

## Communication Requirement, Subcommittee on the

The Subcommittee on the Communication Requirement shall maintain a membership consisting of one faculty co-chair from the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (SHASS) and one faculty co-chair from the School of Engineering or the School of Science; and in addition, one faculty member from each of the five Schools; two undergraduates; and ex officiis, the Vice Chancellor for Graduate and Undergraduate Education, the Dean of SHASS, and the Head of the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies, or their designees. The Subcommittee shall work towards the high-level goals of:

- Supporting, encouraging and monitoring the development of new, innovative subjects and changes to the Communication Requirement; and
- Ensuring regular review of new and existing subjects to ascertain that the educational goals of the Communication Requirement are met while maintaining MIT's high educational standards.

In doing so and subject to final review by the CUP, SOCR acts with power to:

- Set guidelines for Communication Intensive subjects in each undergraduate major program (CI-M); review and approve designation of these subjects through a process that includes collaboration with the Committee on Curricula (CoC).
- Establish guidelines for CI-H and CI-HW subjects and adjust them as appropriate; review and approve designation of these subjects through a process that includes collaboration with the CoC.
- Maintain the official list of CI subject designation in consultation with the CoC.
- Oversee the evaluation of the writing abilities of entering undergraduates and establish the standards to exempt students who display competency in expository writing from being required to enroll in designated CI-HW subjects during their first year at the Institute.
- Define priorities for instructional support of CI subjects throughout the Institute.
- Monitor policies associated with the Communication Requirement and revise or develop new ones as necessary.
- Working with the CoC, oversee individual student requests for exceptions or substitutions to the Communication Requirement.
- Collaborate with the Committee on Academic Performance (CAP) to ensure student compliance with the pace of the Communication Requirement.
- Propose to the CUP limited educational experiments that the Subcommittee deems appropriate for assessing changes to the curriculum and educational policies and practices.
- In consultation with professionals in educational assessment, periodically review and assess the effectiveness of specific CI subjects as well as the overall efficacy of the Communication Requirement and its administration.

SOCR will report to the CUP yearly.

Prof. Adam Albright, SHASS Co-Chair (June 30, 2026)

*Linguistics & Philosophy*

Prof. Caitlin T. Mueller, Engineering Co-Chair (June 30, 2026)

*Architecture*

Prof. Brandon Clifford, SA+P Representative (June 30, 2027)

*Architecture*

Prof. John Haven Spencer, SHASS Representative (June 30, 2027)

*Linguistics & Philosophy*

Prof. Amos G. Winter, Engineering Representative (June 30, 2028)

*Mechanical Engineering*

(Appointment Pending), Science Representative

(Appointment Pending), Sloan Representative

(Appointment Pending), Undergraduates (2)

Prof. Juejun Hu, Designated Representative, Vice Chancellor for Graduate and Undergraduate Education \* (June 30, 2026)

*Materials Science and Engineering*

Prof. Graham M. Jones, Designated Representative, Dean of SHASS \*

*Anthropology Program*

Prof. A. Edward Schiappa, Designated Representative, Head of CMS/W \*

*Comparative Media Studies/Writing*

NOTE: Date in parentheses indicates term expiration.

LEGEND: \* Ex Officio Voting      ^ Non-MIT Member  
# Ex Officio Non-Voting      L On Leave

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## Current Committee Membership

### Communication Requirement, Subcommittee on the

Dr. Kathleen Macarthur, Executive Officer #  
*Registrar*

Ms. Nicole Amanda Dillie, Staff to Committee #  
*Registrar*

Mr. Tom Scahill, Staff to Committee #  
*Registrar*

NOTE: Date in parentheses indicates term expiration.

LEGEND: \* Ex Officio Voting      ^ Non-MIT Member  
      # Ex Officio Non-Voting      L On Leave

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