

Roll call: 1W absent.

Budget

Avital talks about the budget. Email her if you have questions about this:

- All budget requests provisionally granted
- Rush has been pre-funded (we had a low budget in the fall, and now rush is 100% funded from the spring budget)
- Remember that MIT doesn't reimburse tax or alcohol
- If you can't front a purchase for a comm, ask us, we have tax-free accounts and an MIT credit card
- Drop off receipts outside Avital's room or email
- Avital sent a poll about people's perception of the EC budget. Some questions people asked:
 - Budget is available on EC wiki
 - If you have an idea that need money, find a comm that seems relevant, email them & ask for money
 - Avital will try to figure out a way for people to see the budget & spending in real time
- Actually **spend** the goddamn money. MIT has \$7mln in student group accounts, and it's a problem.
- We're in a unique situation where money is not the limiting factor in doing cool things for EC, but your time is. Enjoy it while you can.

Henry asks for more justification on pre-funding Rush. Avital says it wasn't a problem either last semester or this, no budget requests were denied, and this makes accounting easier.

Housecomm takes a vote to accept the budget. Budget whiteballoted.

Kat's announcement

Kat is a sophomore running for UA President with Alexa Martin. She needs ~700 signatures on the petition to be allowed to run. Please sign it if you think she should run, ask her if you want to know more.

Alt Roast discussion

A proposal was emailed out. Gretchen, the author, is here and gives a recap. It would be an event in the courtyard on Friday May 4th, potentially combined with EC Day. We need to decide on a name for the event, and we don't want it to be very explicitly associated with Alt Roast, so we're considering "East Side Day". There is outside funding, EC doesn't need to contribute anything from our budget. It will be a dry event, and we want to have many people running security to make sure random people don't get inside EC. There will be grilling, there might or might not be a steer; halls will get money for art projects, possibly for banners; mud wrestling and fire spinning are also possibilities.

Milka: when you say “combine with EC day”, do you mean “move EC day to Friday” or “move this to Sunday”? Gretchen: whichever works best.

There are a lot of feels. There’s a concern this would eclipse EC Day, and that this could not be politically wise. Tesla: I’ve talked to Rob and Sandy, DormCon, and the administration---as long as it’s dry, during the day, outside, and registered early, they seem happy with it as a kind of “healthy protest” that makes them look bad.

Tesla reiterates that we’re going to have two votes: whether we’re holding a Roast-related event at all, and whether this is going to be joint with EC Day.

Dsheen says the security proposal needs to be more detailed, and that perhaps making everyone wear wristbands is problematic. SH people say similar procedures have worked well in the past.

Mariedea underscores that SH people might not be perfectly informed about EC traditions, but really don’t want to make this seem like they’re taking our space over.

Comments from a Beast resident: they’re concerned about anything happening inside the building. Gretchen points out the event is entirely outside.

Mariedea underscores that the bulk of Alt Roast activities are still happening outside campus, and the proposed event is just a kick-off.

Conrad: what warrants all of the security concerns? Mariedea: at SH, the events were happening inside the building for multiple days, so there needed to be some control over who gets inside etc. It would be a good idea to make sure there are people making sure that everything looks fine (people we don’t want inside not going inside, people carrying sketchy things not going outside). Tesla: furthermore, this gives people an opportunity to opt-out of the event by being on their hall.

Dsheen: how many visitors are we talking about? “One SH courtyardful”, 150 or something at peak? And most of them wouldn’t stay.

Andrea: what’s the motivation for having it in EC? Wouldn’t you rather have it off-campus? Mariedea: most of them are off-campus. But people miss the things that we’d normally do in the courtyard, like mud wrestling, art, grilling the meat.

Swampfox: to what extent do you expect EC to be responsible? Is EC running it, or are we giving somebody else space? Mariedea: we have enough people to do security. Tesla: I was under the impression we’re (EC) registering this, is that so? It is. EC people are invited to participate and help organize, but they don’t have to.

If shit happens, is it going to be clear to admins who is responsible? Tesla: I believe we should vote under the assumption EC would take the responsibility. But it appears the administration is more or less happy and sometimes even encouraging.

Concerns brought up about security. SH has one or two entrances and an enclosed courtyard, EC has many and an open courtyard. Mariedeia/Gretchen: the number of doors is not the issue, we'd have enough people to guard all of them.

Andrea: a sentiment I've heard echoed a lot is "this feels a lot like the ChemE department playing volleyball in our courtyard all weekend" (in the sense that it's an entity that isn't EC just using our space), and this seems to have rubbed people off the wrong way. Mariedeia: we didn't want it to feel this way. We wouldn't be using the space all weekend, but we also expected a lot of mixing because there's a lot of overlap in alums coming to EC Day and Roast. Tesla: one of the reasons we might want to combine this with EC Day is to make it feel like a shared event between both of our dorms.

Farah: What can former SH residents can do to make this feel like we're not just using EC's space/to make this more appealing? Andrea: perhaps we should let traditions evolve and, if someone wants to run a completely new event, they should. I think a lot of traditional SH events are pretty cool. Tesla: note that a large number of people running this are current EC residents, there are plenty of 2020s who were very interested in both SH and EC.

Mariedeia: we really don't have a very good idea of how EC Day works, which is why we wanted to vote on so many disjoint things to figure out what EC people are okay with and what they aren't.

Housecomm is getting ready to vote on taking the responsibility for registering a dry, outside event during the day that EC does not pay for, with funding available to halls for art projects. Name TBD, details of specific events TBD. This vote defaults to holding this on a Friday afternoon as a separate event, but if it passes, we will also vote on whether we want to merge it with EC day in some form.

9/9 halls vote yes, motion passes.

Swampfox suggests officially electing (at Housecomm) people to run the event, kind of like CPW/Rush chairs.

Can we invite Random House? *Housecomm snaps vigorously*

Tesla asks if people have objections to holding this event on same week, but different day. People have no objections.

Toplessness policy

Tesla proposes moving amendment vote/discussion to next Housecomm. Motion to whiteballot. Passes.