Members of the IFC community,

I wanted to reach out to everyone and provide the most accurate, up-to-date information for members of the IFC community. IFC and Panhel just had a phone call today with members of the senior administration to discuss MIT's response to the COVID-19 disease. Most of the information discussed has been outlined in President Reif's message to the MIT community.

All in-class meetings will finish at the end of this week, and every class will move to virtual operations. Classes will be cancelled for all of next week, and will resume virtually after Spring Break. President Reif acknowledged that the risk still "remains low," and these actions are taken out of an abundance of caution.

The MIT Division of Residential Life has announced that underclassmen need to begin the formal move out procedures as if we are moving out for the summer for all members of the MIT community who reside in dorms, FSILGs, and any other MIT residential properties.

From President's Reif message:

**FOR MIT STUDENTS**

UNDERGRADUATE HOUSING

Undergraduates who live on campus must begin packing and moving out of their residences by this Saturday, March 14. This also applies to students in our FSILGs. You will be required to leave by noon on Tuesday, March 17.

For first-years, sophomores and juniors: Please pack your belongings and make plans to travel home or to another location off-campus as if you do not expect to return here until the fall semester.

For students poised to graduate: Please pack as if you will not return to MIT for classes. No decision has yet been made about this year’s Commencement ceremonies.

To help you cope with the sudden new challenge, we will be assisting the residence halls to make sure you have ample boxes for packing, bins for moving belongings, dumpsters for disposing of trash and options for storage. We will also help the FSILGs handle this process, and they should work closely with their alumni corporation and the FSILG office. You will receive more detail in the coming days about move-out resources and procedures.
There is an exemption form that will be sent in a follow up message from President Reif for those students who believe it is not in their best interest to travel home.

*From President's Reif message:*

**PERMISSION FOR UNDERGRADUATES TO REMAIN ON CAMPUS**

We will consider limited exceptions to allow certain undergraduate students to remain on campus. However, to remain, you must receive official permission. Students will receive direct communications about this in a follow-up email.

We will review such requests case by case, and as soon as possible.

Exceptions may include:

- International students who have concerns that they would not be allowed to return to MIT due to visa issues.
- International students who will have difficulty returning to their home country if it has been hard-hit by COVID-19.
- Students who do not have a home to go to, or for whom going home would be unsafe given the circumstances of their home country or homelife.

We understand that being asked to leave campus may pose a serious financial hardship for certain individuals. Students will receive a follow up communication on this matter. Please note: Any student who is permitted to stay may be required to relocate to another building on campus.

MIT is also working with the travel office to help support students who might have financial struggles finding travel back home. The FSILG office will be working with each house's alumni boards to make sure that someone is present to check in on the safety and security of your respective houses.

We've already communicated with the chapter presidents that there will be a joint President's Council tonight with IFC and Panhel. If you have any questions, please forward them to your President so we can address them and/or forward them to the senior administration.

Additionally, effective immediately, IFC will be implementing an indefinite social hold until further information is available. We believe that it is in the best interest of student health that all social events are postponed until we have more information. For more information regarding the social event policy update, please see this link.

I understand that this is not the best news at this time. If you need to reach out to anyone for help and support, please reach out to MIT Mental Health, S^3 or your GRA.

Best,

Nico Salinas
IFC President
nsalinas@mit.edu