Students in Africa get web link to MIT labs

Janet Wasserstein
Office of External Relations

Students in Uganda, Tanzania and Nigeria can now perform sophisticated engineering and science experiments at MIT—without ever getting on a plane.

“If you can’t come to the lab, the lab will come to you,” said Jesús del Alamo, co-principal investigator on the Africa project and a professor in MIT’s Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

Students at three African universities will be able to access five MIT labs via the Internet, thanks to an Lab Project partnership between MIT’s Center for Educational Computing Initiatives (CECI), Makerere University (Uganda), the University of Dar El Salam (Tanzania) and Obafemi Awolowo University (Nigeria).

MIT faculty will work closely with their African colleagues to introduce new laboratory exercises and develop curricular content in several graduate and undergraduate courses in fields ranging from electrical engineering to physics.

“These additions to the curriculum will directly impact the education of hundreds of students,” said del Alamo. “The project is likely to have multiplicative effects that will add to its impact. This may come in the form of revamped curricula, students acquiring unique software engineering skills, and the broader use of computers by students and teaching staff in engineering education.”

Professor I.O. Kehinde, coordinator of the Lab Project at Obafemi Awolowo University, said, “With the dearth of funds for the purchase of equipment for experimentation, the Lab Project is an important intervention for African universities. Not only will it afford better access by more students to relevant experiments, it certainly will also result in human and infrastructural development in partner African universities.

The Lab project is an outgrowth of the Microelectronics WebLab, which Students in Uganda, Tanzania and Nigeria can now perform sophisticated engineering and science experiments at MIT—without ever getting on a plane.

D.C. trip focuses on resolving environmental disputes

Sarah H. Wright
News Office

Even as friends and foes of the Cape and Islands Wind Farm Project prepare to revist —and re-argue—the offshore turbines’ potential impact on Nantucket Sound, participants in an innovative MIT program will present new strategies for resolving science-intensive environmental disputes to members of the Bush administration in Washington, D.C.

The MIT group, comprised of five students and one faculty member, is visiting the Department of the Interior today. All six are participants in an MIT-based partnership between the Department of Urban Studies and Planning (DUSP) and the U.S. Geological Survey’s Science Impact program. The partnership is known as the MIT-USGS Science Impact Collaborative, or MUSIC.

The group’s two-day Washington visit is led by Herman Karl, co-director of MUSIC and a USGS Senior Scientist on loan to MIT. The other codirector is Lawrence Susskind, Ford Professor of Urban and Environmental Planning. The MUSIC interns making presentations are DUSP graduate students Peter Brandenburg, Anna Brown, Lindsay Campbell, Jennifer Peyer (project manager) and Basilia Yao.

Each MUSIC group member will discuss possible ways of applying the program’s consensus-building process known as “Joint fact-finding.” This is a set of tech...
Kaiser, Sipser to head departments

Lynwood S. Bryant dies; history professor was 96

Poetry translator lauded

Lynwood Silverstein Bryant, a professor of history, emeritus, began his career focused on the early inventors of the internal combustion engine, died after a brief illness on March 16, 2005. He was 96.

Philip Khoury, Dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences and a professor of history, said, “Professor Bryant was greatly admired by his faculty colleagues in the MIT humanities. He was an accomplished generalist, and his teaching and scholarship in the history of technology anticipated the Program in Science, Technology, and Society, which I had just started.”

Bryant, a native of Kenne, N.H., came to MIT in 1937 after teaching at the Roxbury Latin School in Boston. A member of the English and History Department (later the Humanities Department) until his retirement in 1975, Bryant taught courses in constitutional law, the history of the American West and the history of the automobile, among other things. During the 1960s and 1970s, Bryant’s articles on the early inventors and development of heat, diesel and automobile engines appeared in such publications as Scientific American. He was an early participant in the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT), writing reviews for its society’s journal, Technology and Culture, and publishing his own papers in it. After retiring from MIT, Bryant spent two years as a senior resident scholar at the Harvard Foundation in Cambridge. Then he taught a memorable seminar, “The Automobile in America,” and served as mentor and advisor to several generations of historians of technology.

“Many of them remember Lynwood Bryant as a beautiful writer, a great scholar and a kind preserver, full of interest in others’ work. Our Society of MIT and his other colleagues in the history of technology, says Rosalind Sauer, director of MIT’s Program in Science, Technology and Society and current president of SHOT. While at MIT, Bryant maintained his active interest in drama, especially the works of George Bernard Shaw. He and his wife, the former Louise ‘Dolly’ Graham, served as the first housemasters of McCormick Hall from 1963 to 1982.

Charles Stewart, current housemaster of McCormick Hall and head of the Political Science Department, said, “We ran into alumni all the time who have fond memories of McCormick in the earliest days, and who especially remember the warm welcoming atmosphere created by Lynwood and Dolly Bryant.”

Bryant retired finally to his summer home, an 1800s-era miller’s house on Watering Pond in East Sandwich, Mass. He continued his research and writing, with occasional trips to England and Germany. Working with Dolly and with the late Louis Hunter’s family and friends, he helped to develop the third volume of Hunter’s “A History of Industrial Power in the United States, 1780-1850.”

He was active in Sandwich, participating in local boards, committees and activities. He took part in the Orpheus Hill Eillers, Sandwich Players and various musical activities. Bryant graduated from the Mount Hermon School and received B.A. and M.A. degrees from Harvard University. He married Dolly Graham in 1939.

He is survived by his wife, his twin sister, Laura B. Wyman of Dennis Port, Mass., his son, Peter of Dayver, two daughters, Susan Bryant-Kimball and her husband, Chip Kimball, 72, of Sandwich, and Emily Bryant of Oxford, N.H., four grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother Royal and his sister Elinore.

Memorial contributions may be made to the East Sandwich Meeting House and Cemetery Association, c/o Gerry Hambro, 198 Vittum Hill Road, Sandwich, NH 03227.
Two professors in the School of the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences and one in the MIT Sloan School, are president of the Business History Conference, 2004-2005.

Dean Philip S. Khoury of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences described the three women as “outstanding historians of technology and science who have been wonderfully honored for their outstanding leadership of their academic guilds. Each brings true luster to the humanities and social sciences at MIT and nationally.” Each professor continues her teaching and research while providing leadership in professional groups outside MIT.

Deborah Fitzgerald, who came to MIT in 1988, focuses in her research on the industrialization of agriculture and food, particularly in 20th century America. She is co-organizer (with MIT historian Harriet Ritvo) of the “Modern Times, Rural Places” seminar series. She is the author of “The Business of Hybrid Corn: Hybrid Corn in Illinois, 1869-1920” (Cornell, 1990), and “Yeoman No More: The Industrialization of Agriculture in America” (Yale, forthcoming).

Williams came to MIT in 1980 and has served as Associate Chair of the MIT Faculty and as Dean of Students and Undergraduate Education. She is a cultural historian of technology whose current research uses literary texts of the late 19th and early 20th century to portray the impact of global transportation and communication systems.

The award recognizes Vandiver’s numerous technical breakthroughs in the dynamics of vortex-induced vibration, including the design of structures to withstand such current, enabling the offshore energy industry to produce oil and gas in progressively deeper water. He will receive the award at a ceremony in Houston on March 30 as the author of the book "SIM: An Engineering Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, will receive the 2005 Rael Teter Education Award at the Society of Automotive Engineers International’s 2005 World Congress in Detroit on April 12. The Teter award annually recognizes outstanding engineering educators and gives them an opportunity to become acquainted with the automotive and aerospace industries.

Stephen Buchwald, the Camille Dreyfus Professor of Chemistry, was honored at the American Chemical Society’s National Meeting on March 14 as the author of the greatest number of recently published articles in 2004 by CAS Science Spotlight service.

CAS Science Spotlight is a free web service that identifies the most cited chemistry-related research papers published by the more than 100 million citations found in the journals, patents, conference proceedings and other sources covered by CAS.

MIT Libraries Director Ann Wolpert has been chosen to receive the Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLS) 2005 Alumni Achievement Award. The award is presented annually to a GSLS graduate with demonstrated achievement in the library/information profession—in particular, excellence and influence that exceeds the boundary of his or her current position. The award committee chose Wolpert because she “exemplifies all of the qualifications of someone deserving the award. She has helped and motivated many others in her profession.” This year’s award will be presented at Simmons’ Alumni and Professional Development Day on April 1.

Senior John Velasco has been chosen to receive a Howard R. Swearer Student Humanitarian Award, an academic award for an MIT student who demonstrates a high level of dedication and support for a national organization that supports community service in higher education. Velasco, who was nominated by President Susan Hockfield, is being honored for his iMath program, which he developed to help eighth-graders understand math via the Internet. Students who take his class will receive $25.00 for iMath. The award will be presented at a ceremony in Portland, Ore., on April 1.

Dr. David J. Perreault, the Emanuel L. Landman Career Development Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, will receive the 2005 R. Teter Education Award at the Society of Automotive Engineers International’s 2005 World Congress in Detroit on April 12. The Teter award annually recognizes outstanding engineering educators and gives them an opportunity to become acquainted with the automotive and aerospace industries.

Dr. Thomas Byrne), and some Paul R. Werth. "They came in really serious and, like, ‘We’re playing ‘Cecilia’ says Hockfield. On air, Hockfield says no to “Mrs. Robinson” and “Scarborough Fair” and “Bridge over Troubled Water.” And the daughter said, ‘Well, we can play ‘Over Troubled Water.’”

On air, Hockfield says she’s keeping the family awake “clicking on the keyboard at night” be asks. “She pretended to be tired when I have to go to sleep,” says Lynyard-old Elizabeth Byrane. “Once Elizabeth’s tucked in, then I get to work seriously,” Hockfield says. What’s a typical day like for the presi- dent?

“Hi … radio shows, defending latkes, whatever it is,” Hockfield says. “There was a time when they tried to play the song and there was nothing but CD and Susan said, ‘Oh. I guess I didn’t buy it right. And I was like, ‘Oh my God, we’re not gonna have any music!’”

Denise Brehm

MIT President Susan Hockfield, center, enjoys a musical moment with her daughter, Elizabeth Byrne, and her husband, Dr. Thomas Byrne, during the taping of “Dinnertime Sampler,” a music and talk show that will air tonight on WMBR-FM.

MIT president and former MIT Sloan School Dean Susan Hockfield is being honored for her leadership by the MIT Student Technology Association, which will present her with the 2005 Alumni Achievement Award for 2005. The award recognizes Vandiver’s numerous technical breakthroughs in the dynamics of vortex-induced vibration, including the design of structures to withstand such current, enabling the offshore energy industry to produce oil and gas in progressively deeper water. He will receive the award at a ceremony in Houston on March 30 as the author of the book "SIM: An Engineering Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, will receive the 2005 Rael Teter Education Award at the Society of Automotive Engineers International’s 2005 World Congress in Detroit on April 12. The Teter award annually recognizes outstanding engineering educators and gives them an opportunity to become acquainted with the automotive and aerospace industries.

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Dr. Thomas Byrne, during the taping of ‘Dinnertime Sampler,’ a music and talk show that will air tonight on WMBR-FM.

The interview will air tonight from 6 to 9 p.m., followed by a repeat broadcast from 10 to 1 a.m.

Byrne said he thinks of the show as a way to introduce people to the MIT campus. "We’re playing ‘Cecilia’ says Hockfield. On air, Hockfield says she’s keeping the family awake “clicking on the keyboard at night” be asks. “She pretended to be tired when I have to go to sleep,” says Lynyard-old Elizabeth Byrane. “Once Elizabeth’s tucked in, then I get to work seriously,” Hockfield says. What’s a typical day like for the presi- dent?

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Denise Brehm

MIT President Susan Hockfield, center, enjoys a musical moment with her daughter, Elizabeth Byrne, and her husband, Dr. Thomas Byrne, during the taping of “Dinnertime Sampler,” a music and talk show that will air tonight on WMBR-FM.
Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, nationally known for programs to raise literacy and lower crime, has been awarded MIT’s 2005 Kevin Lynch Award for his innovative, even dramatic measures for greening the Windy City.

Daley will receive the Lynch Award on Thursday, April 7, at a reception and ceremony beginning at 3:30 p.m. in MIT’s Stata Center. The event will conclude with a “Greening the 21st Century” panel on “Greening the City.”

Daley’s other achievements in urban design and building include Millennium Park, with its green roof atop Frank Gehry’s skyline, the LEED-Platinum Chicago Center for Green Technology, Greenacres Chicago and Northerly Island Park.

Daley’s policy vision and leadership, along with his impact on the field of urban planning, makes him an outstanding candidate for the Lynch Award, according to the panel of judges.

The Kevin Lynch Award recognizes “outstanding contributions” to the relationship between an urban place and the people who use it. Although his efforts “sustain” the idea that “sustainable” measures for landscape improvement in the Windy City can lead to better urban living conditions, the Lynch Award “honors” Daley’s broader policy vision and leadership.

The Lynch Award is sponsored by the Women’s Planning and Engineering Recruitment Program (WPERP). The Lynch RSV@mit.edu.

For more information, please contact the selected MIT School of Architecture and Planning department, at 617-253-2024. To make a reservation for the event, e-mail Lynch_rsv@mit.edu.

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Help with housing proposed for faculty

Sasha Brown
MIT News Office

A plan for mitigating the high cost of housing for faculty members was proposed at the faculty's monthly meeting on March 16.

Provost Robert Brown and Associate Provost Claudia Cohen represented a redesigned faculty housing program that would significantly enhance the current Housing Assistance Loan Program Faculty members who bought area homes during or after July 2000 would be eligible for the program, which would provide low- or no-interest loans.

In recent years the ratio of median housing price to average MIT salary for associate professors has spiked, making it hard to recruit and retain faculty, Brown said. Two committees were convened to discuss and disentangle available resources. The first committee reported in the summer of 2003, but its recommendations were tabled after budgetary issues surfaced.

Last summer the second committee convened. Taking the recommendations of the first committee in hand, on Wednesday, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Design of the Faculty Housing Program developed the plan.

Cainares noted that this proposal cannot be implemented until it has been reviewed by the administration and the corporation.

“We wanted the changes to be affordable, attractive and equitable,” Cainares said. “In addition, the proposal would provide for the first time homeownership opportunities, there are two programs available. There is a tax efficient, minimum interest, 10-year loan for $50,000 to help in the purchase of an approved residence. Additionally, there is a no-interest loan of up to $50,000 that can be used for a downpayment on a qualifying property. The money is repaid over a period of five years, with one-fifth of the principal due on each anniversary.

Qualifying property has to be within about 50 miles of MIT and must be the faculty member’s principal residence.

For all loan programs, the entire balance of the loan is due upon sale of the property, purchase of a second residence or the date on which a faculty member leaves MIT.

“We feel we are offering a very competitive program,” said Cainares.

The documents on the proposal will be available online for 30 days for review and input at: web.mit.edu/faculty/reports/HousingReportRev02.pdf.

Also on March 16, the faculty unanimously approved the S.B. in Mechanical and Ocean Engineering and heard from the Graduate Student Council (GSC) on the state of graduate student advising. The GSC revealed the results of the 2004 graduate student survey that garnered 50 percent participation.

Though two-thirds of graduate students are satisfied with the resources available on campus, 45 percent are pleased with their advisors. The GSC is hoping for some improvements: greater publicity for available resources and a closer relationship with advisors for the 15 percent who found their relationship lacking.

“One of the things graduate students face is our short time span,” said GSC Vice President Hector Hernandez. “We need to make sure [this effort] carries on.”

James Kelso dies, was Killian aide
Sarah K. Wright
MIT News Office

James G. Kelso, executive assistant to late MIT President James Killian during the late 1950s, died Monday, March 17, after a long battle with Parkinson’s disease. He was 86.

Kelso was born in 1922 in New York City to a Russian immigrant family.

Kelso came to MIT in 1948 as an instructor of history. At the time, Killian praised Kelso’s “broad experience and erudite knowledge of his fields,” as well as his “ability to be tough and persuasive.”

Kelso received a B.A. from Dartmouth College in 1941 and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in history from Harvard University, respectively.

Kelso served as a paratrooper in World War II. He made jumps in Sicily, Normandy, Holland and Germany. After his discharge, he held eight battle stars and was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action. He served from 1941 to 1944.

He leaves his wife, Dorothy of Dublin; daughter Debrah and son-in-law Cliff Pye of Lawrence; Kan., daughter Tais and husband George Marents of Colorado Springs, Colo.; daughter Laurie of Dublin, and son Tony and daughter-in-law Jane of Dublin. He also leaves five grandchildren and his sister, Elizabeth Cainares of Worcester, N.Y.

The power of flowers

The submission deadline for the 2005 Schnitzer Prize in the Visual Arts is Monday, April 4. Three prizes ($1,500, $900, $600) will be awarded to MIT students based on bodies of work. Each artist must submit a completed application form and at least three pieces of original work or one piece of original work plus visual representations of other original (to be available for later viewing), as well as a written personal statement concerning his/her creative interest as it pertains to the works and art in general. Materials will be accepted from noon–5 p.m. in Room W20-429. Forms and guidelines can be downloaded at web.mit.edu/saa.

This award was established by the Student Art Association through an endowment from Harold and Arlene Schnitzer of Portland, Ore. Schnitzer, a real estate inves
tor, graduated from MIT in 1944 with a degree in metal
gurgy. Winning entries will be displayed in the Wiener Student Art Gallery from May 13 through June 30.

Entries sought for visual arts contest

Quarter Century Club

The MIT Quarter Century Club Induction Ceremony and Luncheon for new members will be held this year on Monday, April 11, at Morses Hall in Walker Memorial (Building 35, first floor) beginning at 11:45 a.m. New membership in the club is offered to faculty, administrative, and support and service staff who will complete 25 years of service with the Institute by June 30, 2005. Those who believe they are eligible but have not yet received an invitation are urged to request the Quarter Century Club in the Community Services Office at (617) 253-7914.

Calling all marketers!

Are you planning to participate in the Boston Marathon on April 17? Now you can tell your story. Whether you’re running for a great cause or handing out refreshments, there’s a committee working to clarify and articulate MIT’s expectations and standards for academic integrity.

The Inaugural Committee is pleased to announce plans for the inauguration of Susan Hockfield as MIT’s 16th president. The inaugural ceremony will be held on Friday, May 6, at 2 p.m. in Killian Court, immediately followed by a community reception. The ceremony will include greetings, Hockfield’s inaugural address and music composed for the occasion by MIT Music and Theater arts faculty members.

The theme of the inaugural festivities is “UnCommon: In Common—A Celebration of MIT, a reference to the exceptional aspects of MIT’s culture. Uncommon but common are the things MIT people do.” The Inaugural Committee has planned a variety of events to celebrate, beginning with the opening on Monday evening of “White Noise/White Light,” an interactive exhibit created by MIT Professors Martin Levinson and Robert Loeb’s ‘88 for the 2004 Athens Olympics. This exhibit will be open each evening on the Kresge Oval through Saturday, May 7. The MIT Symphony Orchestra will perform Ades, Ayala and Makrassi’s Symphony No. 6 on Thursday, May 5. On Saturday evening, the MIT Concert Choir will perform at 8 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium. Festivities will culminate with an UnCommon Community Block Party on Saturday, May 7. Activities will include the target of “White Noise/White Light.”

For more information, visit the inaugu
ral web site at http://web.mit.edu/inaugura
tion/.

The Inaugural Committee is seeking volunteers to help with the procession assembly and the ceremony; members of the community can sign up via the web site. Direct questions to Gayle Gallagher at gayle@mit.edu.

The Inaugural Committee invites all of the MIT community to celebrate In Com-
mon!
TRIP

Continued from Page 1

niques that participants can use to establish shared understanding of technical and scientific issues and methods and to resolve contentious or intractable group information.

The interns who are involved in en-
vironmental disputes have different levels of scientific understanding, and trust among the stakeholders is important. Each group brings its own scientific resources to support its cause, including literature reviewing or compiling experts, and to a breakdown of the policy-making process, or worse yet, endless litigation,” said Karl.

The MUSIC interns’ presentations will include “A Spectrum of Strategies for Collaborative Decision-Making” (Campbell); “The Six Steps of a Joint Fact-Finding Process” (Chren); “Cape Wind Project and Long Island Power Association: Contrasting Development Teams and Support their efforts. This part of the program will be run by MIT International Science and Technolo-
gies Centers, which every year sends hun-
dreds of MIT students to many countries around the world. The African universities will send two graduate students or staff members to join MIT’s own Lab/Ed initiative, work Lab initiatives for the improvement of the way. The vision is to scheduled lasting about two months.

In addition to enhancing their skills in Lab-related software and hardware development, the cross-cultural value of the collaboration between African universities and MIT are immense,” said Behnke. The dedication and the cooperation of the ILab coordinators at MIT have been remarkable.”

Professor Steven Lerman, director of MIT’s CEEI program and co-principal investigator of the Africa project, said, “Carnegie Corporation recognized the potential for bringing leading African institutions together with MIT. We are delighted that this is a real partnership. These institutions in developing and developed countries will work together and learn from each other.”

He added, “We are grateful to Carne-
egie Corporation for its support and for the opportunity their students will have to participate in joint fact-finding, and to cultivate a lifelong commitment to working Lab initiatives to enhance their science and engineering education.”

ILab is an initiative of the MIT iCam-

March 30

President Jesus del Alamo demonstrates the Lab to staff and students at Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife, Nigeria, in April, 2004.

Continued from Page 1

ING Project was developed by del Alamo in 1998 as a way for students to test and probe fragile microelectronic devices over the Internet from dorm rooms and other convenient locations 24 hours a day. The success of that venture spawned the ILab initiative at MIT to advance the concept to other en-

neering disciplines. ILab was launched and funded by MIT iCampus, a program also sponsored by the MacArthur Foundation.

The ILabs have been used at MIT and from universities in other countries, including the United Kingdom, Singapore, Sweden, Germany, and Taiwan. New ILabs will be selected and developed by the African partners in collabora-
tion with MIT.

The Africa project, funded by an intern-
grant from Carnegie Corp. of New York, includes a cultural exchange compo-
nent. MIT will send six undergraduate or graduate students to the three African uni-

versities to join their respective Lab develop-
ment teams and support their efforts. This part of the program will be run by MIT International Science and Technolo-
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ILab is an initiative of the MIT iCam-
pus program, which is funded by Micro-
soft Corp. It gives sponsors faculty facto-
rations in educational technology, helps incubate them through classroom use, and promotes their adoption, evaluation, and continued evolution through worldwide multi-institutional cooperation.

If you can’t come to the lab, the lab will come to you.

Jesus del Alamo
Co-principal investigator
Pioneering dancer tapped to perform on campus

Oscar-winner to open his ‘Mind’

Chemistry may be Mala Radhakrishnan’s first love, but she has more recently found an unexpected poetry. A former high school chemistry teacher who used storytelling in her lessons, Radhakrishnan is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in physical chemistry at MIT. Radhakrishnan has compiled her earliest poems into a collection titled, “Chemistry for the Couch Potato” and is working on a larger book composed entirely of chemistry poetry. She says it’s intended for students and teachers in high school and college chemistry classrooms as well as anyone who loves science.

A graduate will be one of a dozen area poets included in “Dr. Brown’s Traveling Poetry Show,” which will take place on Tuesdays at the Zeistger Lab starting next week.

Director Michel Gondry, a pioneering director and winner of a 2005 Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay (“ Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind”), will be on campus Tuesday, April 5, for a public conversation with Professor Fredo Durand of the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory.

MIT News

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ARTS NEWS

Visual Arts Program Lecturer Pia Lindman (SM 1996) is one of 14 artists included in White Box’s “Under Your Skin,” a show featuring Finnish art in New York City. The exhibition looks at Finnish artists who work both in and outside Finland, underscoring the global nature of Finnish culture. Lindman’s works, titled “CORPCOMP: Enactments and Improvisations in Corporate Communities,” examines how identity is expressed by human gestures and the physical gestures that best express that identity. From stills of the gestures, captured on video, Lindman made corresponding pencil drawings. An opening reception will be held at the White Box Annex (501 W. 20th St., 14th Floor) on Saturday, April 2, from 6-8 p.m. and the show will be on view through April 23.

“The Funambulist and the Twin,” a Mary I. Bunting Institute commission, by Assistant Professor Wendy Jacob, a Mary I. Bunting Institute fellow and a member of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, opens with a show by the artist on Monday, April 4, at 4 p.m. in the Lieven Holberg Room of the Center for Open Learning. Jacob’s sculptural works investigate the practical and intangible connections between architecture and animate bodies. For this project, she plans to complete a house scaled for a toddler, and in collaboration with a high wire artist, build a working model for a system of overhead paths that would lead between and through city buildings.

Through experimentation with environments and the ground — or well above it — Jacob aims to create new places for the specific and eccentric body to inhabit. The exhibit is on view at Baker Room at the Radcliffe Institute through Friday, April 12.

Associate Professor Thomas DeFrantz, a member of the “The Beating of the New: Ideas” list compiled by The Boston Globe Magazine for students and teachers in high school and college chemistry classrooms as well as anyone who loves science.

Mala Radhakrishnan

The Radioactive Dating Game (excerpt)

By Mala L. Radhakrishnan

I used to sleep ’til my electrons would drool At 9:32 elementary school.

We used to call it radioactive dating. A mile of atoms would always be snoring.

But one thing I learned there I’ve kept to this day: “Soam, my students you’ll beta decay To become more mature and to capture the lead Of ‘S-32; and then you’ll be stable.”

Q. Do you start writing ‘chemistry poetry’?

A. I taught chemical concepts to my high schoolers by using stories and analogies that personified the atoms and molecules— that’s how I think about chemistry.
Thursday March 31

**Robert Unger**
Talk by Bruce Kirschenbaum for Darn’s Interns’ Exhibition featuring 34 illustrations. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Room E25-111. 253-6748.

**Talk by Professor Martin Geier**
Building Democracy: Justice Richard Goldstone discusses the first 10 years of the South African Constitutional Court. 4:30 p.m. Room 4-237. 253-7614.

**“Exploring the Mind of Michel Gondry”**
Conversation between film director Michel Gondry and Fred Durand of C.S.A.L. 6:30 p.m. Room 10-250. 253-2341.

**Contra Dance Music:** Jamie Laval and Larry Ungerman. caller: Susan Patrick. MIT Folksdance Club. $5. MIT Wellesley students free. 8-10:30 p.m. Sala de Puerto Rico. 354-0844.

Friday April 1

**Biddwell Lecture**
Talk by Bruce Kirschenbaum for Darn’s Interns’ Exhibition featuring 34 illustrations. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Room E25-111. 253-6748.

**Varity Baseball vs. Suffolk University**
3 p.m. Briggs Field. 253-5266.

**What’s New at the MIT Media Lab?**
Talk by artist Kimoosaj on her exhibit on view Feb. 3-April 15. 6:30 p.m. List Visual Arts Center. 253-6480.

**Israe1 Folk Dancing (participating):** Lizy Lamb. 13. 484-5267.

Saturday April 2

**Sand Mandala for Insight, Awareness and Altruism**
Millions of grains of colored sand onto place, forming an intricate 4-foot diameter diagram of the enlightened mind and the ideal world. Public viewing: 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. daily. Simmons Hall.

**“Tapping Women’s History in Performance: Lady Di”**
Performance and interview session with artist-in-residence Dianne Walker. 11 a.m. Kresge Auditorium. 253-8844.

**Vassar Men’s Lacrosse vs. Wesley College**
1 p.m. Skinnerbird Stadium. 253-5266.

**Tufts Festival of African Music and Dance**
Second annual Intercollegiate Festival and Performance Features Rambax performing sarar of Senegal. 8-10 p.m. Cohen Auditorium. 627-4042.

Sunday April 3

**“Constructing the Perfect Photograph” by Richard Sobel**
A collection of unforgettable photographs captures the construction process that brought MIT and the world the Frank Gehry-designed Cultural Center. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Room 10-150. 253-4444.

**Tea Tea**
Workshop
The ancient meditative practice of Tibetan Tea painting is a sacred art that helps promote focus, patience, and concentration. $15. 1 p.m. Simmons Hall.

**“Columbia Unbecoming”**
Film documenting academic suppression and the intimidation of students at Columbia University. 8 p.m. Room 4-231.

**International Folk Dancing (participating):** Lizy Lamb. Dining Hall. 253-FOLK.

MIT EVENT HIGHLIGHTS MARCH 30-APRIL 3

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**MIT Tech Talk: Architecture/Featured Recital**
Sarasvati Huat ‘07, violin. 5 p.m. Killian Hall. 253-9607.

**“Kimoosaj: Seven Wishes and Secrets”**
Talk by artist Kimoosaj on her exhibit on view Feb. 3-April 15. 6:30 p.m. List Visual Arts Center. 253-6480.

**Robert Unger**
Talk by Bruce Kirschenbaum for Darn’s Interns’ Exhibition featuring 34 illustrations. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Room E25-111. 253-6748.

**Roger Arman**

**Company Music**
Musical Theatre Guild production of “A Diversity of Desires.” 8 p.m. Room E25-111. 253-4042.

**Awakening Skies**
“Generating Compassion” Talk by Richard Truman. Prof. of Buddhism. 6 p.m. Kresge Auditorium. 253-9807.

**EMT**

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**Sand Mandala for Insight, Awareness and Altruism**
Millions of grains of colored sand onto place, forming an intricate 4-foot diameter diagram of the enlightened mind and the ideal world. Public viewing: 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. daily. Simmons Hall.

**“Tapping Women’s History in Performance: Lady Di”**
Performance and interview session with artist-in-residence Dianne Walker. 11 a.m. Kresge Auditorium. 253-8844.

**Vassar Men’s Lacrosse vs. Wesley College**
1 p.m. Skinnerbird Stadium. 253-5266.

**Tufts Festival of African Music and Dance**
Second annual Intercollegiate Festival and Performance Features Rambax performing sarar of Senegal. 8-10 p.m. Cohen Auditorium. 627-4042.

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**VAJRASATTVA SAND MANDALA**
Buddhist sand painting will be created in a weeklong process. Opening prayers on April 2; talk on April 7.

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**BALLROOM DANCE COMPETITION**
One of the biggest ballroom competitions in the Northeast. 688-0823. April 2 and 3.

**CLIMATE CHANGE**
Talk by Dean James Gustave “Gus” Speth of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

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**EDITOR’S CHOICE**

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**MIT EVENT HIGHLIGHTS APRIL 4-10**

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**VAJRASATTVA SAND MANDALA**
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