



Volume 49 – Number 22
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Students in Africa get web link to MIT labs

Janet Wasserstein
Office of Foundation 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 Jesus 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 iLab Project partnership between MIT’s Center for Educational Computing Initiatives (CECI), Makerere University (Uganda), the University of Dar Es Salaam (Tanzania) and Obafemi Awolowo University (Nigeria).

MIT faculty will work closely with their African colleagues to introduce new laboratory experiences and develop new 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 L.O. Kehinde, coordinator of the iLab project at Obafemi Awolowo University said, “With the dearth of funds for the purchase of equipment for experimentation, the iLab 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 iLab project is an outgrowth of the Microelectronics WebLab, which

See **ILAB**
Page 6



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

Christopher Banks of Baton Rouge, La., right, examines the workings of a disposable camera under the watchful eye of mechanical engineering Professor Martin Culpepper, during a ‘Take-Apart Learning’ workshop for high school students held March 24. The workshop was part of ‘Engineering at MIT Is Fun Day,’ an event hosted in association with the National Society of Black Engineers convention.

MIT builds bridges to black engineers

Helps make NSBE convention a success

Becky Schneck
MLOG Program,
Center for Transportation and Logistics

Thousands of people from across the country flocked to Boston last week for the 31st annual National Society of Black Engineers Convention. Among the more than 10,000 conference attendees packed into Hynes Convention Center were dozens of MIT students, alumni, faculty and staff who dedicated their time and energy to the five-day event, which was themed

“Empowering the World...One Engineer at a Time.”

As its mission statement reads, NSBE’s purpose is “to increase the number of culturally responsible black engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community.” During the event that ran from March 23 through March 27, the society held true to its goals, offering an extensive list of professional workshops, collegiate seminars

See **ENGINEERS**
Page 4



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

Student Jeremy Gilmore of Baton Rouge, La., quickly discovers how a disposable camera works during the workshop.

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 revisit—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 pro-

gram. 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 co-director 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 Peyser (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-

See **TRIP**
Page 6

NEWS

HOUSING ASSISTANCE

A proposal outlined at the most recent faculty meeting would help mitigate the high cost of housing for faculty members.

Page 5

READY FOR PRIME TIME

The Inauguration Committee has announced its plans for President Susan Hockfield’s big day.

Page 5

PEOPLE

TRANSLATOR HONORED

Ann Snodgrass of the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies has won a prestigious award from the Academy of American Poets.

Page 2

FAMILY TIME

President Susan Hockfield and her family share their favorite music on WMBR-FM.

Page 3

ARTS

AN OPEN ‘MIND’

Film director Michel Gondry, who won an Oscar for ‘Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind,’ will discuss his work Tuesday.

Page 7

TAPPING INTO SUCCESS

A performance this weekend highlights Dianne Walker, a pioneer in the resurgence of tap dance.

Page 7

Kaiser, Sipser to head departments

Elizabeth Thomson
News Office

Professor Chris Kaiser of the Department of Biology and Professor Michael Sipser of the Department of Mathematics have been named heads of their respective departments.

Kaiser is a leader in using yeast as a model organism to study cell biological processes. He has devised genetic and biochemical systems to dissect the molecular mechanisms for intracellular trafficking of proteins. His research program has been recognized with Markey Scholarship and Searle Scholarship awards.

"I am confident that Chris will make an outstanding head of biology, and I look forward to working with him over

the next five years," said Dean of Science Robert J. Silbey in a letter to biology faculty and staff announcing the appointment.

Kaiser succeeds Professor Robert Sauer, who held the post for five years. Silbey, the Class of '42 Professor of Chemistry, noted Sauer's "leadership and dedication to the department.... Bob has been a strong advocate for the needs of the department, and he has been a great supporter of intellectual and scholarly excellence in the School of Science."

Kaiser joined the MIT faculty in 1991 as an assistant professor of biology. In 1996 he was promoted to associate professor, and in 2002 he became a full professor. He holds a B.S. in biochemistry from Harvard University and earned a Ph.D. in biology

from MIT in 1987.

Michael Sipser is a theoretical computer scientist recognized for his work on complexity theory, automata and language theory, and algorithms. He is the author of the widely used textbook "Introduction to the Theory of Computation."

"Mike combines outstanding accomplishments in mathematics with excellent intellectual and educational leadership," Silbey said in a letter to math faculty and staff. "He was enthusiastically recommended by the Mathematics Head Search Committee."

Sipser succeeds Professor David Vogan as department head; Vogan held the position for five years. "David has been a truly outstanding department head who has served both the department and the Institute very well," Silbey said.



Chris Kaiser



Michael Sipser

Sipser has been on the faculty of MIT since 1980; he was Chairman of Applied Mathematics from 1998 to 2000. He received his undergraduate degree in mathematics from Cornell University and earned his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley in 1979.

Sipser's and Kaiser's appointments as department heads were effective July 1, 2004.

Poetry translator lauded

Sarah H. Wright
News Office

An MIT translator specializing in the work of an Italian poet once called the "czar of the blush" has received the 2004 Raiziss/de Palchi Fellowship from the Academy of American Poets for an English edition of his selected poems.

Ann Snodgrass, a poet and essayist in her own right, began translating Vittorio Sereni, a postwar Italian poet, 12 years ago. She has been a technical instructor in the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies since 1998.

A sense of scrupulous conscientiousness in Sereni's work prompted the "czar" reference. He was a "poet of rigorous moral interrogation whose work shows how the pressure from historical events somehow brands personal memory," Snodgrass said.

Sereni's life (1913–1983) spanned devastating events in European and Italian history, including two world wars, and he spent two years as a prisoner of war in Algeria. A poet, teacher and editor, Sereni was a leader in the "linea lombarda" movement, which promoted restoring a sense of dignity to the daily, among other things. His books include "Diario d'Algeria" (1947) and "Stella Variabile" (Wandering Star) (1981).

"There is a clear sense of trajectory between his first and final books toward a more questioning approach. He became increasingly concerned with fluctuations and distortions of memory," said Snodgrass.

She is quick to point out that memory, as Sereni

plumbs it, means more than emotions recalled in tranquility. It has moral implications, which might not be transferable to the American environment.

"What's at stake historically is very different. In the United States, distortions of memory may be less problematic. Americans believe in self-creation, in inventing and re-inventing their own narratives. For Sereni, there's an obligation to memory; it's about identifying the particular character of a historical moment. Memory is access to history," Snodgrass said.

The actual work of translating the "fierce intimacy of Sereni's private voice" from Italian to English, Snodgrass said, "gave way to the inclusiveness of his language. His poems possess a roving worldliness; their humanity is universal."

Snodgrass has received awards from the Fulbright Foundation, the PEN American Center and the Massachusetts Arts Lottery, among many others. Her poems and translations have appeared in the New Republic, Paris Review, Partisan Review, Poetry, Grand Street, Harvard Review and American Poetry Review, among other national magazines.

"Portal," a book of Snodgrass' poems, was published in 2002 and "The Hippopotamus," her translations of the early poems of Luciano Erba, appeared in 2003. Her book of critical essays, "Knowing Noise: The English Poems of



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

Poet and essayist Ann Snodgrass of MIT's Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies has received a fellowship to support her translation work on the poems of Vittorio Sereni, a postwar Italian poet.

Amelia Rosselli," appeared in 2001.

The Raiziss/de Palchi prize comes from the Raiziss/de Palchi Translation Awards Fund, which was established by a bequest to the New York Community Trust by Sonia Raiziss Giop. The fellowship will provide Snodgrass with \$20,000 and a six-week residency at the American Academy in Rome.

Lynwood S. Bryant dies; history professor was 96

Sarah H. Wright
News Office

Lynwood Silvester Bryant, a professor of history, emeritus, whose research focused on the early inventors of the internal combustion engine, died after a brief illness on March 16, 2005. He was 96.



Lynwood Bryant

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, founded just after he retired."

Bryant, a native of Keene, 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 significant publications as Scientific American. He was an early participant in the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT), writing reviews for the 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 Hagley Foundation in Delaware. There he taught a memorable seminar, "The Automobile in America," and served as mentor and advisor to the next generation of historians of technology.

"Many of them remember Lynwood

Bryant as a beautiful writer, a great scholar and a kind presence, full of interesting stories about MIT and his other colleagues in the history of technology," says Rosalind Williams, 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 1967.

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

Bryant retired finally to his summer home, an 1800s-era miller's house on Bearcamp Pond in East Sandwich, N.H. 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, 1780-1930."

He was active in Sandwich, participating in local boards, committees and activities. He took part in the Over-the-Hill Hikers, Sandwich Players and various musical activities.

Bryant graduated from the Mount Hermon School and received A.B. and A.M. 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 Denver; two daughters, Susan Bryant-Kimball and her husband, Chip Kimball '72, of Sandwich, and Emily Bryant of Orford, 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 Hambrook, 196 Vittum Hill Road, Sandwich, NH 03227.

HOW TO REACH US

News Office

Telephone: 617-253-2700
E-mail: newsoffice@mit.edu
<http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice>

Office of the Arts

<http://web.mit.edu/arts>



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Senior Communications Officer/
Science Writer Denise Brehm
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Publisher

Arthur Jones

Editor

Kathryn O'Neill

Photojournalist

Donna Coveney

Production

Roger Donaghy

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AWARDS & HONORS

Two graduate students in electrical engineering and computer science have won Microsoft Research Fellowships, awarded by Microsoft Corp. annually. **Ce Liu** and **Adi Akavia** are among 12 Fellows for 2006-07 selected from 133 applicants from the United States and Canada. The fellowship pays for tuition and fees and provides a stipend of \$20,000, plus a \$2,000 travel allowance for attending conferences and a TabletPC preloaded with Microsoft software. In addition, the Fellows will get to interview for a paid summer internship with the company. Scholarships are awarded for two academic years and may be extended up to a maximum of three years.

J. Kim Vandiver, dean for undergraduate research, will receive the Offshore Technology Conference Distinguished Individual Achievement Award for 2005. The award recognizes Vandiver's numerous "technical breakthroughs in the dynamics of vortex-induced vibrations that have enhanced the design of structures to withstand high ocean currents, 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 May 3.

Dr. David J. Perreault, the Emanuel E. Landsman Career Development Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, will receive the 2005 Ralph R. Teetor Educational Award at the Society of Automotive Engineers International's 2005 World Congress in Detroit on April 12. The Teetor 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 National Meeting on March 14 as the author of the greatest number of requested articles in 2004 by CAS' Science Spotlight service.

CAS Science Spotlight is a free web service that identifies the most cited chemistry-related research publications as reflected 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 (GSLIS) 2005 Alumni Achievement Award. The award is presented annually to a GSLIS 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 and 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 from Campus Compact, 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. Velasco will receive \$1,500 for iMath. The award will be presented at a ceremony in Portland, Ore., in April.

Profs take on national roles

Sarah H. Wright
News Office

Two professors in the School of the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences and one in the MIT Sloan School are currently serving as leaders of national associations in their respective fields.

Deborah Fitzgerald, professor in the program Science, Technology and Society (STS), is president of the Agricultural History Society; Rosalind Williams, director of STS and Robert M. Metcalfe Professor of Writing, is president of the Society for the History of Technology; and JoAnne Yates, Sloan Distinguished Professor of Management in MIT's Sloan School, is president of the Business History Conference, 2004-2005.

Dean Philip S. Khoury of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social 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.

Fitzgerald, who came to MIT in 1988, focuses in her research on the industrial-



Deborah Fitzgerald



JoAnne Yates



Rosalind Williams

ization 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 Breeding: Hybrid Corn in Illinois, 1890-1920" (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.

Williams is the author of "Dream Worlds: Mass Consumption in Late Nineteenth-Century France" (University of California, 1982); "Notes on the Underground: An Essay on Technology, Society, and the Imagination"

(MIT Press, 1990), and "Retooling: A Historian Confronts Technological Change" (MIT Press, 2002), which draws on her experiences at MIT.

Yates' forthcoming book, "Structuring the Information Age: Life Insurance and Technology in the Twentieth Century," examines the life insurance industry's adoption and use of information technology both before and after the arrival of computers. She is the author of "Control through Communication: The Rise of System in American Management" (1989). She also studies contemporary communication and information technology adoption and use as they shape and are shaped by work practices over time. Yates came to MIT in 1980.



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

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.

Tune in on the first family of MIT

Denise Brehm
News Office

MIT's first family may not be musically adventurous, but Susan Hockfield, her husband and daughter were daring enough to bare just a bit of their private selves to disc jockey Eric Chemi and his listeners on "Dinnertime Sampler," a music and talk show hosted by the senior on WMBR-FM.

The interview will air tonight from 6 to 7:30 and will be webcast live at <http://www.wmbr.org/?p=listen>.

The show's format calls for Chemi's guests to share favorite songs and talk about the music, but Chemi's peripatetic style takes the conversation down a meandering path, revealing something about the family dynamic.

After playing "Titles," the theme song from "Chariots of Fire" ("one of our favorite, favorite songs of all time and favorite movies of all time," says Hockfield's husband, Dr. Thomas Byrne) and some Paul Simon "travel music," Chemi asks Hockfield if she's been getting enough sleep since coming to MIT in December.

"I was told that people don't sleep at MIT, so I've been working on it," Hockfield says.

Is she keeping the family awake "clicking on the keyboard" at night? he asks.

"She pretends to be tired when I have to go to sleep," says 13-year-old Elizabeth Byrne.

"Once Elizabeth's tucked in, then I get to work seriously," Hockfield says.

What's a typical day like for the president?

"Oh ... radio shows, defending latkes, taking on the really important tasks at the Institute," replies Hockfield, who said she gets about 100 e-mails a day—"very few of them junk."

When Byrne insists on playing a song by New Age Irish singer/composer Enya, his wife and daughter acquiesce, but not without a few good-natured barbs. "It's so repetitive," Hockfield says during the tune. When the second Enya tune starts up, she pushes the stop button and says, "I think that's just about enough of that, thank you very much."

In an interview afterward, Chemi said that his heart nearly stopped a couple of

times during taping.

"There was a time when they tried to play the song and there was nothing on the CD and Susan said, 'Oh, I guess I didn't burn it right.' And I was like, 'Oh my God, we're not gonna have any music!'" said Chemi. "The stuff off air was ridiculous. I wished they would have said that stuff on air. Like, when they were arguing about the music. The dad said, 'Look, we've got this Simon and Garfunkel CD.' And she'd say, 'We're not gonna play that.' And the daughter said, 'Well, we can play just one.'"

On air, Hockfield says no to "Mrs. Robinson" and Elizabeth puts her foot down against "Scarborough Fair" and "Bridge Over Troubled Water."

"We're playing 'Cecilia'" says Hockfield. "They came in really serious and, like, set the ground rules and stuff. Then, after they figured out what kinds of questions I was gonna ask, they relaxed," said Chemi, whose questions include: Do you get a ride to work when it snows? Do you elbow people out of your way in the Infinite Corridor? What do you do on weekends?

Tune in tonight for the answers.

MIT to honor Daley for greening city

Sarah H. Wright
News Office

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 5:30 p.m. in MIT's Stata Center Room 123. A symposium on "Greening the 21st Century City" will follow the presentation at 7 p.m. All the Lynch Award events are free and open to the public.

Adèle Naudé Santos, dean of the School of Architecture, praised Daley's "strong environmental leadership" in her letter notifying him he had won the prestigious award, which honors "outstanding contributions" to the relationship between an urban place and the people who use it.

Through his efforts, a "sustainable landscaping industry has grown around the city's green initiatives, demonstrating to other cities not only the social benefits of such a strategy, but also the economic advantages," Santos said.

Lawrence Vale, head of the department of urban studies and planning and a Chicago native, noted the impact of Daley's green initiatives.

"As a child growing up in Chicago, the only green thing I remember was the glowing dye in the Chicago River on St. Patrick's Day. Now, through both parks improvements and green energy-saving technologies, Chicago has exerted national leadership in this area. Our hope is that the Kevin Lynch Award will serve to further the spotlight on this sort of mayoral entrepreneurship," said Vale.

Since Daley became mayor, the city has planted more than 400,000 trees, created 100 school campus parks, built 68 miles of landscaped street medians and spurred the construction of rooftop gardens on major buildings, including Chicago City Hall, the flagship of Daley's Green Roofs program.

Daley's other achievements in urban design and building include Millennium Park, with its green roof adorned by a Frank Gehry bandshell, the LEED-Platinum Chicago Center for Green Technology, Greencorps Chicago and Northerly Island Park.

Chicago's example and vision, among others, will be the focus of the Lynch panel, "Greening the 21st Century." Dennis Frenchman, chair of the Joint program in City design and Development, will moderate the discussion among panelists Hillary Brown, founder of New York City's Office of Sustainable Development; Robert Campbell, Pulitzer Prize-winning design critic for the Boston Globe and Doug Foy, the Massachusetts Secretary of Commonwealth Development and former President of the Conservation Law Foundation.

Daley, who is currently completing his fifth consecutive term as mayor, will discuss the rewards and challenges of careers in public service with MIT students on April 8th.



Richard M. Daley

The Kevin Lynch Award carries an honorarium and is administered by MIT's Department of Urban Studies and Planning and the joint program in City Design and

Development. Lynch (B.C.P. 1947) died in 1984. A native of Chicago, he was an urban designer and the author of seminal works in the field of urban planning, particularly the pioneering "The Image of the City," published in 1960. His other books include "Site Planning," "Good City Form," and "What Time Is This Place?"

Lynch served as a member of the faculty of the MIT School of Architecture and Planning for 30 years. He helped to develop the Department of Urban Studies and Planning into one of the most renowned in the world. In 1988, family, friends and colleagues established the award in his memory and funds to support acquisitions for MIT's Rotch Library of Architecture and Planning.

For more information, please contact Paula Anzer, lecturer and special assistant to the DUSP department head, at 617-253-2024. To make a reservation for the event, e-mail Lynch_rsvp@mit.edu.

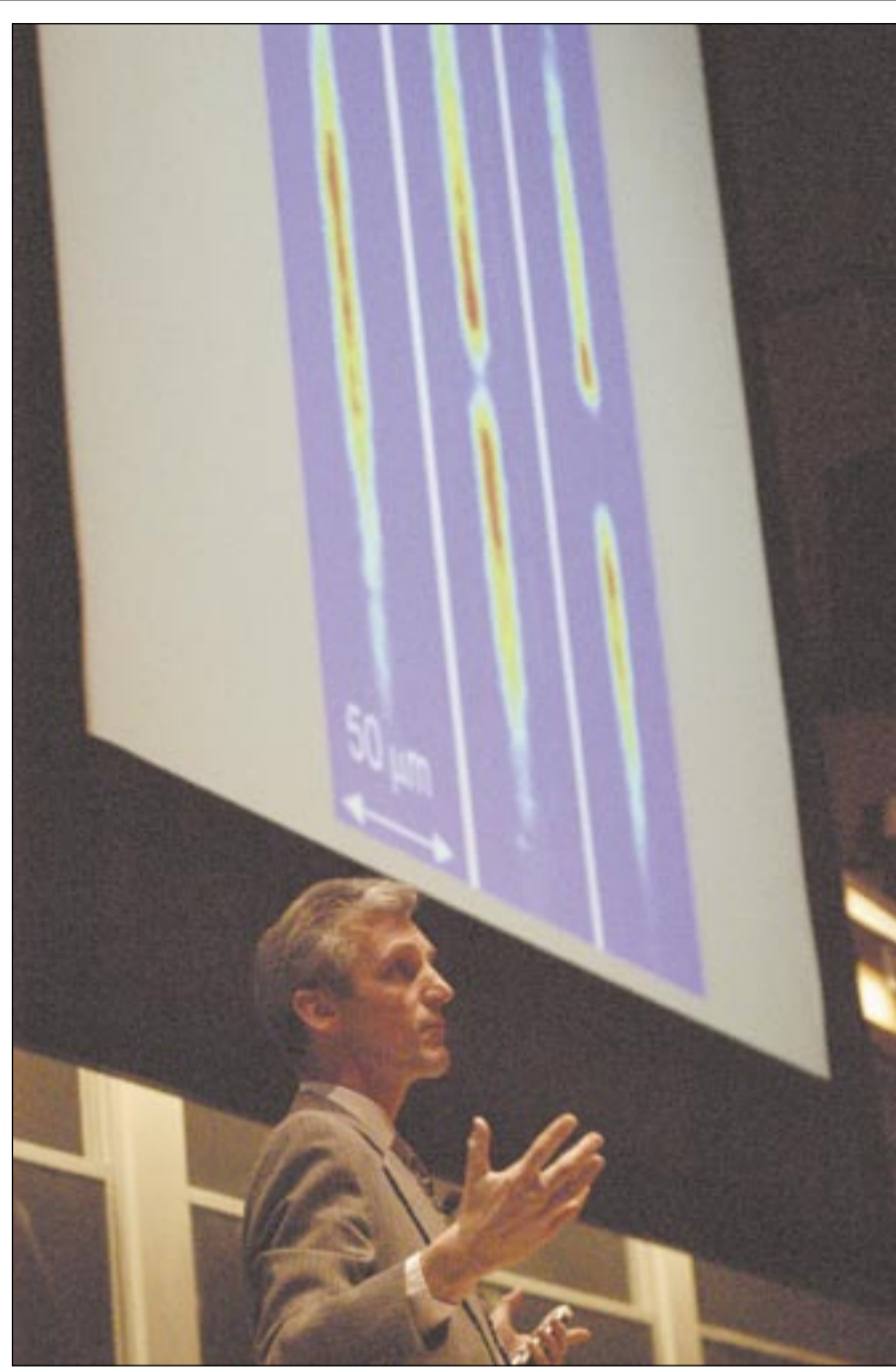


PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

Beyond cool

Ultra-cold forms of matter and recent advances in that field were the focus of Nobel laureate Wolfgang Ketterle's Killian Lecture on March 15. His talk, 'When Freezing Cold Is Not Cold Enough,' described work that opens a new door to the quantum world where particles behave as waves and 'march in lockstep.' Ketterle shared the Nobel Prize in physics in 2001 with two MIT alumni for their discovery of Bose-Einstein condensate, a new form of matter that exists only at ultra-cold temperatures. The slide behind Ketterle shows on the left a single Bose-Einstein condensate that, on the right, is cut into two pieces using a laser beam. The Killian Lecture is given each year by the winner of the James R. Killian Jr. Faculty Achievement Award.



David Bartel

Bartel named Hughes Institute investigator

Professor David Bartel of biology and the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research is among 43 scientists around the country named Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigators on March 21.

He joins 11 other MIT faculty members with that title.

A medical research organization, HHMI chooses investigators based on their potential to make significant contributions to science. Becoming an HHMI investigator isn't easy. Some 320 U.S. scientists were nominated this year, and competitions only occur every few

years. Currently there are about 300 HHMI investigators in the United States.

HHMI investigators remain at their original institutions, but HHMI pays their salaries and funds the bulk of their research. Emphasis is placed on the researcher's overall scientific track record rather than on individual projects. "That's really the dream of every scientist—to have that support to do what you think is most exciting regardless of the risk," Bartel said.

Bartel's research concerns microRNAs, molecules that play an active role in regulating the genomes of both plants and mammals by

interrupting a gene's ability to produce protein. It wasn't until 2000 that scientists were aware that these molecules existed in humans. Now, as shown in a recent Cell paper, Bartel and colleagues have found that more than one third of the human genes are at least partially controlled by microRNAs. And, Bartel said, that number is a conservative estimate.

"What HHMI is really doing is honoring and endorsing my whole lab," Bartel said. "It isn't mainly me, but the work of all the students, postdocs and others, plus our collaborators, who have made our lab what it is."

ENGINEERS

Continued from Page 1

and networking opportunities for every level of engineer from technical professionals to soon-to-be college graduates to current high school students.

With so many past, present and future black engineers gathered in one place, MIT wanted to exhibit a strong presence at the conference being held just across the river.

"We wanted to seize this opportunity," said Irene Miller, Manager of Faculty Diversity Search, School of Engineering. "The Institute wants to develop connections that will bring more blacks through the pipeline to study, to teach and to contribute to MIT in various roles. This conference gave us the chance to do that."

Showing their dedication to this goal, faculty, staff and students from more

than 20 departments across the Institute worked together for months to prepare for the conference. While separate departments at MIT have participated in past NSBE conferences, this year's event marked the first time so many departments worked together to create a large, unified presence. "Concerted, collaborative recruitment efforts like this are bound to have positive impact on MIT's diversity as engineers in training think about where to pursue the next degree," said Dean for Graduate Students Isaac Colbert after NSBE wrapped up this weekend.

The result of the collaboration was a host of events that introduced the opportunities at MIT to thousands of future engineers. For high school students, MIT sponsored a day-long experience in conjunction with NSBE entitled "Engineering at MIT is Fun." The students came to

campus to participate in design workshops that had them working with everything from electric screwdrivers to LEGOS. MIT also provided them with admissions and career services seminars, as well as campus tours.

College and graduate students were introduced to the opportunities open to them at MIT through sessions and panels run by the Institute's faculty and staff. On Thursday, Colbert and Materials Science Professor Sam Allen spoke to a packed house in a session entitled "Grad School 201." Debra Woog McGinty from the Leaders for Manufacturing Program participated in an Engineering and Business Education Panel on Friday, and on Saturday, the director of the Engineering Systems Division, Professor Daniel Hastings, spoke on "Diversity, Leadership and the Future of Engineering Education."

Reid wins Golden Torch

The National Society of Black Engineers saluted Karl Reid, executive director of Special Programs for the School of Engineering, on Thursday, March 24, naming him the Minority Engineering Programs Director of the Year during its convention at Boston's Hynes Convention Center.

The 13 winners of the society's Golden Torch Awards represented the technical professions, corporate leadership, government and academia, or university and pre-college arenas.

"It is our way to salute and honor our awardees, not only for their personal achievements and dedication to the field of engineering, but also for acting as standard bearers for those who will walk in their shoes," said Carl Mack, the society's new executive director.

Help with housing proposed for faculty

Sasha Brown
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 Claude Canizares presented 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 dissect available options. The first committee reported in the summer of

2003, but its recommendations were tabled after budgetary issues surfaced.

Last summer, a second committee convened. Taking the recommendations of the first committee into consideration, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Design of the Faculty Housing Program developed the plan. Canizares 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," Canizares told the roughly 75 faculty members at the meeting. Under the plan—a "significant enhancement over the current Housing Assistance Loan Program (HALP)," established in 1986—newly hired or recently tenured faculty would have four years of eligibility. In the first year, the eligibility would extend to July 2000. It would be "a one-time benefit," said Canizares.

The plan would allow for a tax efficient, minimum interest, second mortgage program to assist recently tenured faculty in

purchasing a home. The interest rate would stay locked at the lowest rate the IRS allows, currently around 4.5 percent. The up to \$300,000 loan is payable over 30 years.

For junior faculty, many of whom will be first-time homebuyers, 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 a 50-mile radius 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 Canizares.

The documents on the proposal will be available online for 30 days for review and input at: web.mit.edu/faculty/reports/HousingReportRev2.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, and 85 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 H. Wright
News Office

James G. Kelso, executive assistant to late MIT President James Killian during the late 1950s, died Monday, March 7, at Norwell Knoll Nursing Home after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. He was 86.

Kelso came to MIT in 1948 as an instructor of history. He was promoted to assistant professor in 1952 and taught U.S. history and economics. He served as a placement officer in 1955 and as executive assistant to President Killian from 1956 to 1959.

At the time, Killian praised Kelso's "broad experience in dealing with students, with industry, with government and with research agencies. His service to the Institute has been very important."



James Kelso

A native of Worcester, N.Y., Kelso lived in Duxbury, Mass., for more than 50 years, devotedly serving town government. He was on the Finance Committee, School Committee, Planning Board, Conservation Commission as well as many other town boards. He served six years as selectman. "I wish I could have done more," he once said.

Kelso left MIT in 1963 to pursue careers in banking and management. He was appointed executive director of the Greater Boston

Chamber of Commerce in 1965.

Kelso received a B.A. from Dartmouth College in 1941 and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in history from Harvard University in 1947 and 1953, respectively.

Kelso served as a paratrooper in World War II. He made jumps in Sicily, Normandy, Holland and Germany; he held eight battle stars and was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action. He served from 1941 to 1946.

He leaves his wife, Dorothy of Duxbury; daughter Deborah and son-in-law Cliff Pye of Lawrence, Kan.; daughter Tass and son-in-law George Maentz of Colorado Springs, Colo.; daughter Laurie of Duxbury; and son Tony and daughter-in-law Jane of Duxbury. He also leaves five grandchildren and his sister, Elizabeth Caiazza of Worcester, N.Y.



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

The power of flowers

This year's Daffodil Days Campaign at MIT brought in more money than ever before, raising more than \$28,500 for the American Cancer Society. Sis DeBordenave and Janet Plotkin of the Women's League, left, and Mike Fahie of Facilities help deliver

some of the flowers on March 16. Three thousand bouquets were ordered, and an additional 450 'gifts of hope' were delivered to patients receiving chemotherapy and radiation. Half the gifts went to Massachusetts General Hospital, and half went to Mount Auburn.

Entries sought for visual arts contest

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 registered 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 originals (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.

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

UnCommon inauguration in works

The Inaugural Committee is pleased to announce plans for the inauguration of Susan Hockfield as MIT's 16th president this spring. 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 in common are the things MIT people share. 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 Professor Meejin Yoon and Matthew Reynolds '98 for the 2004 Athens Olympics. This

exhibit will be open each evening on Kresge Oval through Saturday, May 7. The MIT Symphony Orchestra will perform Ades, Asyla and Mahler'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, that will include the closing of "White Noise/White Light."

For more information, visit the inaugural web site at <http://web.mit.edu/inauguration>.

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

The Inaugural Committee invites all of the MIT community to celebrate In Common!

NEWS YOU CAN USE

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 Morss Hall in Walker Memorial (Building 50, first floor) beginning at 11:45 a.m. New membership in the club is offered to the faculty, administrative, research, 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 to the luncheon may call the Quarter Century Club in the Community Services Office at (617) 253-7914.

Calling all marathoners!

Are you planning to participate in the Boston Marathon on April 18? Now

you can tell your story. Whether you're running for a great cause or handing out water, the MIT community wants to know. Post your own story or read what other people are doing at the web site's new "Cheer for MIT" page: <http://web.mit.edu/marathon>.

Forums on integrity

Dean for Undergraduate Education Robert P. Redwine and Associate Professor Margery Resnick will host two student forums on the issue of academic integrity. They will be held on Tuesday, April 5, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Room 32-123, and on Wednesday, April 20 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Room 34-101. Redwine and Resnick co-chair an ad hoc committee working to clarify and articulate MIT's expectations and standards for academic integrity.

TRIP

Continued from Page 1

niques that participants can use to establish shared understanding of technical and scientific issues and methods and to reach agreement on how to manage gaps in information.

"Most stakeholders involved in environmental disputes have different levels of scientific understanding, and trust among stakeholders can erode if each group brings its own scientific resources to support its position, leading to dueling or competing studies and experts, 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" (Brown); "Cape Wind Project and Long Island Power Association: Contrasting Case Studies" (Yao); "Opportunities for Integrating Joint Fact-Finding Into the NEPA Process" (Peysler) and "Joint Fact-Finding in the Adaptive Management Cycle" (Brandenburg).

Chip Groat, USGS director and a strong supporter of MUSIC, is heading the panels of Washington experts that will listen to the student presentations today and tomorrow.

Real-world experience

The MUSIC program was developed at MIT by Susskind, who has also helped to pioneer the use of joint fact-finding in a range of public policy-making situations. MUSIC interns are required to take a yearlong seminar on joint fact-finding and to work on field-based projects with USGS and other branches of the Department of the Interior.

The graduate interns in Washington this week came to MUSIC with practical, if frustrating, experience in the conflict-ridden field of environmental planning.

Before starting at MIT, Brown was "more focused on international dimensions of environment, conflict and development." She worked for Seeds of Peace, an organization that seeks to build relationships among young people from regions of conflict and elsewhere.

She pointed out that in New England, a joint fact-finding process could "help identify a way to meet regional energy needs by using natural gas. There are environmental, social and cultural concerns, safety hazards and economic factors at play. Communities in Maine, Massachusetts and Rhode Island have been grappling with whether to pursue an LNG terminal in the region—a true case of "not in my back yard."

Brandenburg worked for 10 years as a planner and forest and parks manager for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management; he was respon-

sible for managing motorized off-road vehicles on state forest trails. "I basically worked on that every day for 10 years and never reached a lasting, durable conclusion," he said.

He identified the Cape Wind Project as "definitely a case that could use some joint fact-finding. A very similar scenario is the decision of whether to drill for oil in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge."

Peysler, the MUSIC project manager, was inspired by the success of collaborative decision-making in an Arizona dispute, she said; she seized the chance to become project manager in her second year in DUSP. "I saw it as a great opportunity to continue working on joint fact-finding both in the university setting and potentially in practice on the ground."

"MUSIC has great potential to impact how—and with whom—environmental decisions are made in this country," she said.

Beginning in September 2005, there will be four returning and four new MUSIC interns in DUSP. They will be supported by the National Parks Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service and the USGS.

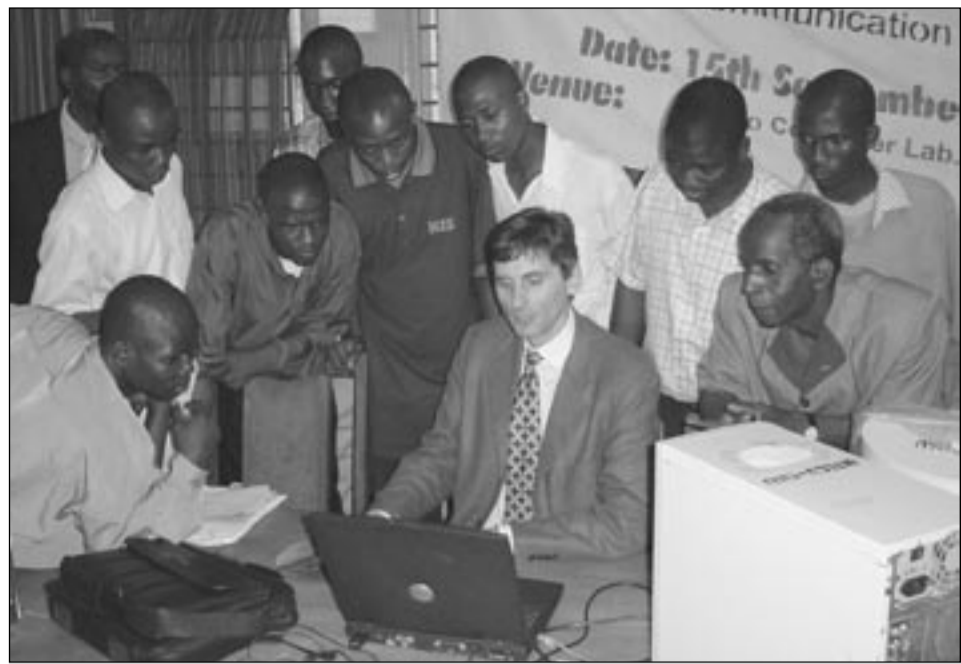
Cape Wind Project meeting

The Cape Wind Project, with its controversial environmental, economic and aesthetic impact on Nantucket Sound and Cape Cod, has been an important case study for participants in MUSIC and proponents of joint fact-finding since 2003. After the issuing of the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) in November 2004, the permitting agency has yet to announce any decision on the project. The delay is widely seen as politically motivated.

On April 2, MUSIC will host stakeholders in the Cape Wind offshore wind energy proposal to discuss the permitting process and possible ways of resolving some of the scientific issues in dispute. MUSIC interns have prepared a web page (<http://scienceimpact.mit.edu>) to portray how citizens might use joint fact-finding.

Ali Mostashari, a doctoral candidate in engineering systems, has organized the April 2 meeting. In 2004, as part of his dissertation research project on policy design in the Cape Wind Project, Mostashari convinced more than 44 representative stakeholder organizations to summarize their views of the offshore wind energy siting and permitting process.

"Public hearings are just not sufficient to address the complex projects such as Cape Wind. We have seen how conflict can prolong the permitting process, without improving its substance. The goal of the April 2nd workshop is to learn from stakeholders in the current permit process how it can be improved for future offshore wind projects, as well as similar issues such as siting of LNG facilities," Mostashari said.



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

ILAB

Continued from Page 1

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 engineering disciplines. ILab was embraced and funded by MIT iCampus, a program sponsored by Microsoft.

The iLabs have been used by students at MIT and from universities in other countries, including the United Kingdom, Singapore, Sweden, Greece and Taiwan. New iLabs will be selected and developed by the African partners in collaboration with MIT.

The Africa project, funded by an \$800,000 grant from Carnegie Corp. of New York, also includes a cultural exchange component. MIT will send six undergraduate or graduate students to the three African universities to join their respective iLab development teams and support their efforts. This part of the program will be run by MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives, which every year sends hundreds of MIT students to many countries around the world.

The African universities will each send two graduate students or staff members to MIT to join MIT's own iLab effort and learn iLab technology along the way. The visits are scheduled to last about two months.

"In addition to enhancing their skills

in iLab-related software and hardware development, the cross-cultural values of the collaboration between African universities and MIT are immense," said Kehinde. "The dedication and the cooperation of the iLab coordinators at MIT have been remarkable."

Professor Steven Lerman, director of MIT's CECI 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—institutions in developed and developing countries will work together and learn from each other."

He added, "We are grateful to Carnegie Corporation for its support and for the opportunity their funding provides for sharing knowledge between MIT and our African colleagues. We hope this project will spread among African institutions so that more students can perform real experiments and enhance their science and engineering education."

iLabs is an initiative of the MIT iCampus program, which is funded by Microsoft Corp. iCampus sponsors faculty innovations in educational technology, helps incubate them through classroom use, and promotes their adoption, evaluation and continued evolution through worldwide multi-institutional cooperation (<http://icampus.mit.edu/ilabs>).

To try one of the labs, go to <http://openilabs.mit.edu/>

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*If you can't come to the lab,
the lab will come to you.*

Jesus del Alamo
Co-principal investigator

CLASSIFIED ADS

Members of the MIT community may submit one classified ad each issue. Ads can be resubmitted, but not two weeks in a row. Ads should be 30 words maximum; they will be edited. Submit by e-mail to ttads@mit.edu or mail to Classifieds, Rm 11-400. Deadline is noon Wednesday the week before publication.

FOR SALE

Mahogany dining room drop leaf table with 2 captain's chairs and 4 side chairs. Seats 6 w/ one leaf to extend to seat 8. \$400. Melinda at 253-5414.

Twin bed: \$45. Dining table/4 chairs, cherry wood: \$140. Folding computer desk (steel): \$35. Entertainment (blk)/200 cd holder: \$8. Plant stand (black metal): \$8. bird cages. Loida at 617-916-1708 or lmorales@mit.edu.

24' Thompson Fisherman 230hp I/O Merc. Includes trailer. Navigation and communication equipment includes a Garmin GPS, Loran, VHF radio, power hailer. Fish finder. Video sounder for SCUBA diving. \$15,000/bst. 781-910-3086.

VEHICLES

Mercedes '99 E320 4Matic AWD, green/tan, sunroof, heated seats, xenon lights, Bose sound/CD Changer. One owner, well maintained, great cond. 101K. \$13,900/bst. 508-839-1275.

1996 Chevy Cavalier, 2-door, auto trans, 97K, green. \$1,250. Pat at 781-284-9311.

2004 Dodge Stratus 2.4L. Well maintained, excellent condition & garaged year round. 6.8K. CD player, elec windows & locks, AC, cloth seats. \$13,000/bst. Wanda at 253-2737.

1998 Ford Windstar Minivan. 72.3K. 2002 Rascal Scooter, Model 245, never used. Set for \$12,000/bst. Barb or Dave at 781-893-8083 or balkwill@mit.edu.

1999 Toyota Corolla LE, auto, 73K, power window/door lock. \$5,500/bst. 253-4972.

HOUSING

Moody Beach Maine-2 bdr/1 bath w/ fireplace living room. Rear deck plus outside shower. Close to shops. Beach 1/4 mile. Available June-Oct. \$1000.00 per week. pmotroni@plant.mit.edu or 617-293-8270.

Medford (Wellington Circle): \$ 1,200/mo. 2 BR, 5 RM Street parking. 2 min. walk to bus; 10 min. walk to Wellington Station. Gas heat, hot water not included. Deno at 617-461-3374.

Ocean front summer cabin, Mount Desert Island, ME: 2BD/1BA w/living/kitchen area; picture windows, deck overlooking water; stairway to beach. Mins from Acadia National Park, Bar Harbor. \$1,000/week June-Sept. Steve at 253-5757 or chorover@mit.edu.

Saugus: Sunny and clean, one BR, first floor, on bus line to Malden Station. Off-street parking. No Pets. \$850/mo., 1st & last. 617-253-8144.

Summer sublet wanted: Studio or 1 BR wanted for the Aug., Sept. & poss. Oct. On campus or near campus. Mature female, Admin. Staff employee at MIT. Pam at 617-699-6893.

Immaculate, Sunny 1 bedroom aptmnt in Melrose. Hardwood floors, close to T, comm. rail, bus line. Washer/dryer. Off street parking. \$ 900 plus utilities. 617-816-1703.

Furnished room available in large Arlington

house. Near public transportation, parking available, kitchen privileges, washer & dryer on premise, own refrigerator & TV. 781-648-7425 (24 hrs).

Newton: 4 BR Colonial, 2 studies, 2.5 baths, 2 fireplaces, built-in bookcases; playground, sunporch. www.hammondre.com, listing #70156492. Eileen Martin at 617-332-8700 x772 or emartin@hammondre.com.

Provincetown Waterfront Cottage. East End. 3 BR. Write your thesis or start your sabbatical. Avail. May, June, September, October. ldp@alum.mit.edu or 617 497-5937.

Lincoln: exceptional home in woods. 2+ acres, 4BR/3BA, new kitchen, total 9 rms, 2 car garage, walk to rail station, top school system, beautiful environment, non-smoker. Pets negotiable. \$3,600/mo. feng@psfc.mit.edu.

Wellfleet: Wonderful 1920 farmhouse on acre: 3 bdrms, 2 baths, jacuzzi, outdoor shower, washer/dryer, fireplace, near ponds and ocean beaches. \$1,200-\$1,650/week. alcohen@mit.edu.

4-family house in Pepperell. 2 floors plus unfinished walk-in attic-w/expansion possibilities. Ea. apartment: 4 rooms + bath + rear hall/util., approx 500 sq.ft. Needs repairs. Separate utilities, town septic. \$300,000/bst. bjmagoon@mit.edu.

Martha's Vineyard: 4BR Chappaquiddick house. Beach, golf, hiking trails within 1 mile, 3 miles from Edgartown. June through September. \$900 to \$1,100 weekly. David at 781-981-5087 or 603-654-5513.

Cape Cod cottage: Brewster. Fun, comfortable, quiet. 60' private freshwater beach. Sleeps 4-6, separate studio w/doublebed and half-bath. Avail. June, some weeks in August. \$1,100/wk,

\$2k/two weeks. Andy at 617-876-6257.

Summer sublet wanted: mature, serious, non-smoking Russian student. Speaks English, some Spanish. June-Aug. Room or studio close to subway (5-15 min. walk). goodfellow@rambler.ru.

WANTED

Hen canary or finch to buy. 617-241-9387.

STUDENT POSITIONS

Positions for students with work-study eligibility.

The Amigos School seeks math tutors for 3rd-8th graders. Spanish fluency a plus, not required. 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., every day. Accessible via #1. Paid travel time. \$14/hr. Michal-Ann Golay at 617-349-6567 or mgolay@cpsd.us.

City on a Hill School seeks one-on-one reading/writing tutor for 10th grader. Payment: \$15/hr, 4 hours: tutoring, 2 hours: reflection, planning/week. Requirements: conduct, dress, timeliness. Training provided. \$15/hr. Mark Destler at 617-504-6021 or mdd@massed.net.

Maria L. Baldwin School seeks elementary school math tutors. 5 mins from the Harvard T. Flexible hours, 8:45 a.m.-3 p.m. 4-8 hours/week commitment. \$17/hr. Mary Eirich at 617-349-6525 X100.

Cambridge School Volunteers seeks part-time Program Assistants. Light administrative duties, coordination of events/activities for volunteers, site visits, outreach. Requirements: flexible, outgoing. Hours: 10-15/wk, M-F, 9-5. \$12/hr. Resume/cover letter to Harriet Finck, at hfinck@cpsd.us.

Pioneering dancer tapped to perform on campus

Lynn Heinemann
Office of the Arts

A pioneer in the resurgence of tap dance, Dianne Walker has spent more than 25 years traveling to performance venues all over the world—from Broadway theaters to television studios to universities. Now, as an artist-in-residence this month at MIT, she's teaching and creating movement with the MIT Dance Theater Ensemble.

One of the few internationally recognized women in her field, Walker will present a performance and interview/lecture on Saturday, April 2, at 11 a.m. in Kresge Auditorium. Associate Professor Thomas DeFrantz, also a tap dancer and choreographer, will conduct the interview. Student dancers who have been working with her this month will conclude the event with a

short performance, and a reception will follow.

"[Walker's] class is unique because it not only combines the learning of tap moves from a tap dance master, but we also learn about the history from the soft shoe to the shim sham to Jimmy Slyde's cramp roll," said James Tolbert, a senior in electrical engineering and computer science.

Known to her mentors and peers as "Lady Di" for her personal style and elegance as a performer, Walker is also celebrated for her eloquent and passionate commitment to the art of tap dance. "She shows



Dianne Walker

you the full repertoire of tap dance and what it means to be a tap dancer and not simply a dancer who taps," said Tolbert.

Tolbert, who's been tapping since he was 2 years old, says that Walker has taught him to the importance of brushing up on the fundamentals. He's also learned from Walker that "a tapper's job is never done, and when you think you have the shuffle, someone can point out that you don't." Tolbert says he now carries his tap shoes in his bookbag waiting for any chance to bring them out and dance.

Walker was a featured dancer in the movie "Tap" with Gregory Hines and in the original Paris production of "Black and Blue." She has had the honor of being the only female dancer in the prestigious "Hoofers Line" with Lon Chaney, Jimmy Slyde, Chuck Green and Bunny Briggs, and her recent awards include the 2000 Savion Glover Award for "Keeping the Beat Alive," the Flo-Bert Award for Lifetime Achievement, and, in 2004, the Hoofers Award from Tap City New York City, an award given in memory of Gregory Hines.

Walker currently lives in Boston and serves on the board of the Massachusetts Cultural Council. She recently completed a tour with Savion Glover and Jimmy Slyde.

The event is co-sponsored by the Office of the Arts, Program in Women's Studies and the Music and Theater Arts Section. For more information, call (617) 253-2341.

▶ ARTS NEWS

Visual Arts Program Lecturer **Pia Lindman** (SM Visual Studies 1999), is one of 14 artists included in White Box's "Under Your Skin," a group show on 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 art. Lindman's works, titled "CORPCOMM: Enactments and Improvisations in Corporate Communities," examines how identity is expressed by human gestures, incorporating a series of performances and drawings she created with employees at the Global Consulting Group Corp. in Manhattan. The employees, ranging from receptionists to CEOs, directed Lindman as she enacted the physical gestures that best expressed their daily office routines. From stills of the gestures, captured on video, Lindman made corresponding pencil drawings. An opening reception will be held at the White Box Annex (601 W. 26th 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 Two-Year Old," an exhibition by Assistant Professor **Wendy Jacob**, a Mary I. Bunting Institute Fellow in sculpture at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, will open with a talk by the artist on Monday, April 4, at 4 p.m. in the Living Room of the Cronkhite Graduate Center at Harvard University. Jacob's sculptural works investigate the practical and intimate relationships 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 thread between and through city buildings. Through experimentation with environments close to 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 of Agassiz House in Radcliffe Yard through Friday, April 22.

Associate Professor **Thomas DeFrantz** made the "Best of the New: Ideas" list compiled by The Boston Globe Magazine for "Moves Across the Water: Tap and Hip-Hop," a long-distance (via video conference) dance event with Patrick Loo at the National University of Singapore last September. "The Singapore-MIT Alliance was experimenting with a futuristic connection that reduces lag time in sending to less than a second, so dancers can move nearly in synch if not cheek to cheek," said the Globe.

Oscar-winner to open his 'Mind'

"Exploring the Mind of Michel Gondry," a conversation between film and video director Michel Gondry and Professor Frédo Durand of the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, will take place on Tuesday, April 5, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 10-250.

A pioneering director and winner of a 2005 Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay ("Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind"), Gondry is known for innovative camera techniques that have become industry standards. Gondry creates visually astonishing, sweeping effects by placing numerous cameras around a subject and then combining the images. "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," which starred Jim Carrey and Kate Winslet, is an unconventional romance about a couple that undergoes a procedure to erase each other from their memories.

A native of Versailles, France, Gondry was raised in a freethinking family that included a number of inventors and technological innovators. Gondry's grandfather, Constant Martin, is often credited with creating one of the earliest synthesizers—the clavoline.

While in art school in Paris, Gondry formed the band Oui Oui, for which he played drums. His videos for Oui Oui, which mixed animation with live action to create a series of wildly surreal worlds, piqued the interest of singer Björk and the two collaborated on the video for her song "Human Behavior." A visually extravagant study in the quirks of humans as expressed through various species of the animal kingdom, the groundbreaking video, first aired in 1993, marked the beginning of an enduring collaboration between the two artists.

Gondry's Levi's ad "Drugstore" (1994) is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as the most award-winning commercial of all time.



Mala Radhakrishnan

The Radioactive Dating Game (excerpt)

By Mala L. Radhakrishnan

I used to sleep 'til my electrons would drool
At P-32 elementary school.
The things we were taught were just totally boring.
A mole of us atoms would always be snoring.
But one thing I learned there I've kept to this day:
"Soon, my students you'll beta decay
To become more mature and to capture the label
Of 'S-32,' and then you'll be stable."



PHOTO / MICHEL GONDRY

Director Michel Gondry, who won a Best Original Screenplay Oscar this year for his film 'Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind,' will be on campus Tuesday, April 5, for a public conversation with Professor Frédo Durand of the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory.

Professor Durand teaches in the Computer Graphics Group in CSAIL. His research interests include computational photography, real-time and realistic rendering, and pictorial style for non-photorealistic rendering. A member of the Ruben Award selection committee, Durand nominated Gondry based on student interest in Gondry's innovative music videos.

At a future date, Gondry will return to

MIT as an artist-in-residence.

Gondry's MIT visit is supported by the Ida Ely Rubin Artists-in-Residence Fund and is sponsored by the Department of Architecture and the Office of the Arts.

The event is free and open to the public, though preference will be given to MIT students. Seating is limited; no tickets or reservations are necessary. For more information, call (617) 253-2341.

Graduate student experiments, discovers poetry in chemistry

Chemistry may be Mala Radhakrishnan first love, but she more recently found another: writing 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.

Radhakrishnan will be one of a dozen area poets included in "Dr. Brown's Traveling Poetry Show," which will take place on Tuesdays at the Zeitgeist Gallery starting next week.

Lynn Heinemann of the Office of the Arts recently asked Radhakrishnan about her poetry.

Q. How did 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 chem-

istry, and they seemed to understand the material better. After I came to MIT, I started frequenting the Cantab Lounge on poetry night and was inspired to write poetry. An obvious thing for me to write about, since I like it so much, was chemistry. So I essentially began putting the stories I used into poetic form.

Q. Did your interest in words develop at the same time as that in science?

A. I never in a million years thought I'd be writing poetry and that people would actually want to listen to it. I've always liked science. Poetry is something I only recently got into. But now, I'm quite hooked!

Q. How does your work at MIT inspire your poetry?

A. It constantly gives me new ideas for poems. For example, if I am suddenly working on a project involving a specific chemical process that I think is neat, I'll write a poem about it.

"Dr. Brown's Traveling Poetry Show" opens Tuesday, April 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the Zeitgeist Gallery, 1353 Cambridge St., Cambridge.

MIT EVENT HIGHLIGHTS MARCH 30-APRIL 3



Sand mandala of ideal world

Buddhists will begin work on the Vajrasattva Sand Mandala for Insight Awareness and Altruism in Simmons Hall on Saturday, painstakingly creating a 4 feet in diameter geometric pattern out of colored sand. The finished pattern is meant to symbolize the enlightened mind and the ideal world.

WEDNESDAY March 30	THURSDAY March 31	FRIDAY April 1	SATURDAY April 2	SUNDAY April 3
<p>"Remaking the Air Force After Vietnam" Talk by visiting scholar Marshall Michel. Noon. Room E38, 6th Floor Conference Room. 253-8092.</p> <p>Advanced Music Performance Student Recital Serenus Hua '07, violin. 5p.m. Killian Hall. 253-9800.</p> <p>"Kimsooja: Seven Wishes and Secrets" Talk by artist Kimsooja on her exhibit on view Feb. 3-April 10. 6:30 p.m. List Visual Arts Center. 253-4680.</p> <p>Israeli Folk Dancing (participatory) 8 p.m. Lobby 13. 484-3267.</p>	<p>"Robert Rauschenberg: XXXIV Drawings for Dante's Inferno" Exhibition features 34 illustrations. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Room E52-466. 253-4400.</p> <p>Varsity Baseball vs. Suffolk University 3 p.m. Briggs Field. 258-5265.</p> <p>What's New at the MIT Media Lab? Chris Csikszentmihályi and Mitchel Resnick discuss their efforts to develop technologies to empower children. 5 p.m. Bartos Theater. 253-3521.</p> <p>De la révolution à la transnationalité A public lecture in French by Hafid Gafaïti, Paul Whitfield Horn Professor of Romance Languages, "Les identités multiples de la France." 7 p.m. Room 56-114. 253-4771.</p>	<p>Bidwell Lecture Talk by Bruce Yankner of Harvard Medical School, "DNA Damage and Gene Silencing in the Aging Brain." 4 p.m. Room E25-111. 253-5748.</p> <p>MIT Anime Club Weekly Showing The MIT Anime Club shows the best of both recent and classic Japanese animation. Showings are open to the public. 7 p.m. Room 6-120.</p> <p>SONOS Concert Bayla Keyes, violin; Professor Marcus Thompson, viola; Mike Reynolds, cello; Senior Lecturer David Deveau, piano. 8 p.m. Kresge Auditorium. 253-9800.</p> <p>"The Merchant of Venice" LSC Movie. 10:30 p.m. Room 10-250. \$3. 253-3791.</p>	<p>Sand Mandala for Insight, Awareness and Altruism Millions of grains of colored sand laid into 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.</p> <p>"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.</p> <p>Varsity Men's Lacrosse vs. Wheaton College 1 p.m. Steinbrenner Stadium. 258-5265.</p> <p>Tufts Festival of African Music and Dance Second annual Intercollegiate Festival and Performance features Rambax performing sabar of Senegal. 8-10 p.m. Cohen Auditorium. 627-4042.</p>	<p>"Constructing Stata: Photographs by Richard Sobel" A collection of unpublished photographs captures the construction process that brought MIT and the world the Frank Gehry-designed Stata Center. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Room 10-150. 253-4444.</p> <p>Tsa Tsa Painting Workshop The ancient meditative practice of Tibetan Tsa Tsa painting is a sacred art that helps promote patience, focus and concentration. \$15. 1 p.m. Simmons Hall.</p> <p>"Columbia Unbecoming" Film documenting academic suppression and the intimidation of Jewish students at Columbia University. 3:30 p.m. Room 4-231.</p> <p>International Folk Dancing (participatory) 8 p.m. Lobdell Dining Hall. 253-FOLK.</p>

Go Online! For complete events listings, see the MIT Events Calendar at: <http://events.mit.edu>.
Go Online! Office of the Arts website at: <http://web.mit.edu/arts/office>.

EDITOR'S CHOICE

<p>VAJRASATTVA SAND MANDALA</p> <p>Buddhist sand painting will be created in a weeklong process. Opening prayers on April 2; talk on April 7.</p> <p>Simmons Hall 7 p.m.</p>	<p>BALLROOM DANCE COMPETITION</p> <p>One of the biggest ballroom competitions in the Northeast. 686-0823. April 2 and 3.</p> <p>Rockwell Cage 8 a.m.-11 p.m.</p>	<p>CLIMATE CHANGE</p> <p>Talk by Dean James Gustave "Gus" Speth of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.</p> <p>Room E51-115 3 p.m.</p>
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MIT EVENT HIGHLIGHTS APRIL 4-10

MONDAY April 4	TUESDAY April 5	WEDNESDAY April 6	THURSDAY April 7	FRIDAY April 8	SATURDAY April 9	SUNDAY April 10
<p>Submission deadline for Schnitzer Prize Three prizes will be awarded to registered MIT students, based on a body of work: first prize is \$1,500; second prize is \$900; third prize is \$600. Winners must be willing and able to display their work in the Wiesner Student Art Gallery during Commencement. Room E15-205. 253-7019.</p> <p>"New Urbanism and the Heritage of the Islamic City: The Case of Jerusalem" Talk by Dr. Yosef Jabareen. 5:30 p.m. Room 3-133. 253-1400.</p> <p>"Reconstructing Iraq" This is the fourth in the semester-long "Reconstructing Iraq" Colloquium series moderated by Dr. Yosef Jabareen. 5:30 p.m. Room 3-270. 324-0318</p>	<p>"How Korea Became a World Telecom Leader" Seminar with guest speaker Dr. Jung Uck Seo from Korea. 4 p.m. Kircsh Auditorium, Stata Center 32-123.</p> <p>Building Democracy Justice Richard Goldstone discusses the first 10 years of the South African Constitutional Court. 4:30 p.m. Room 4-237. 258-7614.</p> <p>"Exploring the Mind of Michel Gondry" Conversation between film director Michel Gondry and Fredo Durand of CSAIL. 6:30 p.m. Room 10-250. 253-2341.</p> <p>Contra Dance Music: Jamie Laval and Larry Unger; caller: Susan Petrick. MIT Folkdance Club. \$5, MIT/Wellesley students free. 8-10:30 p.m. Sala de Puerto Rico. 354-0864.</p>	<p>"State INR and Its Role in the Intelligence Community" Talk by Dr. Thomas Fingar. Noon. Building E38, 6th Floor Conference Room. 253-7529.</p> <p>"Climate Change and the American Response" Talk by Dean James Gustave "Gus" Speth of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. 3 p.m. Room E51-115. 253-3478.</p> <p>"Religion and Power in Saudi Arabia" Talk by Abdulaziz Al-Fahad 6 p.m. Room 66-110. 258-8552.</p>	<p>Guest Lecture by Post-Modern Choreographer Lucinda Childs Guest lecture in the Traditions in American Concert Dance course. 1-2:30 p.m. Room 1-150.</p> <p>Practical Career Strategies for Ph.D.s Professional development strategies for young scientists and engineers. 1 p.m. Room 10-250. 253-4733.</p> <p>Henry W. Kendall Memorial Lecture Talk by Professor Martin Claussen, Potsdam University, Germany, "Vegetation Dynamics and the Earth System." 4 p.m. Room 26-100. 253-3382.</p> <p>Poetry@MIT: Eleni Sikelianos Reading by the author of "The California Poem," "The Book of Jon" and others. 7 p.m. Room 6-120. 253-7894.</p>	<p>Advanced Music Performance Student Recital Mary Farbood (G), harpsichord. Noon. MIT Chapel. Joey Zhou, piano, plays works of Chopin, Debussy and Mussorgsky. 5 p.m. Killian Hall. 253-9800.</p> <p>Cypress Quartet Mozart's "Dissonant Quartet." 8 p.m. Kresge Auditorium. 253-9800.</p> <p>"Company" Musical Theatre Guild production. \$10, \$8 MIT community, seniors and students. April 8-10 and April 14-16. 8 p.m. (2 p.m. April 10). Kresge Little Theater. 253-6294.</p> <p>Awakening Bliss, Generating Compassion Talk by Robert Thurman, Prof. of Buddhism, Columbia Univ., with Tibetan flute performance. Adv. tickets encouraged for MIT; required for non-MIT. \$15 non-MIT. 7 p.m. Simmons Hall.</p>	<p>Make Your Own Mandala: A Workshop for Kids A fun event appropriate for children age 5 and older. All materials provided. Participants must be accompanied by an adult at all times. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Simmons Hall.</p> <p>Emerson Scholars Student Recital Voice and Winds. Noon. Killian Hall. 253-9800.</p> <p>Dissolution of the Sand Mandala Closing ceremony for Vajrasattva Sand Mandala, on view from April 2 to 9. To symbolize the impermanence of all that exists, the colored sands of the mandala will be swept up and poured into a nearby river where the waters will carry the healing energies of the mandala throughout the world. 3 p.m. Simmons Hall.</p>	<p>"A Needle Woman" Videos created between 1999 and 2001, document the artist Kimsooja dressed in simple gray clothing standing rigidly in the busy streets of Tokyo, Shanghai, Delhi, New York, Mexico City, Cairo, Lagos and London. 24 hours a day. Media Test Wall, Whitaker Building 56. 253-4400.</p> <p>Gallery Talk Talk by Hiroko Kikuchi, List Visual Arts Center Education/Outreach Coordinator. 2 p.m. List Visual Arts Center. 253-4680.</p> <p>Emerson Scholars Student Recital Harp, piano and strings. Noon. Killian Hall. 253-9800.</p>