

# UA Monthly Report

September 2018

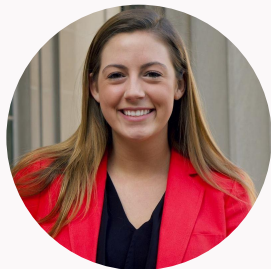


# UA Officers

UA Officers work on policies and ensure the organization is running smoothly.



# President



Alexa Martin

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mit.edu](mailto:ua-president@mit.edu)

## Past Month

- Met with folks under Student Support & Wellbeing and Mental Health to discuss the idea of physically grouping support resources together in a hub
- September 20: Attended Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting
- Met with Peter Cummings to discuss SwipeShare being expanded to include regular meal swipes in addition to guest swipes
- Worked with UA treasurer to finalize our budget and get it approved
- Working with the Office of the Vice Chancellor to hold a forum on education at MIT and ensuring there is adequate student feedback throughout the process
- Held UA Council meetings on September 12th and 26th

## Current Projects

- Begin meeting with more student groups to hear feedback on the idea of a wellbeing hub
- Running the FYE forum on October 4th in 56-154
- Working with treasurer and graduate students to look at the student life fee
- Working to ensure the New Fund Budget Process is smoother for next year
- Upcoming UA Council meetings on October 10th (with VPSL Suzy Nelson) and October 24th



# Vice President



Kat Jiang

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## Past Month

- Sept 8: Facilitated a full-day off-site retreat for Committee Chairs
- Sept 9 - 20: Opened committee member applications, received 150+ responses
- Sept 13: Held a UA committee info session for students to meet committee chairs
- Sept 20: Held the first Cabinet meeting to discuss the application process
- Sept 21 - now: Individual meetings with committee chairs to discuss goals and plan for the semester
- Sept 24: Met with the Career Exploration Committee to discuss our interim report and start working on recommendations

## Current Projects

- Running the FYE forum on October 4th in 56-154
- Planning a welcome dinner for new UA members on October 11th
- Providing feedback for a new IAP class to continue first year changes
- Working on getting feedback on restructuring the Career Fair



# Chief of Staff



## Past Month:

- Completing nominations process to Institute Committees start of the year

## Current Projects

MJ Porzenheim

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- Recruiting Vice Chancellor Advisory Committee
- (Supposedly) helping with SAGE
- Will recruit groups of students to work on major-specific advising task forces, starting with Course 16
- Still following up on Institute Committees nominations that are slow :(
- Helping write questions for the FYE forum!

# Treasurer



Ricardo Villareal

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## Past Month

- Finalize UA Budget for FY 2018-2019 and get it approved.
- Create new cost objects for committees with large budgets.
- Rewrite bylaw specifying reserve amount to ensure financial stability and proper utilization of budget.

## Current Projects

- Working with President and GSC officers to split the student life fee.
- Creating guidelines to ensure the New Fund Budget Process is smoother next year.
- Rethinking UA Travel Grant Guidelines based on what we learned from the pilot program last year.

# Secretary



Mahi Elango

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## Past Month

- Re-designed *The Byte*, met with Offices who regularly contribute to the weekly newsletter, and emailed out the first few issues of *The Byte*
- Planned the UA booth at Activities Midway
- Updated the UA website

## Current Projects

- Work with UA Involvement Committee to create “thought leaders” on campus to open a more diverse and direct line of communication between the UA and students to hear what and where students need UA support
- Work with CAC, UA Innovation Committee, and others, on renovations to the first, and fifth floors of the Student Center
- Look at ways to update the UA Office (W20-401), and create office guidelines
- Better understand what students want out of student spaces in general
- Track all membership and demographics in the UA



# UA Cabinet Committees

Cabinet Committees represent students in a given area to people outside of the UA.







2017 UA  
Chairs  
Retreat

# Campus Planning



Charlotte  
Chazen

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## Past Month

- Recruiting new members
- Brainstormed project ideas for the semester
- Put up swings around campus

## Current Projects

- Re-imagining Lobdell in Student Center
- Brainstorming ideas for permanent or semi-permanent interventions to improve the experience of campus

# Community & Diversity



Emanuel Perez

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## Past Month

- Recruit new members
- Brainstorm collaboration with cultural groups on campus

## Current Projects

- Organize event with CASE and Food Insecurity Team
- Make connections with more groups on campus



# Education



Jingwei Ma

## Past Month

- Recruited new members
- Sent out violations reminder to undergrads
- Transitioned with OFY on student-faculty dinners



Daiyao Zhang

## Current Projects

- Lay out timelines for projects this year and assign members
- Make advising survey report and share it with undergrads
- First year GIR discussion forum
- Meet with registrar office on mid semester evaluations

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# Innovation



Malte Ahrens

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## Past Month

- Prepared a sustainability brief for Compton Lounge and presented it to UA Council, VPSL Suzy Nelson, Chancellor Cindy Barnhart, and their respective teams
- Reopened Compton Lounge ("the banana lounge," 26-110)
- Had our first five all-team meetings for the semester; grew our committee leadership team; interviewed 70 new applicants to the committee

## Current Projects

- Open call for student art in Compton Lounge in collaboration with MIT Student Arts Programs; hosting community events in the lounge in collaboration with PKG, Addir Fellows, and UA Cabinet; working with MIT Mind Hand Heart to offer stress toys and new furniture in the lounge; working with UA Sustainability to have compost bins
- Working to improve quality food options on campus, launching a delivery service pilot with Cambridge vendor "Life Alive" in collaboration with Prof. Mark Bathe
- Developing a room of quiet (a meditation space) in collaboration with MIT Spiritual Life
- Outreach with venture capital (VC) firms
- Reorganizing the committee for 40 members; onboarding new members; launching the UA Innovation task-forces for 2018-19



# Public Affairs



Grace Chuan

## Past Month

- Recruit new members
- Begin publishing TerraByte
- Brainstorm ideas to get more involved in Cambridge City Politics
  - Possible IAP/summer internship with Cambridge City Council



Ashti Shah

## Current Projects

- Publish TerraByte
- Cambridge City Council Meetings

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# Sustainability



Avital Baral

## Past Month:

- We held Trash2Treasure, our annual reuse sale, on Registration Day.
- We've started to meet with Bon Appetit (the dining vendor) to implement sustainability recommendations such as reducing food waste, offering discounts at vendors when people bring their own cups/utensils, and implementing a new program for groups on campus to "rent" plates and utensils for free for events



Rebecca Grekin

- We are working on a proposal for a large community garden

## Current Projects:

- Continuing our work with Bon Appetit and on the large community garden
- Planning for our annual Trashion show

[ua-sustain-chairs](https://ua-sustain-chairs.mit.edu)  
[@mit.edu](https://ua-sustain-chairs.mit.edu) Organizing sustainability alumni dinners



# Student Support & Wellness



Sophia McGowan

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## Past Month

- Recruiting new members
- Corresponding with MH&C to write paragraphs for plaques to be put on the mural being painted
- Had first committee meetings to get projects back up and running

## Current Projects

- Continuing to work on free sanitary hygiene products for women's restrooms
- Analyzing results of the tutoring survey sent out last year
- MH&C poster campaign
- Active Listening program for orientation



# UA Operations Committees

Operations Committees improve the efficiency and ability of the UA.



# Alumni Affairs



Grace Hsu

## Past Month

- Contacting various alumni groups to form partnerships
- Recruiting members!

## Current Projects



Michelle Menkiti

- Working with MIT alumni association and Student Alumni Association to hold alumni lunches and dinners
- Planning speaker series

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# Community Service



Lucy Liao

## Past Month

- recruited new members for the committee
- organized a community service event to Community Servings
- publicized community service opportunities with Cambridge School Volunteers to undergraduates
- met with the PKG to discuss goals and projects for the next semester



Aaron Robles

## Current Projects

- organize internal UA community service events
- reach out to dorm community service representatives and on-campus community service groups
- establish social media accounts to publicize community service projects from MIT students

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# Events



Alby Joseph



Alice Zhang

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## Past Month

- ❖ Recruit new members!!
- ❖ FallFEST planning, ticket sales, publicity for the event on September 29th with Nasim Pedrad

## Current Projects

- ❖ Onboarding new members and committee bonding
- ❖ Start planning for Fall Study Break coming some time in October



# Finboard



Bamlak Gessesew

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## Past Month

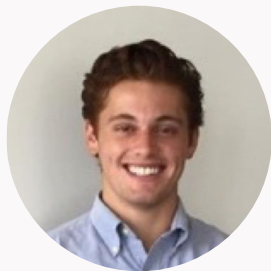
We have been working on Fall Cycle allocations and attempting to find an optimal timeline for the UA Travel Grant. We are also finalizing recruitment to expand our team.

## Current Projects

Once Fall Cycle Appeals applications open, we are going to determine allocations for those. We are also hoping to expand the audit process to include more groups and on a more frequent basis. This will ensure the fiscal responsibility of student groups we regularly fund.



# Involvement



Ben Kaplan

## Past Month

This past month, we began to explore different ways to engage the undergraduate body more effectively within the UA, as well as raise campus awareness of the service that the UA could provide to varying students, clubs, and organizations.

## Current Projects

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Currently, we are reaching out to different student groups directly to start the conversation of how the UA could provide assistance. We are also considering using a survey to better understand where the undergraduate body actually wants and needs help. Our main goal right now is to initiate channels of communication between the UA and specific student groups throughout campus, and we are beginning to develop an actionable plan to do so. Another purpose of Involvement is to encourage connection and collaboration within the UA. We are starting to plan study breaks, mixers, and other social event specifically designed for the UA's members to work towards this initiative.



# Marketing



Clare Liu

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## Past Month

- Recruit new members!
- Created and ordered stickers for UA pubbing materials

## Current Projects

- Onboard new members
- Continue updating / reorganizing UA website
- Begin updating UA's social media

# Technology



Yaateh  
Richardson

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## Past Month

Our committee is wrapping up our formal recruitment, but we are still looking for non developer members! Feel free to contact me if you're interested. We have also been looking for potential new projects, and met with Chris Peterson to discuss potential work on MIT Admissions and SFS websites.

## Current Projects

We are beginning planning for our annual community focused makeathon. We are also working on the UA App Store Beta, which will be in production soon! The beta will feature a curated list of applications and resources for MIT students (both official and student made). The list of apps can be found [here](#). Feel free to add to the spreadsheet or contact me with any additions.





# Thanks for reading!

If you have ideas for projects to work on or ways to improve your experience at MIT, please don't hesitate to reach out to any of us.

