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Boston, MIT officials meet over fraternity concerns

By [Matt Rocheleau](#)

| Globe Correspondent September 03, 2014

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MIT officials on Wednesday reaffirmed a year-old ban on large parties at university-affiliated fraternities, sororities, and living groups, three days after a woman was injured in a fall from a fraternity house window during a party.

The college took the step amid concern that the party, hosted by the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity on Bay State Road, violated rules that ban gatherings of 50 or more.

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The rules apply to 26 fraternities, six sororities, and six living groups located in Boston, Cambridge, and Brookline, according to an e-mail sent to the student organizations by Henry Humphreys, MIT's senior associate dean for student life, and Robert Ferrara, interim director of the college's Office of Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups.

Student groups in Boston must obtain city-issued permits to host larger gatherings.

In the meantime, "MIT will continue to work with [Boston's Inspectional Services Department] to explore options for social events," in housing operated by the off-campus student groups, the e-mail said. University staff will work with the groups to find alternate space they can use on campus.

Boston officials met Wednesday with MIT representatives to discuss the city's "ongoing concerns" about parties and other large gatherings, said Melina Schuler, a spokeswoman for Mayor Martin J. Walsh.

The meeting came after the woman was injured Sunday night at about 11:30 p.m. The e-mail from MIT officials Wednesday said the woman is recovering.

Authorities have not said how she fell.

Matt Rocheleau can be reached at matthew.rocheleau@globe.com.

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