

Next Meeting time: Thursday October 5<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 to 6:00 pm, 38-466 (pending availability)

**Attendees:**

Emily Fox <ebfox@mit.edu> (Elec. Eng. & Comp. Sci.)  
Pranava Goundan <pranava@mit.edu> (Operations Research)  
Stephen Hou <shou@mit.edu> (Elec. Eng. & Comp. Sci.)  
Sharon Karackattu <sliz@mit.edu> (Biology PhD; Bio. Eng. Post-Doc)  
Daniel Livengood <dlivengo@mit.edu> (Engineering Systems Division)  
Cheston Tan <cheston@mit.edu> (Brain & Cognitive Sciences)  
Mian Wang <mian@mit.edu> (Science, Technology & Society)

**Absent:**

Jason Cohen <jasonbc@mit.edu> (Atmospheres, Oceans & Climate;  
Technology and Policy)

**Meeting notes I captured (please review and add what I missed):**

Talk to fresh alumni and ask “What would you have done differently? Would you have taken other courses with a P/D/F option?”

Talk to TAs about the number of students that dropped the course (esp. halfway through) after starting it for credit.

Look to get the numbers of students that drop the course part way through from the registrar and/or each department.

Analyze other universities that have a P/D/F option: UC Berkeley, Yale, MIT Jr/Sr PDF, etc.

Talk to professors in curriculum decisions and Dean Colbert (Dean of graduate students) early in the process

Ask GSC how to set up a survey to send out to students  
Talk to groups to get funding for incentives to complete the survey

Talk to Barun Singh – past GSC president, would know how to set up the survey

Talk to people in the careers office to get insight on how taking classes outside of your main study area. Hannah Bernstein

How does the P/D/F affect applications to MBA/Law/etc programs?

**Known Educational Committee members**

Bio: Steve Bell and Jacke Lees, Harvey Lodish  
ESD: Richard DeNeufville and Warren Seering

**Things to do before the next meeting:**

GSC-ARC – Cheston and Pranawa

How to implement a survey (housing committee) – Cheston and Dan

List of professors we want to approach – Mian and Sharon

Collect data from registrar and career office - Pranawa

Look at alumni and determine who to talk to – Sharon and Dan

Discuss this plan with Dean Colbert – Stephen and Emily

TA – Stephen (include in survey)

**Common questions for professors:**

If the P/D/F option was put into policy, would you implement it in your course? Why or why not?

Would you implement the P/D/F option in seminar classes?

Which types of classes would you suggest be include the P/D/F option?

What kind of control should be included to limit the number of students taking the course as P/D/F?

What limits should be set on the number of courses grad students can take as P/D/F?

How would you feel about your own graduate students taking P/D/F classes along with doing research?

How can we balance the number of P/D/F grad students taking undergrad courses in other departments?