

DUSP -- Funding for Student Activities

DUSP provides all funding for student-led activities through existing groups – notably, the DSC, SCC, and the four program groups. As a result, funding is not available through Department HQ – students planning events and activities are expected to work with existing groups to identify priorities and program funds.

Beyond this general policy, the following suggestions may be helpful in planning activities, especially where funding is needed:

- *Plan ahead. When events are planned 2-3 months ahead, it becomes easier to avoid conflicts, identify outside funding (seen below), reduce costs (see below), and also to coordinate across the department, school, institute to target issues of broad interest.*
- *Work with our community. Funding for outside speakers/honoraria is discouraged – whenever possible, make use of existing faculty, staff, alums, and community partners to serve as presenters, discussants, and facilitators.*
- *Be resourceful. In addition to DUSP funds mentioned above, MIT provides funds for students activities and events through a number of different programs, including funds programed through the GSC (<<http://gsc.mit.edu/funding/funding-guidelines/>>), ODGE (<<http://odg.mit.edu/community/gslg/>>), the Committee for Race and Diversity (<<http://diversity.mit.edu/grants-program/>>), the Division for Student Life (<<http://studentlife.mit.edu/sao/finance/funding-opportunities>>), or other similar offices.*
- *Be thrifty. When possible, “value-engineer” your event to eliminate unnecessary expenses or waste. When funds are budgeted for food, keep costs as low as possible and be economical. Funding for off-site venues is discouraged when MIT spaces and facilities will suffice; check with CRON and other groups before paying for outside AV and other services. Note:*