June 16, 2016

John K. Hinsdale 38 Quaker Road Princeton Junction, NJ 08550 Email: hin@alum.mit.edu

To: L. Rafael Reif, President (Hardcopy and Email)

Cc: Cynthia Barnhart, Chancellor (Email) Martin A. Schmidt, Provost (Email) Maria T. Zuber, VP for Research (Email)

Dear President Reif, et.al.,

Last Friday, June 10, Chancellor Barnhart wrote [4] to me and other alums of Senior House to advise, among other things, of another, concurrent letter from yourselves announcing plans for excluding this Fall's freshmen from Senior House. Toward the central responsibility and first concern of the well-being of MIT's students, especially those of Senior House -- with whom many of us Senior House alums have a strong spiritual, philosophical, and concretely social bond -please find attached a letter [1], signed [3] with many comments [2] by approximately 500 current and former residents of Senior House advising against this exclusion.

The letter is a distillation of some points being made in the many discussions about the proposed closure. Though some signers' comments address topics that would normally be very private in nature, rest assured all comments were collected via a public service (change.org), and their authors were fully aware of posting them in a public place. The comments should speak for themselves. There may be a few signers who did not understand the letter to be residents-only.

Please understand that my role here is only to collect signatures and comments and make them available to you, as well as to assure the signers that their input has been reliably so made available [5]. As such, I can't guarantee (and do not offer) to be available to participate in depth with plans to develop Senior House, but try only to increase your visibility to experiences and points of view that in turn may inspire all due restraint.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. Please feel free to reply to me at the above addresses with any pressing concerns.

Sincerely,

John K. Hinsdale Resident of Senior House, 1981 - 1985 MIT Class of 1986, Course VI-III

Enclosures:
[1] Letter: Against MIT Closing Senior House to the Class of 2020 (2 p.)
[2] Signers' comments (22 p.)
[3] List of signers (16 p.)
[4] June 10, 2016 Letter from Chancellor Barnhart to Senior House alums (3 p.)
[5] FedEx waybill and receipt for delivery (PDF copy only) (2 p.)

change.org

Recipient: L. Rafael Reif

Letter: Greetings,

We the undersigned, now live or have lived in MIT's Senior House. We urge MIT to reconsider and reverse its plans to close Senior House as a living option for the incoming Class of 2020. We were surprised and dismayed to learn, on June 10 of the 2016 Summer Session, of MIT's plans to remove Senior House as a residency option for freshmen.

In a letter to the Community, Chancellor Barnhart cited recent low graduation rates, as measured for groups of freshmen starting out their MIT experience at Senior House, as a main factor in Senior House closing its doors to freshmen entirely. We feel this step is an overreaction, an extreme measure that "solves" any issues present in a small minority of new Senior House residents not by locating and addressing them, but by annihilation. Of course there can be no low graduation rate among this year's Senior House freshmen if there are no Senior House freshmen. Is this really the best MIT can do? To abandon the Senior House option entirely seems to succumb to a defeatism unbecoming of MIT. Such a hurried and drastic approach is like treating a skin rash with amputation.

The cost of lost opportunity for freshmen to live in Senior House would be considerable. The House is well known as a magnet for students with strong interest in arts and independent thinking; its residents' energy and creativity is obvious to anyone who visits. The deep gratitude toward Senior House felt by its alumni is evident to anyone who attends the annual and by now iconic Steer Roast. Further, Senior House is a residence of unusual diversity at MIT, an important living option for students of color, foreign extraction and especially LGBT orientation. For the LGBT community in particular, both surveys and anecdotal evidence reveal Senior House to have been an unusually welcome home for students of all shapes, sizes and preferences since the 1970s.

We understand that Senior House may be overrepresented for students having trouble at MIT, and applaud and support the Institute in its initiative to measure for, locate, and address the underlying causes. This includes the unhealthy conditions of excessive use of legal and illegal drugs. But we also understand these issues, even if they occur more than average at Senior House, still apply to a small minority of students. Efforts to address them should retain that perspective.

Among the incoming class of 2020 will be the large majority of students destined to do what most students, including most of those starting out in Senior House, will do: excel at MIT and graduate in four years. These students will not take any time off, or decide to change their major, or encounter an unexpected personal issue, or simply decide that MIT is not for them. Yet these students as well will be denied any opportunity for the potentially unique and beneficial experience of spending freshman year at Senior House, solely because of a drastic decision to shut it for everyone. This is profoundly unfair and unnecessary, and would undermine the Institute's goal of providing diverse alternatives for housing its students.

We strongly urge MIT to keep the doors of Senior House open to the Class of 2020 when they arrive in the Fall of 2016.

Comments

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Neal Miller	Chicago, IL	2016-06-11	I was a SH resident from 2006-2008. I left MIT for medical reasons and I believe Senior Haus was influential in getting me through everything that happened.
Jill atkins	Westford, MA	2016-06-11	I was a resident at senior house from 1985-1990. I found MIT in general to be profoundly overwhelming and stressful with very few perceived opportunities to get support. However, Senior House was one of the few places where I did have support of a fabulous and supportive community. Honestly, the friendships I carry with me from Senior House are the most important and valuable thing that I took from MIT. Those are the friendships that still make up my support system.
Mariana Baca	Somerville, MA	2016-06-11	I'm a Senior House graduate with two SBs and a minor, graduated in 4 years, got a SM from MIT, and I could not have done it living anywhere else.
Lois Epstein	Anchorage, AK	2016-06-11	I agree with the petition's arguments.
John Hinsdale	Princeton Junction, NJ	2016-06-11	Please keep Senior House open to all
Robert Krawitz	Chestnut Hill, MA	2016-06-12	As an alum (VI-3 '87) and 4-year resident of Senior House, I concur with the concerns raised in this letter. The concern about graduation rates certainly warrants additional research and appropriate responses, but the methodology (using first term freshman year as the metric, and no inquiry into cause and effect) does not appear to me to be sufficiently strong to merit this action.
Larry Kolodney	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	Senior House is a vital refuge where non-conformist students can feel at home at the Institute.
Deanna Miller	Denver, CO	2016-06-12	I am an alum X'83; JD'88; DVM'98 and 4 year resident of Senior House (who graduated in 4 years). My freshman year I was suicidal, my junior year I changed majors from V to X; my senior year I was in Alcoholics Anonymous (I had been drinking since age 14, so not caused by SH or MIT); I was an undiagnosed dyslexic, had no self esteem, and questioned my sexuality. Had I lived anywhere other than Senior House, I doubt I would have made it through MIT at all, and might not have survived. Your cause and effect are misplaced, and closing Senior House to freshmen may very well deprive needy students of the very supports that help them transition from high school to life.
Wat Hughes	Ashland, VA	2016-06-12	I worked as many as 4 jobs at a time to pay my way through MIT. I needed and appreciated the support of my fellow Senior House residents, both in academics (yes, one misses a lot of classes to work 4 jobs) and in spirit. From the information that has been shared (so far at least) by the MIT administration, it seems that actions are being taken that confuse cause and effect. So this seems like a good time to slow down and take a better luck at what has been going on and why. For the record, I have always tried to make MIT proud since my graduation in 1982. My accomplishments pale next to those of many other Senior House residents but do include co-founding a successful tech company that has prospered since 1995.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Shervin Fatehi	McAllen, TX	2016-06-12	I am an MIT alumnus (V '04) and an assistant professor of chemistry in the University of Texas system. Although I never lived in Senior House, my then- girlfriend and many other friends, classmates, and fraternity brothers lived (or *had* lived) there. As such, Senior House was a second home to me on campus when I lived at Random Hall (and later at Tau Epsilon Phi), and many of my most formative experiences as a young adult took place within its uniquely fearless and uniquely supportive community. While the graduation figures presented in Chancellor Barnhart's letter are stark, it appears that the administration has declined to account for how the demographics of Senior House — a large minority of (~40%) LGBTQA+ students, a significant population of underrepresented minorities, more students from lower-income households, etc. — might be reflected in those numbers. Moreover, four-(or even six-)year graduation pictures are a blunt instrument for assessing the success of a student population; just as many brilliant, successful people have dropped out from or struggled their way through MIT as have emerged on time and clutching their diplomas. To punish some of the most vulnerable students entering MIT by closing off one of the places where they feel most welcome is cutting off the Institute's nose to spite its face. Please reconsider this drastic and unnecessarily punitive measure.
Daniel Guberek	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	As a rising sophomore, having just completed my freshman year as a resident of Senior House, I am confident that I wouldn't have discovered my true passion or developed as a person had I been obstructed from living at SH. The incredibly supportive, diverse, accepting environment drove me, and helped me form a strong value for the arts and humanities. This wonderful place is a large reason for my happiness and success thus far at MIT. In fact, the existence of SH was one of the reasons I even decided to attend MIT. Depriving the class of 2020 of this opportunity is ludicrous- college students should be treated as such, and allowed to make their own decisions, especially regarding the place they will call home.
Cindy Leffell	New Haven, CT	2016-06-12	P'17
Boryana Doyle	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	As an MIT undergraduate, who has been learning how to solve problems for the last three years, closing the dorm to freshman is not the correct solution to the problem!
W. Scott Meeks	Arlington, MA	2016-06-12	Senior House resident '83-'85. I agree this is a short-sighted "solution" that will do more harm than good, without actually addressing the underlying problems.
Elizabeth Nesseler	San Diego, CA	2016-06-12	Blocking incoming frosh to Senior House will do nothing but make the "problem kids" fail out in other living groups unseen and uncared for. It is the very definition of sweeping it under the carpet.
Andrei Ivanov	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	I lived here and I love this place
Rucha Mehendale	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	Senior House has given me some of the best times of my life, and cradled me through the worst. I would not be alive today were it not for the community I've had the privilege to be a part of. Please don't deprive incoming freshman of the chance to make this place their home.
Olin Harbury	Charlotte, NC	2016-06-12	Successful Senior House Alum. 5 year graduate 1981. I truly valued my time there.
Robert Vasen	Asbury Park, NJ	2016-06-12	Weirdos need a home.
Daniela Carrasco	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	I love senior haus. This is my home. You cannot deprive the incoming freshmen from finding a home in our community.
Sandra Bayona	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	I too have a letter pending, Reif. Please do not do this to my people.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Alex Rosen	Durham, NC	2016-06-12	I am alum ('88+1) who got stuck in Senior House as a freshmen and lived there for four years. Within two weeks I learned what I now consider some of my most valuable lessons at MIT. The diversity of the people I got to know brought me much closer to being one of the "citizens of the world" MIT President Paul Gray told us he wanted us to become. If that is still part of the mission, I hope the adminsitration will be careful to not eliminate the opportunity for freshmen to gain the type of lessons I took away from my MIT living (vs. classroom) experience. I was so moved at the time, I wrote a guest column in The Tech within my first few weeks. It's titled, "Good news from a fortune cookie" and is here: <a <br="" href="http://tech.mit.edu/V104/PDF/V104-N36.pdf#page=4">rel="nofollow">http://tech.mit.edu/V104/PDF/V104-N36.pdf#page=4
Josiah Seale	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	 When I arrived at Senior House in the Fall of 2002, I was both grappling with my sexual orientation coming out of an extremely conservative background in South America and recovering from a catastrophic brain injury I had sustained in a car accident earlier that year as a sophomore at MIT. I emerged from the accident unable to do third grade math and had to trudge through getting back up to speed academically. I remember being angry and prickly at times, and in hindsight I can see the ways in which I was both defensive in my insecurity and externalizing my anger at myself for not performing up to my own standards of excellence. It ultimately took me 8 years to get my SB from MIT. Along the way, though, I also got an SM and was President of the MIT Undergraduate Association. During this period one of the most formative elements was the sense that at Senior House, I had room to discover who I am, and who I want to be. Senior House has far outpaced society in creating space where LGBTQ orientation, race, gender, and socio-economic status are all subordinate to your broader personhood. Through the years the culture at Senior House has emerged as a haven for those liminal people who do not fit the standard mold, for whatever reason. We identify with each other because we recognize we are answering other questions and fighting different fights than most people. By definition this means the sub-group will always represent a minority of the population that will benefit from additional support unneeded by the majority, and by definition this sub-group will always exist. To close off this supportive community from the MIT Class of 2020 will do a disservice to both the liminal sub-group of the entering class (that will by definition exist) and a disservice to the community that wants to welcome them and explain that they too fit here, that MIT is home for them too. Please do not close off this community, shame it, and quarantine it as is currently happening. Instead, p

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Alex Rosen	Durham, NC	2016-06-12	I'm an alum ('88+1) who got stuck in Senior House in '84. Within two weeks I learned what I now consider some of my most valuable lessons at MIT. The diversity of the people I got to know brought me much closer to being one of the "citizens of the world" MIT President Paul Gray told us he wanted us to become. If that is still part of the mission, I hope the adminsitration will be careful to not eliminate the opportunity for freshmen to gain the type of lessons I took away from my MIT living (vs. classroom) experience. I was so moved at the time, I wrote a guest column in The Tech within my first few weeks. It's titled, "Good news from a fortune cookie" and is here: http://tech.mit.edu/V104/PDF/V104-N36.pdf#page=4</a
Carolyn Atwood	Reno, NV	2016-06-12	MIT '83 Course X successful 4 yr graduate. SH freshman forward resident and House VP.
Chiheon Kim	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	I support the diversity that Senior House can bring into MIT. I also believe that freshmen should be able to choose whatever they like.
Alex Markovits	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	I agree 100%
Tamar More	portland, OR	2016-06-12	Lived in Senior House, very much by choice, all four years, '83-'87, then stuck around for part of a gap year before heading to graduate school. To this day, it is one of the most important and most positive aspects of my MIT experience. I would urge you at least to allow freshmen to choose it, even if it is taken out of the lottery. For many of us who did, being able to be part of the senior house community and the support and experience of the older students was absolutely critical in our first year.
Nikayah Etienne	Brooklyn, NY	2016-06-12	Senior House has becoming my second Home my freshman year. It was my getaway from my terrible dorm and where I almost always psetted. Senior is being falsely attacked and administration cannot take away the rich culture that Senior has had for years.
German Soto	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	Too keep the culture that attracts so many people to MIT. By the way things look, MIT is going to become any regular college and would not attract the intelectually brilliant students that it brings
Kimberly Dauber	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	The class of 2020 needs the opportunity to be part of the unique community senior house offers to the MIT community.
Kate C	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	The class of 2020 needs to have a variety of housing options available to them and can make an educated decision as to where would be best for them to live, and Senior House does not deserve the extreme negative impact being closed to the class of 2020 would have on the continuity of their culture.
Alina Kononov	Urbana, IL	2016-06-12	Year after year, Senior House has been a valuable housing option for freshmen who are different whether LGBTQ, artistic, troubled, or simply open-minded. Closing Senior House to freshmen is a short-sighted non-solution that will do much more harm than good to the freshmen class, the Senior House family, and the broader MIT community.
Austin Garrett	Gilbert, AZ	2016-06-12	Barring freshmen from entering SH would significantly harm the culture which has provided a safe space for many students over the years.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jacqueline Xu	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	I have not lived in Senior House, but I've loved and connected with east-side culture at MIT. You can't turn freshman away from a place they may discover is their home. As has been said, there may be a correlation of graduations rates and certain dorms, but this does not allow us to conclude causation. We are not solving any underlying issues by closing off Senior House to incoming students. The administration needs to dig deeper at the actual problems that exist and focus efforts there (mental health support; changing the idea that graduating in 4 years is a measure of success or wellbeing). Isolating and uprooting a important community of students at MIT is not the solution.
Nivair Gabriel	Boston, MA	2016-06-12	I had to take a year off MIT for mental health reasons, and getting placed in Senior House upon my return was the reason I graduated in 2010.
Michaela Ennis	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	I loved being at MIT, and a lot of that had to do with the existence of East Campus and Senior Haus. Please don't take away from some freshmen the only place they might truly feel at home. I am also fairly confident that a large part of the poor 4 year graduation rate is caused by the type of students who choose Senior Haus in the first place, not the house itself. In fact I think living in SH helps them!
Amelia Helmick	Mountain View, CA	2016-06-12	I lived in Senior House last semester and it helped me get through a very difficult last semester. Also you stole a huge part of alternative culture by closing Bexley, my original home, and it almost caused me to commit suicide and destroyed my mental health. Don't do that to the future Senior House residents who need a home they feel safe in.
Diana ben-Aaron	Ipswich, United Kingdom	2016-06-12	I chose Senior House in 1981 thinking it felt like a friendly city neighborhood, and spent a happy and in the end productive four years there before graduating (IIIA and XXIB). As other have said, it was particularly a safe space for difference, in the forms measured by demographic indicators and also in more elusive forms that equally enrich the MIT community when given room to develop. The current action feels stigmatizing and I hope it is possible to work through it to an outcome that preserves the House as a freshman option.
Kenneth Collins	McDonough, GA	2016-06-12	Senior Haus is one of the best decisions I made this past year, and I'm looking forward to the next 3 years I'll be spending there. The fact that MIT is taking this decision away from incoming freshman is an injustice. There is no support group like the Senior Haus family.
Margo Dawes	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	The MIT Administration has a responsibility to aide and support its students in their pursuit of an education, and, as an alum, I do not believe that that responsibility is fulfilled by some of the punitive and culturally-limiting measures proposed.
Ilana Porter	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	This place was my home and the people in it are the only reason I got through \ensuremath{MIT}
Manuel Guillen	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	MIT administration can address the issue at hand in a better way than preventing new and present students from being able to experience a part of MIT that some students enjoy and find family and comfort in.
Valeria Staneva	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-12	It is very important that everyone in the new class finds their home on campus.
Paul Schwein	SW Ranches, FL	2016-06-13	East campus culture was an essential component of my experience at MIT. For Senior House to be able to recruit freshmen is necessary in order to sustain the longevity of that culture.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Amelia Trainer	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	Senior House and East Side culture are a huge contributor to the "MIT quirkiness", but not only that, it saves people from the stresses that would otherwise consume us. Taking away a means by which non-West-campus-type freshman can acclimate to this demanding culture is condemning some of them to a lack of fitting in and a more difficult process of adapting. It's ridiculous and completely uncalled for.
Grace Assaye	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	MIT administration has GOT to stop conspiring to push policies that they know students will disagree with during times when they know students cannot fight it.
Edward Nguyen	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	The actions that are being taken, while well intentioned I am sure, will not help the students but hurt them immensely. You will be improving the PR of the school at the expense of its students and in the long run you will hurt the school. During the year you made great claims and gave moderate effort to listen to the student bodies. Continue on those promises and reach out to the students to find a suitable solution that preserves the community you claim to help.
Cannon Vogel	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	I support the inclusive, nurturing nature of East side culture and would like the administration to see that their actions are ill-informed in not discussing issues with students.
Fernando Nunez	Somerville, MA	2016-06-13	Though I never lived in Senior Haus, I've always admired that a place such as this exists within our community. It deeply saddens me and find unfair that freshmen can't reside here, but are forced to wait a year to find a place that they could call home. They should be given that choice, and the Institute cannot take that from them.
Aletta Tibbetts	Arlington, MA	2016-06-13	Senior House is a vital resource for many people who feel like "outsiders" before they come to MIT and still when they interact with most of the world. It not only provides students with a place they feel at home during their time at MIT, but with an amazing community of people that they can turn to for the rest of their lives. People who remind us that rather that being "outsiders", we are on the inside of a something truly phenomenal.
Tabrez Alam	Bronx, NY	2016-06-13	I believe that depriving the Class of 2020 the chance to live in a community that best suites their circumstances could hinder the 2020s' happiness. Furthermore, by excluding the 2020s from the discussion and process to reform Senior House's internal problem would only hinder such progress. A wider dorm-based discussion that includes the incoming class would probably be best to allow for Senior House to improve its successes with its undergraduates.
Cynthia Woolworth	Lexington, MA	2016-06-13	Senior House welcomed me and I found my home.
Hane Lee	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	I have truly found home at Haus
Laura Boylan	Somerville, MA	2016-06-13	I don't know where I would be without the East Side of MIT
Nicholas Benson	Glendale, CA	2016-06-13	Senior House fills a niche that isn't filled by any other dorms at MIT, period.
Catherine Yunis	Chicago, MA	2016-06-13	Senior House was my home and the place where I grew up.
Fransheska Colon	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	As a recent alum who never lived in SH but visited friends there many times, I honestly worry for the future of MIT if the actions described by Chancellor Barnhart move forward.
Louis Lamia	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	MIT 2014. A culture similar to Senior House is what helped me become successful at MIT and denying that to incoming freshmen is a mistake

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Faye Schwartz	Hull, MA	2016-06-13	I would not have survived MIT without living at Senior House. That's not hyperbole; I lost many friends (who didn't live at SH) along the way to drugs and suicide. I couldn't get mental health appointments at MIT medical unless I walked in crying, but Senior House GRTs reached out to me because my friends were worried about me. All of the friends I lost to drugs and suicide had, like I did, pre-existing mental health issues long before they got to MIT. I got sober while living at Senior House and had much needed peer support in my dormmates and GRTs. I doubt I would have fought as hard to return to MIT after getting sober and getting my meds fixed if I didn't have a safe space like Senior House to return to, where my being queer, weird, sober, and unconventional was regarded as normal. I was able to be persistent, to not give up when the first (and second and third) resources I sought at MIT were judgemental of my sexual orientation and non-monogamous lifestyle. Senior House helped me feel confident enough in my non-binary gender identity that, when the first psychiatrist at MIT medical tried to tell me that all my problems were the result of "gender identity issues", I didn't give up completely on getting help. So I guess I'm an example of someone who didn't graduate in 4 years, but the fact that I stayed alive and graduated at all was due to not feeling alone in any of the dimensions in which I did not fit the mold of "normal"I was at home, surrounded by other queers and people with trauma and mental illness histories. Keeping me isolated from those people who understood me by preventing me from living in Senior House would NOT have somehow magically made my mental health problems disappear, but it would have made it much harder for me to stay alive and graduate.
Sophie Cao	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	I would not have graduated "on time" or at all if I had not moved to haus.
Aaron Sipser	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	Dorm culture is essential to MIT life and it is what makes MIT students unique among all colleges. I am a rising sophomore here and in one year I have bonds with friends that I will keep for so many years thanks only to MITs tradition of letting freshman live with upperclassman. I believe Senior Haus should be given another chance to allow students to reform before stripping them of what makes MIT so beautiful.
Brandon Le	San Francisco, CA	2016-06-13	I'm signing because I learned more about life from Senior House than I have from any teacher, class, or pset.
Angel Diaz	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	Eliminating a year of Freshman rush to senior house should be treated as a nuclear action not as a first reprimand. If MIT plans to go ahead with this they can be sure I will not donate to the institute.
Rumen Dangovski	Sofia, Bulgaria	2016-06-13	Senior Haus makes me happy. It helped me go through all kinds of struggles, and also fostered my academic development. Support!
Danbee Kim	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	living at Senior Haus was my first real community, and I feel its influence to this day. Coming back for Steer Roast each year is one of the most grounding, validating, and nurturing rituals I have in my life. The decision to prevent freshmen from living at SH isn't backed by enough data to satisfy the critical thinking I learned from mentors and role models at the Haus. President Reif, I really hope you reconsider this decision and help us change the way we support students at MIT.
Simantini Mitra-Behura	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	I believe Eastside culture is a very important part of the support network that many at MIT need.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
John Hack	Maplewood, NJ	2016-06-13	I gained a significant benefit from my time in Senior House: leadership, creativity, and independence. It took move over four years to graduate, and the friendship and support of classmates in Senior House inspired me to persevere.
Rebecca Scarr	Milwaukee, WI	2016-06-13	I was successful at MIT not in spite of living in Senior House, but because of it. Senior House offers its residents a community away from the stress (both academic and social) of MIT life. The love and pride I feel for MIT are largely due to the Senior House community.
Erica Waller	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	While I do not live at senior house, I do live in a community at MIT that I consider to be more my home than where I came from. Every student at MIT deserves the opportunity to find the same, and closing senior house to freshmen would prevent many students from finding a place that understands them and supports them for who they are. It is my most sincere hope that the administration reconsiders this drastic action and instead works with senior house to develop a healthier community.
Eric Ponce	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	Senior House's culture should be preserved and protected, not brashly thrown away
David Danko	Ithaca, NY	2016-06-13	I lived in Bexley and don't want to see MIT culture destroyed.
Husayn Karimi	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-13	Senior Huas is vital to MIT culture.
Manjinder Singh	Yuba City, CA	2016-06-13	I lived in Senior house and this is an unjustified move by the administration. The actions do not actually further the goals that the administrations is citing. The issues raised are real, but no real solution is being offered.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Ivailo Dimov	New York, NY	2016-06-13	I'm signing because Senior House taught me the power of diversity in terms helping me choose my own path in life. Senior House has an environment which accepts who you are as long as you are also accepting of others point of view no matter how different it could be from yours. It can be an example of a modern society whose most important value is personal freedom. For anyone who doesn't believe that people from all sexual orientation, religion, race and cultural origin can coexist together in a peaceful and inspiring communiy I invite them to live in Senior House for a month. That such a community is possible is especially important to recognize in the context of today's emergence of polarized America. Yes, it is possible for blacks, whites, Asians and Native Americans to live peacefully together. Yes it is possible for Christians, Mormons, Jews, Muslims, and atheists to live peacefully together. Yes it is possible for transexuals, gays, bisexuals and straights to peacefully live together. Yes it is possible for republicans, democrats, independents, and libertarians to peacefully live together. Yes it is possible to be geek, awkward or straightedge and feel at home. Even if you are disabled in some way, you will find empowerment in this environment and also find your way. Sure almost every University/dorm/campus community will claim similar values. But they don't even come close to Senoir House. What I found special about this particular community is not just its openness to diversity but also its honesty. Everyone can join the discussion mailing lists of the dorm and engage in a conversation free of inhibitions and fear of being politically incorrect. Free, because everyone might not agree with you and might challenge you, but they will accept you. Senior House is not the kind of place that will be in line with the MIT curriculum you get the curriculum in class. But it is the kind of place where voices of freedom, self expression and innovation are born. I am signing this petition because Senior House has h
Caroline Figgatt	College Park, MD	2016-06-13	8/18-C '11. MIT needs Senior Haus, and the incoming freshmen - especially the incoming LGBT freshmen - need Senior Haus.
Mary Beth Richards- Weston	Long Beach, CA	2016-06-13	I did not live in Senior House when I was at MIT in 1990-1994, but it was a strong second choice of mine, and I had friends there. To limit the House to only Sophomore - Seniors is to stunt the House's growth significantly, and to put the students who would gravitate toward Senior house at risk of dropping out or worse without the friendships and bonds that can happen within a living group like Senior House. This is a knee-jerk reaction to a perceived problem that could be damaging to the Institute's future. Please reconsider.
Harry Rickards	Uckfield, United Kingdom	2016-06-13	MIT needs the weirdos
Yelena Mikich	Northampton, MA	2016-06-14	MIT determines the students it will accept; once there it is to the Institute's advantage to house them in the setting most advantageous to their success. Without the supportive environment we all found at SH, one wonders how much worse the outcomes might have been for the group who self selected to reside there. I think it is a necessary and beneficial option to the outliers MIT has chosen to accept and one that would be difficult to provide in other settings.
Linda Julien	Medford, United States Minor Outlying Islands	2016-06-14	I can't express how important Senior House was to me. As a shy young adult with limited financial means and an unsupportive family, the people of Senior House were a lifeline to me. I would hate to think what my early years at MIT would have been like without the support that I received there, and I urge you not to cut off the class of 2020 from this opportunity.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Olivia Mello	Somerville, MA	2016-06-14	I find it absurd that the administration did this under the back of one of the diverse dorms on campus in terms of race, socio-economic status, and sexual orientation. Whether it was intended or not, this act is punitive. The voices of Senior House residents deserve to be heard and respected rather than unfairly scapegoating this simply on drug use. Like previous signers have said, the methodology isn't solid. Sincerely, Olivia (Course 8 '14, now grad student at Harvard University)
Victor Buza	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	I lived in Senior House for three years, and it hurts to see the culture of this community being suffocated with such ardor. Why close the door of this welcoming place to the people that might identify with a culture that is free in expression? This whole ordeal seems like a very poorly thought-out series of action, by someone who doesn't understand the whole picture, and doesn't really want to understand. This hurts more than it helps, and is unbecoming of the great place that is MIT.
Christine Peterson	Palo Alto, CA	2016-06-14	Senior House attracts and supports a group of MIT students who, on average, need extra help. Let's give them more help, rather than removing the existing support system. As an alum, I am willing to do some mentoring, as a way to "pay forward" the help I got from older Senior House residents.
Janet Li	Boston, MA	2016-06-14	MIT needs its spaces and homes for creative people. The data is insufficient to show that the culture/community of Senior House is preventing residents from excelling. Do not take drastic measures that will damage a community before fully understanding and communicating the identified problem, its causal determinants, and the need for intervention.
Max Allen	Bethesda, MD	2016-06-14	I'm signing because not only are there freshman that will need the support that the residents of Senior Haus provide, but the residents themselves need the positivity and enthusiasm of the freshman to aid in the mental health of the whole community.
David Vargas	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	MIT should be working to help the culture of Senior House, not destroy it altogether.
Niteesh Sundaram	Pittsburgh, PA	2016-06-14	Senior House helps non-traditional, LGBTQ, and colored students find a niche in an institution that mainly caters to traditional, affluent, and straight individuals.
Al Mireault	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	Former studnet who has seen the value of communities like senior house at MIT, first hand.
Wei Low	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	I love the East Side and found a home here.
Anvisha Pai	San Francisco, CA	2016-06-14	I moved into senior house my junior year and found it to be an incredibly supportive and warm community that helped me through the ups and downs. It made MIT feel like home. I attribute where I am today in large part to the community that helped me through tough decisions and days and nights of hard work. Please reconsider and work with the student government to figure out a better alternative.
Prakriti Paul	Pasadena, CA	2016-06-14	Even though I only lived in Senior House over the summer, I stand with my classmates who are signing this petition.
Carolyn O'Brien	Effretikon, Switzerland	2016-06-14	Let's support Senior House and the Class of 2020, rather than just closing it off.
Antonio Vicente	Somerville, MA	2016-06-14	Senior House was one of the places that I was lucky enough to call home during my time at MIT. While living there I met a lot of amazingly creative and ambitious people that played a significant role in my success at overcoming both academic and personal growth hurdles. Do not deny future students the opportunity to call this place home.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Ariel Segall	Waltham, MA	2016-06-14	As a frequent visitor to SH communities starting my freshman year, it was the dorm I chose when I came back to MIT from medical leave in 2002. (I'd be dropping EC's numbers for that four year graduation rate they're citing.) EC gets a good chunk of credit for literally saving my life when I had my first major depressive episode, and I loved many things there. The close-knit suite culture in SH provided an intense and extremely helpful support structure. People there noticed and cared about each other, and I have vivid memories of banding together to get help for a freshman who vanished into his room and just stopped coming out. Was it perfect? Of course not. But it was a place I could be safe when I needed one. More mental health counseling and a more functional support structure for students with problems is great. Removing freshmen and adding housemasters is not. Ive had a housemaster I loved, at SH; he was someone I would ask for advice and trust implicitly, but I'd never even consider knocking on his door in the middle of the night for anything short of a life-threatening emergency. Unlike the GRTs. Not to mention students' justified worries about administrator priorities; the old housemaster-dean at EC gave me less than a week to move out when I took medical leave, with no notice and no support, leading to the overwhelming impression that MIT didn't care what happened to me as long as I was off campus when I committed suicide.
Dean Larios Berlin	cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	There are better ways to reform
Dan McAnulty	Oakland, CA	2016-06-14	I graduated in 5 years, and the community activities I engaged in and people I met at senior house during those years (and in the 11 years since) have done more to make me who I am today than anything else I know, and the SH student/alumni community is still a constant presence in my daily life. I hope that you will find the best way to help and not hurt this community, and I hope that as alumni that we can play a positive role in the solution and find a way to work together for the same goals.
Zachary Barryte	Boston, MA	2016-06-14	Many of my friends would never have graduated if *not* for Senior Haus, because, frankly, they'd be dead.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Dylan Sherry	Somerville, MA	2016-06-14	 I'm a recent alum (VI-2 '12, M.Eng '13) writing in support of this petition. I believe this petition is incredibly important for the MIT community and addresses the majority of the concerns raised by Chancellor Barnhart's recent proclamation. It's a wonderful example of the constructive support which is readily available in the greater Senior House community and MIT at large. Terminating parts of the House community is the worst possible outcome for those students who are supporting each other and "solving difficult problems together," as stated by Faculty Chair Rajagopal. Acting against the MIT community in this way sends a clear signal to all current and future students: the leadership has concluded your perspective and experience are improper and invalid, and thus you are the next difficult problem to be solved. Such a state of affairs would establish a tragic precedent for the remainder of Reif, Barnhart and others' leadership. I sincerely hope that President Reif, Chancellor Barnhart and all other current members of the administration can use this opportunity to demonstrate their integrity and strength as the 'tvte's leaders by listening to the students and the community, standing together with Senior House and allowing the class of 2020 full freedom to shape their experience at MIT.
Anna Radinova	Brooklyn, NY	2016-06-14	I'm a a senior house alumn from the class of 2012. I didn't start off at senior house as a freshman, but I was so happy to find a place that embraced being weird, creative, and thinking independently - all the things that made MIT unique and disringuished it from just any other elite university or IVy League school. Yes, some students at senior house might be struggling, but just closing the doors isn't the solution.
Rachel Greenstadt	Leuven, Belgium	2016-06-14	The bonds of friendship and mentorship that form between freshmen and upperclassmen at MIT in senior house are precious. It would be a tragedy to endanger them.
Arin Rogers	somerville, MA	2016-06-14	I was an East Campus resident who graduated from MIT in 2011. I fully believe closing senior house to freshman is a move that will hurt the community far more than it helps
Emily Rosser	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	I'm a proud member of that 40%: I just graduated, after nine semesters over the course of eight years. Less than two weeks ago, I was a new graduate now I'm a shameful statistic. I don't consider my three years in Senior House a detriment to my schooling: in fact, it was one of the most supportive, helpful, and welcoming aspects of my MIT experience. Please reconsider letting the class of 2020 be part of this wonderful home we've built.
Graham Woolley	Waltham, MA	2016-06-14	I agree with Deanna had I lived anywhere other than SH I doubt I would have made it through MIT at all. It was my refuge during a very difficult time in my life, and allowed me to flex my creativity in a community-focused way. I suspect that the graduation rate is more a function of SH's inclusiveness and acceptance towards non-conformists and alternative lifestyles than a negative effect of its culture.
Elizabeth Denys	Brooklyn, NY	2016-06-14	Senior House was my home at MIT. I felt accepted and safe there, and I want other MIT students to have that opportunity, too.
Kate Tatar	Norwood, MA	2016-06-14	My freshman year in Senior House was a formative experience for me. I learned to embrace myself for who I am, have empathy and better understanding for others, and it laid the groundwork for being successful at a difficult school like MIT.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Beth Baniszewski	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	I am signing this petition because I know from the experience of living on Fifth East of East Campus that sometimes the knowledge that it's okay to graduate in more than 4 years saves lives. Sometimes people come to the East Side and find a place more welcoming than they have ever felt before, and they learn that there are facets of themselves that are valuable in addition to their academic abilities that no one ever valued before. They encounter trouble handling the challenges of an MIT course-load and the challenges of learning to embrace their identities at the same time. Sometimes they need a bit longer to get through MIT. Sometimes their friends, who stay up all night talking to them to let them know that they are cared for and supported, also need more time. Incoming freshmen need to be able to find a home in Senior House, the place where so many have found the support to be themselves, even if it meant slowing down their academic journey a bit. It is good to see that MIT wants to provide additional support to students. But this is not the kind of support they need. They need an insurance plan that lets students have a wide range of choices in mental health professions to find someone who works well with them. They need assurances that the details of their mental health will not be leaked through HIPPA loop-holes and used against them.
Beth Baniszewski	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	Because I know from the experience of living on Fifth East of East Campus that sometimes the knowledge that it's okay to graduate in more than 4 years saves lives. Sometimes people come to the East Side and find a place more welcoming than they have ever felt before, and they learn that there are facets of themselves that are valuable in addition to their academic abilities that no one ever valued before. They encounter trouble handling the challenges of an MIT course-load and the challenges of learning to embrace their identities at the same time. Sometimes they need a bit longer to get through MIT. Sometimes their friends, who stay up all night talking to them to let them know that they are cared for and supported, also need more time. Incoming freshmen need to be able to find a home in that same place where so many have found the support to be themselves, even if it meant slowing down their academic journey a bit.
Xiao Xiao	Boston, MA	2016-06-14	It's important to address mental health issues, but closing the dorm to an entire class of freshmen is not the solution.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Christiana Rosales	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	I was a proud resident of East Campus and of Bexley during its final year. Though I never lived in Senior House, I fully understand and value the culture. My unique living experiences have enabled me to become the best, most rounded and fulfilled version of myself at both personal and academic levels. The loss of Bexley still hurts, but the spirit lives on through the strong bonds created among its residents. These bonds have far surpassed the fleeting interactions of people who resided in the "standard" dorms of West. The Senior House community builds invaluable relationships among its residents that MIT should look to as an example for creating a strong, united alumni base and support network. The MIT experience is not limited to the 4 years you sleep under its roof, it's an experience you carry for life. The administration's tinkering has rippling effects throughout the entire community, past, present, and future. I urge MIT to take a hard look at the effects its recent decisions will have on the people it claims to care about.
Brian Alvarez	Woodinville, WA	2016-06-14	I believe that senior house is a valuable member of our community, and allows us to honestly tell prospective students that "there is a dorm that will immediately feel like home to anyone." I believe that losing both bexley and senior house will make that statement no longer true.
Rebecca Corcillo	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	I am a 2016 who just graduated. I moved to senior house he beginning of my junior year after living in Simmons for my fist two years. Moving to senior house helped me finally get out of an abusive relationship by giving me the friendships and connection I was afraid of losing. I also was able to talk about a bunch of anxiety/panic attack type stuff I've always dealt with and was made worse in that relationship. Things got better and the friends I had on my floor made the overwhelming existential anxiety I had bearable, I could go out to my hall and hangout/talk to my friends to distract myself instead of freaking out alone in my room like I would have been doing had I still lived in Simmons. I was able to significantly improve my gpa while living in senior house and I think the support of having a supportive family I could for once be myself in definitely helped. I became much more focused and productive and was also able to love and enjoy the rest of my time at MIT. The hardest part of graduating was leaving senior house and I was in shock when I read the letter from the chancellor. Whether or not senior house has a problem, replacing grts and students with administrators will only hurt the situation. GET US SOME TRAINED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS THAT ARE CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES. Stop wasting money on bureaucrats who are an invasion of privacy and our home.
Emilio Gonzalez	El Paso, TX	2016-06-14	I am signing this petition as an alumnus of Senior House. I earned my SB from MIT in the spring of 2014 with a double major in brain and cognitive sciences and philosophy (courses 9 and 24-1), and I am currently a third year medical student at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center's Paul L. Foster School of Medicine. I lived at Senior House as a freshman, junior, senior, and fifth-year senior (I decided to double in philosophy during my senior year). I strongly believe that MIT is making a substantial mistake by closing Senior House and its wonderful community and culture to the incoming class of 2020. MIT's unique dorm culture was one of the major reasons I decided to apply to and subsequently matriculate into the Institute. Specifically, East Side culture immediately sparked an interest in me upon researching it as a high school student and resonated with me deeply when I visited MIT for the first time during CPW 2009. I met some of my best friends, including my wife, in East Side living groups, and my life is undoubtedly richer today due to my experiences at Senior House and through East Side culture in general. Please do not deny that privilege to the class of 2020.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Jim Waldrop	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	I lived in SH from '95 to '99. You really want to use the people there to help fix this. To do that, you have to not upset them so much that they don't wish to help, or give them perceived reasons to further distrust the motives of the administration.
Marisa Jasso	Universal City, TX	2016-06-14	I lived in Senior Haus and feel that future MIT students should have the same opportunity.
Cesar Echavarria	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	There's no place like home.
Bojan Joveski	Skopje, Macedonia, Republic of	2016-06-14	While I can agree that Senior House has problems, I feel that the proposal to not let freshmen in will not really contribute anything. Moreover, I'm saddened that yet again the administration decided on such a huge decision during a break and with no meaningful contribution from the student body.
Frederick Moore	Dorchester, MA	2016-06-14	Continuing to inform living groups of big changes like these during finals week or the beginnings of summer break is a clear message that the Admins don't respect the student population as equals. Even if these actions are for the better of the community, which I doubt they are, the method by which they were gone about shows a complete lack of respect of some of the finest minds and an unwillingness to be proven wrong by the overly bureaucratic administration
Tom Ozden-Schilling	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	I lived in Senior House from 2002-2006, and I completed two bachelor's degrees and a minor during that period. Since returning to MIT for a Ph.D in History, Anthropology, and Science, Technology, and Society, I have had many opportunities to interact with Senior House undergraduates, and I continue to believe - as I believed during my residence there - that the dorm provides a sanctuary for a wide range of students, including many who might not otherwise be able to succeed at MIT.
			The statistics offered to justify the present plan of action are misleading, and they presuppose that homogeneity between all MIT undergraduate dorms is a desirable and achievable goal. The proposed changes will likely increase the number of Senior House students who withdraw entirely from MIT rather than increase the dorm's four year graduation rate. Senior House is not without its problems, but the proposed measures would unduly stigmatize the dorm and pathologize its residents in an unhealthy and unproductive way.
			Again, the "statistics speak for themselves" attitude evinced in Chancellor Barnhart's original email to the Senior House community on this subject betrays a narrow, bureaucratic understanding of the diverse pressures and divergent goals that shape undergraduate life at MIT. Concerned administrators would do well to spend time actually living in the dorm and interacting with residents on a daily basis before imposing these draconian measures.
Benjamin DeMars	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	Incoming freshmen should be allowed to choose the dorm that it is the best fit for them; graduation rates are important, but so is compatibility and quality of life.
Cathy Zhou	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	Studente should have the freedom to choose where they wish to live & where they are comfortable. That's what made MIT so unique.
Leah Brunetto	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	I did my best work at MIT (creative and technical) while living at Senior House, and wish I had the same type of community right now, working in the "real world". It was a truly transformative place for me; I didn't move there right away, and wish I had more than just two years there (particularly, it would have been great for me freshman year).
Ann Walters	Watertown, MA	2016-06-14	Successful 3 1/2 year graduate, course IV, '82.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Thomas Consolo	Cincinnati, OH	2016-06-14	The social and intellectual freedoms of Senior House were invaluable in my first independent years. That I didn't graduate from the institute is, for me, testament to Senior House's success, not its failings. That atmosphere must be preserved for the well-being of future generations.
Sera Markoff	Netherlands	2016-06-14	see my open letter to the Chancellor!
Brian Okoro	Pasadena, CA	2016-06-14	of very similar unsavory happenings on the campus of my alma mater Caltech
Keri Garel	Somerville, MA	2016-06-14	I lived in Senior House from 2006 to 2010. It was integral to my survival at MIT, and I truly believe it is a disservice for it to be inaccessible to members of the class of 2020 looking for a home where they can finally fit in. Please reconsider this decision.
Merry Mou	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	FYRE-ing to Senior House my freshman year changed my life completely and for the better, in ways I could not have known had I not had the option. Living in Senior House was the first step of many to learning to accept and be more honest with myself, and I sincerely hope that incoming students are not robbed of the very lifeline they might need the most.
Pauline Varley	Boston, MA	2016-06-14	MIT needs the weirdos.
Mary Cole	Houston, TX	2016-06-14	As a former Senior House resident, I believe that the institute should engage the community in crafting an improvement plan. I believe that incoming freshman should be given the opportunity to "opt in" to living in Senior House.
Josep Valor	New York, NY	2016-06-14	Ph.D. 82, Sc.D. 85. Married graduate resident in Senior House from 1979 to 1985. I can not imagine some of the students in our entries, who finished very succesfully, surviving in a classic "ideal" dorm.
Vladimir Kiriansky	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	As a Senior House alum, I've enjoyed the company of many fellow misfits, who have acquired PhDs, become professors, and/or started companies. I'd suggest examining also who are the best graduates of Senior House, Random Hall, and East Campus, who thrived in these welcoming environments. While the variance of outcomes may be hard to fit in neat numbers, MIT doesn't stand for mediocrity.
Leigh-Ana Rossitto	Boston, MA	2016-06-14	I was placed in a dorm that I did not fit in with my Freshmen fall, and I was very unhappy. Disallowing Freshmen from living in Senior Haus prevents an entire group of students from finding their home at MIT for at least a semester, and I strongly believe this will cause more problems than it will fix.
Rostislav Rumenov	Zurich, Switzerland	2016-06-14	Senior house was important part my journey! I spent there 4 amazing years. The problem is not with the kids or values of the dorm. Making all the students the same by forcing them to live in artificial communities with values set by the administration will not lead to anything good.
Miriam Prosnitz	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	MIT needs diversity and continually shuttering established communities hurts the students the institution seeks to help.
David Benhaim	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	Bexley
Arthur Petron	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-14	Closing Senior Haus to incoming freshman is not a well thought out course of action. We don't need to bring up Scott.
Dulce isler	metuchen, NJ	2016-06-14	These young adults need a place that feels welcoming to them and that is what senior house is
Dimitar Simeonov	San Francisco, CA	2016-06-14	I lived in SH as a freshman - it provided many international students like me an unique perspective into USA's culture.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Hadley Piper	Louisville, KY	2016-06-14	I lived in EC, and many of my friends lived in SH; for those who deviate from the mold of the 'average' MIT student, having communities as welcoming and accepting at EC and SH mean students like myself can find a home at MIT.
Sarah Axel	Scituate, MA	2016-06-14	Course 7, Class of 1981. MD 1985. Practicing Pediatrician.
Priscilla Graeff	Bronx, NY	2016-06-14	I lived at Senior House 2003-2006 and it was the best living experience. No I did not graduate.
J Guerrero	Seattle, WA	2016-06-15	Without the relaxed and accepting culture in SH, many fellow undergraduates and I wouldn't have been able thrive in MIT's highly valued educational institution. Our society allows for individuals to not conform to cultural and social norms espoused by the majority as long as their choice doesn't infringe on other's individuals' rights. Senior House may not be better than any dorm, nor it may be for everyone, but it definitely is one of the key reasons many successful alumni were able to benefit from a full MIT education while having the freedom to not conform to the mainstream student culture. If there is any data that shows that the Senior House community lags behind other living groups in performance, the school should focus on the root causes behind it, which in fact may be precursors of students seeking the accepting and open- minded nature of the Senior House community. Restricting future students from having the option of benefiting from Senior House's culture as well as the resulting adverse impact on the current student's ability to sustain it would not align with MIT's history of meeting or exceeding our society's acceptance of individual freedoms.
Sara Campbell	Boulder, CO	2016-06-15	Senior House was the most diverse group of people I have ever lived with. I can't measure how much my friends there broadened so many of my perspectives. Where is the data that shows that living in Senior House *causes* the statistics cited by MIT? Could it be that Senior House is a supportive community for those already predisposed to those issues? I arrived at MIT rich, white, straight, cis-gendered, and with no significant mental health issues. In no way did living in Senior House impair my ability to graduate in four years, succeed academically, and be accepted to every Ph.D. program in physics that I applied to. In fact, the alternative culture at Senior House led me to question what I was doing and why. I started doing research that I cared about. This gave me a greater sense of self-determination than any coursework could. I began to care about the world that existed beyond the safe, comfortable world I grew up in. I learned self-confidence. Is success to be measured by how many hoops you can jump through, and how quickly? As a scientist, you eventually finish jumping through all of the hoops. Then what do you do? Without the strength and meaning that I learned in Senior House, I doubt that I would have made it this far.
Chris Barron	Saint Paul, MN	2016-06-15	Senior Haus is where I lost and then found myself. It's where I met the most diverse, creative, and brilliant people I know. Don't deny that experience to others who need just such an opportunity.
Mary McCartney	Arlington, MA	2016-06-15	I lived in Senior House for all 4 years. I graduated in 1985 after taking one semester off. It's hard to put into words how much living at Senior House helped me. Please consider keeping it open for freshmen. It is a safe haven for students from the LGBT community
Helen McCreery	Boulder, CO	2016-06-15	I graduated from MIT in 2006. Senior House was a welcoming community that's vital to many of MIT's students.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
David Lerner	San Diego, CA	2016-06-15	You are trying to decrease the meaningful life path options to MIT students based on a D- statistical analysis.
Elizabeth Glaser	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	My husband (Peter Desoyers BS, MS '88) lived in Senior House while at MIT and our son , Christopher Desnoyers '17, lives in East Campus. Both dorms have communities that greatly support and enhance the lives of intelligent, thoughtful, creative, and caring young people that might otherwise feel marginalized in other living groups. My understanding is that some concern arises from results of the Healthly Minds survey conducted last year, however that survey had an overall response rate at MIT of less than 30%. There is no evidence in the summarized survey results to suggest that a nonresponder analysis was done _by dorm_ to assure that there were no systematic differences between the > 70% nonresponders and those &It 30% of students that responded. Given the risk of bias in the survey, any determinations based on the results may be in error.
Robert Powers	San Carlos, CA	2016-06-15	(XII '94) I am dismayed that Chancellor Barnhart has decided to destroy Senior House in the name of "fixing it". The single statistic she cites as rationalization is hardly enough data to support such a radical course of action. Despite her pleas to the contrary, closing it to Freshmen serves only one purpose- to kill its culture completely.
Sebastian Joseph	Silver Spring, MD	2016-06-15	I believe that closing ANY dorm to freshmen denies them a chance to choose a dorm that may be a welcoming home for them. I believe that measures to address the wellbeing of Senior House residents can be taken without denying freshmen. I believe that the portion of this measure denying freshmen from choosing Senior House was decided unilaterally, announced punitively, and is an overreaction that will ultimately cause more ill than good for all dorm residents.
Fangfei Shen	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	The decision to close Senior House off from the class of 2020 deeply disappoints me. Senior House is a needed community at MIT. You would be doing a great disservice to many members of the class of 2020 by barring them from living at Senior House.
Rachel Ellison	Chicago, IL	2016-06-15	I'm a senior house alum and I LOVE THIS PLACE. It gave me safety and a place to blossom before launching into a successful career and family life
Dorota Grabowska	Seattle, WA	2016-06-15	Senior Haus was the first place that i felt free to be myself, to live and love and experience without judgement. The community was vital not only in helping me graduate on time, but also in shaping who i am today. Please do not deny this experience to others, especially those who might rely on this safer space.
Josh Cole	Alpharetta, GA	2016-06-15	I think that the unique culture that Senior House has fostered over the course of its existence makes MIT a better, more exciting, and far more interesting school to attend, even if that culture is not one I would want to live in myself.
Robin Ivester	New Orleans, LA	2016-06-15	Class of '01, finished Jan '02 in course 3. Lived in Senior House all the way through; while I agree that MIT and Senior House could have absolutely used more effective support in mental health, self-care, and general life guidance, there's nowhere else I would rather have lived. As a queer person who came to MIT from South Carolina, finding the home and community that I did at Senior House, especially as a freshman, mattered tremendously. I'm now a primary care MD working in New Orleans, and among other things I am working to get a large healthcare system in the Gulf South competent at LGBTQ healthcare, and just recently taught a workshop on the same at a national medical conference. Living in Senior House and having that kind of baseline acceptance / celebration for all kinds of difference absolutely shaped how I approach the work I do now.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
DV	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	The administration does not really understand how to improve student lives. learn to listen more. things like that are why MIT is getting broken
Jason Wallace	Somerville, MA	2016-06-15	I want to preserve this epic part of MIT. Senior Haus embodies an innovative, creative, and critical part of MIT's culture.
Jessica Artiles	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	This was not a community decision. This was an administrative decision.
Jordan Isler	Metuchen, NJ	2016-06-15	I am a senior haus resident and rising sophomore and I want the rising freshmen to have the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful family and support network. I am also certain that a lack of fresh faces and frosh specific energy will have negative effects on both my experience and my academics
Scot Krueger	Houston, TX	2016-06-15	Please keep Senior House open for the creative and caring folks who gravitate there. Dispersing these students among the rest of the population will not help them, but merely hide their fates in the statistics of the rest of the campus. I am a proud to have been one of the misfits who called Senior House home. I graduated in 4 years (XiII '81) and went on to a long and productive career as a research geologist. I am a regular donor to MIT, but find this latest move to be deeply disturbing.
Michelle Trammel	Malden, MA	2016-06-15	I lived in Senior House as an undergrad at MIT. It was my first choice dormitory when I came to MIT as a freshman in 1985. If I recall correctly, the house was fully subscribed with first choice freshmen that year. As a kid who felt like an outsider all of her life, I finally felt at home when I moved into Senior House. I chose Senior House, but I also feel that Senior House chose me. Some of my closest friends today are people whom I met in Senior House. I believe I would not have graduated without the support of the extended Senior House community. That support included friendship as well as academic assistance (for example, informal tutoring on 18.01 and 6.003 problem sets). It took me 5 years to graduate instead of 4, but I earned two full undergraduate degrees in that time. Thank you, Senior House!
Anca Mosoiu	Oakland, CA	2016-06-15	Coming to Senior House as a freshman in 1991, I found a place that was full of incredibly smart, creative, quirky people who not only supported each other while in school, but came back as alums to help with events and just remind us that we could make it through. Keep Senior House open to iconoclasts!
Adam Leonard	San Francisco, CA	2016-06-15	I am a member of the class of 2012 and a former senior house resident. I moved into senior house as a sophomore (from Simmons) and I very much believe that the oppertunity to join the senior house community was critical both to my academic success at the Institute and to my emotional well-being. I urge you to consider the proposals in this letter to find ways to improve academic life without sacrificing this unique and welcoming community that has supported so many students.
Jordan Ugalde	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	Closing the dorm to freshman is effectively attempting to kill the culture of Senior House, a culture which is where many find a unique comfort and sense of belonging that is not found elsewhere on campus. Killing this culture further stymies any sort of expression outside of purely studious student, and I am to MIT believing that it was my uniqueness and diversity of character which brought me, and all of my classmates together at MIT. It seems as if the administration disagrees.
John Rogosic	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	MIT should cherish, grow, and respect its unique residential communities, which are one of its greatest strengths.
Adam Simha	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	Class of 88, graduated in 89. Senior house could not have been more nurturing both for me and freshmen I knew, a number of whom had non-typical trajectories

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Huan Liu	New York, NY	2016-06-15	I have many friends from Senior House who I admire and look up to to this day. It is a place that is different and special. I am proud of the fact that I went to a college where such a community exists.
Peter Desnoyers	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	As a faculty member (Assoc. Prof, Northeastern) and a parent of a student at MIT I am keenly aware of both the human cost of students failing to graduate and the institutional costs of failing to meet arbitrary statistics demanded by USNWR. Although a Senior House alum, I was initially skeptical that students selecting SH could be far enough from the norm to explain the differences, statistics I've seen since then (e.g. 40% LGBT) indicate that there is a real possibility that SH is in fact providing a nurturing environment for those students who choose the house. I urge the administration to use the tools at their disposal to try to find the best way to help the students who are not currently completing their degrees, and to approach the problem with an open mind - taking into account the possibility that the answer could be more of the support that SH residents are providing each other, rather than less.
Chad Charowhas	Chevy Chase, MD	2016-06-15	Graduation rates aren't everything. Senior House has always attracted individuals outside the standard track. For nearly 100 years these students have found a home here. Many of them desperately needed someplace where they could be supported for their unorthodox approach to their education and their lives. Senior house culture has always supported both academic and other measures of success. It is that second part, combined with the soul searching and extra challenges the people attracted to Senior House have that affects the graduation rate. However, I find it troubling that the administration feels the need to hammer down the nail that sticks up. Students have a right to self-determination and free association. It is especially important to protect those principles when a community self-selects for people less likely to finish on time or at all to the rest of campus.
JOnathan Goler	N/a, Canada	2016-06-15	I lived at Senior Haus and believe the administration should work to understand the underlying factors at play, factors that are concentrated at Senior Haus because it is an open and accepting place, not caused by Senior Haus.
Robert Arlt Jr.	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	 * Did you live in Senior House as freshman? No * Do you feel Senior House had unique benefits? In general? As a freshman? As a freshman who was not at SH I still appreciated the benefits of SH as being a different place where people could be themselves and be somewhat alternative in culture as well as a smaller environment where it is much easier to know everyone you live with. As not-a-freshman I really appreciated the full acceptance of just about everything at SH. I also really appreciated the somewhat in-your-face culture which requires one to form thick-skin as well as communication skills in veins of collaboration and conflict management. * Did Senior House affect how well you did at MIT? For the better? worse? Yes, without SH I would likely not have graduated as I would have had no where to live after having to move out of an ILG mid-semester and would have no other place to go. * Were you happy to have lived in Senior House? Yes, extremely. It is the by
			far the best thing about my time at MIT.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Felix Sung	San Jose, CA	2016-06-15	 "When asked in an interview whether selection bias may be contributing to this data, Barnhart said it is "something [they] will look at" and that she anticipated that students would have "all kinds of ideas."" Shouldn't you look into it first, before making such a huge decision? I'm sure we have some professors / students that can really dig into the data too, being MIT and all. One of the things I appreciated most about MIT was being free to choose a dorm that I could fit in well into. Please don't take away one of the more unique choices without understanding the situation fully first.
Grace Kenney	Chicago, IL	2016-06-15	Originally class of 2006, graduated in 2007 with my Course V S.B. (along with a Course VII minor, and a pile of art and German classes). I would not have made it through MIT without the support of the Senior House (and East Campus!) community - and in fact, moving to Senior House from East Campus was part of how I dealt with and recovered from a rough academic start at MIT. The independence, intellectual fearlessness, and resilience in the face of failure that I developed while living in Senior House have made me a better scientist and a better person. Exposure to the diverse East Side community broadened my horizons, and the unique East Side (and in particular Senior House) culture afforded me many artistic opportunities that would have been quite difficult to replicate elsewhere on campus. I'm quite close to finishing up my PhD in biochemistry, and am hoping to remain in academic research; I've repeatedly been amazed at how aspects of my time at Senior House have informed my further academic career.
Kristin H.	Davis, CA	2016-06-15	Senior House changed my life (for the better!) Class of '84.
Charlie Rubin	Red Hook, NY	2016-06-15	The alternative-ness and diversity of Senior House were just what I needed. I did not fit in well at my earlier dorm, and at Senior House I felt relaxed and accepted. The exposure to such a diversity of people and cultures was a positive influence on me for the rest of my life. Please don't try to make every dorm the same
Tanya Goldhaber, '10	London, United Kingdom	2016-06-15	The administration has to stop making decisions without paying attention to what students want. Keep MIT weird!
Logan Williams	San Francisco, CA	2016-06-15	I am an MIT alum from 2013, and lived in Senior House for half of my time at MIT. Senior House was incredibly important to my personal development and well being. MIT thrives on diversity, and I found Senior House to be one of the weirdest, most diverse places on campus. It still feels like home.

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Javier Duarte	Los Angeles, CA	2016-06-15	As a class of 2010 alum, I lived in Senior House as a first-year and I had a fantastic social, academic, and life experience at Senior House. The older physics students acted as mentors to me and I had great support from fellow Senior House first-years. I learned a great deal during my years at Senior House, especially about the importance of community and supporting and learning from your peers. I think living at Senior House enabled me to become a better student and scientist.
Mateo Williams	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	I am a SH alumn and lived in Senior House my whole 4 years of undergrad. I was severely depressed during my sophomore and junior years and I wouldn't have made it through and graduated in 9 terms if it weren't for the support and love of my fellow hall mates. They made my life easier, even when I was on the brink of breaking down. They came to my aid when they sensed a change in my demeanor. Communities that care, despite their appearance to the larger institution, despite their alleged ties to illicit activities, communities that are open and accepting of divergent situations and divergent mental statesthese are valuable. A place where those that don't fit into regular molds can feel safe, loved, appreciated, and accepted. And with this strength they can express their unique views on life, their particular take on problems of science and technology, as well as their unique intersection in a socio-economic-gender-ethnicity manifold.
Candice McElroy	York, ME	2016-06-15	I lived at Senior House from my first semester freshman year (fall 1995) through my final semester of my senior year (spring 1995). I saw physical changes with the renovations summer 1996 and culture changes as new classes came and went. I have no regrets about living at Senior House and nearly all of my MIT contacts these days are also former Senior House residents. Having a home away from home during those formative years that fostered creativity and thinking beyond the box benefitted me throughout various stages of my post-undergrad years including graduate school in music, a career in teaching, and a change of course to medical school and now as a practicing family physician. Please allow the doors of Senior House to remain open while actively working to identify causes for a lower graduation rate so that those specific issues can be addressed.
Lefteris Ioannidis	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	I really appreciated Senior House as a place for misfits to fit it, even though I never lived there. I believe the low graduation rates are simply a correlation and there's no causality.
JUAN ORTIZ RHOTON	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	I know the senior house community is good and don't want it to be ruined.
Radu Raduta	San Francisco, CA	2016-06-15	Senior house is a unique home for some amazing individuals, that need support and nurturing, not punishment.
Dima Ayyash	Cambridge, MA	2016-06-15	MIT's greatest asset is its diverse community. In that respect, Senior House *is* quintessentially MIT! If MIT is to continue embracing the diversity, creativity, and eccentricity of its students, it will work WITH members of the community to make senior house a more thriving home for all. I consider myself to have been extremely fortunate to have lived in senior house. It was the first place I ever considered to be my "home," and I wish future undergraduates a similarly positive and transformative experience to the one I had2012 alumna (course XI)
Zachary McCarthy	Westport, CT	2016-06-15	Ftb
John Watlington	Acton, MA	2016-06-16	I'm signing because Senior House is an important part of MIT culture. It should not be destroyed because (once again) some uptight member of the administration has decided to "clean house". It is an important refuge for creative people in the midst of MIT.

Signatures

Name	Location	Date
I Lived in Senior House	, United States	2016-06-11
Neal Miller	Chicago, IL, United States	2016-06-11
Megan Levin	Orlando, FL, United States	2016-06-11
Jonathan Gladstone	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-11
Jill atkins	Westford, MA, United States	2016-06-11
Mariana Baca	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-11
Lois Epstein	Anchorage, AK, United States	2016-06-11
John Hinsdale	Princeton Junction, NJ, United States	2016-06-11
Robert Krawitz	Chestnut Hill, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Ignacio Marquez	Camarillo, CA, United States	2016-06-12
Larry Kolodney	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Jacob Higgins	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Deanna Miller	Denver, CO, United States	2016-06-12
S. Wandia	Nairobi, Kenya	2016-06-12
Alex C	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Noa Machover	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Amir Cohen	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Olga Shestopalova	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Alex Leffell	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Wat Hughes	Ashland, VA, United States	2016-06-12
Shervin Fatehi	McAllen, TX, United States	2016-06-12
Emilio Pace	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Dylan Blake	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Daniel Guberek	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Sabrina Madera	Yonkers, NY, United States	2016-06-12
Lisandro Martin	Hialeah, FL, United States	2016-06-12
Olivia Washington	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Cindy Leffell	New Haven, CT, United States	2016-06-12
Boryana Doyle	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
W. Scott Meeks	Arlington, MA, United States	2016-06-12

Name	Location	Date
Elizabeth Nesseler	San Diego, CA, United States	2016-06-12
Andrei Ivanov	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Trevor Henderson	Kings Park, NY, United States	2016-06-12
Meghan Cum	Stockbridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Cordelia Avery	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Conor Kirby	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Jazmine Henderson	Murrieta, CA, United States	2016-06-12
Rucha Mehendale	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Olin Harbury	Charlotte, NC, United States	2016-06-12
Karia Dibert	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Robert Vasen	Asbury Park, NJ, United States	2016-06-12
Gilberto Gutierrez	Brownsville, TX, United States	2016-06-12
Daniela Carrasco	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Sandra Bayona	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Val Healy	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Josiah Seale	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Alex Rosen	Durham, NC, United States	2016-06-12
Carolyn Atwood	Reno, NV, United States	2016-06-12
Tosan Adoki	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Lisa Lozano	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Izzy Lloyd	Allston, MA, United States	2016-06-12
James Handy	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Dakota Freeman	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Claire Simpson	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Anastasia Pek	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-12
Mariana Ballina	Irvine, CA, United States	2016-06-12
Chiheon Kim	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Thalia Estrella	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Alex Markovits	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Holly Haney	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Tamar More	Portland, OR, United States	2016-06-12
Khalil Elbaggari	Albany, CA, United States	2016-06-12

Name	Location	Date
Mark Chandler	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-12
alfredo yanez	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Abigail Russell	Tyler, TX, United States	2016-06-12
Catherine Yao	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Nikayah Etienne	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2016-06-12
Laura Gustafson	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Nikhil Punwaney	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
German Soto	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Karla Martinez	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Sara Volz	Colorado Springs, CO, United States	2016-06-12
Mihika Prabhu	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
David Heller	Fair Lawn, NJ, United States	2016-06-12
Ryan Dern	Hanover, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Kimberly Dauber	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Sean Corcoran	Huntersville, NC, United States	2016-06-12
Sravya Bhamidipati	Fremont, CA, United States	2016-06-12
Dennis Perepelitsa	New York, NY, United States	2016-06-12
Archana Ram	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Katherine Cherian	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
jullianna Bracco	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Emily Salvador	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Alina Kononov	Urbana, IL, United States	2016-06-12
Steven Gerasimoff	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Austin Garrett	Gilbert, AZ, United States	2016-06-12
Carina Quiroz	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Benjamin Rosenbluth	New Haven, CT, United States	2016-06-12
Maura Hennessey	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
David Zegeye	Chicago, IL, United States	2016-06-12
Tiffany Tao	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Yonadav Shavit	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Asya Bergal	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Ann Liu	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12

Name	Location	Date
Jacqueline Xu	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Cyril Creque-Sarbinowski	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Jesse Chang	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Yanisa Techagumthorn	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Noah Flowers	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Carrie McDonough	Newport, RI, United States	2016-06-12
Adele Schwab	Germany	2016-06-12
Judy Jiajing Wang	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Sofi Peterson	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Nivair Gabriel	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Lucy Gabriel	Pittsburgh, PA, United States	2016-06-12
Michaela Ennis	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Marjorie Buss	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Christi Dawydiak	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Kevin Rodriguez	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Amelia Helmick	Mountain View, CA, United States	2016-06-12
Tofunmi Ogunfunmi	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Adrianna Rodriguez	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Raine H	Lafayette, LA, United States	2016-06-12
Alaisha Alexander	Miami, FL, United States	2016-06-12
Diana ben-Aaron	Ipswich, ENG, United Kingdom	2016-06-12
Trang Luu	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Kenneth Collins	McDonough, GA, United States	2016-06-12
Hannah Zlotnick	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Margo Dawes	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Ilana Porter	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Gabriel Teixeira	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Nicholas McCoy	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Ricardo Rodriguez	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Xander Rudelis	Pasadena, CA, United States	2016-06-12
Manuel Guillen	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Audrey Ricks	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12

Name	Location	Date
Joshua Pevner	New York, NY, United States	2016-06-12
Nicholas Pape	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Valeria Staneva	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Niki Mossafer Rahmati	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-12
Rafael Amanau	Cokeburg, PA, United States	2016-06-13
Paul Schwein	SW Ranches, FL, United States	2016-06-13
Amelia Trainer	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Katherine Dieppa	Jupiter, FL, United States	2016-06-13
Jackie Liu	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Marlo Johnson	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Grace Assaye	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Edward Nguyen	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Eduardo Maury	Miami, FL, United States	2016-06-13
Cannon Vogel	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Friederike Buck	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Jessica Yu	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Fernando Nunez	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Daniel Mirny	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Nathalie Huynh	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Avianna Vyff	Northbridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Juan Angulo	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Elise Bickford	Falmouth, ME, United States	2016-06-13
Anni Zhang	Baton Rouge, LA, United States	2016-06-13
Aletta Tibbetts	Arlington, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Amy Liu	Allston, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Tabrez Alam	Bronx, NY, United States	2016-06-13
Nick Hoffman	Santiago, Chile	2016-06-13
Dani Fox-Porter	Englishtown, NJ, United States	2016-06-13
Cynthia Woolworth	Lexington, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Nicolas Gomez	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Caitlin Fischer	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Hane Lee	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13

Name	Location	Date
Ximena Hasbach	West Palm Beach, FL, United States	2016-06-13
Ryan Robinson	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-13
William Popov	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Yun-Ta (Andy) Tsai	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Severyn Kozak	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Megan Schussman	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Bettina Arkhurst	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Koharu Usui	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Laura Boylan	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Nicholas Benson	Glendale, CA, United States	2016-06-13
Frederick Daso	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Sarah Schwettmann	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
SC	s, IL, United States	2016-06-13
Aaron Brookner	Berkeley, CA, United States	2016-06-13
Catherine Yunis	Chicago, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Fransheska Colon	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Christine Corbett Moran	Pasadena, CA, United States	2016-06-13
Jane Maunsell	CAMBRIDGE, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Louis Lamia	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Claire Patterson	Santa Barbara, CA, United States	2016-06-13
Faye Schwartz	Hull, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Aaron Okello	Derwood, MD, United States	2016-06-13
Sophie Cao	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Pragya Tooteja	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Serena Xu	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Aaron Sipser	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Nisha Dalvie	Vestal, NY, United States	2016-06-13
Eva de la Serna	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Elaine Lin	Goleta, CA, United States	2016-06-13
Sienna Ramos	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Brianna Berrios	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Bennett Cyphers	Brookline, MA, United States	2016-06-13

Name	Location	Date
Kayla Tabb	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Edgardo Farias	Altadena, CA, United States	2016-06-13
Brandon Le	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-13
Krystal Arroyo-Flores	Crofton, MD, United States	2016-06-13
Haley Bates	Waukesha, WI, United States	2016-06-13
Angel Diaz	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Kendall Helbert	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Rumen Dangovski	Sofia, Bulgaria	2016-06-13
Cynthia Fang	Suwanee, GA, United States	2016-06-13
Katerina Velcheva	Stanford, CA, United States	2016-06-13
Scott Viteri	Paradise Valley, AZ, United States	2016-06-13
Carlos Torres	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Danbee Kim	케임브리지, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Elizabeth Krueger	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Drew Beller	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
peter huddleston	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Juan Romero	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Sonia Chawla	Ann Arbor, MI, United States	2016-06-13
David Feldman	Davis, CA, United States	2016-06-13
Simantini Mitra-Behura	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Ayomide Fatunde	Hollywood, FL, United States	2016-06-13
Irena Martinez	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Marc Smith	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Jamison Sloan	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-13
John Hack	Maplewood, NJ, United States	2016-06-13
Sara Falcone	Seattle, WA, United States	2016-06-13
Daniel Chen	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Truong Cai	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Julie Henion	Woburn, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Richard Lu	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Cody Feldhaus	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-13
Justa Frias	Miami, FL, United States	2016-06-13

Name	Location	Date
Emma DeSoto	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Luisa Kenausis	Bethel, CT, United States	2016-06-13
Farah Kabir	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Janelle Wellons	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Rebecca Scarr	Milwaukee, WI, United States	2016-06-13
Erica Waller	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Suman Nepal	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Victor Gutierrez	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Warittha Panasawatwong	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Eric Ponce	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Kabir Abiose	Westlake, OH, United States	2016-06-13
Alejandra Arroyo	Fort Lauderdale, FL, United States	2016-06-13
Rebecca Corcillo	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Andrea Gonzalez	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
David Danko	Ithaca, NY, United States	2016-06-13
Husayn Karimi	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
rujie yao	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Clementine Mitchell	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Sylvia Atsaves	Arlington, TX, United States	2016-06-13
Marisa Fryer	Toronto, Canada	2016-06-13
Manjinder Singh	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Ingrid Zhang	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Ivailo Dimov	New York, NY, United States	2016-06-13
Caroline Figgatt	College Park, MD, United States	2016-06-13
Mary Beth Richards-Weston	Long Beach, CA, United States	2016-06-13
D Keith Brezinsky	Belmont, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Yasmin Chavez	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-13
Mati Alemayehu	Stone Mountain, GA, United States	2016-06-13
Harry Rickards	Uckfield, ENG, United Kingdom	2016-06-13
Tye Ellis	Chicago, IL, United States	2016-06-14
Eli Sadovnik	Newton, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Sara Goheen	Del Mar, CA, United States	2016-06-14

Name	Location	Date
Peter Mizes	Pittsford, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Lizhou Sha	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Nora Kelsall	Washington, DC, United States	2016-06-14
Kiarash Adl	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Yelena Mikich	Northampton, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Emma Lindsay	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Aneesh Anand	West Newton, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Kyl Nero	Chaguanas, Trinidad and Tobago	2016-06-14
Shi Yun Wang	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Linda Julien	Medford, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Olivia Mello	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Yuliya Klochan	Powell, OH, United States	2016-06-14
Victor Buza	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Abbe Cohen Dvornik	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Stephanie Sallum	Tucson, AZ, United States	2016-06-14
Christine Peterson	Palo Alto, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Janet Li	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Max Allen	Bethesda, MD, United States	2016-06-14
Rachael Devlin	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Tuan Nguyen	Indio, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Marian Heman-Ackah	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
David Vargas	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Clint Lohse	Washington, DC, United States	2016-06-14
Carlos Garcia	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Emilio Jasso	Alice, TX, United States	2016-06-14
Chandler Schlupf	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Niteesh Sundaram	Allison Park, PA, United States	2016-06-14
Al Mireault	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Wei Low	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Emily Tow	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Emilee Johnson	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Anvisha Pai	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-14

Name	Location	Date
Joshua Horowitz	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Prakriti Paul	Pasadena, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Ivan Borsenco	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Carolyn OBrien	Effretikon, Switzerland	2016-06-14
Colleen Rock	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Jennifer Selby	Daly City, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Antonio Vicente	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Jennie Block	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Marc Resnick	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Ariel Segall	Waltham, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Jaclyn Baughman	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Erika Lee	San Mateo, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Dean Berlin	Watertown, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Jasmeet Arora	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Dan McAnulty	Oakland, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Zachary Barryte	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Rachel Ah Chuen	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Dylan Sherry	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Paresh Agarwal	Mountain View, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Eduardo Maristany	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Claire Nord	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Anna Radinova	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Victor Cantu	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Rachel Greenstadt	Leuven, Belgium	2016-06-14
Alexander Laiman	Pen y Cwm, WLS, United Kingdom	2016-06-14
Clara Rhee	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Jamila Smith-Dell	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Arin Rogers	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Cathleen Nalezyty	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Stephanie Chen	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Isabel Kaspriskie	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Emily Rosser	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14

Name	Location	Date
Carissa Jansen	New York, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Graham Woolley	Waltham, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Ashley Peter	Washington, DC, United States	2016-06-14
Riley Ledezma	Brookline, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Elizabeth Denys	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Anna Walsh	Cortlandt, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Kate Tatar	Norwood, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Jessica Hinel	Long Island City, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Fysal Khayyal	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Beth Baniszewski	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Xiao Xiao	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Christiana Rosales	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Samantha Cohen	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Brian Alvarez	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Muhammad Haider	Lahore, Pakistan	2016-06-14
Meghan Dow	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Shirley Galbiati	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Akshat Bubna	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Alex Lu	Ossining, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Connie LU	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Emilio Gonzalez-Cervantes	El Paso, TX, United States	2016-06-14
Blake Jackson	San Antonio, TX, United States	2016-06-14
Sara Sinback	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Jim Waldrop	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Marisa Jasso	Universal City, TX, United States	2016-06-14
Maryam Yoon	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Dario Garcia-Dominguez	Brookline, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Martha Gross	Austin, TX, United States	2016-06-14
Cesar Echavarria	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
David Yang	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Sebastian Leon	Berkeley, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Bojan Joveski	Skopje, Macedonia, Republic of	2016-06-14

Name	Location	Date
Frederick Moore	Dorchester, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Tom Ozden-Schilling	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Gabriel Bujokas	New York, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Jennifer Ibanez	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Benjamin DeMars	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
John Deely	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Charles Inman	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Alan Dang	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Noah Shields	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
josh gordonson	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Cathy Zhou	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Kamilla Tekiela	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Usman Masood	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Leah Brunetto	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Martin Lozano	Long Beach, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Gabriel Lesnick	Seattle, WA, United States	2016-06-14
Ann Walters	Watertown, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Manushaqe Muco	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Thomas Consolo	Cincinnati, OH, United States	2016-06-14
Albert Rodenius	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Laura Zhang	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Sera Markoff	Netherlands	2016-06-14
Valkyrie Felso	Tel Aviv, Israel	2016-06-14
Brian Okoro	Pasadena, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Keri Garel	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Merry Mou	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Rachel Fong	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Nathan Monroe	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Veronica Szklarzewski	Chicago, IL, United States	2016-06-14
Gianna Garza	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Michelle Johnson	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Craig Rodgers	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14

Name	Location	Date
Pauline Varley	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Mary Cole	Houston, TX, United States	2016-06-14
Francesca Majluf	Homestead, FL, United States	2016-06-14
Josep Valor	New York, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Vladimir Kiriansky	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Tony DiBlasi	Phoenix, AZ, United States	2016-06-14
Leigh-Ana Rossitto	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Rostislav Rumenov	Zurich, Switzerland	2016-06-14
Liz Bradley	Boulder, CO, United States	2016-06-14
Jessica Adams	Panama City, FL, United States	2016-06-14
Miriam Prosnitz	Skokie, IL, United States	2016-06-14
Andrew Stevens	Port Chester, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Sarah Ackley	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-14
David Benhaim	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Arthur Petron	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Dulce isler	metuchen, NJ, United States	2016-06-14
Rebekah Cha	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Lia Coleman	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Olga Vasileva	Spain	2016-06-14
Dimitar Simeonov	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-14
Hadley Piper	Louisville, KY, United States	2016-06-14
Almas Abdulla	New York, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Raymond Jacobson	Bethesda, MD, United States	2016-06-14
Ben Eck	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Sarah Axel	Scituate, MA, United States	2016-06-14
Theodora Koullias	Staten Island, NY, United States	2016-06-14
Priscilla Graeff	Bronx, NY, United States	2016-06-14
J Guerrero	Seattle, WA, United States	2016-06-15
Margaret Manto	Charlottesville, VA, United States	2016-06-15
Lucy Yang	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Sara Campbell	Boulder, CO, United States	2016-06-15
Chris Barron	Saint Paul, MN, United States	2016-06-15

Name	Location	Date
Mia Shandell	New York, NY, United States	2016-06-15
Mary McCartney	Arlington, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Helen McCreery	Boulder, CO, United States	2016-06-15
Steven Cooke	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
sam johnson	Broomfield, CO, United States	2016-06-15
David Lerner	San Diego, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Elizabeth Glaser	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Joshua Blum	Queens, NY, United States	2016-06-15
Robert Powers	San Carlos, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Sebastian Joseph	Silver Spring, MD, United States	2016-06-15
Fangfei Shen	New York, NY, United States	2016-06-15
Xitlali Juarez	Queens, NY, United States	2016-06-15
Rachel Ellison	Chicago, IL, United States	2016-06-15
Dorota Grabowska	Seattle, WA, United States	2016-06-15
Josh Cole	Alpharetta, GA, United States	2016-06-15
Traci Keith	San Carlos, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Laser Nite	Fairfield, IA, United States	2016-06-15
Emanuel Perez	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Robin Ivester	New Orleans, LA, United States	2016-06-15
DV	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Kamena Kostova	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Zachary McGregor-Dorsey	Silver Spring, MD, United States	2016-06-15
Ramya Swamy	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Jason Wallace	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Jessica Artiles	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Rodrigo Moreno	Panamá, Panama	2016-06-15
Hisham Bedri	Newton Upper Falls, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Jordan Isler	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Kaustav Gopinathan	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Preethi Vaidyanathan	South Windsor, CT, United States	2016-06-15
Ronald Heisser	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Scot Krueger	Houston, TX, United States	2016-06-15

Name	Location	Date
Angus Lai	Boston, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Michelle Trammel	Malden, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Anca Mosoiu	Oakland, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Akshaar Sawlani	Dubai, United Arab Emirates	2016-06-15
Steven Keyes	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Adam Leonard	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Jordan Ugalde	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
John Rogosic	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Anvita Pandit	India	2016-06-15
Pranav Lulla	London, Canada	2016-06-15
Joe Bergeron	Falmouth, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Michael Grinich	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Isabel Quispe	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Adam Simha	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Liu Huan	Japan	2016-06-15
Ariana Chehrazi	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Peter Desnoyers	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Chad Charowhas	Chevy Chase, MD, United States	2016-06-15
Matt Susskind	Miami, FL, United States	2016-06-15
JOnathan Goler	N/a, Canada	2016-06-15
Robert Arlt Jr.	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Nikita consul	New York, NY, United States	2016-06-15
c. lu	Lexington, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Deepa Rao	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Nicholas Wang	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Felix Sung	San Jose, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Grace Kenney	Chicago, IL, United States	2016-06-15
Kristin H.	Davis, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Charlie Rubin	Red Hook, NY, United States	2016-06-15
Tanya Goldhaber, '10	London, ENG, United Kingdom	2016-06-15
Logan Williams	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Javier Duarte	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2016-06-15

Name	Location	Date
Ryan Rosario	Washington, DC, United States	2016-06-15
Chas Stahl	West Hollywood, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Dion Cabeche	Tampa, FL, United States	2016-06-15
Camila Ramirez-Arau	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Daniel Korsun	New Canaan, CT, United States	2016-06-15
Mateo Williams	Somerville, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Candice McElroy	York, ME, United States	2016-06-15
Nicolas Amato	Westport, CT, United States	2016-06-15
Lef Ioannidis	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Ashley Clark	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
JUAN ORTIZ RHOTON	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Radu Raduta	San Francisco, CA, United States	2016-06-15
Henry Shackleton	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Tatiana King	New Boston, NH, United States	2016-06-15
Brooke Jarrett	Pitch, South Africa	2016-06-15
Raymond Liu	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Dima Ayyash	Cambridge, MA, United States	2016-06-15
Zachary McCarthy	Westport, CT, United States	2016-06-15

Dear Senior House alums,

Today, President Reif, Provost Schmidt, Vice President for Research Zuber and I sent a letter to the residents of Senior House sharing some concerning information about the well-being of the Senior House community and outlining a course of action to help.

You can find more detail and context in the MIT News story, below. Out of respect for the closeness of the Senior House alumni community, I wanted to make sure that you heard about it first directly from me. To be clear, many students in Senior House are doing well, but we know that many are not.

Please know that the well-being of our students is my central responsibility and my first concern. I hope you will feel free to email aacomments@mit.edu with any pressing concerns.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Barnhart, MIT Chancellor

MIT responds to concerning graduation data at Senior House

Responding to data indicating a low graduation rate among residents of Senior House, the Institute's senior academic officers today notified Senior House residents about steps they are taking to enhance academic success at that residence. They invited Senior House residents to work with the administration to find solutions to improve the success rate for their community.

The administration's actions center on establishing stronger in-residence support systems. In addition, no first-year students will be placed in Senior House during the 2016-2017 academic year.

The data

For members of the MIT classes of 2008 to 2015 living in Senior House, the four-year graduation rate is 59.7 percent, compared to 83.7 percent for all MIT undergraduates. Of all the students in the MIT classes of 2008 to 2015 living in Senior House, 21.1 percent have not graduated, compared to 7.7 percent across all MIT undergraduates.

"As MIT's senior leaders, we take seriously our responsibility to you. Our job is to provide every MIT student an excellent education and a healthy residential experience," President L. Rafael Reif, Chancellor Cynthia Barnhart, Provost Martin Schmidt, and Vice President for Research Maria Zuber wrote to the Senior House community. "To be clear, many students in Senior House are doing well, but we know that many are not."

MIT's 83.7 percent overall four-year graduation rate is in line with the ranges reported by peer institutions. But Senior House's graduation data stand out sharply from that for the entire MIT undergraduate residential system, which was <u>released today</u> to the MIT community.

"We see a vital need to act based on these data alone," the senior officers added in their letter. "However, the seriousness of the situation is further underscored by our significant concerns about issues of illegal drug use in Senior House."

The path forward

Writing that they "thought hard about the best immediate course of action," the senior officers informed Senior House students of the following steps they are taking:

- In September, Senior House will reopen with an enhanced house team, additional live-in staff, and new student support services.
- Barnhart will appoint, and chair, a turnaround team of faculty, Senior House students, and staff who will work closely with the Senior House community to find and implement solutions and determine appropriate ways to measure Senior House's progress toward becoming a healthier community.
- No first-year students will be placed in Senior House in the 2016-2017 academic year.

The senior officers asked Senior House students to work with them and the entire MIT community "to create in Senior House a healthy, supportive learning and living environment that fosters the best aspects of Senior House culture." As examples of the positive aspects of the Senior House culture that should be sustained and enhanced, they cited that more than three-quarters of Senior House residents consistently say that artistic expression and creative work is very important or essential to them, and that Senior House residents are known for being very supportive of each other.

Barnhart, Head of House Jay Scheib, and other leaders will be meeting with Senior House students to discuss ways to build on the constructive characteristics of Senior House and how the administration will implement the enhancements to the in-residence support systems.

Following the news of the action steps for Senior House and the simultaneous release of campus-wide graduation data, several heads of houses wrote to their respective residence halls to voice their support for the administration's decisions.

They noted that Barnhart discussed the data and the administration's action plan with them and that responding in this way — with enhanced supports and sustained dialogue — will help Senior House students and the larger MIT community.

Chair of the Faculty Krishna Rajagopal also supported today's decisions in a letter to MIT faculty. "I, my fellow Faculty Officers, and in fact every faculty member with whom I have been able to discuss this matter, support the steps that MIT is taking today: the Institute has a

responsibility to house students in healthy environments that optimize learning," Rajagopal wrote.

Referring to the action plan that Barnhart and a team of students, faculty, and staff will be developing, he added that "by taking a hard look at data about ourselves, by engaging within our community, and then by crafting achievable goals, I am confident that we will honor MIT's time-tested tradition of solving difficult problems together."

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