

AHEC Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, July 20th, 2026, 9:00pm

Attendees:

Mary

Katie

Admir

Luke

x Ethan is away in Japan for the whole summer

x Rudiba might also be away for the summer

x Stam is away for June and July

Minutes: Yan

Grills:

- The existing charcoal grills are in poor condition and have not been properly maintained since around COVID. They are also frequently moved around the courtyard and left near residents' windows, creating disturbance and a possible fire risk.
- AHEC supports Housing's proposal to replace them with three fixed grills in a designated area. This will provide safer, more reliable grills while preventing them from being moved to unsuitable locations.
- Mary will ask the remaining AHEC members for comments by Thursday. Unless there are objections, AHEC will approve the project and respond to Housing on Friday.

Coffee machine:

- Admir proposed installing a low-cost self-service espresso machine near Julie's office so residents can get convenient and inexpensive coffee before leaving Ashdown.
- The machine would offer simple coffee options, require limited maintenance, and charge a small amount to help cover supplies and upkeep. Admir will send several machine

examples and a brief concept to AHEC and Inventory this week so that an Inventory member can evaluate the cost and maintenance requirements.

Renewable lease:

- Residents currently need officer status or a housing lottery to remain in Ashdown beyond their automatic renewal period. With fewer incoming graduate students, Housing now plans to allow residents to renew without a fixed year limit so Ashdown can maintain high occupancy and continue supporting community programming.
- AHEC supports the change, which will also give residents greater housing stability. Housing will make the formal announcement.
- Housing is also considering making it easier for active postdocs to remain in Ashdown, without reducing spaces available to graduate students.

Officer incentives:

- The opportunity to remain in Ashdown has been a major incentive for residents to serve as officers. Once leases become generally renewable, AHEC will need other ways to recruit and retain officers.
- Mary will survey current officers about which incentives would be useful. AHEC will use the responses to explore options with Naomi, such as swag or leadership activities.

Responsiveness:

- Several recent requests received few or no responses, making it difficult to assign work and move projects forward. AHEC will discuss clearer expectations for email responsiveness in August, when more members are available.
- For the immediate alumni author event request, Mary will forward the poster to Publicity and ask an available member to print and post it.

Next meeting:

- Next week's AHEC meeting is canceled and will be rescheduled for the following week.