



Volume 49 – Number 6  
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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

## NEWS

### SONNET OF APPRECIATION

Nobel laureate Frank Wilczek, who won the Nobel Prize in physics Oct. 5, waxes poetic on quarks, gratitude and his e-mail in box.

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### MEET ME IN THE PUB

The R and D pub, the latest addition to the Stata Center, opened Oct. 12. The fourth floor space is unique to campus, providing a comfortable place where graduate students, faculty and staff can meet, mingle and nosh.

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### RECENT GRAD NAMED GRAD DEAN

Christopher Jones, who earned his M.S. at MIT in 2003, came back to campus in September as assistant dean for graduate students. Jones will focus on helping departments and programs increase the number of graduate students from underrepresented groups.

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### FLU VACCINE IN SHORT SUPPLY

The MIT medical department expects to receive only about 15 percent of its usual vaccine order because of the nationwide shortage. Only those falling in the CDC high-risk categories who get their medical care primarily from MIT Medical will be vaccinated at MIT this year.

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### NEW MEDIA AFFECT CAMPAIGNS

Panelists discussed how the Internet and its ability to foster "viral marketing" has affected political campaigns the past few years.

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## RESEARCH

### BOON FOR BROAD

A \$14 million grant to the Broad Institute will allow U.S. researchers to carry out large-scale studies of genetic variation, work that is key to the identification of genes linked to disease. The National Genotyping Center will make this capability accessible to many biomedical researchers and have an impact on the understanding of disease.

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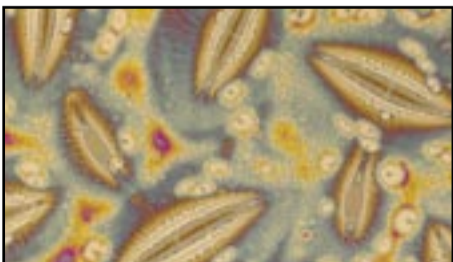
## ARTS

### NOT-SO-SILENT FILMS

MIT lecturer Martin Marks curated a set of three DVDs that capture 50 rarely seen silent films with their scores. A multimedia performance with screenings of some of the films and live music by Marks and other MIT community members has been scheduled for Oct. 27 in Killian Hall.

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## FEATURED STORY



Ph.D. candidate Seth Coe-Sullivan's studies have turned him into an award-winning artist. He took first prize in a recent photography contest sponsored by Nikon.

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# R&D 100 lists three from MIT

Sarah H. Wright  
News Office

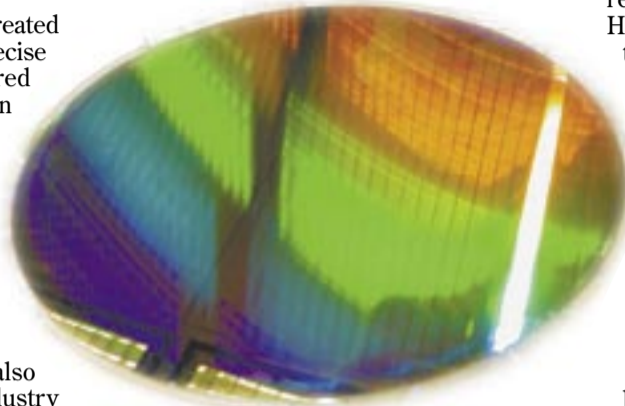
The leader of an MIT team that created the nanoruler, the world's most precise ruler with 'ticks' only a few hundred billionths of a meter apart, has been named one of the "R&D 100" for 2004.

The R&D 100 is an annual listing, produced by R&D magazine, to honor the year's most significant new technological products and processes. Winners are selected by R&D editors along with experts in a variety of disciplines.

Two other MIT researchers also won, sharing their awards with industry and government colleagues. A black-tie banquet was held in Chicago last week to celebrate the 2004 awards.

R&D 100 award-winner Mark Schatzenburg, director of MIT's Space Nanotechnology Laboratory in the Center for Space Research, guided researchers in building the nanoruler, whose speed and

precision for patterning parallel lines across large surfaces could affect fields from the manufacture of computer chips to space physics.



Nanoruler

Shuguang Zhang, associate director of the Center for Biomedical Engineering, was an R&D 100 co-awardee with 3DM, a privately held specialty biomaterials and medical device company, for the invention of PuraMatrix Synthetic Peptide Hydrogels.

The hydrogels are used to develop medical devices and in drug discovery, tissue engineering and cell migration and invasion, among other areas. For researchers in these fields, PuraMatrix Hydrogels may be used to create synthetic nanofiber scaffolds to encapsulate cells in 3-D, to plate cells in 2-D coatings, or to work as microcarriers in suspension cultures.

K. Dane Wittrup, the R. Mares Professor of Chemical Engineering and Bioengineering, was also an R&D 100 co-awardee, sharing the honor with scientists at the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL).

Wittrup and his colleagues were recognized for building a library of one billion human antibodies and expressing them on the surface of yeast cells. To do this, the MIT-PNNL group used a platform designed by Wittrup. The library could one day replace the need to produce antibodies within animals, such as mice, and lead to the development of medical treatments more acceptable to the human immune system.

## New risks for bladder cancer identified

Elizabeth Thomson  
News Office

MIT researchers and colleagues have identified three new chemical risk factors for bladder cancer in a study involving some 600 people in the Los Angeles area. The work was reported in the Oct. 6 issue of the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.

The newly discovered carcinogens are found in cigarette smoke, which is already known to be a major cause of bladder cancer, contributing to at least 50 percent of the approximately 60,000 cases in the United States every year.

All three of the new carcinogens, however, were also found to be risk factors for bladder cancer in nonsmokers. Although second-hand smoke is one source of exposure for non-smokers, the researchers say that it is very important to identify the other sources of exposure for nonsmokers.

"Identifying the non-smoking related sources of these [carcinogens] should become a high scientific priority," write the authors, who are led by Professor Steven R. Tannenbaum, the Underwood-Prescott Professor of Toxicology at MIT.

"This is very important from a public health point of view," said Tannenbaum, who holds appointments in the Biological Engineering (BE) Division and the Department of Chemistry. "It's much more effective to prevent cancer rather than treat it."

The team also identified six chemicals in the same chemical family that do not appear to be human carcinogens. Because they are chemically similar to their three noxious cousins, they could potentially lead to safer alternatives for the latter.

Authors of the paper from MIT are Tannenbaum, Paul L. Skipper, a BE principal

See **CANCER**

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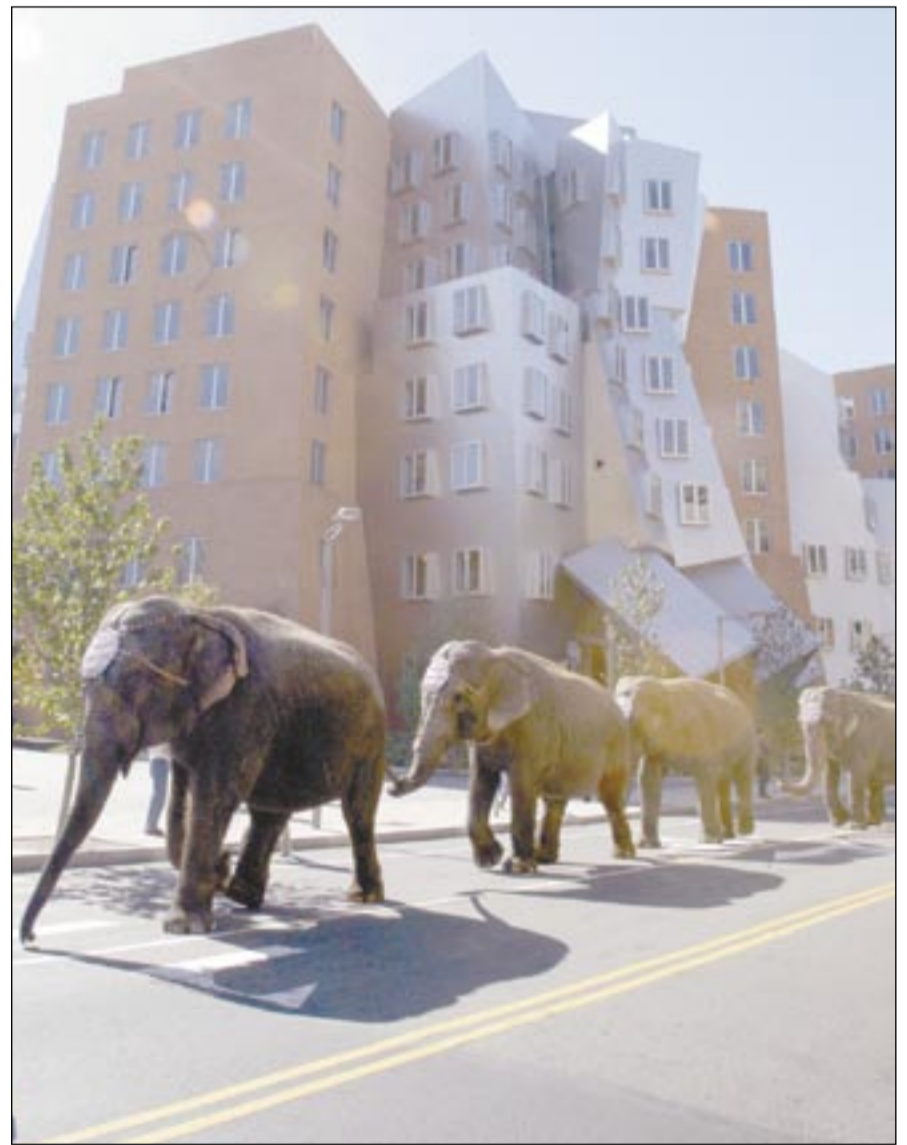


PHOTO / DONNA COVENY

### The elephants walk

Architect Frank Gehry might have applauded the elephant parade that marched by the Ray and Maria Stata Center for Computer, Information and Intelligence Sciences at MIT earlier this month. After all, Gehry's vision for Stata was to provide open spaces that nourish spontaneous interaction.

The elephants themselves were on beat. They were en route to work, performing with the Ringling Brothers-Barnum and Bailey Circus in Boston's Fleet Center. The circus train, on which 10 elephants and 30 horses travel along with 200 performers and crew members, spent the week parked on the railroad tracks behind Simmons Hall and the West Garage.

According to Ringling Brothers trainmaster Tim Holan, technology has changed circus life and the look of circus trains. "We have a self-contained city here, with people from 16 different nations. Today, the buzz on board is all about who's got the best cell phone, the best computer. And the trains look like they have ears—it's the satellite dishes, pointing every which way, to pick up news from home."

—Sarah Wright

# Black alumni celebrate milestone

James Wolken  
MIT Alumni Association

Black Alumni at MIT (BAMIT) held a special conference over the Columbus Day weekend celebrating its 25th anniversary as an organization.



Chiquita White

address, evoking the legacy of McNair during the gala at the MIT Museum. The crowd gave her a standing ovation.

"Great Accomplishments, Great Expectations" looked at the impact of black alumni over the past century and included a special tribute to astronaut Ronald McNair (Ph.D. 1977) who died in the Challenger space shuttle explosion in 1986. McNair's brother, Carl McNair, paid tribute to him in an event at Walker Memorial.

Shirley Ann Jackson, president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, delivered the keynote

"The tribute to Ron McNair really captured the essence of this conference," said BAMIT president Chiquita White (S.B. 1985). "He was a risk taker, a pioneer, and a champion of following one's dream to reach an important goal. Those characteristics are what BAMIT is about in many ways."

More than 135 people attend the conference, which featured four keynote speakers: Jackson (S.M. 1968, Ph.D. 1973); Chancellor Phillip Clay (Ph.D. 1975); Woodrow Whitlow (S.B. 1974, S.M. 1975, Ph.D. 1979), deputy director of the NASA Kennedy Space Center; and James Gates (S.B. 1973, Ph.D. 1977), a professor of physics at the University of Maryland.

"Listening to the four keynote speakers was a special moment for many members," said White. "These four alumni were contemporaries at the Institute and took significant personal risk to raise awareness of key issues facing minority students at MIT."

White said she was approached by a number of attendees who want to establish BAMIT chapters in their own areas. "A number of attendees said this was their first visit back [to campus] in 20 years," she said.

"It was great to see old friends reconnect," said Robert Hillman (S.B. 1987). "But the best moments were the interactions between current students and alumni." Hillman said the usually unflappable Gates was taken aback by an autograph request from a current student. "I don't know if he realizes how inspiring he is to today's students. These speakers are important role models to this generation."

"This was a special event in many ways," said Beth Garvin, executive vice president and CEO of the MIT Alumni Association. "This conference memorialized important historical accomplishments of MIT's black alumni. It was inspiring."

## AWARDS & HONORS

**Earl M. Murman**, professor in the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics and the Engineering Systems Division, has been elected by the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences as a Foreign Member of the Academy. This honor recognizes Murman's many years of work in systems engineering, product development, aerodynamics, computational fluid dynamics and engineering education. The academy consists of nearly 1,000 distinguished engineers and economists elected to the Academy by their peers. It promotes cross-fertilization among industry, academia and public administration, and is closely affiliated with a number of organizations, most notably, the Nobel Foundation. Murman was head of MIT's aero-astro department from 1990 to 1996. He has also directed MIT's Project Athena and Lean Aerospace Initiative, and is co-author of "Lean Enterprise Value: Insights from MIT's Lean Aerospace Initiative," which was awarded the International Astronautical Academy's 2004 Engineering Sciences Book Award.

**Det. Sgt. Mary Beth Riley** of the MIT Police was recently elected to the Athletic Hall of Fame of her alma mater, St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y., for her accomplishments in soccer and ice hockey. The 1985 graduate is the daughter of 1960 Gold Medal Olympic coach Jack Riley, who had a long and highly successful coaching career at the U.S. Military Academy. "M.B. went from stopping goals in soccer to scoring them in hockey, and did it at a prolific rate," said the college in its announcement. Riley is the all-time scoring leader for the college's women's ice hockey program with 78 career goals, 115 career assists and 193 career points. She holds the overall record for goals in a game—five.

President **Charles M. Vest** received an award from his alma mater at the Oct. 8 Alumni Society Awards Dinner at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Vest, who earned the M.S.E. in 1964 and the Ph.D. in 1967 from the university, received the College of Engineering Alumni Society's highest honor, the Alumni Society Medal. "He has devoted a distinguished 37-year career to teaching, research and higher education administration," said the university's Alumni Society.

The American Physical Society has awarded the 2005 Leo Szilard Lectureship Award to the members of its Study Group on Boost-Phase Intercept Systems for National Missile Defense, including MIT Professor **Daniel Kleppner**, director of the MIT-Harvard Center for Ultracold Atoms and the Lester Wolfe Professor of Physics Emeritus at MIT, and **David Moncton**, director of MIT's Nuclear Reactor Laboratory and an adjunct professor of physics. The award honors the outstanding accomplishments of physicists who promote the use of physics for the public good in such areas as the environment, arms control and science policy. The APS cited the Study Group, which is co-chaired by Kleppner, for its report "that adds physics insight to the public debate" on national missile defense.

**Subra Suresh**, head of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, has been selected by the American Society of Materials International to receive the 2004 Albert Sauvour Achievement Award. The award recognizes "pioneering materials science and engineering achievements that have stimulated organized work along similar lines to such an extent that a marked basic advance has been made in the knowledge of materials science and engineering." Suresh, who is the Ford Professor of Engineering and a professor of biological engineering, is cited for "outstanding contributions to the understanding of deformation behavior at different length scales and mechanics of materials and demonstrated leadership in materials education." He received the award at a banquet on Oct. 19 in Columbus, Ohio, at the annual meeting of ASM International.



PHOTO / DONNA COVENY

## Toasting on his laurels

Nobel laureate Frank Wilczek celebrated with colleagues from the Department of Physics at a party held in his honor the day he won the Nobel Prize, Oct. 5. A few days later, swamped by congratulations from people near and far, Wilczek penned a sonnet to show his appreciation for science and his friends.

## Sonnet for a Quark

I don't suppose that colored quarks and glue  
Think over much about what they're up to;  
They just do whatever comes naturally  
And leave the worrying to you and me.

Free spirits! They seemed blithely unconcerned  
With sacred lessons we'd with effort learned.  
But by invoking then heretical  
Wild hypotheses theoretical  
I found their workings could be understood:  
So the world makes sense, as it damn well should.

The prize recalls those days of search and find,  
Warm notes from friends bring human joy to mind;  
My heart is full, as is my thanks to you  
My In box also, I'm afraid—adieu!

—Frank Wilczek

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## Former MIT grad student chosen as graduate dean

Just five years ago, Assistant Dean for Graduate Students Christopher Jones stood in the place where his students now stand.

A 2003 graduate of MIT, Jones earned dual master's degrees in nuclear engineering and technology and policy. The hard work prepared him well for the task at hand. As assistant dean, he will focus on helping departments and programs increase the number of graduate students from underrepresented groups.

Though not a new position, Jones' role comes on the heels of the May 19 faculty resolution urging MIT leadership to increase the percentage of underrepresented minority and other under-served graduate students. He began his job Sept. 20.

"He will work with faculty to reshape our Summer Research Program into a recruitment tool for MIT's graduate programs," said Isaac Colbert, dean for graduate students. "For the past 18 years, that program has been successful in bringing students into the graduate pipeline nationally, but now it needs to focus more particularly on MIT's needs."

Colbert knew Jones as a student and said he looks forward to working with him as a colleague. "He's energetic, well-educated and trained, entrepreneurial, articulate, thoughtful and a good problem-solver and diplomat," said Colbert. "He'll call on all of these characteristics for the task ahead."



Christopher Jones

Jones was co-chair of the Black Graduate Student Association during his student years and said he recognizes the need to increase diversity.

"Greater diversity leads to more creative research," said Jones. "When you can represent society as a whole, you can get more accomplished." Different backgrounds and disciplines bring greater richness to the table, he said.

A 1999 graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, and a native of Arkansas, Jones looks fondly upon the many educators who helped him along the way. After earning his MIT degrees, he decided to give teaching a whirl. He taught middle school at the Match Media and Technology Charter School in Boston.

"Teaching ninth grade was at many times more difficult than my time at MIT," said Jones with a laugh. "But overall, it was a great experience." He said he looks forward to using that experience to help guide his work at MIT.

"The opportunity to encourage students is amazing," said Jones. "There is so much energy and excitement here," he said. "People are not afraid to challenge themselves and challenge others."

Most of all, he said, he looks forward to being able to pay back the favor MIT did for him. "I want to give in the way that was given to me while I was here," said Jones.

—Sasha Brown

## Students travel to swing state for presidential debates

Sasha Brown  
News Office

While many in the U.S. were focused for a few hours on the John Edwards/Dick Cheney debate about our nation's future in Cleveland, Ohio, six MIT students spent their entire weekend in the same place sparring on the same issues.

The students—three Republicans and three Democrats—traveled to Ohio to participate in a mock political convention and debate held on Oct. 4 at Case Western Reserve University—the same campus at which Vice President Dick Cheney and Sen. John Edwards (D-N.C.) exchanged verbal blows on Oct. 5.

The bipartisan MIT group was part of a group of more than 60 students from 15 colleges and universities across the country who volunteered to participate in the national student conference called "The Race at Case."

The 30 student convention "delegates" in each party elected student debaters to serve as their representatives in the final one-on-one debates on the U.S. economy, national security, social issues and domestic policy.

Kenneth Nesmith, an MIT senior majoring in political science, was elected by the Republican Party to represent its stance on national security. Nesmith said he spent a lot of time preparing for the debate, mostly by anticipating the questions and practicing his responses.

"We were well informed," said Nesmith, who said he gained a new appreciation for the art of political debate and what the candidates go through. "I realized how hard it was to remember all the points I wanted to get across."

The student debates had no winners, as stated in the rules of engagement. "Overall, both sides represented their positions well," said Nesmith, a native of St. Louis, Mo., and a member of the MIT College Republicans, who went to "The Race at Case" to meet

"other politically motivated college students," he said. "There were a lot of budding politicians there." Nesmith plans to join the Peace Corps after graduation.

For John Velasco, another senior majoring in political science and member of the MIT College Republicans, being at Case was one of the best experiences of his college career.

"It was remarkable to be in that environment," said Velasco of San Diego, Calif. "I have never seen anything like it."

Chris Suarez, a junior majoring in electrical engineering and computer science, is a member of the MIT Democrats; he went to Cleveland for many of the same reasons as his colleagues. "I thought it would be cool to experience another kind of debate and hear what other people's opinions are," he said. "I have seen a lot of inequality that exists in this country," said Suarez, who grew up in Chicago.

Nesmith attended the Oct. 5 vice-presidential debate along with the other seven student debaters. (The remaining 53 students watched it on TV.) Nesmith said the debate looked different in person than it did on television.

"They were trading some harsh blows," he said. "In person it almost seemed out of place."

The Case Western administrators who organized the event hope it will show that students really do care about politics. "Young people are often characterized as apathetic," said Mark Carlson, Case Western associate vice president of government relations. "Our student conventions and debate will help to dismiss that stereotype."

According to a New York Times editorial dated Sept. 28, the national average voter turnout for voters aged 18-24 was about 37 percent in the 2000 presidential election. The way to get students involved is to remind them how much it means, Velasco said.

"You have to give them a reason to care," he said.



PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

Among the first customers at the R and D pub on the fourth floor of the Stata Center were (left to right) Professor John Guttag; architect Thomas Kim; Simon J. Hernandez, research technician for W3C; Professor Alan Willsky; and Karen Gardner, personnel coordinator for the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Lab. Guttag and Willsky utilized their knowledge of wines to play sommelier for the new pub.

## New pub in Stata offers congenial place to commingle

Sasha Brown  
News Office

Social commingling among faculty, staff and graduate students just got a big boost thanks to the brand new R and D pub that opened on the fourth floor of the Stata Center. Beautiful views, bright blue walls, two floors and four separate "hang out" areas, make the pub a gathering place like no other on campus.

"We hope this will draw a mixture of people from the MIT community and create more campus camaraderie," said Richard Berlin, director of Campus Dining.

Patrons at the over-21 pub must show ID indicating they are at least 21 years old and must have an MIT ID or be the guest of someone with an MIT ID.

Professors John Guttag and Alan Willsky of electrical engineering and computer science served as sommeliers for the pub, crafting an eclectic wine list with selections from Australia, South Africa, Italy and California. Both faculty members were among the first to sample the pub's ambience on opening day.

"We like to have fun," said Guttag. "My hope is that it will be a place where faculty and graduate students get together in an informal setting."

The new pub offers many things—including a central location—that the other campus pubs do not. While graduate students spend time in the Thirsty Ear and Muddy Charles, faculty rarely venture to them. Additionally, the R and D's "light fare" menu includes sushi, hummus plates and fruit, the kind of finger food that lends itself to academic meetings and informal classes. The four distinct spaces—a bar area, a restaurant area and two lounge-type spaces—will serve a variety of needs, said Berlin.

Thirty minutes after its 4 p.m. opening on Tuesday, Oct. 12, the pub had about 15 patrons, many of whom came out to celebrate, but not to watch the Red Sox game, at least not yet. The pub doesn't have a TV. "We plan to fix that," said Guttag. With the installation of a good sound system in the bar area, the pub will be close to perfect, Berlin said.

Jenny Hertig, assistant director of donor relations, stopped by that first day. "We work right across the street and we've been watching the progress," said Hertig, who shared crudités with her co-worker Leigh Perry, events coordinator for Resource Development. Both were pleasantly surprised by what they found at the R and D.

"This place is awesome," said Perry.



## MIT Medical sets flu vaccine policy

The nationwide shortage of flu vaccine will significantly reduce the number of people the MIT medical department will be able to vaccinate this year.

MIT Medical expects to receive about 15 percent of its usual vaccine order. It will make vaccines available as supply permits only to people within the high-risk groups outlined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) who receive their ongoing primary care from MIT Medical.

CDC guidelines prioritize vaccine administration to those individuals most likely to suffer serious medical complications from the flu—the very old, the very young and those with chronic illnesses. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is legally requiring that flu vaccination be strictly limited to those in the CDC-specified high-risk groups.

MIT Medical does not expect to have enough vaccine for all patients that fall within the CDC high risk guidelines, so they will first vaccinate patients at the highest risk for medical complications from the flu. Members of the community who fall within the CDC vaccination guidelines may call the MIT Medical information line at 253-4865 to find out about vaccine availability.

Doctors advise that vaccination is not the only way to help prevent the flu. They recommend frequent and thorough hand washing, staying home when sick, and covering coughs and sneezes as effective preventative measures.

Check the MIT Medical web site for more detailed prevention tips and for suggestions on what to do if you do get the flu. Several antiviral drugs can reduce flu symptoms and duration if taken within two days of getting sick.

### DIGITALK: WHERE IT'S AT



#### Join IS&T for an Open House in N42

Information Services and Technology (IS&T) invites the MIT community to an Open House Thursday, Oct. 28 from noon to 5pm. The festivi-

ties will be held in the walk-in center for clients in Building N42 at 211 Massachusetts Ave. IS&T staff will be there to meet visitors, as will representatives from Apple Computer, GovConnection and other vendors. Visitors can take a look at IS&T-recommended hardware and enter the drawing for hourly door prizes. For more information, see <http://web.mit.edu/ist/spotlight/openhouse.html>.

#### Key upgrade: Windows XP SP 2

IS&T strongly recommends Service Pack 2 (SP2) for Windows XP Professional at MIT. Windows XP SP2 includes many updated security features that help protect against various network attacks. This Service Pack does not protect against all vulnerabilities, including some that may arise in Internet Explorer. For details about features, known issues, and how to obtain SP2, as well as pointers to documentation, start at <http://web.mit.edu/ist/news/headlines/sp2.html>.

#### T-pass service moves online

IS&T and the Parking and Transportation Office have launched a new online T-pass service. Registered students and MIT faculty and staff who do not have full time parking permits are eligible for this service. In addition to applying for a T-pass, people can change information such as where they pick up their pass, suspend their T-pass temporarily, or close their account.

This is a certificate-based application, so users need to be sure they have a certificate before starting at <https://commuting.mit.edu>.

#### Money Matters tab in ESS

A new tab is now available on the Employee Self-Service (ESS) web site. The Money Matters tab lets MIT faculty and staff access money-related information and resources online. Current features include a link to the U.S. Treasury Department web site that provides an online purchasing system for electronic Series EE and I Savings Bonds; a link to the MIT Federal Credit Union web site that provides information on financial services available to individuals affiliated with the MIT community; and payroll-related forms, including the new Direct Deposit Form. You can access ESS by going to <http://web.mit.edu/sap-webss>.

*Digitalk is compiled by Information Services and Technology.*

# Accidental artist emerges

Sasha Brown  
News Office

Electrical engineering Ph.D. candidate Seth Coe-Sullivan never set out to become an artist, but one of his photographs recently took first place in an international contest sponsored by Nikon.

Coe-Sullivan found art one day when his microscope image of quantum dot nanocrystals revealed elaborate patterns instead of the flat films he was expecting. He showed the results to research colleagues John Kymissis and Sung-Hoon Kang of MIT's Research Laboratory of Electronics, who suggested Coe-Sullivan enter the images in Nikon's Small World Photomicrography contest. The image took first prize, netting Coe-Sullivan some new Nikon camera equipment and

publicity in USA Today.

An enlargement of the photograph will hang with the other 20 winning images in galleries throughout the U.S. during the month of January. A

copy also will hang in a hallway of Building 13 near Coe-Sullivan's office, he said.

For 30 years, the contest has been honoring those who photograph the tiniest of subjects with the most vivid results using light microscopes. In the case of the prize-winning image, "each 'coffee bean' is about 100um in size, or the diameter of a piece of human hair," said Coe-Sullivan.

Coe-Sullivan is studying the uses of light emission from the quantum dots in devices such as light bulbs and cell phones. In an Oct. 7 article in USA Today that accompanied a reproduction of the prize-winning photograph, Coe-Sullivan credited the natural world for his unexpected success.

"The natural world is what created the art, much more than I did. I was just there to observe it," said Coe-Sullivan.

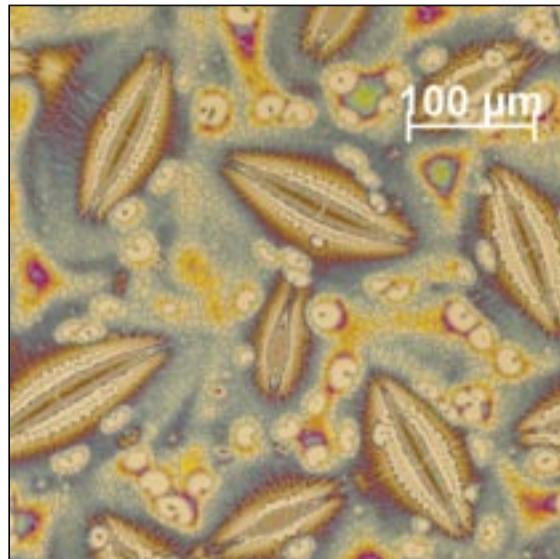


PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

A construction worker seems to be painting on a canvas as he works on the exterior of the new brain and cognitive sciences building under construction on Main Street near Parsons Laboratory.

## Four professors win Presidential Early Career Awards for research support

Four MIT researchers are among the 57 recipients of the 2003 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers given by the U.S. government to recognize researchers at the beginning of their careers. The awards were presented at the White House Sept. 9.

This is the eighth year for the PECASE awards, which were established by the White House in 1996. Scientists and engineers are nominated by eight federal departments and agencies as the researchers best able to fulfill the agencies' missions. Those participating agencies award the young scientists and engineers with up to five years of funding to continue their research.

This year's MIT winners are:

Vladimir Bulovic, associate professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, for his contributions "examining optical and electrical properties of organic and inorganic nanostructured thin films and applying the fundamental findings to develop novel active devices."

Christopher Schuh, assistant professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, for his "combined experimental and theoretical research on the structure-property relationships in advanced structural materials, including amorphous and nanocrystalline metals."

Moe Z. Win, the Charles Stark Draper Associate Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics in the Labo-

ratory for Information and Decision Systems, for his "pioneering work on novel ultra-wide band radio communication systems including fundamental propagation studies, channel modeling, and signal acquisition protocols; providing the foundation for utilizing this new form of radio communication in the design of secure, fade resistant, high data rate wireless networks."

Stephanie Seminara, a visiting scientist in the Clinical Research Center, for "outstanding contributions to the field of reproductive endocrinology, including the identification of genetic factors which regulate the onset of puberty, giving us new insights into the causes of human infertility."



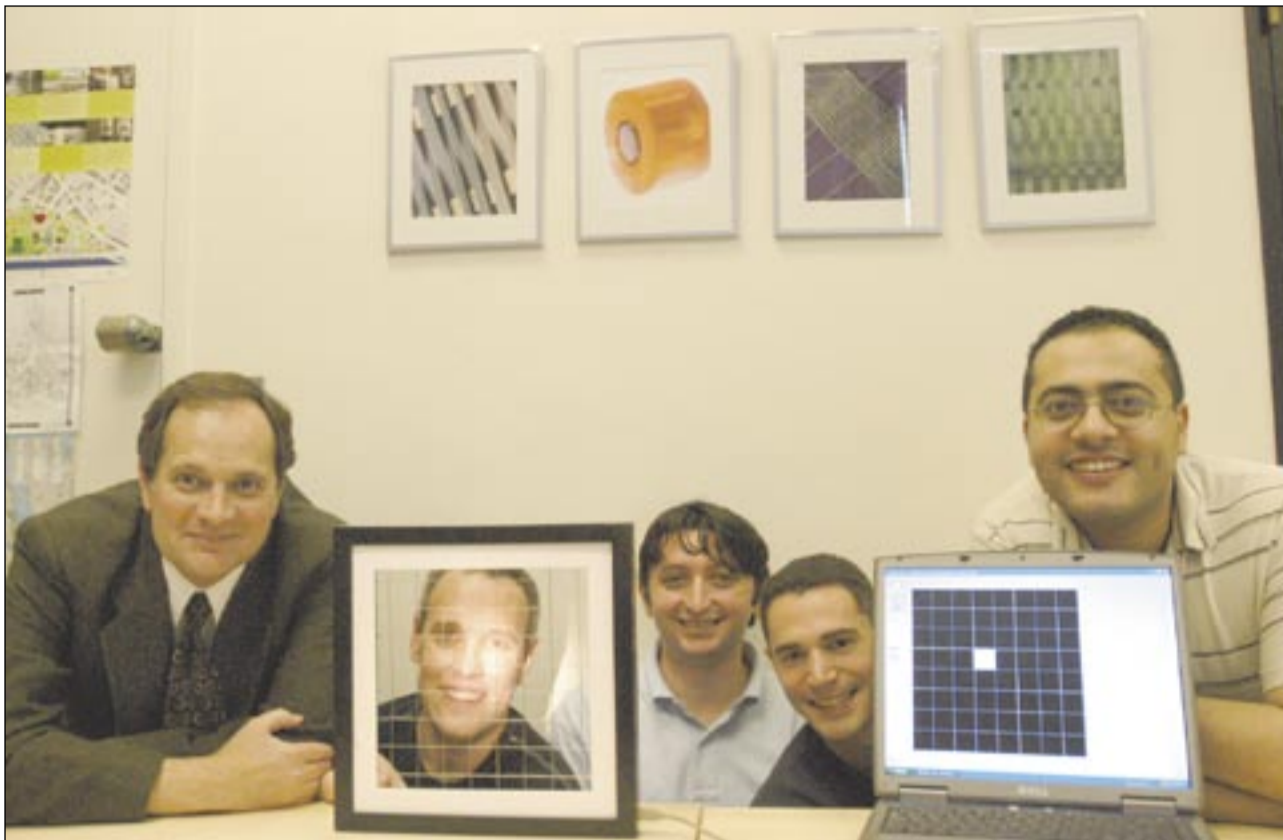


PHOTO / DONNA COVENEY

Researchers display the light-sensitive fabric they created. From left are Professor John Joannopoulos, Professor Yoel Fink (framed with fibers of the new fabric in front of his face), postdoctoral researcher Mehmet Bayindir, graduate student Fabien Sorin and Ayman Abouraddy, a postdoctoral researcher.

## MIT's novel fabrics see the light

### Work combines semiconductors, fiber optics

Elizabeth Thomson  
News Office

In work that could lead to applications such as multi-functional textile fabrics and all-optical computer interfaces, MIT researchers report the creation of flexible fibers and fabrics that can not only sense light, but also analyze its colors.

"These novel fiber structures offer a unique possibility for constructing an optoelectronic functional fabric because the fibers are both flexible and mechanically tough, and can thus be woven," write the researchers in the Oct. 14 issue of *Nature*. "Interesting device applications follow not only from the ability to engineer the single-fiber properties, but also from the specifics of fiber arrangements into larger assemblies."

The team's leader, Yoel Fink, notes that "the technique we developed allows us to bring together two disparate technologies: those involved in creating optical fibers and those for electronic components."

"This work challenges the traditional barrier between semiconductor devices and fiber-optic processing," said Fink, the Thomas B. King Assistant Professor of Materials Science and Engineering. Which means the team now is able to create devices that marry the ease of fabrication, length and flexibility of optical fibers with the many integrated functions associated with semiconductor devices.

"Being able, for the first time, to precisely control the behavior of electrons, photons and their interactions within a fiber framework leads naturally to the exciting pos-

sibility of eventually creating intrinsically smart fabrics," said co-author John D. Joannopoulos, the Francis Wright Davis Professor of Physics.

Some of the most exciting and novel potential applications stem from assembling the fibers into woven structures. As the authors point out, "It is the assembly of such fibers into 2-D grids or webs that enables the identification of the location of an illumination point on a surface," and does so with a very small number of fibers.

Embedding these grids in computer screens or onto projection boards could therefore provide a new type of interface, said Fink. "Instead of having a mechanical mouse, you could just use a light beam, like a laser pointer, to communicate with the computer because the screen would know where it was being hit."

The paper's lead author is Mehmet Bayindir, a postdoctoral associate in MIT's Research Laboratory for Electronics (RLE). Additional authors are RLE postdoctoral associate Ayman Abouraddy, graduate students Fabien Sorin and Jeff Viens of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, and Shandon Hart (MIT Ph.D. 2004, now at 3M). All of the authors are affiliated with MIT's Center for Materials Science and Engineering and RLE.

This work is funded by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Army Research Office, the Office of Naval Research, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, the Department of Energy, MIT's Institute for Soldier Nanotechnology, and the Materials Research Science and Engineering Center (MRSEC) program of the National Science Foundation.

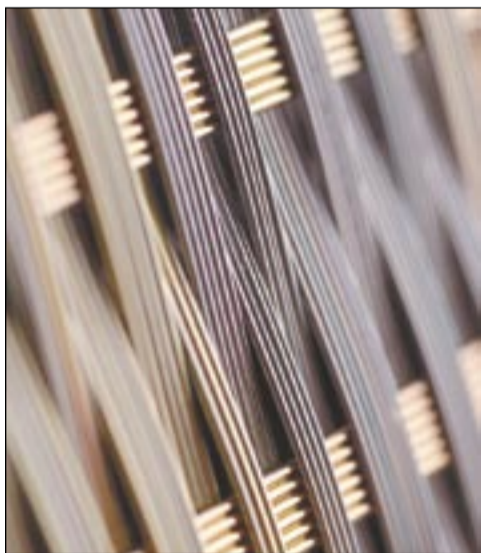


PHOTO / GREG HREN PHOTOGRAPHY

This image is a close-up of a spectrometric fabric made in Yoel Fink's lab.

## CANCER

Continued from Page 1

research scientist, and Jinping Gan, a former graduate student. Their colleagues Manuela Gago-Dominguez, Kazuko Arakawa, Ronald K. Ross, and Mimi C. Yu are at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

In 1993 Tannenbaum and Skipper teamed up with Yu on the ongoing Los Angeles Bladder Cancer Study. Among other conclusions, that study has since identified a compound in the arylamine family that is a risk factor for bladder cancer in nonsmokers.

In the current work, the researchers extended the Los Angeles study to examine "the possible relationship between bladder cancer ... and nine other commonly occurring and structurally related arylamines," according to their paper.

Specifically, they analyzed blood samples from some 600 of the people involved in the study. Half had bladder

cancer; the others did not but were matched against their counterparts for such things as age, sex and neighborhood.

The team then measured exposure to the arylamines via a technique developed by Tannenbaum's team more than 25 years ago. Arylamines to which a person is exposed react with a protein in the blood, resulting in specific products that can be detected and measured via mass spectrometry.

"So what popped out of this was actually pretty startling," Tannenbaum said. "Three of the nine compounds were indeed found to be significant risk factors for bladder cancer in nonsmokers. And except for one, none of those nine had ever been investigated before" for their potential carcinogenic activity, Tannenbaum said.

This work was sponsored by the National Institutes of Health through the National Cancer Institute and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

## Broad gets new center to study genotyping

A \$14 million grant to the the Eli and Edythe L. Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard will allow U.S. researchers to quickly and cost-effectively carry out large-scale studies of genetic variation in humans and animals, work that is key to the identification of genes linked to disease.

The funds from the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), will establish the first national center for high-throughput genotyping dedicated solely to the analysis of large-scale SNP (single nucleotide polymorphism), the most common type of variation in the human genome.

"We are thrilled that the NCRR has selected the Broad Institute for this important responsibility," said Eric Lander, founding director of the Broad Institute and a professor of biology at MIT. "Human genetics is undergoing an extraordinary transformation, which is leading to the ability to take a comprehensive view of all human genetic variation and its association with disease. The National Genotyping Center at the Broad will make this capability accessible to many biomedical researchers and thereby have a direct impact on the understanding of disease."

Many diseases can be traced to inherited differences in each individual's genes. A SNP (pronounced "snip") is a single DNA base pair, or unit of DNA, the sequence of which can vary from individual to individual. It is estimated that there are at least 10 million SNPs in the human population. Scientists have found that certain SNP combinations are associated with predisposition to particular diseases or adverse drug reactions.

The new center will offer tools to aid in the selection, discovery and analysis of SNPs by providing broad access to flexible, accurate and affordable genotyping and sequencing. Integrated computational tools will help researchers manage large collections of patient data and design experiments using secure informatics tools for sample management.

"The tremendous potential of genetic research makes it critical that we develop this central resource so investigators around the country can access high-capacity genotyping with the additional benefits of economies of scale, quality assurance and data sharing," said Anthony Hayward, director of the NCRR Division for Clinical Research Resources.

"The demand for genotyping will grow exponentially as investigators prioritize potential targets for treatment and as members of afflicted families try to better estimate their risk for a particular condition."

The new center will provide an integrated SNP selection tool to automate queries and create SNP panels. A secure, web-based environment will provide access to a database linked to an in-house DNA repository and all samples will be coded to assure subject confidentiality. Results will be accessible to the investigators through a secure database integrated with a suite of data management and analytic tools for analysis of correlations among variants and with disease phenotypes.

Because investigators use different technologies based on the scales and configurations needed, a menu of services will be offered using three different technology platforms. When fully operational, the center will be able to process from 200 million to as many as billions of genotypes per year, depending on the technology platform used and the needs of outside users.

The cost for genotyping will be on the order of pennies per genotype, varying according to the technology platform used. Prices are expected to drop further as technology improves. Two decades ago, the cost was \$10 per genotype. A portion of the center's annual budget will be used to partially support compelling genotyping research projects.

The first genotyping studies within the new genotyping center will be performed in early 2005. Researchers interested in access to the center or applying for subsidized genotyping should contact the Broad Institute for details on the application process later this fall.

Stacey Gabriel, the new center's principal investigator and director, currently oversees the Broad's genetic analysis platform; she manages all of the genotyping, SNP discovery, and production activities related to human genetics. Gabriel also serves as scientific director of the Broad Institute's portion of the International HapMap Project, a collaborative public project designed to advance genetic research and its application to disease gene discovery by determining patterns of genetic variation throughout the human genome.

The Broad Institute is a research collaboration between MIT, Harvard University and its hospitals and the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research.

# Internet's snowball effect changes political campaigns

Patti Richards  
News Office

"New Media, Old Politics," a panel discussion co-sponsored by the MIT Communications Forum and by the Technology and Culture Forum last Friday, featured presentations on the impact of the Internet and other forms of new media on the 2004 presidential campaign.

The three panelists were Henry Jenkins, the John E. Burchard Professor of Humanities and director of Comparative Media Studies; Garret LoPorto, a consultant for viral Internet marketing campaigns; and Joe Trippi, the national campaign manager for Howard Dean's 2004 campaign and the author of "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised" (HarperCollins). David Thorburn, professor of literature and director of the MIT Communications Forum, moderated the Oct. 14 event in Bartos Theater.

Jenkins identified "convergence"—the interplay between different types of new media and the intersection between old media and new—as being a central factor in this year's political coverage. Both he and Trippi spoke of a campaign caught in the crossfire of the Internet and TV, where a candidate's web postings often get taken out of context, forcing them to defend themselves on television and sparking a mini media tidal wave.

LoPorto said the Internet makes possible a whole new level of viral marketing—putting out targeted messages to a group of like-minded individuals and creating a snowball effect—for political campaigns. This kind of marketing is

at the core of groups like MoveOn.org.

For LoPorto, who works with truemajority.org, the grassroots advocacy group started by Ben Cohen (of Ben and Jerry's), the challenge is to put out the right message to the right group at the right moment. In the best possible scenario, he might get a 2 to 4 percent response rate from an e-mailing to a carefully selected list of 100,000 names, and that mailing might become a groundswell.

Trippi, a self-proclaimed "technology geek," agreed with Jenkins that a clash between the ascendancy of the Internet and the decline of television is the media story behind this year's presidential campaigns. The Internet is letting Americans connect in powerful ways along political lines, Trippi said.

During the discussion, some in the audience said it was the old media that did in the Dean campaign by incessantly replaying the candidate's infamous "I have a scream" speech. But the miracle, according to Trippi, is that Dean's post-paper, post-broadcast Internet campaign worked at all.

"Dean showed amazing courage and talent, proven by how far he went," Trippi said.

Trippi predicted that American politics hasn't seen the end of the Dean campaign. In another decade or two, "there will be 20 or 30 members of Congress who got their start in the Dean campaign," and they will bring a totally different view of community and empowerment to the electorate, he said.

The Communications Forum and the Technology and Culture Forum will present a sequel presentation, "New Roles for Established Media," Oct. 28 at 5 p.m. in Bartos Theater.

## Migration policy coherence needed, U.N. official says

Mamphela Ramphela, co-chair of the U.N. Commission on Global Migration and formerly one of four managing directors at the World Bank, portrayed the policy incoherence and hypocrisy now endangering the 200 million people who live outside their countries of origin in a talk delivered on Oct. 5 in Wong Auditorium.

Ramphela, 56, a South African physician with a Ph.D. in social anthropology, gave the keynote presentation in an event hosted by the Center for International Studies' Starr Forum to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Inter-University Committee on Migration.

"Migration is as old as human history. Today, capital, goods, ideas and high-tech people move freely. But lower-skilled asylum seekers face many obstacles, resulting in the use of human smugglers and traffickers and in the likelihood of being detained, deported, marginalized and exploited," Ramphela said.

Consistency of laws across nations is the best way to ease the suffering endemic to migration now, she said.

Social imperatives arise partly, she said, from demographic pressure. For example, the average age of people in Northern Africa is between 15 and 35; in Europe, it is between 35 and 65. Clearly, the young people from Africa are doing work too demanding (or demeaning) for the aging population of Europe. Northern countries need labor from the south to grow their economies, Ramphela said.

"The common hypocrisy is, a developed nation uses this flexible, cheap work force but does not acknowledge it's necessary to the society," she said.

—Sarah Wright

### INSTITUTE HOLIDAYS

The following are recognized Institute Holidays through 2005 and the dates on which they will be observed. This list is also available online at the Human Resources web site.

Veterans' Day.....	Thursday, Nov. 11, 2004
Thanksgiving Day.....	Thursday, Nov. 25
Day after Thanksgiving.....	Friday, Nov. 26
Christmas Day.....	Friday, Dec. 24
New Year's Day.....	Friday, Dec. 31
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day....	Monday, Jan. 17, 2005
President's Day.....	Monday, Feb. 21
Patriots' Day.....	Monday, April 18
Memorial Day.....	Monday, May 30
Independence Day.....	Monday, July 4
Labor Day.....	Monday, Sept. 5
Columbus Day.....	Monday, Oct. 10
Veterans' Day.....	Friday, Nov. 11
Thanksgiving Day.....	Thursday, Nov. 24
Day after Thanksgiving.....	Friday, Nov. 25
Christmas Day.....	Monday, Dec. 26

### 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.

#### FOR SALE

Kaplan Books: Lesson Book, 2001 Edition, \$10; Verbal Reasoning/Writing, 2001 Edition, \$10; Biological Sciences Review Notes, 2001 Edition, \$15; Physical Sciences Review Notes, 2001 Edition, \$15. All for \$40. [jennymac@mit.edu](mailto:jennymac@mit.edu).

Creative Webcam NX with software \$10. Shrek for Gameboy Color \$5. Lego Spybotics-high tech robots \$25. Call Cheryl 253-3092 or [cheryl@mit.edu](mailto:cheryl@mit.edu).

Piano: Yamaha U1F 48" upright, approx. 30 yrs old, very well cared for, ex. cond. Mahogany. \$4000. Jim at 617-489-4580 or [poterba@mit.edu](mailto:poterba@mit.edu).

Queen size tempur-pedic adjustable sleep system. Wireless remote, vibration, great shape. Originally \$3,000. Will sell for \$1000/bst. [bamarcus@alum.mit.edu](mailto:bamarcus@alum.mit.edu) or 781-687-9672.

Set of china for 8, pretty blue flowers w/silver.

Scotland sheepskin coat, women/petite. Antique copper, teapot. Art Prints framed. Roller blades, size 6, female. Carol at 452-3847.

Mahogany china cabinet, w/glass (bow) window/drawers, beautiful, like new. \$600. Old mahogany china buffet, fair cond. \$30. Caroline at 781-891-5205, daytime only.

#### HOUSING

Visiting faculty/post-docs: furnished room w/ kitchen/laundry privileges, linens, all utilities, wireless and cable, walking distance to MIT. New, bright, quiet. International. Conservation-oriented. References. \$950 - \$1000/month, \$250/week. 617-625-9839.

South of France: Large, sunny furnished apartment for rent in Marseille. Avail. Feb. 1, 2005-August 1, 2006. Pictures and info at <http://matrixeditions.com/Marseilleapartment.html>. John Hubbard [atjhh8@cornell.edu](mailto:atjhh8@cornell.edu) or 607-272-7562.

Central Square: 1 BR, sunny, garden level apt. in residential house. Partly furnished. \$850/mo. No utilities. No smokers, no pets. EJ at 617-868-0852 or [amacdonald03@sprynet.com](mailto:amacdonald03@sprynet.com).

Somerville: 2BR, LR, kitchen/DR. Hrdwd floors, gas heat/cooking/hot water, off st. prkng, open porch, private backyard. 3 units. For sale. Pat

Fiorello at 781-395-7265.

Arlington: furnished room, near public trans., off st. prkng. Own TV and fridge, kitchen privileges. \$500/mo. Security deposit/references required. Avail. Dec. 1. 781-648-7425.

#### VEHICLES

JEHM Power Sports all terrain go-kart. ATK-125 fr. & rr. suspension. Knobby tires. Lights, roll cage, racing seat, harness. 40+ mph. \$1500. 617-389-5154 or [jchute@mit.edu](mailto:jchute@mit.edu).

2001 Toyota RAV4. dark green, 5 door SUV, ex. cond., 75,000 miles. 2WD, auto, one owner, Toyota serviced, garaged. \$10,500. 617-354-2469.

1994 Ford Escort LX Station Wagon, 4D, 138K, Automatic, AC, PS, Good running cond. Current inspection sticker/registration. \$1200/bst (KBB: \$1600). 617-964-3607 or [demirevs@comcast.net](mailto:demirevs@comcast.net).

2001 VW GTI 1.8T, Black, 2 dr, auto, 33K, heated seats, most options, exc. cond. \$12,000/bst. Indira Pottebaum at [ipottebaum@ll.mit.edu](mailto:ipottebaum@ll.mit.edu) or

#### WANTED

Volunteers needed for a Seasonal Affective

### NEWS YOU CAN USE

#### Debate looks at national security

The Stratton Lecture, scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 26 at 4 p.m. in the Tang Center, will feature a debate about balancing national security with constitutional rights. President Lawrence Bacow of Tufts University (formerly chancellor of MIT), an expert on non-judiciary approaches to dispute resolution, will moderate the discussion. Panelists will be Juliette Kayyem of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard; Andrew McCarthy, who specializes in the analysis of militant Islamic terror groups; and Robert M. O'Neil, professor of law and founding director of the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression at the University of Virginia.

#### Economic questions addressed

A special series of seminars on "Technology, the Economy, and the American Elections" has been arranged by MIT's Industrial Performance Center to highlight fundamental questions voters may have about the American economy and what can be done to strengthen its foundations. Both lectures will take place at 4 p.m. on Thursday afternoons.

On Oct. 21 Professor Ed Steinfeld of political science will speak on "China's Economic Rise and American Electoral Politics" in Room 4-237. Professors Suzanne Berger of political science and Charlie Sodini and Tayo Akinwande of electrical engineering and computer science will speak Oct. 28 on "Made All Over—What Globalization Means for Productivity, Innovation, and Jobs" in Room E51-395.

#### Faculty to meet today

A regular meeting of the faculty will be held today (Oct. 20) at 3:30 p.m. in the Kirsch Auditorium of the Stata Center. Agenda items are an update on the Cambridge-MIT Institute, by Professor Ed Crawley; a proposal for a Master of Engineering in Manufacturing degree in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, by Professor David Hardt; a report on the Department of Nuclear Engineering name change, by Professor Ian Hutchinson; a report on the admissions, enrollment, housing and financial aid for the Class of 2008, by deans Larry Benedict, Marilee Jones and Robert Redwine; and a report from the Committee on Student Life, by Professor Hazel Sive.

#### Environmental fair planned

The Environment, Health and Safety Office at MIT will hold a fair tomorrow to increase awareness of environmental, health and safety issues at MIT. The EHS Fair will be held in La Sala de Puerto Rico in the Student Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 21.

#### L2L program changes schedule

The Leader to Leader (L2L) program, which in its first three years provided leadership development to nearly 60 members of the Institute community, has been shifted to a biennial program. The next L2L will begin in January 2006. In the off-years, the program will hold L2L alumni activities.

Program staff shifted the schedule in order to conduct a thorough evaluation of all components; consider revisions suggested by the evaluation; strengthen the L2L alumni network and leverage the increased leadership capacity its graduates embody; consider ways to provide other types of leadership programs; and spread the cost of the 12-month program across two fiscal years.

Disorder (SADS) study testing different beverages' effects on mood, appetite and energy levels. Requires 1/wk from 3:30 to 6:00 pm. Pays \$300.00. 452-4184 or [janine@mit.edu](mailto:janine@mit.edu).

Student seeks laptop. Looking to buy a laptop I can trust. Kate at 617-894-3189.

Jobs for babysitter/nanny. Avail. most eves and weekends. Experienced (occasional sitter locally, recent f/t experience). Currently f/t artist at LL, p/t grad student. References avail. Rate negotiable. 617-721-2027 or [deforest@ll.mit.edu](mailto:deforest@ll.mit.edu).

#### STUDENT POSITIONS

Positions for students with work-study eligibility.

Girls Incorporated of Lynn seeks: career path coordinator, peer education advisor, academic advisor, science and math specialist, and program specialist. Descriptions at [www.girlsinclynn.org](http://www.girlsinclynn.org). 781-592-9744.

"Channel Surfing," an after school program for middle and high school students, seeks program assistants. Experience working with adolescents and/or teens. Strong background in arts, adventure programming, science, cooking. T accessible (Orange Line). Parking avail. Catherine Bingham at 781-324-7680.



# Marks gives silent films a new hearing

Silent films may have lacked dialogue, but they certainly did not lack sound. Music—often performed live—was fundamental to setting mood, heightening tension, and signalling romance or conveying comedy. Now an MIT lecturer and his colleagues have brought their talents and passions to a new set of DVDs that brings to life this music and the almost-forgotten films it accompanies.

“More Treasures from American Film Archives: 50 Films, 1894-1931,” is a box set showcasing 50 rare films and six trailers recorded during the first four decades of American filmmaking. The collection was issued by the National Film Preservation Foundation under a National Endowment for the Humanities grant. Scores in the collection were recorded in Killian Hall, under supervision of Boston-based recording engineer, Ken Lacouture.

“The films restored to life by this collection have much to teach us about America’s cultural history and the motion picture medium’s inexhaustible potential,” said senior lecturer Martin Marks, who served as music curator for the collection. “I wanted the music to enhance the educational value, to delight audiences, and to enrich the sum of these treasures.”

Dave Kehr of the New York Times called the music track a “triumph” and the entire film compilation “nine and a half hours of ecstasy.”

Marks will host a multimedia performance of some of the films to celebrate release of the three-DVD collection

on Wednesday, Oct. 27 at 8 p.m. in Killian Hall.

Films screened will include “Rip Van Winkle” (1896) scored by lecturer Charles Shadle and played by Shadle on harpsichord and Marks on piano; “Skyscraper Symphony” (1929) scored by Professor Peter Child and recorded by The Lydian Quartet; “Cockeyed: Gems from the Memory of a Nutty Cameraman” (ca. 1925), with a score composed and recorded by Assistant Professor Brian Robison for electric guitar; “Breath of a Nation,” a short animated satire of prohibition, scored by a five-man ensemble led by lecturer Mark Harvey; and “A Bronx Morning,” an abstract collage of films featuring Marks on piano with Professor Jay Keyser on trombone, Professor Evan Ziporyn on clarinet and Harvey on trumpet.

The evening will conclude with live performances of “Tramp Tramp Tramp” (1926), a sing-along cartoon with audience participation led by a vocal quartet; “Zora Neale Hurston’s Fieldwork Footage” (1928); and “Inklings” (1926) a Fleischer cartoon newly scored by Fred Steiner and conducted by lecturer Fred Harris, director of the MIT Wind Ensembles.

“I’m grateful to all those driven people,” said Marks referring to his colleagues and students who “snatched time out of frantic schedules to become—if only for a shadowy few hours—movie musicians in Killian Hall,” Marks said.



PHOTO / “THERE IT IS” (1928)

The photo above shows a scene from “There It Is,” a 1928 comedy by Charley Bowers that has been included in a new three-DVD set of historical silent films compiled by MIT’s Martin Marks.

## Festival ends with a flurry

“Beyond Exile: Central European Writing and Film,” the Center for Bilingual/Bicultural Studies and Foreign Languages and Literatures’ month-long festival of film, poetry and politics, concludes with a flurry of events on Saturday, Oct. 23.

Warsaw-born filmmaker Agnieszka Holland will screen and lead a discussion of her film “Julie Walking Home” in Room 10-250 at noon. The drama explores a

story about a Canadian woman who cannot accept the impending death of her child from cancer. She embarks on a journey to Poland to seek the help of a Russian faith healer.

At 3:30 p.m. in Room 4-237A, a roundtable discussion will feature Visiting Professor Eva Hoffman, Assistant Professor Charity Scribner, culture critic Susan Suleiman, and author Dubravka Ugresic.

# Photos preserve Lebanon’s architectural heritage

Lynn Heinemann  
Office of the Arts

In pursuit of his dream to build his own home, Joseph Homer Saleh discovered a true respect for architectural preservation in his native Lebanon. The photographic results can be seen in an exhibition at the Rotch Library titled “The (Fading) Poetry of Old Lebanese Houses.”

Seeking to give himself an architectural education, Saleh, who is executive director of the Ford-MIT Alliance at the Center for Technology, Policy and Industrial Development, roamed Lebanon between December 2003 and July 2004 in search of old houses to photograph. He was interested in finding ideas for his own home and in understanding and documenting the elements and diversity of Lebanese architecture, which he says are “mainly 18th and 19th century houses, not palaces or big mansions.”

“I became interested in the mapping between a set of impressions and the design elements,” said Saleh. “What is it in architecture that conveys warmth, expresses openness and suggests hospitality? Can one design for such attributes, or are they ‘accidents’ of a design one stumbles upon after the house has been built?” he asked.

As Saleh learned about architecture and building techniques—the effects of stone, color, texture, arches, proportions, volumes and other design elements that lead to an emotional response—he also learned about photography and architectural preservation.

Saleh’s mission expanded as he saw the architectural heritage of Lebanon “fading into a sea of ugliness, an expanding jungle of concrete gulping the few remaining fragments of aesthetics in Lebanese architecture.” What had started as architectural research became something else—a desire to document the rich heritage and educate others about it. By photographically preserving them and “weeding out the context,” Saleh says he is attempting to

give the old houses an “ephemeral revenge over the concrete reality that was engulfing them.”

Saleh’s research also became a social experience, as he sought admittance to people’s houses. “I’d ask if I could photograph the old house next door from their balcony or rooftop,” said Saleh, noting that he always was received cordially, and sometimes was offered coffee or breakfast. “Intrigued at first, my hosts would sometimes recount the story of the old house,” he said, recalling one house that belonged to “Francis, one of the seven families in a small village that was Amchit...”

Saleh hopes to engage architecture students in Lebanon to take on the cause of the old abandoned houses and to create a non-governmental organization to “advocate the cause of this wonderful architectural heritage,” he said. Meanwhile, his plans for his own house are still a work in progress. “It’s coming along nicely,” he said.

The exhibition is on view through Oct. 31.



PHOTOS / JOSEPH SALAH

Image from “The (Fading) Poetry of Old Lebanese Homes,” a photography exhibition by Joseph Saleh at the Rotch Library.



“I love the dialogue in this picture. It reminds me of the call and response sequence in jazz between two instruments,” said Saleh about this image.

MIT EVENT HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 20 - 24



PHOTO / ASHLEY KIM

Prokofiev with Percy

Percy Liang, winner of the MITSO concerto competition, will play Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3 on Friday at 8 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium. Admission is \$5 at the door.

WEDNESDAY  
October 20

**Curator's Gallery Talk**  
Which artifact would curator Deborah Douglas save in case of fire? Find out at 10:30-11:45am. MIT Museum. 253-2825.

**"Selections from the Collection"**  
Seventeen pieces with a pop art flair from the List Center's permanent collection. The Dean's Gallery (Room E52-466). 9am-5pm. 253-4400.

**Artist Behind the Desk**  
Administrative assistant Sally Honda of materials science and engineering performs on piano. Noon-1pm. Killian Hall. 253-9821.

**Elizabeth Streb**  
Eat pizza and meet dancer and choreographer Elizabeth Streb, an artist in residence. 5-6:30pm. Rainbow Lounge (Room 50-306). 253-6777.

THURSDAY  
October 21

**EHS Awareness Day Fair**  
Learn what MIT is doing to protect the environment. 10am-2pm. La Sala de Puerto Rico, Student Center. 452-3897.

**Chapel Concert**  
Amaryllis Ensemble. Noon. MIT Chapel. 253-9800.

**Media Literacy: Learning and Understanding in the Information Age**  
Educators discuss learning in the new media environments. 5-7pm. Room E25-111. 253-3521

**"Beyond Exile: Central European Writing, Film"**  
Screening of Agnieszka Holland film "Europa Europa." Oct. 21-23. 7pm. Room 4-237. 253-4771.

**poetry@mit: Daisy Fried**  
1998 Pew Fellowship recipient Daisy Fried. 7pm. Room 6-120. 253-7894.

FRIDAY  
October 22

**Speaker's Freedom and Maker's Knowledge**  
Women's Studies Faculty Intellectual Forum by Professor Rae Langton. Noon. Room 14N-417.

**Abandoned Bicycles Auction**  
Preview at 12:30pm. Auction at 1pm. Must have MIT ID. Parking lot on Vassar Street next to the N10 parking lot.

**"Beyond Exile: Central European Writing, Film"**  
Screening of Agnieszka Holland's film, "Shot in the Heart." 7pm. Room 4-237. 253-4771.

**MIT Symphony Orchestra**  
Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3 with Percy Liang. \$5. 8pm. Kresge Auditorium. 452-2394.

**"This Spring of Love"**  
Play directed by Michael Ouellette. Runs Oct. 21-23. 8pm. Kresge Rehearsal Room B. 253-4720.

SATURDAY  
October 23

**Varsity Crew at Head of the Charles Regatta**  
Oct. 23-24. 9am. Charles River. 258-5265.

**"Beyond Exile: Central European Writing, Film"**  
Screening of "Julie Walking Home" and discussion with filmmaker Agnieszka Holland. Noon. Room 10-250.

**Roundtable**  
With Eva Hoffman, Charity Scribner, Susan Suleiman and Dubravka Ugresic. Part of "Beyond Exile." 3:30pm. Room 4-237.

**Metaphor to Journalism: Sorrows of Scribblers Without Walls**  
Talk by Andrei Codrescu. Part of "Beyond Exile." 7pm. Stata Center, Room 155. 253-4771.

**Sushi Night with the Epicureans**  
Make and eat your own sushi. By reservation only. Tickets: \$10, \$12, \$15. 5-9pm. 253-1956.

SUNDAY  
October 24

**Varsity Crew at Head of the Charles Regatta**  
Cheer on the team. 9am. Charles River. 258-5265.

**The (Fading) Poetry of Old Lebanese Houses**  
Photographs by Joseph Homer Saleh. Ongoing exhibit through Oct. 31. 2-10pm. Rotch Library.

**MIT Chamber Players**  
Marcus Thompson, music director. MIT students, faculty and guests. 4pm. Kresge Auditorium. 253-9800.

**DJ Lessons**  
Five-week crash course on DJing. All levels welcome. Sponsored by the Dance Mix Coalition. \$20 MIT undergrads, \$50 others. 6-9:45pm.

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

LIVE MUSIC, SILENT FILMS

A multimedia concert celebrates "More Treasures from American Film Archives: 50 Films, 1894-1931," a new DVD set.

Oct. 27

Killian Hall  
8 - 10 p.m.

NEW ROLES FOR OLD MEDIA?

Panelists discuss how the Internet and cable TV channels have fundamentally altered American politics.

Oct. 28

Bartos Theater  
5 - 7 p.m.

F.A.S.T PROGRAM: GOT BRAINS?

BCS grad students present an educational, Halloween-appropriate exploration of the human brain and mind. 253-4444.

Oct. 31

MIT Museum  
2 p.m.

MIT EVENT HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 25 - 31

MONDAY  
October 25

**P B & Jam Booth to Fight Hunger**  
Stop by and make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich to donate to CASPAR. Noon. Lobby 10. 253-2982.

**"The Afghan Girl in Transnational Visual Culture"**  
Talk by Holly Edwards of Williams College. Aga Khan Program in Islamic Architecture. 5:30pm. Room 3-133. 253-1400.

**Human Rights and Security Dimensions of Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo**  
Ken Oye will moderate a discussion between Colin Jackson of MIT's Security Studies Program and international human rights lawyer, Michael Ratner. 5-6:30pm. Room 66-110. 258-7614.

**Mars Settlement Brainstorming**  
Help plan the first permanent settlement on another world. 6-8pm. Building 33.

TUESDAY  
October 26

**National Security and Personal Freedom**  
The Catherine N. Stratton Lecture. Four public policy experts debate. Lawrence Bacow, president of Tufts, moderates. 4-6pm. Wong Auditorium. 253-3656.

**Bush's and Kerry's Policies on Embryonic Stem Cell**  
Research Harvey Lodish of Whitehead and Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk of the National Catholic Bioethics Center. Q-and-A follows. 5-6pm. Room 1-135.

**"Body Parts—A Self-Portrait by John Coplans"**  
Talk by Peter Plagens, Newsweek art critic and painter. 6pm. Bartos Theater (E15). 253-4680.

**"Vignettes"**  
Color photographs by Brad Endicott (S.B. 1949). Wiesner Student Art Gallery. 253-4005.

WEDNESDAY  
October 27

**"Cerith Wyn Evans: Thoughts unsaid, now forgotten..."**  
Concurrent exhibitions at the List Center and the Museum of Fine Arts. List Visual Arts Center. Noon-6pm.

**Bush's and Kerry's Policies on National Security**  
Allison Macfarlane and Owen Cote of the Center for International Studies give their views on the national security policies of Bush and Kerry in 15-minute presentations. 4pm. Room 1-150.

**"Battle of Algiers"**  
1967 Algerian film. 6pm. Room 3-133. 258-8438.

THURSDAY  
October 28

**Object of the Month**  
Frontispiece of pamphlet on mesmerism, "Traces du Magnetisme," by Jacques Cambry, 1784. Institute Archives and Special Collections exhibit in hallway across from Room 14N-118. 253-5136.

**Chapel Concert**  
Joshua Millard, guitar. Noon. MIT Chapel. 253-9800.

**"The Art of Structural Design: A Swiss Legacy"**  
Talk by Peter Marti, professor of structural engineering, ETH Zürich, in conjunction with Compton Gallery exhibition. 6pm. Room 10-250. 253-2825.

**The Taming of the Shrew**  
Shakespeare Ensemble. \$8, \$6 MIT/Wellesley students. Two for one on opening night. 8pm. Kresge Little Theater. 253-2903.

FRIDAY  
October 29

**The Billion Dollar Feline Phenomenon**  
Ken Belson of The New York Times explains how Hello Kitty became a huge phenomenon. Noon. E51-095. 258-8208.

**On the Red Carpet**  
Campus-wide formal dance. \$6 residents of MacGregor, McCormick or Simmons and \$10 resident couple. Others: \$8 single, \$12 couple. 8pm-1am. Copley Plaza.

SATURDAY  
October 30

**Varsity Coed Sailing**  
The Erwin Schell Trophy regatta. 9:30am. Charles River. 258-5265.

**"The Clipper Ship Era"**  
Exhibit focuses on the design, construction, speed and social experience of the clipper ship era. MIT Museum. Noon-5pm.

SUNDAY  
October 31

**Varsity Football vs. Salve Regina University**  
Noon. Steinbrenner Stadium. 258-5265.

**Dawn of the Dead**  
LSC. \$3. 7pm. 26-100. 253-3791.

**International Folk Dancing (participatory)**  
8pm. Lobdell Dining Hall. 253-FOLK.



PHOTO / MARIANNE MARKS

Halloween Contra Dance

The Dixie Butterhounds will perform live with caller Laura Johannes on Oct. 26 from 8-10:30 p.m. in Lobby 13. Tickets are free for MIT and Wellesley students and cost \$3 for others.