Hastings is Next Undergrad Education Dean

By Marle Y. Thibault

Daniel E. Hastings ’78, professor in the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics and Director of the Engineering Systems Division, was named the next dean for undergraduate education last Thursday afternoon.

In an e-mail to the MIT community, Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD ’75 and President Susan Hockfield said that Hastings had accepted an “exiting time in the evolution of our undergraduate program, as the Task Force on the Undergraduate Educational Commons prepares to issue its report.”

Hastings will take office in January, replacing Robert F. Redwine, who has served as dean for undergraduate education for five years and plans to return to physics teaching and research.

Hastings said he feels delighted and challenged by the position. He said his long-term plans include working with the task force. Their report will be the “first serious look at the Undergraduate Commons in a long time,” and “not many people get the opportunity to contribute in this way,” he said.

In the short term, Hastings said he would like to learn more about the responsibilities of the Office of Undergraduate Education. He also plans to continue his research, and hopes to still teach in some form when he assumes his office, he said.

Ten offices and about 250 people report to the dean for undergraduate education, including the Admissions Office, Academic Services, and the Registrar’s Office. Managing these offices makes up much of the dean’s everyday business, Clay said.

Hastings will work on several long-term tasks besides the Undergraduate Commons report, including monitoring the communications requirement, upgrading teaching faculty, expanding career education, and improving undergraduate advising and mentoring, Clay said.

An internal search to fill the position began in June with a review of all professors as potential candidates. Members of the Undergraduate Education Dean Selection Committee interviewed nominated professors and made a short list. Clay interviewed the remaining candidates and made the final selection.

To be able to take responsibility for such a large number of tasks, a prime candidate should have managed an enterprise, Clay said. Hastings’s experience as EOD director and head of the Technology and Policy Program is important in this respect.

Professor of Biology Graham C. Walker, a member of the selection committee, said that Hastings is compelling, intelligent, insightful, thoughtful, and seems to have a very strong understanding of the core issues of education.

Founders Donate $100M to Harvard for Broad Institute

By Kelley Rivoire

A year and a half ago, the Broad Institute was launched through a $100 million gift to MIT from philanthropists Eli and Edythe Broad. Last Wednesday, the Broads pledged another $110 million, this time to Harvard, MIT’s university partner in the genome research center.

The Broad Institute also includes Harvard-affiliated hospitals and MIT’s Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research.

The $200 million total contribution is the largest such gift for a research collaboration between universities, according to a press release.

The Broad Institute’s main projects include the RNA Consortium, study of the use of RNA interference as a tool for gene silencing; the Mammalian Genome Project, successor to the Human Genome Project in gene sequencing; and the Cancer Genome Project, which aims to provide a complete list of genetic variations that could have roles in cancer.

“The Broads’ unrestricted support helps a remarkable generation seize the opportunities ahead,” said Eric S. Lander, founding director of the Broad Institute, according to a press release.

The combined $200 million gift will be received over 10 years at $20 million per year, the press release said.

Early next year, the Broad Institute will move into a new building under construction at 7 Cambridge Center, near the new Brain and Cognitive Sciences Complex.

Vanessa F. Hsu-Chen ’05 selects her desserts from the many cakes, cookies, and other sweets being sold in Lobby 10 as a World AIDS Day fundraiser. Each year on Dec. 1, World AIDS Institute Quilt Panels are displayed and MIT affiliates come together to raise money to be donated to AIDS groups in the Boston area. This year’s proceeds will be donated to the Boston Living Center.

The Weather

Today: Cloudy, windy, 41°F (4°C)
Tomorrow: Sunny, 39°F (4°C)

Details, Page 2

In Short

* 2008 early applications were submitted for MIT’s Class of 2010, a 10.7 percent increase from 2799 last year, according to Dean of Admissions Marilee Jones.

* Applications for the Large Event Fund and Assisting Recurring Cultural and Diversity Events funding are due to the Student Life Programs office today at 5 p.m. for events scheduled to occur between Dec. 15, 2005 and Mar. 15, 2006.

* Pamela Dumas Serfes has been named Interim News Office Director, as the search for a new director continues, said Denise Brehm of the News Office. After a new director is named, Serfes will serve as director of communications and donor relations.

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.
A Cold Outlook

By Ceggie J. Chan

Greetings:

Earlier this week’s high temperatures were in the 40°F-60°F range. But the last two days high temperatures have dropped into the 40s°F. Are there even colder temperatures over the horizon? Don’t shoot the messenger — but the answer is yes. Unfortunately, it still may be official, if you’re an off-campus student, get ready to pay more this month than you did last December. Not only is natural gas prices more expensive this year, but according to the National Climate Prediction Center (NCDC), December temperatures in the northeast will likely be colder than normal.

The forecast predicts a NCDC claim. Although normal high temperatures are supposed to be in the mid-40s°F, after today, high temperatures will likely be under 40°F for the next few days. Although no real winter, the cold temperature may be a good opportunity to enjoy some outdoor activities. However, please dress accordingly.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy. Winds with gusts around 25 mph. Highs in the lower 40°F-50°F (4°C-10°C).

Tonight: Mostly cloudy with a chance of flurries. Cold with lows in the mid 20°F-30°F (-4°C-0°C).

Tomorrow: Mostly sunny. Winds with gusts around 20 mph. Highs in the upper 30°F-40°F (0°C-5°C).

Tomorrow night: Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 30°F-40°F (0°C-5°C).

Sunday: Cloudy with a chance of snow. Highs in the mid 30°F-40°F (0°C-5°C).

It’s going to be a cold one, so make sure to stay warm and take care of yourself during this cold spell.
By Scott Shane

WASHINGTON

The National Security Agency has released hundreds of pages of previously secret documents in the 1964 Gulf of Tonkin controversy, an important but neglected and critical role near the beginning of the Vietnam War.

The material posted on the Internet at midnight Wednesday—Thursday includes the agency's summary of effective, intercepted communications made available for study. The most notable is a document written in 2001 in which an agency historian concluded that the top military and intelligence officials “deliberately skewed” the evidence passed on to policymakers on the crucial question of whether North Vietnamese ships attacked U.S. destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin.

The finding came in response to the mistaken belief that such an attack had occurred, President Lyndon B. Johnson commented on it in a speech to North Vietnam, and Congress passed a bill establishing military policy.

The historian, Robert J. Hansky, wrote that the agency had been in the location and it was classified at top-secret despite the fact that it dealt with a “clear and present danger.”

His intelligence findings led to historians outside the agency, who requested the article under the Freedom of Information Act in 2003.

It is not clear how many intelligence officials agreed with the agency’s conclusion that the evidence was deliberately skewed.

The Aug. 7, 1964, attack, involving the USSCronus, was denigrated as the so-called Tonkin Gulf Resolution. It passed the House of Representatives 413-0 and the Senate 88-2. It was signed into law.

The three strikes — two apparently synchronized bombings on Thursday, and the third on Saturday, more than ten miles from the site of the government office where lawyers had been meeting — support a widely held belief that the Bush administration was rains in an already steep decline of law and order.

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Barun Singh

Throughout Western history, religion and science have never really been written along, and for a reason: simple: they are based on the opposing principles of existence and faith. While individuals are able to reconcile their religious beliefs with their understanding of science on a personal level, it is impossible to reconcile the two as institutional modes of thought. Considering the current debate over teaching intelligent design as a scientific theory, the current rate of teaching intelligent design as a scientific model makes little if any sense, and worse, it is the type of intellectual and religious thought.

Science, by necessity, works within a restricted framework that does not bind to religious thought. The success by which scientific understanding evolves (or is designed) involves formulating theories that can explain and collect evidence to either disprove or further support these theories. It is never possible to prove a theory true in the absolute sense. This mode of obtaining knowledge requires that if a scientific theory is incorrect, there should exist, conceptually at least, some evidence to disprove it. Any theory that cannot meet this requirement, i.e., without a doubt, by necessity be said to be correct, but it can be described as scientific.

Religious thought works on the entirely different principle of faith. By definition, faith does not require any proof, or even any physical evidence, in fact, it gains its strength precisely from the lack of such items. It works in absolutes and is impossible to argue against. For example, many conservative Christians have faith that man was created in God’s image, as such, it cannot exist. When confronted with scientific evidence that contradicts (by means of scientific reasoning) this assertion, many modern religious folk will say that the fossils were placed there by God as a test of faith — to which there can be no scientific counteract to make this evidence true.

Despite this, many individuals are able to reconcile their faith with their scientific knowledge edge with much difficulty. This is most commonly done by accepting those elements of existence one believes to be correct, and in this case, “fact” and then allowing faith in all remaining gaps left unanswered (i.e., “let science explain nature, and religion explain the supernatural.”) However, this means the adoption of such an approach for didactic purposes is illogical. Where an individual chooses to draw a line between what he believes of faith and what he accepts only through the scientific process is a personal choice that cannot be set, and should not be, taught in the public forum.

Where an individual chooses to draw the line between what he believes is fact and what he accepts only through the scientific process is a personal choice that cannot be set and should not be taught in the public forum.
TRIO character profiles updated: ALUM.MIT.EDU/WWW/EMIE

Trio

After your little outburst TOTALLY embarrassed me in front of my date, I finally decided to come over here and say hi! It's a funny coincidence how you two HAPPEN to be eating at the EXACT same restaurant as us!

HA, HA, HA!
Yes, a humorous coincidence, indeed! HA, HA!

Rick, she's still here. I'm scared. Don't move. Maybe she'll be like Jurassic Park, and she won't see us.

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FVCKED

yo, i hate dis ghetto, there aint nothin to do, you hear me?

shaddup

yeah and do what?
go climb on roofs?

build a playground?

and if you don't stop we'll f*ck you up!

PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER

Fill in the grid so that every column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contain exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.
Solution, tips, and computer program at http://www.sudoku.com; see also solution, page 10.
Do you make people laugh? Can you do it on purpose? 

Draw for The Tech!

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CD REVIEW

**Morbid Death Cab Still Lovable**

Indie Band’s Latest Works With Love and Loss in ‘Plains’

By Andrew Guerra

Plans

Death Cab for Cutie

Atlantic Records

I admit it. I thought Death Cab for Cutie was done. All the signs were there. They jumped labels from the tiny Barsuk to the powerhouse Atlantic Records. They made an appearance on “The OC,” America’s new-est favorite soap drama about teenagers. The group’s front man, Ben Gibbard, even did a successful side project. Yet somewhere along the way, this standard recipe for failure went wrong. Instead of producing a soulless bucket of formulas andformula, Death Cab made one of the most mature, emotionally honest, enjoyable albums I’ve heard in the past year. “Plans” is Death Cab for Cutie’s fifth full-length release, as mentioned above, their first on Atlantic Records, and their second with Jason McEuen on drums — the first time they have had the same drummer on consecutive albums. It would be unfair to call Death Cab’s sound unoriginal, but they do not stray far from the nearest pop hook. Gibbard’s voice is the central component in nearly all of their songs, with varying amounts of acoustic guitar, percussion, and soft electronic effects arranged around it. In addition, there’s a certain simplicity and ploddingness to Death Cab’s sound, so those who require complex electronic post-production or heavy guitar riffs to enjoy music have to look elsewhere. However, the main attraction to Death Cab for Cutie lies not in clever or original song construction, but in Gibbard’s lyrics. In the past, the lyrics have focused on the positive and negative aspects of relationships and love, passionately portraying the highs and lows through emotional honesty and sentimentality. “Plans” has a slightly topical departure for the band, as the theme of death is introduced and intertwined with that of love. These themes represent the nascent awareness of mortality that the band members themselves have begun to feel as they grow older. As a result, the shadow of missing love hangs over the entire album, represented in songs like “I Will Follow You into the Dark,” “Somewhere I’ll Catch You,” and “Sick,” three songs that also happen to be among the album’s standouts.

“Plans” certainly has its faults. The transition to a major label has had its effect on Death Cab’s sound, and at times, there is slightly too much of a pristine effect in the sound. But the band remains a delight to sound similar to others, and the album as a whole certainly couldn’t be described as cheerful. Yet these are minor points that don’t mar the quality of the album as a whole. For fans of Death Cab for Cutie’s musical style, “Plans” offers the chance to explore the vast range of emotions that accompany mortality and love, and to find favorites among a collection of deeply personal songs.
Aas the Baby Boomers get older, more of their picture books become nostalgic memories of their youth. A few years ago, it was cars. Today, it is childhood. As long as children, they get their kicks, they become famous and turn to some drug of choice. They are in the movies. They can be seen in an early stage of bloom. Like the lonely house where the murder happens, Truman Capote, a writer for “The New Yorker,” and Perry, a convicted murderer on death row, are emotionally distant, though they are young and zealous. Everything about this is unquestionably one of the best films of the year, with excellent acting, story, direction, and an honesty about its subject that is self-interested. This is a master of facial expressions, manipulates a guidance as a writer and his honest love of a cold-blooded killer. (Beckett Sterner)

Chicken Little
Chicken Little (Zach Braff) is a tiny chick who warns that the sky is falling down. If you expected something spectacular out of Disney without having animation guru Pixar by its side, you would be badly mistaken. It may be entertaining for younger kids, but for everyone else it simply will be a film with far too much CGI and far too few funny jokes. (Yong-Yi Zhu)

The Constant Gardener
This may be an exception to a film about the drug wars. Taking advantage of Anthony Hopkins, it is in fact a story about what a man will do for a woman he loves with every ounce of his strength. It is a smart film that is not only well done but is also pleasing to watch, this is a must. (Yong-Yi Zhu)

Doom
This film, starring The Rock as a space marine, was made primarily for fans of the “Doom” computer game. Doom is a joy to watch but suffers from what is essentially a mindless action flick. Fans probably won’t be bothered that the movie has no plot, but anyone else should give it a miss. (Andrew Guerra)

Elizabethan
Would you like to see a film about a woman who landed the role of great job with facial expressions: a ebullient, wisecracking stage pres - (Danbee Kim)

The Legend of Zorro
The sequel to “The Mask of Zorro,” this film adopts the tried-and-true superhero action formula with the return of the masked Zorro (Antonio Banderas). It is a predictable adventure flick with a predictable ending. But it is still enjoyable, nevertheless easy to watch. (S. Hendra Darmawan)

Paradise Now
The amount of courage and love that is required to create any sort of portrayal of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is beyond the power of many Disney films. But with “Paradise Now” it is possible, and the result is both moving and unexpected. The film invites viewers to determine for themselves how to view this conflict. (Mandy Lee Lewis)

Prime
Prime tells the story of the finest sniping weapon of the future. It is a smart, funny lines that could pull laughs from any audience. The acting is superb, (Uma Thurman, Meryl Streep) and the story is in - triguing. There is, however, a wistful slug - (Eugin Yoon)

Rente
Rent is based on Jonathan Larson’s rock musical film. The story is simple, but the music is powerful. The film tells the story of three couples that must struggle to overcome many obstacles — drug addiction, AIDS, homelessness, and others. Flooding its audience with messages of love, the film is a true masterpiece. (Native Kim)

Shopgirl
One reason the film works is because it is about love and understanding. It is about relationships that work. The acting is superb, (Uma Thurman, Meryl Streep) and the story is in - triguing. There is, however, a wistful slug - (Eugin Yoon)

The Squid and the Whale
One part comedy, one part dramatic, this film tells the tale of how two children must choose between their parents as role models after their parents’ di - vorce. (Beckett Sterner)

The Weather Man
Dave Spitz (Nicholas Cage) predicts the weather for a local TV station but has no de - gree in meteorology and simply makes guess es on air. But with an ex-wife who hates him and kids with drug problems, Dave finds him - self in a mid-life crisis. From him, we learn that life isn’t perfect, and we just have to deal with the crap that gets thrown at us along the way. (Yong-Yi Zhu)

Shopgirl
Mirabelle (Claire Danes) is a lonely and sales clerk at Saks Fifth Avenue, and meets Jeremy (Jason Schwartzman), a goofy artist, and Ray (Steve Martin), a wealthy middle-aged man. This is a drama about life and romance, and it is full of bittersweet chal - lenges and decisions — it’s not a typical chick flick. The acting is superb, and it has a happy ending. (Jillian Berry)

Saw
This film’s violence and gore is on par with other movies like “The Texas Chainsaw Mas - sacre,” and its inanity makes that of tradi - tional slashers seem tame. Jigsaw (Tobin Bell) is back to his old tricks, once again kidnapping innocent people and forcing them to play sadistic games he has devised. This thriller pushes the boundaries of macabre to new heights. (Yong-Yi Zhu)

★★★
Capote
At the beginning of this film, Jake Gyllenhaal is responsible for exactly that at the beginning. When Drew heads home to cope with the death of his favorite uncle, it is a heart - rending image and biased reporting, providing a window into a time when the portrayal does not root and contentious is to invite controver - sy, particularly when the portrayal does not favorably favor one side. Through this balanced depiction of a political conflict, the film in - volves viewers to determine for themselves how to view suicide bombings in the Israeli-Palest - inian conflict, and even questions the right of dignified life. (Andrew Guerra)

★★★★
Walk the Line
This film is loosely based on the life of country singer Johnny Cash, who was in love with June Carter all his life. The plot draws its material from Cash’s autobiography. The central focus is Cash’s relationship with June Carter, but the rest of the film needs stronger material. Reality, in this case, is more boring than fic - tion. If the movie’s writer and director James Mangold, it would have been a lot more interesting. Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon as Cash and June Carter make this relationship deeply touching. Moreover, Phoenix and Witherspoon actually performed the singing in this film, in contrast to the arrangements for “Ray.” The most stun - ning achievement of the film is that Phoenix and Witherspoon can actually sound like Cash and Carter using their own voices. True, Phoenix never quite gets the wonderful gravity res - ponsible enough for both herself and Mag - arie. It isn’t until they learn to step into each other’s shoes and understand their relationship that work. The acting is superb, (Uma Thurman, Meryl Streep) and the story is in - triguing. There is, however, a wistful slug - (Eugin Yoon)

★
Good Night, and Good Luck
An era of McCarthyism, one reporter from CBS, Edward R. Murrow (David Strathairn), is shocked to find himself selected to form a team to take on “The Man.” Murrow, a great job with facial expressions: a ebullient, wisecracking stage pres - (Danbee Kim)

★★★★
Rent
Rent is based on Jonathan Larson’s rock musical film. The story is simple, but the music is powerful. The film tells the story of three couples that must struggle to overcome many obstacles — drug addiction, AIDS, homelessness, and others. Flooding its audience with messages of love, the film is a true masterpiece. (Native Kim)

★★★★
The Squid and the Whale
One part comedy, one part dramatic, this film tells the tale of how two children must choose between their parents as role models after their parents’ di - vorce. (Beckett Sterner)

★★★
Ray
With his Kentucky family, and addresses his feelings about the spectacular failure of his career, “Ray,” “Walk the Line” may seem repetitive, but the rest of the film needs fresher material. (Beckett Sterner)

★★★
The Constant Gardener
This may be an exception to a film about the drug wars. Taking advantage of Anthony Hopkins, it is in fact a story about what a man will do for a woman he loves with every ounce of his strength. It is a smart film that is not only well done but is also pleasing to watch, this is a must. (Yong-Yi Zhu)
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The Mikado

or... the Town of Titipu

Friday, December 2, 8pm
Saturday, December 3, 8pm
Sunday, December 4, 2pm
Thursday, December 8, 8pm
Friday, December 9, 8pm
Saturday, December 10, 2pm

La Sala de Puerto Rico

http://web.mit.edu/gsp

Producer: Garry Zacheiss ’00
Director: Emily Senturia
Proposal Might Hurt Research by Foreign Students in the U.S.

By Scott Shane

American universities are warning that rules proposed by the Commerce Department could hurt research by limiting the ability of foreign-born students and technicians to work with sensitive technology in laboratories.

One target of the proposed rules is believed to be China because more than 60,000 Chinese citizens are studying in the United States, and Chinese intelligence officials are strongly seeking American technology for military use, experts in the field said.

Universities have submitted hundreds of comments criticizing the proposed rules, and they argue that tight restrictions on research by foreigners could backtrack and actually hurt national security by hindering scientific progress.

"The impact on research could be very serious," Barry Toiv, a lobbyist for Foreign Students at American Universities, said Friday. "The bottom line is that research that benefits both our economy and our national security just won't happen."

The rules govern the use of software, equipment or technical data that has military applications and therefore cannot be exported to certain countries without a license. A similar license, called a deemed export license, is required when the same sensitive technology is used by a foreign citizen in an American laboratory, on the ground that such a foreigner might return home and reproduce the technology there.

In practice, many foreign researchers are exempt from the licensing requirement if they are conducting basic research and their work is intended for publication, on the grounds that the information they are producing will be shared widely to advance science.

The Commerce Department, whose inspector general last year recommended tighter regulations, is expected to propose the new rules by the end of this year.

The Defense Department proposed new regulations in July and is expected to produce final rules early next year, say lobbyists who follow the matter.

In a report last year, the Commerce Department’s inspector general, Johnnie E. Frazier, warned that existing regulations were not protecting secrets from potential theft by unauthorized foreign nationals.

"You have to recognize that Chinese intelligence does target ethnicity," said Larry M. Wortzel, a former military intelligence officer who worked in the American Embassy in Beijing and at the Pentagon, said he believed that the rules were being tightened and that a foreign researcher’s birthplace should be considered.

"You have to recognize that Chinese intelligence does target ethnicity," said Dr. Wortzel, a member of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, which was created by Congress in 2000 to monitor the security implications of trade with China.

Noting that American jet engine technology is superior to China’s, he said: "I don’t see any reason why we should make it easier for China to build supersonic jets they could use to attack Taiwan, Japan or the U.S. They’re not an ally."

At the same time, Dr. Wortzel said: "If this is done clumsily, it really will hurt university research."

Read
The Grand Unified Theory of Physics
by Joseph S. Brown

Discover the mechanism controlling the speed of light
• The Grand Unified Theory of Physics is based on an ether gas of hard, smooth, elastic spheres with a mean speed v<sub>0</sub> ten times the speed of light.
• Nothing but these ether particles are in the universe. In order for observables to occur in such a universe there must be stable states of these particles.
• The only way discovered for such a stable state is to have a dynamic state contained within a mean free path sized-volume where a portion of the gas is completely condensed.
• Such a condensation is envisioned when ether particles become aligned and flow into a sink at flow velocity equal to v<sub>r</sub>.
• After alignment the ether particles are squeezed together and by requiring energy to be constant the flow velocity jumps from the mean speed v<sub>0</sub> to the root mean square speed v<sub>r</sub>.
• The velocity jump propels the condensed ensemble at the speed (v<sub>r</sub> - v<sub>0</sub>)/2.
• The condensed ensemble is identified as the neutrino so that the speed of light c is (v<sub>r</sub> + v<sub>0</sub>)/2.

For more information and to access the book, visit www.physicsunifiedtheory.com

The Grand Unified Theory of Physics

The following incidents were reported to the Cambridge and/or MIT Police between Nov. 16 and Nov. 30. This summary does not include incidents such as suspicious activity, false alarms, general service calls, or medical shuttle.

Nov. 16: Staia Center (32 Vassar St.), malicious destruction of property.
Nov. 17: Bldg. 10 (122 Memorial Dr.), larceny of vacuum cleaner.
Nov. 20: Bldg. 4 (182 Memorial Dr. Rear), Daniel Baldwin, 202 Leyden St., Boston, Mass., arrested for trespassing.
Nov. 21: Sidney Pacific (70 Pacific St.), larceny of passport.
Nov. 21: Bldg. 10 (122 Memorial Dr.), 5127 Mass. Ave., Richard Wilson, 9 Virginia St., Dorchester, Mass., charged with trespassing and other related charges.
Nov. 29: Ashdown (305 Memorial Dr.), 4:06 p.m., larceny of bicycle.
Nov. 30: Student Center (84 Mass. Ave.), 1:50 p.m., bicycle stolen from bike rack.

Compiled by Marjan Rafat with assistance from other members of the MIT Crime Club.
NYU: Graduate Students Must Stop Strikes or Lose Stipends

By Karen W. Arenson

The New York Times

New York University issued an ultimatum yesterday to its striking graduate student teaching and research assistants. They must return to classes and other assignments next week or lose their financial stipends and their eligibility to teach next semester. Those who return next week will not be penalized.

“The time has come for the university to insist that the academic needs of its undergraduates be met,” John Sexton, NYU’s president, said in a letter to graduate assistants yesterday in a move to end the strike, which started Nov. 9. “These undergraduates in classes affected by the strike are understandably anxious about the disruption to their studies. Such disruption must not continue.”

The strike represented an effort by the graduate assistants and their allies, including some professors, to force the university to recognize their right to a union.

They were represented by the United Automobile Workers until August, when the university took advantage of a change in policy by the National Labor Relations Board, which said private universities no longer had to permit graduate students to unionize.

Michael Palm, a striking fifth-year graduate student in American studies and chairman of the graduate student organizing group, said he did not plan to return to teaching until NYU agreed to give graduate assistants a contract.

“Many of our members are outraged over the threats,” he said last night. “But this demonstrates that the administration cannot complete the semester without our labor. We are trying to intimidate our members back to work to clean up the semester.”

NYU, which was the first private university to be told to allow the unionization of graduate students, in 2000, said the union had tried to interfere with setting academic policy. It said it would continue to recognize a union only if it would forgo grievances. The union said the university exaggerated the impact of the grievances filed.

The strike resulted in the cancelation of some classes; the university will not be penalized.

The time has come for the university to be told to allow the unionization of graduate students, in 2000, said the union had tried to interfere with setting academic policy. It said it would continue to recognize a union only if it would forgo grievances. The union said the university exaggerated the impact of the grievances filed.

The strike resulted in the cancelation of some classes; the university will not be penalized.

“Many of our members are outraged over the threats.”

—Michael Palm

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Morris Remembered
As Amiable, Popular

Morris, from Page 1
day evening.

Last December, Kelly and Hol-
land were arrested and charged
with “keeping a disorderly house
and procuring alcoholic beverages
for persons under the age of 21”
according to a Dec. 10, 2004 Bos-
ton Police press release. The party
took place at a house in Allston,
where most members of the Sigma
Alpha Epsilon fraternity, which
Holland and Kelly belonged to,
had lived.

Morris hails from Texas, Ran-
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In a sign of the increasing impact of biotechnology on society, Harvard Law School launched a new center on Tuesday that will grapple with the legal aspects of biotechnology and health policy.

The center will be funded by a $10 million gift from the Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation and Joseph H. Flom, a 1948 Harvard Law School graduate and partner with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP in New York.

To be called the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology and Bioethics, the new program will touch on controversial subjects ranging from the definition of human life to the cost and quality of health care.

For example, said professor Einer R. Elhauge, the faculty director of the new center, one question with legal and ethical ramifications would be if people have the right to modify the genes of their offspring. Conversely, do they have the duty to do so if it will prevent certain diseases?

Such a center will have a big impact, said Arthur Caplan, director of the Center for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania. Caplan said a few law schools, including Boston University, have good programs in health law, and Penn has a lot of students who combine a law degree with a master’s in bioethics. But he was not aware of a law school with a biotechnology program.

"Having a Harvard program is a wonderful boost to getting people involved" in the topic, Caplan said, adding that the new law school Drexel University in Philadelphia is establishing will also have a health-care focus. "There is clearly something in the air."

Elhauge said that only a tiny percentage of professors in top law schools study healthcare, even though it consumes 15 percent of the gross domestic product.

Initially, the center will rely on existing Harvard professors — five from Harvard Law School and Michael J. Sandel, a professor of government at Harvard, who also heads a program in ethics and public policy at the Harvard Stem Cell Institute.

Elhauge said he hopes the law school will hire more professors who specialize in the topic.

The center will fund large-scale research projects, hold conferences, and fund a fellowship program modeled on Harvard’s prestigious Society of Fellows. Fellows would be paid $60,000 a year for two years and be free from any teaching obligations. The program is designed “to be the crucible for the next generation of young scholars in this area,” he said.

Flom and the Petrie Foundation, where he serves on the board, approached Harvard about the idea last year. Flom said the center will bring sound ideas to very emotional and political topics.

"The object is to stir up intellectual controversy, not diatribes on either side."

— Joseph H. Flom

William Mitchell

PLACING WORDS

Symbols, Space, and the City

Tuesday, Dec. 6th, 5:30 pm, MIT E15
Bartos Theater, 20 Ames Street, Cambridge

The meaning of a message, says William Mitchell, depends on the context of its reception. "Shouting 'fire' in a crowded theater produces a dramatically different effect from barking the same word to a squad of soldiers with guns," he observes. In his new book Placing Words, Mitchell looks at the ways in which urban spaces and places provide settings for communication and at how they conduct complex flows of information through the twenty-first century city. Please join us as we celebrate the publication of professor Mitchell’s newest book.

William J. Mitchell is Professor of Architecture and Media Arts and Head of the Program in Media Arts and Sciences at MIT. Placing Words is published by The MIT Press, 2005. This event is free and wheelchair accessible.
The leading science careers website just got better
In addition to a newly redesigned website with easier navigation, ScienceCareers.org now includes Next Wave, the essential online careers magazine — all for free.
• Hundreds of job postings
• Career tools from Next Wave
• Resume/CV Database
• Grant Information
• Career Forum
Look for Dunn and Vick to Lead
The Falcons to Victory Sunday

By Yong-yi Zhu
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Here's what to expect in the next week of NFL play:

Game of the Week: Falcons at Panthers

The Panthers have only one running play of over 20 yards, last in the league. The Falcons, on the other hand, lead the league with 16 of them. Even though the Panthers have a better record, the Falcons are still going to pound down the Panthers defense. Falcons RB Warrick Dunn and QB Mike Vick are going to have a field day with their legs.

Upset Special: Bengals at Steelers

That onside kick at the beginning of the third quarter against the Colts was ill-advised for the Steelers. If they are going to make mistakes like that, they're not going to make the playoffs. The Bengals hung tough against the Colts, the Steelers sputtered against them. I'm going to give the Bengals this game, because I don't think Steelers QB Ben Roethlisberger is 100 percent yet.

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