset.

What if someone's suggestion just looks bad? Something something people aren't big on formality.

## **Basement Updates**

This HouseComm, brought to you by rkestin. We used to be able to do woodworking in the basement. Then joeg got really upset about all the sawdust because the fire department got really upset about all the sawdust. So we can't do woodworking in the basement unless we can keep it relatively clean. He's going to buy us shopvacs and brooms and racks, and we'll keep those and chopsaws in the basement room under Hayden, on the condition that

you clean up after them. He's also thinking of hiring someone to keep this space clean (like a kitchen bitch except a basement bitch, which is different from the roaches eating our trash). Don't take the shopvac's away from that room. They will be chained down.

If you have wood stacked up against the walls of the room under Hayden, you should remove it ASAP so that joeg can put up shelves. In general, don't leave big blocks of wood in the middle of walkways, because these are a fire and tripping hazard. This will not buy you joeg's or his guys' favor (It might buy you free grunging).

Also joeg says the old pool table is very old and also people kept chopping wood on it, so he bought us a new one. Will it also be a table for chopping wood? Who can know.

The Goodale washing machines are down in the basement, but not up and running yet. joeg thinks they'll be a \$1/load. Whoa.

### **Housing Liaison**

We'll probably be better defining this role at the next HouseComm, as well as potential elections. This may become a newly elected-with-exec position!

### **BikeComm**

The grounds office is trying to build us another bike rack on the south end of the building. We don't really know when they're going to do this. joeg's also still trying to get the downstairs storage space fixed up so we have indoor bike storage before the winter.

### **Bad Ideas Chair Elections**

Bad Ideas happens towards the end of IAP and is open to all of campus, and mostly occurs near East Campus. Any undergrad can apply for funding to carry out their bad idea. Some previous bad ideas: rocket-powered chainsaw, Chipotle relay racing, Fred the Ice Rink, Stata model made of meat, 2^n cookies, human dogsled racing.

Submissions usually close towards the end of Christmas break, so going through those and budgeting takes some time, and then IAP is kind of busy meeting with EHS about events, and then there's one weekend of crazy running around.

Also this year will be awesome because we're electing these chairs at the right time~

schin19 says no	hshackle was hesitant, but says no	tabrez says no
rkestin says no	ldecastr would have with hshackle, but no	bgheneti says yes
spohorec says no	hadrian says yes	jakobw says yes
jlorrey says no	milka says no	ameister says no

benrf says no

People want to nominate jimkhaw

yanisa says no

alexandy says no

All of exec says no

- bgheneti - Wants Bad Ideas to happen. Logistics and dealing with people are a thing he can do if it means Bad Ideas will happen. During IAP, might be doing an externship, which shouldn't take much time. If not the externship, maybe bumming around for a couple weeks in Canada.
- hadrian - he wants experience working with logistics and people, but he has moxie. During IAP, French I and maybe a personal project.
- jakobw - He wants to hang out with jimkhaw. During IAP, he's going to be involved in Hack Punt Tool, and maybe something else during IAP, and also Assassin's Guild 10-day.

#### *Questions from previous chairs*

What's the line between a bad idea and a dangerous idea?

- hadrian - Remember that one judge who said he'd know obscenity when he saw it? Yeah that.
- jakobw - Somewhere between is it going to seriously injure someone and can I convince jimkhaw that it's a good idea?
- bgheneti - ask more informed people if it's something they think is dangerous. If it would injure people less than 5% of the time, then I'd be fine. Less worried about EHS since you just have to phrase it right.

Experience driving large UHaul trucks in winter? Do you have a license?

- jakobw - has a license, never driven in MA, would rather not.
- hadrian - has a permit, not a license. Needs a driver  $\geq 21$  in the passenger seat.
- bgheneti - does not have a license, considered getting one.

rcm can also drive the truck?

What if an event runner doesn't show up?

- bgheneti - have backup events. Early Green Building challenge practice run. Have people willing to step in and run things, or do it yourself.
- jakobw - Depends on what we have from them for the event. If everything is in place, we can just get someone else to run it. If we can't run something, run a different event with the same name or just do something else.
- hadrian - Doesn't know what to add to what the other two said.

We're electing three Bad Ideas chairs. This is unusual. Usually there are two.

hadrian, jakobw, and bgheneti are new Bad Ideas chairs! Talk to ldecastr and hshackle about it.

## **New House: Feedback on Integration**

Regarding that New House will have to be integrated into other dorms next fall, New House exec and some people from DSL would like to get some quick feedback about a couple of things.

Would you expect New House to pay dorm taxes, participate in dorm government, etc. *as New House?*

- "I think it's a good precedent to set that they are independent"
- "They should at least pay house tax"
- "On the idea of keeping them independent, it would be an interesting logistical problem when they will not all be on one hall"
- "They say that New House will be gone for two years, but who knows? If they don't exist as a building for a long time, how can new freshmen coming in identify with New House? While it may suck for New House residents to be part of a new dorm, it wouldn't be a bad idea to have them become residents of whatever dorm they move into."
- "I think we should try to integrate them as best they can. They could still have New House government and meet on their own terms somewhere else, but people who live in East Campus can still participate in East Campus government, pay house tax, etc. Dual citizenship"
- "Even if they're aiming to remain separate, they do still live here and government affects all people who live here."
- "It seems weird to keep them separate from us, because government still affects them, especially if it's for two years."
- "If we take a financial hit so they can have the finances to keep their culture going, I think that's an experiment worth pursuing."

Would it be okay if New House people were specifically able to reserve time in kitchens? People don't seem to understand this question.

- People who live on EC halls can have space in EC kitchens??
- Reserving Talbot kitchen seems pretty reasonable.
- If an entire house wanted to get together and cook together, Talbot might be a more appropriate place to do that. Regular daily or co-op cooking is something that can happen on hall kitchens like it does with every other co-op.
- Something that might help is that Pritchett is happening again.

What are your dorm's demographics like? Is this a cultural question? A course-distribution question? We don't really know how to answer this question.

The number we're getting right now is 25-35 New House residents.

How long will New House not exist for? Two years, hopefully.

Will New House be able to do like a mini hall-rush so they don't end up in places where they don't want to be? That's a good idea. Also something DormCon seems to be discussing already.

Is East Campus xenophobic? Doesn't seem like it.

If you have questions about New House that people can take to DormCon, talk to astanton or Piper.

### **Piper's Storytime**

Someone is organizing a maker fair in the spring. They wanted to get in contact with the people who built the rush rollercoaster. They want to exhibit it. When asked if they wanted media, and which one, they responded that they were looking to exhibit an actual roller coaster, and asked how much space that would require. Piper explained that that is not possible, and that it would be hard to just make one. No response yet.

For the record, someone out there believes that we store a rollercoaster in our basement.