Message from SPEC 2010/11

By SPEC 2011

Summer is finally here and it’s time for the new government to take office. We’re very excited to be your Sidney Pacific Executive Council for 2010/11. We look forward to enhancing the student experience this year by organizing events, fostering community within S-P, enhancing the S-P infrastructure and resources, connecting S-P to the greater MIT community. We’re in the process formulating our vision for S-P this year and there are many new initiatives we look forward to implementing with the help of our outstanding officers.

There are five offices within SPEC and we would like to give you a brief overview of their roles. The Office of the President is your voice to the greater MIT community. We are responsible for voicing your questions and concerns to the MIT community, interfacing with other graduate communities, organizing joint graduate events, arranging interactions with MIT academics through our CoSI program, spearheading environmental initiatives, reaching out the larger community through volunteer events. This year, we plan to enhance our interactions with Sidney Pacific alumni and increase cooperation with other graduate communities.

The Office of Information is your eyes and ears, informing you about all the great social events planned at Sidney Pacific. This is done through the website, SPTV, posters, the HDTV in the lobby, and this newsletter. We also maintain much of the backbone that helps keep S-P moving through our website. You may find us working behind the scenes with many of the event organizers and other officers to get the word out. You might also find us documenting these events to capture the spirit of life here at S-P. We are hard at work this year to improve our ability to meet the needs of both events and government through initiatives meant to make better use of the website and HDTV, among others.

The Office of Residential Life is responsible for organizing events and social interactions that develop a sense of community within Sidney Pacific and the entire graduate student population. You are likely already familiar with many of our signature events such as our monthly brunches, weekly coffee hours, orientation, SPICE and social events. We have many great events in store for you this summer including an end of the year BBQ and movie, Cultural Festival, and Summer Beach Party.

The Office of Resources is responsible for all the resources and facilities that Sidney Pacific has available. They are in charge of maintaining and upgrading all the existing equipment, purchasing new materials and equipment, and supporting their use.

The Hall Council is dedicated to promoting a sense of community within the various halls of S-P. Hall councilors plan frequent events to make residents feel at home, such as hall dinners, movie night, dessert socials, and fun outings around Boston. This year, we plan to emphasize inter-hall activities such as joint-hall events, as well as build on the success of the Hall Councilor BBQ, Doors Open Night, and the House Cup.

We’d love to hear any ideas that you have for enhancing the student experience at Sidney Pacific. Please don’t hesitate to contact us at spec@mit.edu. Enjoy your summer and get out there and enjoy all that Sidney Pacific has to offer you!
Get to know SPEC 2010/11

By SPEC 2011

Amy Bilton – President
• Department at MIT: – 16: Aeronautics & Astronautics
• Hometown: – Middle of Nowhere, Ontario, Canada
• Interests/Hobbies: Traveling, cycling, hiking, swimming, cooking, building things, and taking things apart
• Favorite Quote: “You miss 100% of the shots you don’t take.” - Wayne Gretzky

Tim Curran – VP Resources
• Department at MIT: – 20: Biological Engineering
• Hometown: – Phoenix, AZ
• Interests/Hobbies: Swimming, biking, running, working out

Chelsea He – Chair of the Halls
• Department at MIT: – 16: Aeronautics & Astronautics
• Hometown: – Raleigh, NC
• Interests/Hobbies: Running, skiing, cooking, crossword puzzles, Duke basketball
• Favorite Quote: “We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.” – Source unknown

Ian Jacobi – VP Information
• Department at MIT: – 6: EECS
• Hometown: – Albuquerque, NM
• Interests/Hobbies: Reading, programming, swimming, music (Indie, electronic, classic rock)
• Favorite Quote: “We are like butterflies who flutter for a day and think its forever.” - Carl Sagan

Mirna Slim – VP Residential Life
• Department at MIT: – 12: EAPS
• Hometown: – Beirut, Lebanon
• Favorite Thing About SP: The people!
• Favorite Quote: “Examine what is being said, not who speaks.” - Arabic proverb
It’s striking to think that an annum ago,
we mostly were strangers -- few did we know.
But over the summer in twos and in threes,
we planned joint events that succeeded with ease.
We capped it all off with a great BBQ,
with chili and melons and mochi for you.
Then ‘round came September and faces all new,
from China to Egypt to Kalamazoo!
So full of excitement, we opened our doors,
and greeted our neighbors, made friends on our floors.
The start of semester left time hard to find,
but still we held dinners for you to unwind.
And so it continued the rest of the year,
as meanwhile the House Cup re-sprang into gear.
In pizza, dessert and in edible art,
we pulled teams together and each played our part.
So what’s the reward now that all’s said and done?
We’ve had a good year -- we’ve had so much fun!
House Cup TONIGHT!!!

Come to coffee hour on
Wed, May 12 to celebrate
your hall councilors and the

conclusion

of the House Cup!

Sidney Pacific Speaker
Newsletter Chair
Manya Ranjan
The Speaker is published on a monthly basis to serve the needs of the Sidney Pacific Graduate Community. Submissions of articles, photos, events, and other items of interest can be sent to: sp-newsletter-chair@mit.edu