

UA Monthly Report

February 2019

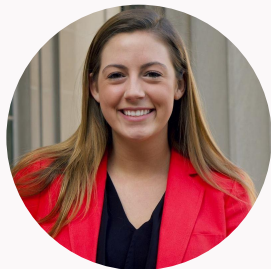


UA Officers

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



President



Alexa Martin

[ua-president@
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Past Month

- Nominated students for College of Computing Working Groups
- Attended Institute Committee Chair Meeting
- Continued working on proposal for wellbeing hub on campus
- Provided feedback on possible changes to PKG website

Current Projects

- Help with UA & Class Council Elections
- Continue to run bi-weekly UA Council meetings
- Present at workshop on housing processes
- Continue to provide feedback and student perspective on various initiatives including commencement and GIR changes
- Ensure seniors who cannot afford to attend senior ball / week events have access to free tickets



Vice President



Kat Jiang

ua-vp@mit.edu

Past Month

- Ran GBM in December, with Suzy Nelson coming in to speak about DSL priorities
- Met with shuttle committee to create better signage, ensure phone number is staffed, and provide avenues for student feedback
- Met with Techmart marketing and programming committee to brainstorm new ways to reach undergrads
- Opened spring committee applications

Current Projects

- Meeting again with shuttle committee to push for app improvements
- Meeting with student philanthropy leaders to discuss undergraduate giving



Secretary



Mahi Elango

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Past Month

- Continued sending out issues of *The Byte*
- Met with shuttle committee to work on app notifications
- Lobdell Working Group to re-issue contracts to 2nd floor Student Center vendors
- Looked at ways to update the UA Office (W20-401) to make it more welcoming to all undergraduates, and created office guidelines

Current Projects

- Continuing projects from last month



UA Cabinet Committees

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



Campus Planning



Charlotte
Chazen

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Past Month

- Presented to the Committee on Curricula regarding major flexibility and the potential for an individually-designed-major option
 - Gathered students' feedback re their major and course selection decisions and gauged interest in individually-designed-major option
- Hosted workshop for BetterMIT Innovation Challenge
- Met with working group to begin vendor selection process for Student Center's Lobdell Dining Hall

Current Projects

- Continuing to meet with faculty re create-your-own-major idea
- Developing student-survey to hear preferences for Lobdell Dining Hall



Education



Jingwei Ma

Past Month

- Revised the subject evaluation survey mentioned below with Teaching and Learning Lab
- Violations



Daiyao Zhang

Current Projects

- Sending out a survey on improving subject evaluations
- Writing up a guideline for mid-semester subject evaluations procedures
- Meeting with Vice Chancellor's office to discuss advising pilot plans
- Organizing a student-faculty mixer
- Violations

Innovation



Malte Ahrens

ua-innovation-chairs@mit.edu

Team internal: internal referenda for an expanded leadership team, project structure, and document & sharing strategy, seeking to improve our efficacy while maintaining our unique culture and capacities

Arts at MIT: mural collaboration with *Borderlines* underway (painting ongoing in the banana lounge); student art now hanging throughout the lounge

Banana lounge: all stocked and running; bringing in new furniture (including exercise balls) soon; following up with Chiquita on specific banana quality issues; adding a second compost bin; two team members visited banana farms in Central America over IAP (not UA funded) following the supply chain from farm to MIT, to investigate specific quality issues we've been facing, share the story of where our bananas come from and the people and systems behind them with the MIT community, and for independent research

BetterMIT: ran the second annual BetterMIT Innovation Challenge in collaboration with *UA Tech*, a week long event to bring students and admins together to build a better MIT for a better world; events included a kickoff dinner, speaker series, workshops, panel collaborations with the *College of Computing* launch, and a weekend hackathon

Campus corners: investigating spaces for collaborative play (a "playground") and for napping (separate spaces)

Good grub: preparing to pilot *Clover* food deliveries to the banana lounge; working with the students behind "*Maize*," an MIT campus food delivery startup and Prof. Bathe

MIT and the world: took 15 students (randomly selected from a dormspam interest form) out to see an improv comedy show; a pilot of a longer term project to help students get off campus and explore our relationship with the surrounding community and the world

Space of Quiet: continuing our development of 50-305 as a space for reflection and contemplation, working with the *MIT Office of Religious, Spiritual and Ethical Life*; launched a student survey to hear ideas and concerns (650 responses so far); seeking an April/May opening



Public Affairs



Grace Chuan

Past Month

- Met with Councilor Sumbul Siddiqui to discuss how to strengthen undergraduate ties with Cambridge City Council. We discussed:
 - Affordable food/groceries
 - Creation of youth public forum
 - Leadership retreat with students from Harvard University and Lesley University



Ashti Shah

Current Projects

- TerraByte
- CPW UA Breakfast
- CPW Activities Midway Booth - possibly get Councilors to come to this event
- Freshmen orientation - 'Welcome to Cambridge' segment

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Sustainability



Past Month

- Piloted Dishware Loan program for student group meetings
- Spring Applications/Interviews for new members
- Climate Policy Reading Group over IAP

Avital Baral



Current Projects

- Fenway Park Cleanup
- Charles River Cleanup
- Trash2Treasure Collection Planning
- Community Green Space proposal writing
- TrashOnMyBack challenge
- MIT Medical Green Wall Upgrade

Rebecca Grekin

Student Support & Wellness



Sophia McGowan

Past Month

- Interviewing new candidates
- First committee meeting of the semester
- Brainstorming new projects and action items

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Current Projects

- Sexual Assault Awareness Month (April)
- Mural

UA Operations Committees

Operations Committees improve the efficiency and ability of the UA.



Alumni Affairs



Grace Hsu

Past Month

- Held a freshman alumni mixer
- Had registration capacity of 40 people met

Current Projects

- Planning freshman major exploration event
 - Invite freshman to speak to grad students who went here for undergrad
- Coffee chats



Michelle Menkiti

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Community Service



Lucy Liao

Past Month

- Accepted new members from spring semester UA recruitment
- Organized a volunteer outing to Habitat Nature Reservation on 2/24
- Arranged group volunteer opportunities with Greater Boston Food Bank, the History Project, Cradles to Crayons



Aaron Robles

Current Projects

- Plan volunteer outings/find volunteers for group volunteer experiences
- Planning a kickoff event for Together in Service month with the PKG
- Brainstorming ideas for showcasing community service projects on campus (poster/podcast series)

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Events



Alby Joseph

Past Month

- Brainstorming ideas for SpringFEST 2019
- Met with SAO to confirm SpringFEST 2019 budget
- Organizing details for Artist Reveal - 4/4 Lobdell
- Booking locations and detailing budgets for SpringFEST Week of Events
- Assigned SpringFEST-related projects to each committee member



Alice Zhang

Current Projects

- Trying to re-think student engagement and goals for SpringFEST
- Contacting vendors for food and swag for SpringFEST Week of Events
- Re-configuring ticket sales with aim to improve student turnout at the concert (4/26)
- Marketing/publicity efforts underway

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Finboard



Bamlak Gessesew

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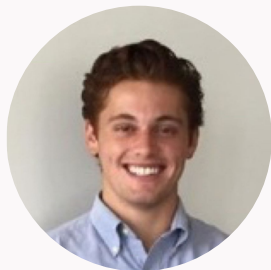
Past Month

- Finalized winter appeals allocations
- Started project to better publicize UA travel grant

Current Projects

- Opened applications for spring funding cycle
- Finalized UA travel grant decisions for cycle ending February 15th
- Working on concurrent audits for randomly selected student groups

Involvement



Ben Kaplan

Past Month

- Reached out to former TMAYD leaders to plan for comment box project this Spring
- Reflected on lessons learned individually and as a committee from first semester to enable meaningful action in the 2nd half!

Current Projects

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- Comment Boxes across campus
- UA Identification in Living Groups
- Continued development of online forms to enhance Student-UA interaction
- Annual UA Party
- UA T-shirts and phone card holders to increase awareness across campus



Marketing



Clare Liu

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Past Month

- Onboarding for new members and first meeting of the spring semester!

Current Projects

- Collaborating with UA Involvement for Living Group Identification signs
- Restocking and creating new designs for UA stickers used for future pubbing events (CPW, etc)



Technology



Yaateh
Richardson

Past Month

This past month our committee put on 5 days of events for BetterMIT with help from UA Innovation. We gave out ~3500 in awards, including 3 \$1000 fellowships from our main sponsors, the UA, office of the Vice Chancellor, DSL, and MindHandHeart. Shoutout to our prize winners: Mind Network, Fail! MIT, and All You Can Hack who presented their ideas at the College of Computing Expo on Tuesday.

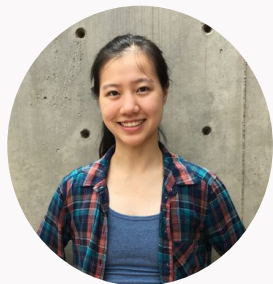
[ua-technology-
chairs@mit.edu](mailto:ua-technology-chairs@mit.edu)

Current Projects

Getting back to developing our “app store”. The goal is to centralize student made applications and useful unofficial MIT resources. Still looking for committee members for development and testing. Email ua-technology-chairs@mit.edu if interested.



Tea with Teachers



Emily Chen

teawithteachers@mit.edu

Past Month

- Organized first GBM of the semester and launch of new teams
- Created release schedule for spring semester

Current Projects

- New onboarding training for new members especially in videography
- Finishing edits for last years filmed videos
- Reaching out to new professors to film
- Working with MVP to refine and create a steady release cycle



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.

