

Student Committee on Guidelines for Outside Engagements

The charge of this committee is similar to that of the Ad Hoc Faculty Committee on Guidelines (FCoG) for Outside Engagements. Specifically, the charge is to define a set of values and principles, consistent with MIT's mission, to guide the assessment of outside engagements. Outside engagements include grants, gifts, and any other associations and collaborations involving MIT with governments, corporations, foundations, or private individuals, domestic or foreign. Additionally, if time allows and the committee feels it has the necessary information, the committee may review MIT's gift processes. The committee will produce a report to be included with the set of guidelines produced by the FCoG, with which it will work closely, to be employed by the MIT decision-makers in ways that will be defined by the Ad Hoc Committee to Review MIT Gift Processes for the evaluation of potential outside engagements.

The Student Committee on Guidelines for Outside Engagements will comprise of twelve members: six undergraduate students to be convened by the Undergraduate Association (UA) and six graduate students by the Graduate Student Council (GSC). The Student Committee will be co-chaired by Mahi Elango, President of the UA and Peter Su, President of the GSC. The Student Committee co-chairs will also be members of the Ad Hoc Committee to Review MIT Gift Processes, to help facilitate conversation between both committees.

The report of the Student Committee will include the following components and will be included alongside the report of the Faculty Committee:

- A discussion of MIT core values that are the basis for evaluating all engagements, particularly problematic ones.
- Guidelines for use by MIT individual faculty, administration, and relevant staff and committees in determining whether proposed engagements with governments, corporations, foundations, or private individuals are acceptable.
- The report will also discuss general principles relevant to evaluating and undertaking outside engagements, such as under what conditions, if any, anonymous donations can be considered.
- The report will also propose mechanisms for reviewing the status of implementation of these guidelines.
- To inform their deliberations throughout the year, the Committee will gather input from the MIT student body and other community members as well as drawing from existing expertise around these issues..

The Committee will issue its report to the MIT community during Spring 2020, alongside a community-wide discussion of the report and further actions.