Dear School of Science Member,

The School of Science is now seeking proposals for the School of Science Quality of Life (SQoL) grant program, which is designed to build community within the School, promote inclusiveness for students, staff, and faculty of diverse identities, backgrounds, and abilities, and support the physical, emotional, and intellectual wellbeing of our community members.

In response to current events and topics of discussion both within our country and on a global scale to address and combat systematic racism, we would like this round of Quality of Life funding to be used to support opportunities to continue the dialogue following the June 10th #ShutDownAcademia, #ShutDownSTEM, and #Strike4BlackLives. We encourage you to use this round of funding as a platform for the School of Science community to continue the conversations and effort to support our community and make it a safe, welcoming, and inclusive place for everyone.

I welcome your thoughts, comments, suggestions, and feedback via heatherg@mit.edu or scncinfo@mit.edu for events that we can organize, such as Learn@Lunch gatherings, and how we can enact positive change within our community.

The program's goals are to:

- Provide faculty, staff and students opportunities to interact and socialize outside of the current research driven seminar series and other department-based events.
- Integrate academic and social aspects of life within the School.
- Improve communications and outreach.
- Build collaborations and connections with other community groups on campus.

The SQoL program encourages projects that have wide appeal among School community members, but also considers proposals that focus on specific groups if they cut across existing departmental and programmatic lines. Projects need not be ambitious in scope, so long as they encourage positive connections within the community. The Selection Committee will consider proposals of all sizes, but generally caps projects at $3K per year. In addition, proposals that have matching funds from other sources will be viewed favorably by the selection committee.

The deadline for submitting proposals for this latest round of funding is June 30th. The funds from this call can be used anytime between the date of award through the fall semester. If you are interested in learning more about the program or submitting a proposal, additional information appears online at http://sciencem.it/sos_sql. You can also send an email to scienceqol@mit.edu or call me at 617-253-8904.

Best,
Heather

Heather Williams, Assistant Dean, MIT School of Science, 6-131, 617-253-8904
Show your appreciation for members of the School of Science with a Spot Award, http://science.mit.edu/policies/sos-spot-awards!