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# TechTalk

S E R V I N G   T H E   M I T   C O M M U N I T Y



PHOTO / DONNA COVENY

## Catching Rays

Solar panels were lifted by crane to the roof of Hayden Library and installed by Facilities workers on an appropriately sunny day last week. MIT's John DaSilva (right) and Rick Hadge put one panel in place, while Paul Lyons of Zapotec Energy uncrates the next. See story on page 5.

# Crowd celebrates 'The Vest Years'

Arthur Jones  
News Office

The elements may have forced indoors the long awaited festivities, but the spirit and enthusiasm remained undaunted throughout an informal two-hour toast to Charles M. and Rebecca Vest, known fondly as Chuck and Becky, in honor of their 14 years at MIT.

Hundreds paid tribute to "The Vest Years" during a 70-minute program in the Kirsch Auditorium and a two-hour festival on the "student street" inside the Stata Center on Saturday, Sept. 18. Professors, students, staff and their families greeted the honored guests on that rainy afternoon as they walked along the indoor street lined with food stalls, games, jazz combos,

a cappella singing groups, and even a 12-foot-tall Elvis impersonator.

In the program portion of the day, speakers representing the entire MIT community honored the man who described himself as MIT's "chief symbol" of the last decade and a half. Host Philip Khoury, dean of the School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, noted what all had come for—to "pay tribute to Chuck Vest and his 14 superb and exciting years" as MIT president.

Though the Vests have hosted many celebrations for various honorees in more than a dozen years, this was the first in

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PHOTO / DONNA COVENY

"At least there'll be three of us there," President Charles Vest quipped to a photographer as he and wife Rebecca left Gray House during a steady drizzle to attend Saturday's community celebration in their honor at the Stata Center. In fact hundreds enjoyed the gala festivities as they paid tribute to the "Vest Years at MIT."

# \$11M gift buoys study of marine microbes at MIT

Elizabeth Thomson  
News Office

Marine microbes shape the chemical composition of the Earth's oceans and atmosphere, yet we know essentially nothing about them. Now, thanks to major grants from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, MIT researchers aim to learn dramatically more about some of the most important organisms on the globe.

Professors Penny Chisholm and Ed DeLong are among the four Moore Foundation Investigators in Marine Science selected nationally. Each inaugural investigator will receive almost \$5.5 million over the next five years through the foundation's new marine microbiology initiative, which was established to "generate new knowledge regarding the composition,

function and ecological role of microbial communities in the world's oceans," according to foundation literature.

President Charles M. Vest applauded the Moore Foundation for its decision to make this major commitment to understanding the genetic inventory of microbial ecosystems in the ocean and the role they play in critical planetary processes.

"This marine microbiology initiative will generate important new knowledge for the future of our planet and will establish the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation as a leader in funding scientific research in this emerging field," said Vest.

Dean of Engineering Thomas L. Magnanti said the work of Chisholm and DeLong exemplifies MIT's strong com-

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Film festival focuses on the movies of Asian Americans and the stereotypes they face in the film industry.  
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# First faculty meeting sets optimistic tone

Sarah H. Wright  
News Office

The faculty celebrated the achievements and personal example of President Charles M. Vest, heard updates on MIT's finances and on OpenCourseWare, and welcomed President-elect Susan Hockfield in the first meeting of the academic year, held on Wednesday, Sept. 15 in the Kirsch Auditorium in the Stata Center.

The meeting was upbeat and well attended, with Vest making several unplanned trips to the podium to acknowledge appreciative comments from the associate chair of the faculty, Paola Rizzoli, professor of earth, atmospheric and planetary sciences, and three former faculty chairs, Lotte Bailyn, professor of management; Stephen Graves, professor of management; and Steven Lerman, professor of civil and environmental engineering.

Both Vest and Hockfield spoke appreciatively of the faculty and administration. Vest noted he "stood on the shoulders of giants like former MIT President Paul Gray" during the 14 years he led the Institute. Hockfield declared she "aspired to follow in Vest's footsteps and would be relying on the faculty—the strength of the Institute—in the years ahead."

In her remarks at the end of the meeting, Hockfield noted that the most important academic appointment a president makes is that of provost and announced that Robert A. Brown will continue to serve as provost of MIT. "The provost is absolutely key. I could ask for no better guide or teacher," she said.

The faculty greeted this news with a standing ovation.

## Budget for a bright future

Brown gave bottom-line substance to an optimistic overall tone. "MIT is financially healthy; its educational and research programs are vibrant and we're ready to begin the budgeting process for a bright future," he declared.

The rate of return from MIT's endowment during the last fiscal year was a healthy 18.1 percent and the endowment is valued at \$6 billion, Brown said.

Describing MIT as "an institution in transition," Brown acknowledged the hardships and challenges the Institute community faced over the past year—the "painful loss of 270 positions, including many due to layoffs, all handled with sensitivity and

care," the freezing of salaries over \$55,000, and the closing of 11 open faculty positions.

Fiscal year 2006, planning for which is now under way, marks a "return to nor-

mal," Brown said. This means MIT is returning to traditional budgeting processes that include funding for growth in expenses and new programs, conservative estimates of endowment growth, and

annual salary reviews and merit raises.

Brown described the upcoming months as a time to "take stock and think about what we want to do in five years. Each academic unit is being asked for a five-year strategic plan and for input into MIT's capital plan.

"Community-wide challenges we face in budget planning include the cost of graduate education, the competitive landscape in undergraduate financial aid and in compensation and benefits for faculty and staff, and costs of renovation and renewal of facilities," he said.

## Building on strength

An interlude in the meeting served as a dialogue across generations of MIT leadership as Rizzoli and the former faculty chairs—Bailyn, Graves and Lerman—expressed their appreciation for Vest's leadership, and President-elect Hockfield took the podium.

In their comments, current and former faculty officers emphasized many of the Institute's initiatives that had benefited from Vest's leadership as well as his personal qualities, including honesty, open-mindedness and willingness to confront complex and sometimes tragic issues.

On a light note, the faculty presented Vest with his own copy of "The Rules and Regulations of the Faculty" and a navy blue T-shirt exhorting the Red Sox to victory.

Hockfield thanked the faculty for their enthusiastic welcome and offered her view of the near future.

"I believe in building on strength, and I look forward to maintaining and accelerating research and education in the culture of collaboration here. My plan is to learn," Hockfield said. In a teacherly gesture, she wrote her MIT e-mail address on the blackboard behind the podium. "I look forward to our conversations and to building further strengths with all of you," she said.

## Archaeology and materials

At the same meeting, the faculty also voted to establish an S.B. degree in archaeology and materials. Following the vote, Heather Lechtman, professor of archaeology and ancient technology, thanked Vest for his "unwavering support for the new program and for the faculty."

For the report on OpenCourseWare, see the related article on this page.

## OCW report extols progress

Sarah H. Wright  
News Office

MIT OpenCourseWare (OCW) has flourished in line with the faculty's original vision for it, Steven Lerman, professor of civil and environmental engineering, told the faculty at its monthly meeting Sept. 15. Lerman, who is chair of the OCW faculty advisory committee, and Anne Margulies, executive director of OCW, gave a glowing update on the initiative, which publishes MIT course materials for free on the Internet.

OCW has grown in size and in impact, they reported. In 2002, material for 50 courses was available at the OCW site; on Sept. 17, 2004, materials for 900 courses were available. Currently, the OCW site receives an average of 11,000 visitors daily and 350,000 each month. Visitors include educators and self-learners from the U.S. and around the world and MIT students checking out courses during registration.

"OCW is a 'two-fer:' it helps faculty organize their course materials, and it helps us communicate with each other. I can see how prerequisites I listed are taught. It's also a way

to further MIT's mission; embrace faculty values of teaching, sharing best practices and contributing to our fields. Beyond that, OCW counters the privatization of knowledge; it champions openness," said Lerman, who also serves as director of the Center for Educational Computing Initiatives.

Margulies emphasized OCW's success in the global educational marketplace. The site has received more

than 20,000 e-mails; its fans write from all over the world. "We've heard from people in Afghanistan, Iraq, the Sudan. Imagine what it means that they find our site even with a civil war going on," she said.

In response to a question from Paul Gray on the cost and sustainability of

OCW, Margulies said, "My job is to drive down the cost so it's sustainable here and drive the value up so other universities can replicate what we're doing."

Margulies noted that the original projections on OCW—10 years and \$100 million—have been adjusted. "Now, we project it will take seven years and cost less than \$40 million. Our current estimate is that OCW will cost about \$5 million a year to sustain," she said.

*"We've heard from people in Afghanistan, Iraq, the Sudan. Imagine what it means that they find our site even with a civil war going on."*

Anne Margulies  
Executive Director of OCW

# Health care task force seeks community input

President Charles M. Vest announced the formation of the Task Force on Medical Care for the MIT Community, which held its first meeting Sept. 17.

Vest has asked the task force to "review and articulate the appropriate goals for MIT's programs to provide health care and health insurance to our undergraduate and graduate students, employees and retirees in terms of access to care, quality of care, and the costs of providing care."

In carrying out its work, the task force will review and assess how well current arrangements are achieving these goals. It will examine how other leading research universities provide health care and health insurance to their students, faculty and staff, and evaluate alternative models for achieving MIT's goals in the context of the health care resources available in the Boston area.

The task force, which is chaired by Professor Paul Joskow, the Elizabeth and James Killian Professor of Economics, plans to make a set of recommendations to the president for how MIT can best achieve its goals for providing high-quality and cost-effective health care and health insurance to the MIT community.

"This is an appropriate time to perform a comprehensive review of MIT's health care and health insurance programs to ensure that they are well matched to the needs of the MIT community in light of the rapidly changing attributes of the health care services and their costs in the Boston area," said Joskow. "The task force will seek input from all segments of the community and will be especially interested in the insights that are offered by the staff of the MIT Medical department."

Faculty on the task force include Joskow, Mary Boyce (mechanical engineering), Gerald Fink (biology and the Whitehead Institute), Morris Halle (Institute Professor Emeritus, linguistics), Thomas Kochan (Sloan), and Nancy Rose (economics).

In addition, Larry Benedict (dean for student life), Alice Gast (vice president for research and associate provost), Marc Jones (assistant dean, School of Science), Alan Siegel (chief of mental health service at MIT Medical), and Joyce Yaffee (assistant to the director, Lincoln Laboratory) also have agreed to serve on the task force.

Student members are R. Erich Caulfield, a graduate student in electrical engineering and computer science,

and Lydia Chilton, a senior in economics.

The task force will be assisted in its work by an advisory committee. Members of that committee include Dr. David Blumenthal (Harvard Medical School and director, Institute for Health Policy, Massachusetts General Hospital), Dr. William Kettyle (medical director and head of MIT Medical), Paul Levy (president and CEO, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center), A. Neil Pappalardo (chairman and CEO, Meditech, and MIT Corporation member), and Dr. James Richter (chief medical officer and senior vice president, Caritas Christi Health Care).

Staff to the task force are Marianne Howard (director for human resources administration), Israel Ruiz (associate director, Office of Budget and Financial Planning), and Janet Snover (special assistant to the executive vice president).

A web site will be set up soon to inform community members about the work of the task force and provide a means for people to comment on issues or concerns relating to health care options at MIT. Until then, members of the community may send e-mail to [medical-taskforce@mit.edu](mailto:medical-taskforce@mit.edu) to provide input to the task force.

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# McGovern Institute names Desimone as director

Sarah H. Wright  
News Office

The McGovern Institute at MIT, a leading research and teaching institute committed to advancing the understanding of the human mind and communications, announced Sept. 20 the selection of Robert Desimone as the next director, pending approval of his appointment as a tenured member of the MIT faculty. Desimone is currently the scientific director of the Intramural Research Program of the National Institutes of Mental Health.

Desimone will succeed founding director Phillip A. Sharp, a Nobel laureate and professor of biology. Sharp, who has led the McGovern Institute since it was established in 2000, has been responsible for the establishment of its world-renowned faculty and its groundbreaking work in the investigation and understanding of the systems and processes underlying human cognition.

"I am extremely grateful for the opportunity that I have had to oversee the creation of this important institute and to work with its investigators, who represent some of the most distinguished scientists working in the field of neuroscience

today," Sharp said. "Bob is a wonderful scientist and leader and we are very proud that he has accepted the directorship of the McGovern Institute. His vision will lead the institute in the ultimate scientific adventure, understanding the human brain."

"Phil Sharp has been an outstanding leader of the McGovern Institute since its inception," said Provost Robert A. Brown. "He put in place the foundations of the institute and its investigators, and has led the development of a major new facility to house the McGovern Institute. We look forward to the continued scientific contributions of McGovern investigators and their collaborators under Dr. Desimone's leadership."

An internationally known neuropsychologist whose own research explores the brain mechanisms underlying attention, memory and executive control, Desimone has for the past six years been



Robert Desimone

director of the NIMH Intramural Research Program, the largest mental health research center in the world.

"We have arrived at a time when the rapidly advancing field of neuroscience can bring real benefits to human health and welfare, fulfilling Pat and Lore McGovern's dream for the institute," said Desimone. "I am honored by the opportunity to lead this effort at MIT, which has world-class faculty and students working not only in neuroscience, but in so many of the related fields that will play an essential role in this effort, including engineering, computation, genetics, biology, and cognitive science."

The creation of the institute was made possible by the vision and generosity of Lore Harp McGovern and Patrick J. McGovern (Class of 1959), whose pledge of \$350 million is one of the largest philanthropic gifts in the history of higher education.

Desimone received his B.A. from Macalester College and his Ph.D. from Princeton University. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a recipient of numerous awards, including the Troland Prize of the National Academy of Sciences and the Golden Brain Award of the Minerva Foundation.

The McGovern Institute for Brain Research at MIT is a research and teaching institute committed to advancing human understanding and communications. Its goal is to investigate and ultimately understand the biological basis of all higher brain function in humans. The McGovern Institute conducts integrated research in neuroscience, genetic and cellular neurobiology, cognitive science, computation, and related areas.

By determining how the brain works, from the level of gene expression in individual neurons to the interrelationships between complex neural networks, the McGovern Institute's efforts work to improve human health, discover the basis of learning and recognition, and enhance education and communication. The McGovern Institute contributes to the most basic knowledge of the fundamental mysteries of human awareness, decisions, and actions.

# Lindquist will resign as Whitehead director as of November

Denise Brehm  
News Office

Susan Lindquist announced on Sept. 14 that she would step down as director of the Whitehead Institute on or about Nov. 1 to devote herself to research. Lindquist is a professor of biology at MIT.

A statement issued by the Whitehead board said the directors accepted Lindquist's resignation "with regret," but understood her desire to return to research full time.

"We are proud to have this remarkable scientist in the Whitehead community, a community that has been greatly strengthened by her leadership," the statement said.

"The board recognizes that Dr.

Lindquist has been an extraordinarily effective president during a period of transition unprecedented in the institute's history. In the past three years, she successfully implemented the transition of the Whitehead/MIT Center for Genome Research to the newly established Broad Institute while preserving opportunities for joint scientific programs between Whitehead and the Broad. She also negotiated important improvements in the Whitehead/MIT affiliation," said the statement by the board of directors.

Lindquist came to MIT and the Whitehead Institute in 1991 from the University of Chicago, where she was a professor of medical sciences, a professor in the department of molecular genetics and cell biology, and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator.

"The scientific trajectory that Sue's own

is exceptional. The output of her lab was exceptional before she came to MIT. If anything, she and her lab have reached a higher level of achievement in the last three years," said her colleague David Page, a professor of biology and Whitehead researcher. "There are prizes in Sue's future."

Lindquist is well known for her work on proteins in yeast and fruit flies; her research provided the evidence for a new form of genetics based upon the inheritance of proteins with new, self-perpetuating shapes. This work provided a framework for understanding diseases such as Alzheimer's and mad cow, that are marked by plaque in the brain caused by the misfolding of proteins.

She also teaches the cornerstone graduate course in the Department of Biology, "Methods and Logic," taken by all first-

year biology graduate students, said Page.

"Sue is a dynamic, passionate speaker who can explain complicated things with ease," said Page. "The ability to ask the right questions, pursue them passionately and explain the outcomes to an audience are all at the heart of what science is about and nobody does those things better than Sue."

"As a scientific leader, she is an all-around all star. She has the full package of talents. I think she will now be in a position for the MIT and Whitehead communities to benefit broadly from her presence. And she'll have a chance to redefine and broaden her role on campus."

"We all feel pretty excited about Sue's decision. At the same time, it raises a challenge for the Whitehead Institute to find a new leader," said Page.

## MARINE

Continued from Page 1

mitment to environmental sciences and engineering, and to research and education that crosses conventional disciplinary boundaries to address complex problems of great importance.

"It is very gratifying that the foundation has chosen Penny and Ed as Moore Investigators," said Magnanti.

### Underwater microbes

Chisholm's research over the past decade has focused on the ecology of *Prochlorococcus*, the smallest known photosynthetic cell and the most abundant microbe in the sea. A biological oceanographer, she was a part of the team that first discovered the organism in 1985.

"I am thrilled about the Moore funding because it allows us to take more risks in our research and relieves us of the annual grant-writing pressure. But I am even more excited about the visibility the Moore marine microbiology initiative will give our field. The introduction of genomic analyses to marine microbial systems has triggered an exciting paradigm shift in biological oceanography, and the Moore initiative will play a key role in this," said Chisholm, the Lee and Geraldine Martin Professor of Environmental Studies, who holds appointments in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) and the Department of Biology.

DeLong, who joined the MIT faculty in July after seven years at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, is well known for inventing new approaches for studying microbes.

"The broad activities of my lab are all centered about the use of new technologies, especially genomic technologies, to

learn more about the natural microbial world. The Moore support represents an incredible, enabling boost to our efforts, and that of the field as a whole. This is a voyage of discovery, and is contributing to both knowledge creation as well as applied tools and technologies for biomedicine, biotechnology and bioengineering," said DeLong, who holds appointments in CEE and the Biological Engineering Division.

"One great thing about being here at MIT is that a lot of new technologies needing further development for environmental/ecological applications are all front and center on the research and development agenda here. These include genomics, computational biology, systems biology, sensor technology, and ocean engineering."

MIT has a history of research in the environmental sciences through programs like the Earth System Initiative (ESI), which Chisholm co-directs with Professor Kip Hodges of the Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences. ESI was launched in 2002 to better understand how the Earth functions from the molecular to the global scale or, in the case of marine microbes, from the genomic to the ecosystem level.

To that end Chisholm, DeLong and CEE Associate Professor Martin Polz, who also specializes in marine microbiology, are forging alliances with researchers from across MIT to plumb the secrets of the ocean's tiniest denizens. (Polz is an investigator with the Woods Hole Center for Oceans and Human Health, which was formed in May with funding from the National Science Foundation and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, one of the National Institutes of Health.)



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

Professors Ed DeLong and Penny Chisholm check out a sample containing marine microbes. Each researcher will get \$5.5 million to study marine biology.

The foundation launched its 10-year marine microbiology initiative in April. Funding strategies include supporting Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation Investigators, linking scientists in related fields, establishing intern programs and supporting select research projects that will affect ocean science as a whole.

"It is the foundation's goal not only to support the top scientists in marine microbiology, but to stimulate close collaborations between these scientists to

accelerate even further progress in this key area of ocean research," said David Kingsbury, director of marine science for the foundation.

The foundation was established in November 2000 by Intel co-founder Gordon Moore and his wife Betty to create positive outcomes for future generations. Its principal areas of concern are environmental conservation, science, higher education, and the San Francisco Bay Area.



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

"We have been privileged to share our lives with you these last 14 years," President Charles M. Vest told a Kirsch Auditorium audience as Rebecca, his wife of 41 years, looks on.

# VEST

Continued from Page 1

their honor since the Vest inauguration in 1991.

- Among the highlights of the speaking program were:
  - A presentation by David Briggs, director of Lincoln Laboratory, naming asteroid number 32222 "situated about a third of the way between Mars and Jupiter" after Charles M. Vest;
  - Professor Anne McCants' announcement that "Chuck Vest has been selected into the Xi Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa," the organization of which Becky Vest has been a member since the two dated at the University of West Virginia;
  - An official notice from Dean of Admissions Marilee Jones that Chuck Vest has now been admitted to MIT "with the application fee waived."

Vest was also given a symbolic key to his new office, on the sixth floor of the Stata Center.

Representing MIT students, Erich Caulfield, a graduate student in electrical engineering and computer science, introduced Vest to an appreciative crowd. Caulfield reminded the audience that at the 2004 Commencement ceremony, Vest had expressed his gratitude that he would never again have to follow the eloquent graduate student to a podium.

Caulfield, who peppered his praise of Vest in bursts of amusing alliterative phrases, ended in a more serious tone. "Thank goodness we've had a chance to live and learn at the MIT that Chuck built," Caulfield said.

Greeted with a standing ovation, Vest, in his trademark humble tones, thanked all for "coming out on such a miserable day and making it so bright inside for us."

He also noted that he and Becky have enjoyed "a 14-year honeymoon at MIT and we are privileged to share our lives with you."

He went on to thank the many people "who do not have fancy titles" at MIT and listed plumbers, exterminators, "and the MIT police who saved Becky's life." He also expressed a special thanks to his longtime personal assistant, Laura Mersky, who sat in the audience.



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

Elvis is filling the building. A professional Elvis impersonator—all 12 feet of him—mugs it up with MIT project director Patricia Brady during festivities honoring Chuck and Becky Vest.



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

One of the performers on the student street of the Stata Center shows his juggling prowess during the festival honoring Chuck and Becky Vest.



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

The celebration of "The Vest Years" at MIT was truly a family affair as hundreds of well-wishers lined the student street at the Stata Center.

# Solar power panels installed on Hayden Library roof

Heather Denny  
MIT Libraries

There's certainly a lot of brainpower generated under the roof of Hayden Library, and now there will be another kind of power generated on the roof as well.

Cranes hoisted 42 solar panels to the roof of the library on the morning of Sept. 15 to create a photovoltaic system that will harness sunlight for solar power. This is the third such solar power panel installation at MIT—others are on the roofs of the Student Center and Building N52—but the installation on Hayden Library is the largest.

The library's roof was selected by MIT's Department of Facilities for its ideal southern exposure, according to Laxmi Rao, a senior project manager with the department, who said she expects the panels to be operational by the end of the month.

The project is part of an ongoing initiative that Rao and others have been involved in to reduce MIT's "emissions footprint." In 2002, the MIT Community Solar Power Initiative was awarded a

\$455,700 grant from the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust for solar installations on campus and on MIT community members' homes in several cities and towns, including Cambridge.

"The Libraries are thrilled to be a part of this project," said Ann Wolpert, director of Libraries. "It's a great opportunity for us to incorporate environmentally friendly technology and be a good neighbor to the Cambridge community."

The 13-kilowatt system on the library's roof is expected to generate around 15,000 kilowatt hours a year—roughly equivalent to the energy needed to power two homes for a year. The production of the electricity will result in zero greenhouse gas emissions and will supplement power provided by MIT's co-generation plant on Vassar Street. The other two solar power panel installations on campus generate a combined total of 11,500 kilowatt hours.

To learn more about the MIT Community Solar Power Initiative and view photos of solar power panel installations, go to <http://solarpower.mit.edu>.



PHOTO / MICHELLE MCGUIRE

## Gorgeous gourds

The harvest season has begun and the MIT Glass Lab reaped a good one, as displayed at Sunday's glass pumpkin sale.

Sporting skins not often found in nature, the 1,300 colorful gourds drew hundreds of buyers and browsers. The event on Kresge Oval was scheduled to begin at 10 a.m., but the line to get into the patch started forming an hour beforehand. By opening time the line stretched from the oval to Massachusetts Avenue, ran down the street and wound around onto Amherst Street.

The Glass Lab made about 400 sales totalling \$110,000, \$20,000 more than last year's total, said Peter Houk, director of the lab. The reason for the increase was not more pumpkins, but more high-

end pumpkins. Prices ranged from about \$30 to more than \$300.

"It's really important to me that we have a lot of pumpkins for people who can't afford to spend more than \$30 to \$40," said Houk, who does not plan to increase the lab's pumpkin production to meet demand. "I don't want to run a program that's just about pumpkins," he said.

After deducting for materials, the sale netted about \$80,000 to put toward the purchase of materials and equipment for the lab, which is located in the Department of Materials Science.

In the photo above, shoppers choose pumpkins from the patch.

## Admissions creates web portal for high school students

The MIT admissions office launched a new web portal on Monday (Sept. 13) designed specifically for high school students.

Called "MyMIT," the portal (at <http://admissions.mit.edu>) will serve as a bridge between the Institute and prospective MIT students, transcending standard viewbooks and other print material by taking advantage of the web's interactivity.

"By personalizing our admissions processes, we will not only develop lasting relationships with candidates and communicate the true nature of our institution, but we will also be able to engage students earlier in the process," said Dean of Admissions Marilee Jones.

Prospective students can customize their portal to fit their preferences. For example, a student who indicates interests in engineering, tennis and piano will receive related features and news from the engineering, athletic and music departments. Articles will be updated to encourage frequent visits.

More than simply another avenue of information, the portal will allow prospective students to join in, and interact with, the MIT community by communicating with current students and admissions staff. They can immerse themselves in MIT culture via a variety of 'portlets'—student profiles, MIT facts, latest inventions, campus events, even a rotating archive of MIT's infamous hacks.

Students can sign up as early as they'd like, and their accounts will stay with them through the application process. A prospective student can apply online and track the progress of his or her application through the MyMIT portal.

MyMIT is the product of a yearlong collaboration between MIT, Tank Design, and Edgewater Technology.

—Ben Jones, Admissions Office

## Three faculty named to TR100

Three MIT faculty members and 20 MIT affiliates are among the TR100, the list of top young innovators in technology named annually by Technology Review. The TR100 will be honored by the magazine next week at its Emerging Technologies Conference in Kresge Auditorium Sept. 29-30.

Vladimir Bulovic, associate professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, and Martin Culpepper, assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, made the list in the Nanotech category; Darrell Irvine, assistant professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, was named in the Materials category.

They are among 100 researchers under age 35 from around the world whose work "is transforming the nature of such fields as biotechnology, computing and nanotechnology," according to Technology Review. The researchers are named in the magazine's October issue.

Keynote speakers at next week's conference will include Tim Berners-Lee, director of the World Wide Web Consortium; Bob Metcalfe, founder, 3Com Corp.; and Michael Hawley, director of special projects at MIT.

## Internetworking devices is focus of conference

Extending the Internet to everyday devices is the focus of an MIT conference Oct. 1 that will bring together many of the original Internet architects and their current counterparts.

Imagine connecting the lights and switches in a building to the Internet. Enabling those components to "talk" to each other could reduce energy costs, improve energy efficiency, and enhance the flexibility of buildings.

Today, however, networking such everyday devices is stymied by multiple competing incompatible standards. Indeed, device networks are encountering many of the same challenges faced by the Internet as it grew, and repeating some of the same mistakes.

The Oct. 1 conference, hosted by MIT's Center for Bits and Atoms (CBA), will look back at the lessons learned about scaling the Internet, and look ahead to extending

the Internet from conventional computers to everyday devices.

The conference will also feature a new approach to the problem developed by CBA Director Neil Gershenfeld and colleagues from MIT and Sun Microsystems (a CBA industrial partner). Dubbed Internet 0 (zero), "Interdevice Internetworking" through "end-to-end modulation" offers a single Internet-compatible alternative to multiple standards for wired, wireless, optical, acoustic and printed communications.

The conference will be held in the Bartos Theater of MIT's building E15, starting at 9 a.m. The agenda and background information on Internet 0 are available online at <http://cba.mit.edu/events/04.09.10/>.

Attendance is based on available space. To register, contact Susan Murphy-Bottari at [susan@cba.mit.edu](mailto:susan@cba.mit.edu).

—Denise Brehm

# Caravan of 23 enviro-friendly vehicles travelled to MIT

Elizabeth Thomson  
News Office

New England's first alternative transportation caravan with more than 23 vehicles powered by alternative, hybrid and other more efficient, sustainable fuel systems wound its way from the Larz Anderson Museum of Transportation in Brookline to the MIT campus on Friday, Sept. 17.

The caravan, which was escorted by an alternatively fueled state police car, kicked off AltWheels Festival, a weekend alternative transportation event. This year the event was co-hosted by MIT, which is home to several laboratories working on environmentally friendly, alternative vehicles.

The five-mile caravan route ended at MIT's Kresge parking lot, where the public was invited to learn about the latest innovations, as well as some historical examples, in alternative transportation.

"The goal of the caravan and weekend festival is to demonstrate to the public that alternative transportation is being deployed and is flourishing throughout New England," said festival organizer Alison Sander. "Not only is this region a hotbed of research and technology in developing sustainable clean fuel sources, but vehicles deploying these technologies are being put into practice by some of the larger fleets in the region."

Recent traffic studies show that Boston ranks among the 10 most congested cities in the U.S. Massachusetts is rated by the E.P.A. as one of the non-attainment states for air quality. The idea of clean sustainable fuels is beginning to catch on in New England—from private individuals buying more hybrid-fuel passenger cars, to large public transit providers using eco-friendly vehicles, to major conversions to altfuel fleets by municipalities, universities and businesses.

Major universities such as Harvard, MIT and Tufts have taken steps to reduce auto emissions on their campuses. Public agencies such as Massport, Mass Highway, the MBTA, the City of Keene, the Boston Public Health Commission and others have taken leadership positions in addressing the need to reduce harmful transportation-related pollutants in their fleets.



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

David Nergaard drove his Stanley Steamer in the AltWheels caravan from Larz Anderson Park in Brookline to MIT on Friday, Sept. 17. He parked the steam-powered vehicle in the Kresge Lot with two dozen other alternative vehicles.

The AltWheels caravan included the following vehicles:

- State Police escort from a Ford Econoline E250 CNG (compressed natural gas)
- A hydrogen fuel cell vehicle built in New England (designed and built on a \$25,000 bet with the EPA)
- A Mass Highway Ford F-150 pickup truck fueled by CNG (Mass Highway has one of the largest alternative fleets in New England.)
- A 2004 Toyota hybrid Prius operated by PlanetTran, New England's first alternative taxi service (The Prius is a gasoline/electric hybrid capable of getting up to 52 MPG in city driving.)
- A Harvard University biodiesel vehicle (Harvard has committed to switching its transit fleet to biodiesel.)
- A 1997 Ford Crown Victoria cruiser powered by CNG and operated by Sgt. James Rooney of the Somerville Police

Department.

- Boston Public Health Commission's 2002 Toyota Prius (The Commission operates a fleet of 5 Toyota Prius passenger cars.)
- Project Biobus, a yellow diesel 1991 GMC 71 passenger school bus fueled by biodiesel/used vegetable oil (This bus was converted by 12 Middlebury College students and began a 17-city tour with this Boston visit.)
- American Honda GX, the top selling CNG vehicle
- An MBTA Clean Diesel passenger bus (The MBTA has become the largest alternative fuel user in New England.)
- The Tufts Nerd Girls solar car
- The MIT Solar Car Club vehicle
- The New England Aquarium CNG van
- The Stanley Steamer steam-powered vehicle, circa 1890

## ► BRIEFLY

### Bustani seminars focus on Mideast

The Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar at MIT is celebrating its 19th anniversary this fall with three lectures on contemporary Middle Eastern affairs. The first was held yesterday (Sept. 21). The second will be held Oct. 19. Professor David Commins, executive director of the Clarke Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Contemporary Issues at Dickinson College, will deliver a lecture titled "Wahhabis in Saudi Arabia and Beyond: Are They in Decline?" On Nov. 9, Sara Roy from the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University will speak on "Palestinian Society: Decline or Disintegration?" Lectures take place at 4:30 p.m. in Room E51-095 and are open to the public.

The seminar is funded by the Bustani family of Beirut, Lebanon in memory of the late Emile M. Bustani, who received the S.B. in civil engineering in 1933. He was one of the Middle East's most prominent businessmen and philanthropists until his death in 1963. The Bustani Seminar is sponsored by the Center for International Studies. For more information, contact Laurie Scheffler at 253-3121.

### Business knowledge exchanged

Sloan students gave a half-day workshop, BizPlan High@MIT, to teach high school students about entrepreneurship and business plans. Juniors and seniors from the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School worked with seven MIT Sloan mentors on Sept. 18 to write simple, executable business plans and to begin thinking about entrepreneurial possibilities in their lives. The workshop was organized by Sumit Bhansali, a doctoral student in management, and was funded by the MIT Public Service Center.

### Development Fair

Students and other members of the MIT community interested in the many ways they can participate in international development are invited to this Friday's (Sept. 24) Third Annual International Development Forum/Fair (IDF).

The event, from 1-3 p.m. in Lobby 13, will feature representatives from more than 40 MIT academic programs and student groups who are doing development-related work, as well as student groups representing particular countries or cultures. Each group will have a table with a display where attendees can learn about the group, get to know the people involved, and discover opportunities for participating.

Some of the groups at the IDF focus on a particular need in developing countries such as water, food, transportation and education. Others focus generally on human rights, economic analysis or the dynamics of globalization. Their work varies, too, from offering public forums at MIT that raise awareness of issues to conducting research aimed at solving particular problems for people in places overseas.

This year, as an incentive to chat with as many of the groups as possible, each attendee will receive a "Passport to Progress." Those who get it stamped by a certain number of groups will get a development-related prize as they exit.

Co-sponsors of the IDF include the MIT Program on Human Rights and Justice, the MIT Public Service Center, the Edgerton Center, Engineers without Frontiers, MIT Student Pugwash, mitTechLink, the Technology and Culture Forum, and designthatmatters.

## Seminars emphasize the non-work side of life

The MIT Center for Work, Family & Personal Life is responding to new and ongoing community interests in its midday seminar and discussion groups planned for this fall.

Offered for the first time are seminars on "Planning for Long-Term Care" (Wednesday, Sept. 22), "Autism: An Unfinished Puzzle" (Tuesday, Sept. 28), "Humanizing Your Office Space to Enhance Productivity" (Tuesday, Oct. 5), "What Makes Parenting Difficult in the U.S.?" (Tuesday, Oct. 12), "Same-Sex Marriage: Financial and Legal Issues" (Tuesday, Oct. 19), "Housing Options for the Elderly" (Thursday, Nov. 4), and "Creating Family Rituals and Traditions" (Monday, Dec. 6).

Also new this fall is a six-week discussion group on "Raising Teens," beginning Wednesday, Sept. 29. This peer-led group, with occasional outside speakers, is designed to provide those parenting teens and preteens with an opportunity to exchange information, insights and ideas on the special challenges of raising

teenagers.

Seminars to be repeated due to community interest include "Negotiating Job Flexibility" (Friday, Oct. 29), "Raising Bilingual Children" (Monday, Nov. 1), "Single Parenting" (Tuesday, Nov. 9), "Sibling Rivalry" (Friday, Nov. 12), and "Reaching Your Financial Goals" (Tuesday, Nov. 30).

Briefings are also scheduled on child care issues, including twice-monthly sessions on infant/toddler child care, as well as a session on short-term/back-up child care on Thursday, Nov. 18, and a session on summer camps on Thursday, Dec. 2.

All programs begin at noon in Room 16-151. They are free of charge and open to everyone in the MIT community. For further information or to pre-register, visit the center's web site at <http://web.mit.edu/hr/worklife/seminar.html>, send an e-mail to [worklife@mit.edu](mailto:worklife@mit.edu), drop by the center (Room 16-151) or call 253-1592.

## 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. TechTalk ads are posted on the Internet. Submit by e-mail to [ttads@mit.edu](mailto:ttads@mit.edu) or mail to Classifieds, Rm 11-400. Deadline is noon Wednesday the week before publication.

### WANTED

MIT CRC seeks female volunteers 20-30lbs. overweight for 13-week weight-loss study. Testing whether the consumption of a carbohydrate-rich or a protein/carbohydrate mixed beverage helps with weight loss. 253-3096 or [janine@mit.edu](mailto:janine@mit.edu).

Used snowblower, electric start, 5 or 7hp. Must be in good condition. Bob at [cu2rhappy@aol.com](mailto:cu2rhappy@aol.com)

[com](mailto:com) or 978-453-7028.

Nanny for 1-yr old, three half days/week, Harvard Square. Experience and good references required. Non-smokers. Jonathan at 252-1739 or [MichalAkavia@yahoo.com](mailto:MichalAkavia@yahoo.com).

### HOUSING

E. Arlington: 2BR, compl. renovated, 1st fl. of 2-fam., LV and DR w/built-ins; refinished hardwood throughout, updated K&B, gas heat. Avail. Oct. 1, \$1,450/mo. 617-966-4316 or 781-648-4316.

Cambridge: 2 bedrooms, completely furnished, huge kitchen. Near MIT and Kendall. \$1,550. [johnnatale@verizon.net](mailto:johnnatale@verizon.net) or 781-729-7725.

Lexington: 6 rm contemporized cape, \$599,000,

master BR suite, study, 2 BR and bath upstairs, skylights, hdw flrs, AC, 2 car gar. 781-981-2671.

E. Arlington: 2 family, 2nd floor, 4 BR, 2 bath, lr, dr, hdw flr front balcony. Drwy pkg, near T & Mass. Ave. \$1850. Stacy at 617-643-2966.

For sale: Deeded, life-long time-sharing week in early May at 5-star Westgate Resorts in Kissimmee, FL. Fully furnished villa. 2BR, sleeps 6, pool, hot tub. Near theme parks. Joe at 617-436-5663.

### VEHICLES

2001 Porsche Boxster. Seal gray, 5 sp., lots of options, 26K, original warranty until April 2005, all maintenance records saved. \$32,000. 617-947-9398 or [adevin@mit.edu](mailto:adevin@mit.edu).

2000 Mercury Sable LS, one owner, kept in garage, low miles \$10,500/bst, days: 253-0092 or [kshooter@mit.edu](mailto:kshooter@mit.edu).

1999 VW Beetle GLS. Black. 5 sp. CD changer. 89K. Good cond. \$6,500. [mcooper@ll.mit.edu](mailto:mcooper@ll.mit.edu) or 781-883-2921.

1995 VW Jetta GL, 4 dr., 4 cyl., manual trans., 158K highway, Alpine stereo/CD player, well maintained. \$2,000. [acentor@mit.edu](mailto:acentor@mit.edu).

### FOR SALE

Creative WebCam NX with software, \$15. Karaoke - The Singing Machine with 4 free sing-a-long music CDs, \$40. Shrek for Gameboy Color, \$5. Lego Spybotics, \$25. Cheryl at 253-3092 or [cheryl@mit.edu](mailto:cheryl@mit.edu).

# Asian American film festival hopes to break stereotypes

Jennifer L. Wong  
Class of 2006

Celebrating Asian American talent and breaking Hollywood typecasting stereotypes are the primary goals of "Silkscreens," the first Boston Asian American Independent Film Festival, which will be presented at MIT Friday and Saturday, Sept. 24-25. More than a thousand attendees are expected during the course of the festival, which is free of charge and open to the public.

The core committee for "Silkscreens" is made up of 30 college students from MIT, Harvard, Wellesley and Emerson College, who devoted countless hours this past summer to

make their vision a reality. The two-day event will showcase the talents and celebrate the works of Asian American actors, directors, producers and filmmakers.

"Despite the growing popularity and awareness of celebrities like actress Lucy Liu and director Ang Lee, Asian Americans are highly underrepresented in the mainstream American media, films and popular culture," said Jennifer Fang, an MIT senior in biology who is directing the festival. "Many actors are limited by Hollywood typecasting and are relegated to martial arts and second-tier roles," she said. "The mission of 'Silkscreens' is to break these stereotypes and demonstrate the diversity and versatility of Asian American talent in arts and entertainment."

Greg Pak, writer and director of the 2003 film "Robot Stories," will deliver the keynote address at the opening ceremonies Friday evening at 8 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium. "Robot Stories" has played in more than 50 festivals, won more than 30 awards, and is now playing nationwide. Pak wrote the screenplay for "Rio Chino" and the feature film "MVP," which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival this year.

The opening ceremonies will feature performances by recording artists of Fifth Street Productions: Robin Lang, Sophia Moon and MIT alumnus Chris Vu (a.k.a. Voodoo Soul). Vu, who graduated from MIT in the Class of 2004, was a semifinalist last year in TV's "American Idol 2."

## Festival announces three features

Feature films at "Silkscreens," the first Boston Asian American Independent Film Festival, will include the following titles.



Annie Lee

focus is less on the conflict between young and old generations and more about first-generation Asians creating their own way of life in America. "Charlotte Sometimes" was the co-winner of the Audience Award for Best First Narrative

"Close Call" (2004)—a coming-of-age story directed by Jimmy Lee about a teenage girl trapped in a downward spiral of promiscuous sex, drugs, alcohol use and criminality. Brutally honest in its depiction of the damage wrought by the breakdown of the family in contemporary America, "Close Call" adds another theme to the story: The ever-widening gap between first-generation parents and the Generation Y children.

"Charlotte Sometimes" (2002)—one of a new breed of Asian-American films where the

feature at the recent South by Southwest Film Festival. Director Eric Byler and cast members are expected to be at the festival for a Q & A session.

"Take Out" (2004)—mixes documentary-style realism and suspenseful storytelling to paint a stark picture of life behind the counter of a Chinese take-out restaurant. Deeply in debt to the loan sharks who financed his immigration to New York City, bicycle deliveryman Ming Ding has one day to pay up or face the doubling of his debt. He borrows most of the money from friends, but as he begins his day of deliveries, he is still \$150 short, more than he earns in a day. The film features professional and amateur actors and is shot in cinema-verité style in a restaurant.

In addition to the three features, "Silkscreens" will include a variety of documentaries, shorts and student films. Lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgender (LBGT) issues, Asian stereotypes, discrimination, family values and humanism are among the themes addressed.

The festival will include opportunities for high school students from the area to take acting workshops, learn video editing, and discuss film and arts-related opportunities in college with student filmmakers.

For more information, go to <http://www.silkscreensfilmfestival.org>.



PHOTO / DEBORAH DOUGLAS

### Rage against the machine

The banner above hung in Lobby 7 in May 1970, a month in which more than 900 U.S. colleges and universities were closed or affected by student-organized strikes. At the time, some MIT students, faculty and staff chose to protest "business as usual" following the deaths of four students shot by National Guardsmen at Kent State University in Ohio on May 4, the deaths of four students shot by police at Jackson State University in Mississippi on May 14 and 15, and the U.S. invasion of Cambodia.

On May 9, 1970 more than 150,000 protesters, mostly students, marched in Washington, D.C. The red, raised fist was their icon.

The banner is part of an exhibition at the MIT Museum titled "Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT during the Vietnam War," which displays a portion of the MIT Museum's collection of protest posters. The exhibition is on view through early December.

## MIT lecturer produces NOVA program 'Origins'

While it is no small task to explain the origins of the universe in four hours, writer, filmmaker and MIT lecturer Thomas Levenson has done just that in the four-part, two-night Nova series he helped produce for PBS that airs next week.

Levenson, who was executive producer for the show, is the author of three books. His latest, "Einstein in Berlin," was published in 2003. Just this year, he started at MIT as a lecturer in the graduate program in science writing.

"Its great, I absolutely love it," said Levenson of his time at MIT. "It's been a dream."

For Levenson, part of the joy of working at MIT comes from the sense of community at the university. "My life as a writer and filmmaker is largely a solitary life," he said. "Now I have colleagues who can help me think about the problems I once dealt with alone."

Teaching at MIT is a natural evolution for Levenson, for whom writing and producing have always been about educating the public.

His latest work—"Origins"—is set to air on PBS starting next Tuesday, Sept. 28 from 8 to 10 p.m. The next two parts air Sept. 29, also beginning at 8 p.m.

The mini-series, which is billed as a lesson on "the beginnings of Earth, life and the universe," allowed Levenson the opportunity to share the latest information regarding our origins. "It is a report from the front lines about what we really know now," said Levenson. "This is a story that has only come together in the last few years."

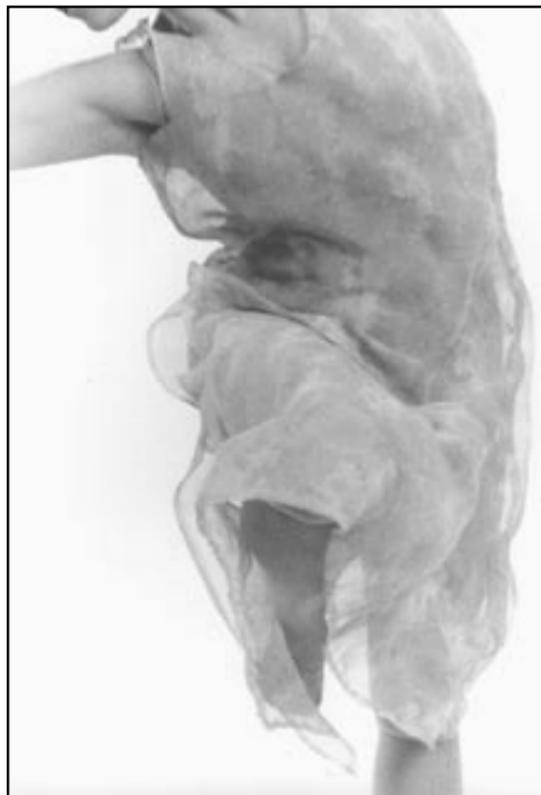
Over the course of four, hour-long segments, "Origins" explores the formation of both our planet and the life on it as well as the possibility of extraterrestrial life.

"Working with NOVA is always exciting," said Levenson. "They expect world class work. It is clearly the best science television on television."

The final product has Levenson—who is already working on his next projects, a book about Isaac Newton and another film about astronomy—beaming.

"You might pull your hair out during the process," said Levenson of the effort to explain complicated science on television. "But the end result is worth it."

—Sasha Brown



PHOTOS / HOLLY BRUNKOW

### Mosaic of Motion

Dawn Davis Loring (above) is best known at MIT as the communications coordinator for Computational and Systems Biology, but others may know her as the feet behind the dance-theater collective, Mosaic Dance Body. Founded in Austin, Texas in 1999, Mosaic Dance Body moved to Cambridge two years ago. The collective consists of artists from a variety of disciplines and produces a form of dance-theater described this past summer by the Somerville Art Council as "highly irreverent." The group is known for pieces like "The Mattel Trilogy," which tackles issues of conformity and body image with humor. Mosaic Dance Body, with guest choreographer Kelley Donovan, will perform at noon in Killian Hall today as part of the the Artist-Behind-the-Desk series.

MIT EVENT HIGHLIGHTS SEPTEMBER 22 - 26

-  Science/Technology
-  Performance
-  Architecture/Planning
-  Humanities
-  Music
-  Exhibit
-  Reading
-  Special Interest
-  Business/Money
-  Film
-  Sports
-  Featured Event

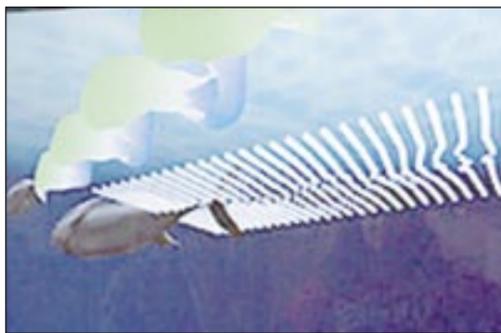


PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

**iQuarium**

A virtual fluid flow display, iQuarium is an interactive exhibit designed by three MIT students as part of the iCampus project to visualize and understand the hydrodynamics of swimming fish. Landlubbers can interact with virtual fish and learn how fish swim and maneuver so effortlessly. iQuarium is an ongoing exhibit in the Hart Nautical Gallery in Building 5.

**WEDNESDAY**  
September 22

 **Blood Drive**  
Noon-6pm. La Sala de Puerto Rico, Student Center.

 **The Last Four Years: Artists React**  
Dean Daderko presents artwork and documentation from "Republican Like Me," his most recent exhibition. Open Studio Noon-6pm. Presentation 6:30pm. Room N52-390. 452-2484.

 **Mosaic Dance Body**  
Dawn Davis Loris. Artists Behind the Desk. Noon-1pm. Killian Hall. 253-9821.

 **The Role of Size and Range in the Future of Aerospace Power Projection**  
Alan Epstein. Security Studies Program. Noon-1:30pm. Room E38-615. 452-2542.

 **New Frontiers in Brain Science**  
The Picower Center for Learning and Memory. 7pm-9:15pm. Tang Center. 253-4955.

**THURSDAY**  
September 23

 **Career Fair**  
Noon-6pm. Johnson Athletic Center, Rockwell Cage.

 **The New Division of Labor-How Computers are Creating the Next Job Market**  
Frank Levy of DUSP and Richard Murnane of Harvard. 4-5:30pm. Room E51-345. 253-7522.

 **Technology and the Future Warrior: Protecting Soldiers in the 21st Century.**  
Ned Thomas and Jean-Louis "Dutch" DeGay. Free with MIT ID. Admission for others. MIT Enterprise Forum. 7-8:30pm. Kresge Auditorium. 253-0015.

 **Poetry@mit**  
Barry Spacks, poet, novelist, actor and singer-songwriter, reads from his work. 7pm. Room 14E-304. 253-7894.

**FRIDAY**  
September 24

 **International Development Forum/Fair**  
1-3pm. Lobby 13. 253-0108.

 **Non Standard Praxis**  
Principles of architectural praxis in digital technologies. Admission fee. Reservations required. Friday-4-6pm Saturday-9am-7:30pm Sunday-9am-8pm. Stata Center.

 **Varsity Women's Volleyball MIT Invitational**  
4pm. Rockwell Cage/du Pont Gymnasium. 258-5265.

 **Japanese Autumn "Tsukimi" Party**  
Fall party on the theme of Tsukimi or moon watching with a chado (Japanese tea ceremony) and Haiku Poetry contest. Sushi, dango (traditional Japanese rice sweets), and assorted Japanese appetizers and beverages will be served. 6-9:30pm. Hulsizer Room, Ashdown House.

**SATURDAY**  
September 25

 **Varsity Women's Soccer vs. Babson**  
**College**  
1pm. Steinbrenner Stadium. 258-5265

 **Varsity Women's Volleyball MIT Invitational**  
4pm. Rockwell Cage/du Pont Gymnasium. 258-5265.

 **Sarod Maestro Amjad Ali Khan**  
Sarod and tabla. Fund-raiser for AID-Boston. \$100, \$70, \$50, \$30, \$20 (students). 6:30pm. Kresge Auditorium. 480-8623.

 **Ottoman Music Concert**  
Original compositions for instruments and voices combining the idioms of Ottoman traditional music with contemporary media and methods. Admission \$5. 8-9:30pm. Killian Hall.

**SUNDAY**  
September 26

 **Hindustani Vocal Concert**  
Ulhas Kaushalkar with Andargopal Bandopadhyay on tabla. MITHAS, Sangam. \$18, \$14 MITHAS members, \$10 students, MIT students free. 4pm. Wong Auditorium. 258-7971.

 **Ramayana**  
Dance drama enacting the Sanskrit epic Ramayana in Indian, Indonesian, and Thai classical dance styles. \$7 and \$10. 6:30pm-10pm. Little Kresge Theater.

 **"Weekend Campus"**  
Nancy Davenport's long, looping vertical pan of a crisis scene on a college campus. Media Test Wall, Building 56. Ongoing. 253-4400.

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

**Asian American Film Festival: Silkscreens**  
Kickoff event in Kresge Auditorium Friday evening. Films screened in rooms around campus on Friday and Saturday. 452-3113.

*Sept. 24*  
**Kresge Auditorium**  
Friday 8 p.m.

**Rock the Vote**  
Register to vote and get voting information. Free lunch noon to 2 p.m. followed by Dance MIX Coalition DJs and DJ Tabla dance music.

*Sept. 24*  
**Kresge Oval**  
Noon - 10 p.m.

**Aardvark Jazz Orchestra Concert**  
American Values: Special election-year program features "Big Oil Tango" and "Constitutional Funk Blues." \$10 donation. 452-3205.

*Sept. 26*  
**Killian Hall**  
8 p.m.

MIT EVENT HIGHLIGHTS SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 3

**MONDAY**  
September 27

 **Whitehead Symposium**  
This year focuses on "Disease, Development and Darwin." Admission: Free for postdocs, students, MIT and Whitehead. 8:30am-6pm. Kresge Auditorium. 258-7403.

 **CAVS Artist's Presentation**  
New York artist Hope Ginsburg shows her sculpture and video. Open Studio-11am-4pm, Artist's Talk-6:30pm. Room N52-390. 253-4415.

 **Compulsion, Science, and Personhood in Nineteenth Century America**  
Rebecca Herzig, Bates College. STS Colloquium. Room E51-495. 4-6pm. 253-4062.

 **Mars Settlement Brainstorming Session**  
Plan the first permanent settlement. Everyone welcome. Sponsored by MIT Mars Society. 6-8pm. First floor of Building 33.

**TUESDAY**  
September 28

 **Entrepreneurism in the New Global Economy**  
Desh Deshpande. Singapore-MIT Alliance Seminar. 7:45-9:30am. Room 3-370.

 **Voter Registration Booth**  
Register to vote and find information on absentee voting for all 50 states. 10am-4pm. Lobby 10.

 **Varsity Women's Soccer vs. Emerson**  
5pm. Steinbrenner Stadium. 258-5265.

 **Black Sea to Antarctica: Technology, Archeology and the Deep Sea**  
Prof. David Mindell. MIT Club of Boston. 5:30-9:30pm. Faculty Club. (617) 308-9795.

**WEDNESDAY**  
September 29

 **Haiti: Moving Forward After Failed Transitions**  
Myrtho Bonhomme, advisor to the Prime Minister of Haiti. Center for International Studies. Noon-1:30pm. Wong Auditorium. 253-8306.

 **How to Understand Syrian Politics: One Historian's View**  
Dean Philip Khoury. Security Studies Program. Noon-1:30pm. Room E38-615. 452-2542.

 **Why Must Globalization Be Just?**  
Talk by Frank Garcia, who teaches comparative law and international economic law at BC Law School. 5:30-7pm. Room 4-237. 253-3121.

 **"The Silences of the Palace"**  
1996 Tunisian film. 6pm. Room 3-133. 258-8438.

**THURSDAY**  
September 30

 **Telling It Like It Is: Student Activism at MIT during the Vietnam War**  
Last day for display of posters from the campus-wide protest in the 1970s. 10am-5pm. Free with an MIT ID. MIT Museum. 253-4444

 **Transportation Fair**  
11am-1pm. Lobby 10. 253-9325.

 **Emergency Room Overcrowding: An OR Analysis**  
Linda Green. Operations Research Center. 4:15-5:15pm. Room E40-298. 253-7412.

 **Underwater Hockey**  
Coed. Played on the bottom of the pool with short sticks and a lead puck. Scuba Club. 8:30-10pm. Z-Center pool.

**FRIDAY**  
October 1

 **Voting Technology Conference**  
MIT Votes, Caltech / MIT Voting Technology Project. 8:30am-8pm. Room 32-141.

 **Men's Varsity Tennis hosts ITA New England Championship**  
Begins at 9am Friday, Saturday and Sunday. du Pont Tennis Courts, Carr Tennis Bubble, Johnson Athletic Center. 258-5265.

 **Frontiers of Biotechnology Lecture in Chemical Engineering**  
Douglas Cameron, BioTDC, Cargill, Inc. talks about the emergence of a renewable, feedstock-based chemical industry. 3:30-4:30pm. Room 66-110. 253-6500.

**SATURDAY**  
October 2

 **Varsity Football vs. Curry College**  
Noon. Steinbrenner Stadium. 258-5265.



**Anime Club Weekly Screening**

Fridays from 7 p.m. to midnight. Room 6-120.

**SUNDAY**  
October 3

 **International Folk Dancing (participatory)**  
Folk Dance Club. Admission \$1; MIT/Wellesley free. 8-11pm. Student Center, Lobdell Dining Hall. 253-FOLK.