Some MIT Stem Cell Scientists Helped by End of Federal Ban

By Omar Abudayeh

President Obama’s change to federal stem cell policy, providing researchers with access to additional lines of stem cells, has helped solve some administrative problems, said Professor Rudolf Janisch (pronounced YAIN-ish), who heads a lab which conducts stem cell research at the Whitehead Institute. “We had two different accounting systems. This all goes away now.”

Previous to President Obama’s executive order on March 9, 2009, MIT scientists were only permitted to use federal funding to work with a very limited number of stem cell lines which President Bush designated in 2001. MIT scientists will now be able to utilize federal funding to research stem cells from a much wider variety of stem cell lines, which should theoretically give researchers a better understanding of stem cells and how they develop.

"A lot of the approved cell lines have issues," said Professor Laurie A. Boyer, who runs a laboratory focused on stem cells, referring to the lines President Bush had designated. So much has been learned from stem cell lines outside of President Bush’s limitations that it would be very beneficial for scientists to study them, Boyer said.

Because these stem cell lines will now be available for use in federally funded labs, laboratories across the country will no longer have to keep federal and privately funded research separate.

Researchers had to mark equipment purchased with federal funding so as not to accidently use it.

As the transition from print publication to digital publication of scholarly work becomes more prevalent, university presses are being forced to adapt their business plans in response to changes in funding and more on digital publication.

By Robert McQueen

MIT Press will focus more on e-books, as President Bush’s ban on federal funding for the use of all but a small fraction of federal stem cell policy, providing researchers with access to additional lines of stem cells, has helped solve some administrative problems, said Professor Rudolf Janisch (pronounced YAIN-ish), who heads a lab which conducts stem cell research at the Whitehead Institute. “We had two different accounting systems. This all goes away now.”

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Researchers had to mark equipment purchased with federal funding so as not to accidently use it.
A once-obscure accounting rule that infuriated banks, who blamed it for worsening the financial crisis, was changed Thursday to ease banks more discretion in reporting the value of mortgage securities. The change in the rule -- one of the last remaining rules adopted in response to the savings-and-loan crisis -- was announced Tuesday after banks requested to report higher profits by assuming that the securities are worth more than anyone is now willing to pay for them. But critics objected that the change could further damage an already struggling industry by enabling them to avoid recognizing losses from bad loans they have made. Critics also said that changes in the rules were made under heavy po- litical pressure, the move compromised the independence of the organi- zation that did it, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or FASB. During the financial crisis, the market prices of many securities, particularly those backed by subprime home mortgages, have plunged to fractions of their original prices. That has forced banks to report hundreds of billions of dollars in losses over the last year, because some of those securities must be reported at market value each three months, with the bank showing a profit or loss based on the change.

**A House Divided**

**Passes Budget Without GOP Votes**

By Carl Hulse

The New York Times

The House approved a $3.6 trillion federal budget on Thursday with no Republican support, a sign of deep partisan tensions likely to color congressional efforts to enact the major policy initiatives sought by President Barack Obama.

The Senate was moving toward passing a similar $3.5 trillion budget bill on the strength of Democratic votes as well, after a day's laboring over amendments that did little to change a fiscal blueprint in keeping with Obama's plans.

Democrats said the two budgets, which will have to be reconciled after a two-week congressional recess, cleared the way for health care, energy and education overhauls pushed by the new president. The Democrats said the budgets reversed what they portrayed as the failed economic approach of the Bush administration and Republican-led Congresses.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California said Democrats would like to find consensus with Republicans, but not at the expense of the infusion of federal money that the majority calls crucial in a time of economic distress.

**Western Banks Face Big Losses**

**On Chinese Real Estate**

By David Barboza

The New York Times

Back in the old days — early 2007 — bankers from Merrill Lynch, Deutsche Bank and other financial giants placed their bets on Xa Junyi, a real estate tycoon who was supposed to be China's next billionaire.

They lent his company $400 million, encouraged him to acquire large tracts of land and in early 2008 promoted a proposed $2.1 bil- lion public stock offering by the company, the Evergrande Real Estate Group, in Hong Kong.

One year later, China's housing market has collapsed, Evergrande is mired in debt and the Wall Street bankers are facing huge losses because they made such big bets in the Chinese real estate market.

Now, analysts say, Evergrande has become a symbol of China's go- vernment's missteps in dealing with international bankers, private equity deal- makers and hedge fund managers rushed here hoping to cash in on the world's biggest building boom.

**Cambridge Biotech Firm Is Quietly Shutting Down**

By Todd Wallack

The Boston Globe

Another once-promising life sci- ence company has died.

Coden Devices Inc., a five-year- old Cambridge Mass. biotech work- ing on ways to synthesize DNA and other genetic material, is quietly shut- ting down.

A week ago, board members voted to close the doors after they failed to raise additional money, said a per- son affiliated with the company who did not want to be named. Flagship Venture Partners, one of Coden's investors, recently removed Coden's name from its list of portfolio companies, but de- ckled to comment. No one responded to messages left on the company's voice mail, and its chief executive, Brian Barnes PhD '05, did not return phone calls or e-mails seeking comment.

Coden is the latest in a string of small life sciences companies in the area to shut down in the past few months, as privately held firms find it increasingly difficult to raise money to develop products that are years away from generating profits.

At least two local companies filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection this year — Dynogen Pharmaceuti- cals Inc. in Waltham and Omnionics Medical Technologies Inc. of Wil- mington — clearing the way for their liquidation. Cyberkinetics Neurotech- nology Systems Inc. of Foxborough said it is winding down its operations, and Epitome Biosystems of Waltham shut down several months ago.

"This environment is unlivable," said Keith Dromm PhD '90, chief ex- ecutive of Surface Logix Inc., a Bos- ton biotech trying to develop drugs to treat hypertension, metabolic diseases, and other afflictions. "This is a sharper knife than it has been in the past."

There are several reasons for the cash crunch. One is that few compa- nies have been able to launch initial public offerings since the stock market meltdown, making it difficult for start- ups to raise money directly from the public. In addition, venture capital- isters are reducing their investments in young companies, because it's hard to raise cash and also they need to divert money to sustain more mature compa- nies that otherwise would have been public by now.

Still, some companies have con- tinued to raise money. For instance, Surface Logix raised $20 million in venture capital and loans in January, and BioViz Inc. of Woburn raised $50 million last month, after canceling its plans for an IPO.

But Donee said companies that haven't yet developed a key product to impress investors aren't having an easy time raising money, forcing some to undertake cost-cutting measures.

For example, Synta Pharmaceu- ticals Corp. in Lexington eliminated lay-offs and liquidated asset sales last year. AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals Corp. in Waltham cut 102 jobs in February. And it's likely other companies will have to slash their operations or shut down altogether. Nationwide, about 129 publicly traded biotech companies have less than six months' cash on hand — nine times the number of firms that had limited reserves in 2007, according to the Biotech- nology Industry Organization, a national trade organization.

But Coden's failure is especially notable because it attracted so many big-name investors, including Alnylum Ventures Flagship Ventures, Highland Capital Partners, and Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers. In total, the company raised at least $31 million.

**Early Alarm For Church On Abusers in The Clergy**

By Laurie Goodstein

The New York Times

The founder of a Roman Catho- lic order that runs retreat centers for troubled priests warned American bishops to close the doors after they failed to raise additional money, said a per- son affiliated with the company who did not want to be named.

The Rev. Gerald M.C. Fitzgerald, founder of the order, Servants of the Paraclete, delivered the same advice in person to Vatican officials in Rome in 1992 and to Pope Paul VI a year later, according to the let- ters, which were unsealed by a judge in New Mexico in 2007 and, three years later, authenticated in deposi- tion, although some letters were not.

One letter, written by a judge in New Mexico in 2007, said it was "amazing" that Fitzgerald's letters were unsealed "in the face of the most consistent defense given by the church." Fitzgerald's papers were unsealed this week by a judge in New Mexico in 2007 in the course of litigation against the church.

The documents contradict the most consistent defense given by bishops about the sexual abuse scandal — that they were unaware until recently that offenders could not be rehabilitated and returned to the ministry.

Fitzgerald, who died in 1969, even made a $5,000 down payment on a Caribbean island where he planned to build an isolated retreat to sequester priests who were sexual predators. His letters show he was designing and advising the church to save the island, and to save laypeople from being victimized. He wrote to dozens of bishops, saying that he had learned through experience that abusers were unrepent- ant, manipulative and dangerous. He called them "vipers."

"We are amazed," Fitzgerald wrote to a bishop in 1957, "to find one of the few men who want the- hind bars if he were not a priest is a man whose voice is being drowned out by the din of his own ranting and raving."

He wrote to other bishops that the church is "the world's most powerful abuse machine." He called them "the very largest fraud and swindle in the history of the human race.

He wanted to close the doors after they failed to raise additional money. For instance, Surface Logix raised $20 million in venture capital and loans in January, and BioViz Inc. of Woburn raised $50 million last month, after canceling its plans for an IPO.

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**April Showers, Rain, or Drizzle?**

By Angela Zalucha

The New York Times

Meteorologists have many words for water falling from the sky. The most general term is precipitation, which includes liquid and solid wa- ter.

Rain is defined as liquid water drops which have diameters greater than 0.5 mm. Drizzle consists of droplets smaller than this diameter that fall to the ground. Fog, in the meantime, consists of droplets that stay suspended in the air. Both rain and drizzle may be further characterized as light, moderate, or heavy based on the rate of precipita- tion. Yet another word, showers, refers to rain which starts and stops or comes in bursts of varying intensity.

Rain will persist throughout the day today with a chance of show- ers tonight and tomorrow. We finally see a break from the clouds on Sunday.

**Extended Forecast**

Today: Rain. High 53°F (12°C).

Tonight: Chance of showers, Low 45°F (7°C).

Tomorrow: Chance of showers, Low 45°F (7°C).

Sunday: Sunny and breezy. High 60°F (16°C).
Judge Says Some at Bagram Can Challenge Their Detention

By Charlie Savage

WASHINGTON — A federal judge ruled Thursday that some prisoners held by the U.S. military in Afghanistan have a right to challenge their imprisonment, dealing a blow to government efforts to detain terrorism suspects for extended periods without court oversight.

In a 53-page ruling that rejected a claim of unfettered executive power, the judge said transferring capturedOutside Afghanistan and there were more than six years without trials. According to federal agents, they were not even arrested. The detainees want a civilian judge to hear the evidence against them and order their release, under the constitutional right of habeas corpus.

The importance of Bagram as a holding facility for suspected terrorists captured outside Afghanistan and Iraq has increased since the Obama administration, which prohibited the CIA from using its secret prisons for long-term detention and ordered the military prison at Guantanamo Bay to close.

19-Count Indictment Alleges Corrupt Blagojevich ‘Enterprise’

By Monica Davey and Susan Saulny

Rod R. Blagojevich, the ousted Democrat from the state of Illinois, used his chance to fill the Senate seat vacated by Barack Obama as one more money-making plan in what federal prosecutors described Thursday as the “Blagojevich Enterprise.”

In a 19-count indictment, prosecutors said the “primary purpose of the Blagojevich Enterprise was to exercise and preserve power over the government of the state of Illinois for the financial and political benefit of Blagojevich, his family and his friends.”

The indictment was 75 pages long and had been anticipated for nearly four months since his first arrest. Blagojevich, whose political career has unraveled since his arrest, was charged with 16 felonies, including racketeering conspiracy, wire fraud, extortion conspiracy, attempted extortion and making false statements to federal agents. Five of his closest advisers — including his brother, one of his top fundraisers and two of his former chiefs of staff — were also charged with crimes.

Blagojevich, who was believed to be vacationing with his family near Walt Disney World in Florida when the indictment was announced here late Thursday, issued a statement through his publicist.

“I am saddened and hurt, but I am not surprised by the indictment,” he said. “I am innocent. I now will fight in the courts to clear my name.”

The indictment lays out a broad pattern of corruption spanning from before Blagojevich was first elected governor in 2002 and up until the day of his arrest, Dec. 9, prosecutors said. He used his official position, the indictment suggested, to seek financial gain in nearly every element of government work, from picking members of state commissions to signing legislation.

Blagojevich sought a return on deals to grant money to a hospital, to approve legislation helpful to race-track owners, to pick a particular candidate to fill the Senate seat and, according to the indictment, from a U.S. representative who was pressing for a $2 million grant for a publicly supported school.

Free tickets for MIT students! Made possible by the Council for the Arts at MIT

Emmanuel Music: J.S. Bach Motets
Saturday, April 25 at 8pm at Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury Street, Boston
7pm: Pre-concert talk by Acting Artistic Director, John Harbison
The Chorus of Emmanuel Music, Michael Beattie, conductor

Radius Ensemble
Saturday, May 2 at 8pm in Killian Hall, 14W-111
Widder, Mosca/gagliardi for winds
Ran, Mirage for amplified flutes, clarinet, strings, and piano
Debussy, Sonate for flute, viola, and harp
Shostakovich, Piano Trio No. 2 in E minor, Op. 67

Boston Chamber Music Society: Haydn, Beethoven & Brahms
Sunday, May 17 at 7:30pm at Sanders Theater, Harvard University
Fenwick Smith, flute
Ida Levin, violin
Marcus Thompson, viola
Wilhelmina Smith, cello
Mihae Lee, piano

Boston Modern Orchestra Project: Premiers
Friday, May 22 at 8pm at Jordan Hall at New England Conservatory
Lisa Belkin, governor concerti

tickets available at the MIT Office of the Arts (E15-205)
Monday - Friday, 2:30 - 5:30pm
Two tickets per MIT student ID
In person only. First-come, first-served.
http://web.mit.edu/arts/see/freetickets/index.html

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday: supper meal and footwashing, ending in silent vigil in the Chapel, Wednesday, April 8, 5:15 pm in W11 Main Dining Room

Good Friday: Solemn remembrance of our Lord’s death, Friday, April 10, noon to 1 pm in the MIT Chapel

Easter Vigil: A glorious celebration to mark the heart of the Christian year, with much singing, sunrise, a baptism, and breakfast following, 6:30 AM (yes, AM...) at the MIT Sailing Pavilion. Please dress warmly.
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Everyone is welcome at all events

The annual prize is awarded to a student or student group who has applied technology in an innovative way to improve learning and community at MIT. All currently enrolled MIT undergraduates and graduate students are eligible to apply. All members of the MIT community, including faculty, students, staff, and alumni, may nominate for the award.

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April 14 to 16 (Tuesday to Thursday) 11 am to 4 pm
E51 Lobby

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Corrections

Sometimes, it felt like the Bush administration believed health-cutting could cure a man of all evil humors and the universe revolved around the sun. At least government policies supporting scientific research seemed to reflect as much — that we were still stuck in an era where dogma rather than science drove prog-

So what a breath of fresh air it was to hear that the Obama administration was renewing funding for research on all stem cell lines, and that stem cell research was to top priority. Obama even targeted Stem Cell, a No-

This is more than enough to convince me that the President understands that long-term solutions are required to ensure that the United States has a safe, clean, and independent energy infrastructure. But if the Obama adminis-

I’m not too concerned, so I won’t try to explain fusion energy myself. I did, however, recently visit the MIT Plasma Science and Fus-

Fusion Power Could Be the Answer

Ethan Solomon

Fusion yields far fewer radioactive byprod-

The very nature of scientific progress sug-

The letter may have been sent to President

Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT community or local organizations, and should include the author’s name in italics. Columns without italics will not be sent to Tech editors.

To Reach Us

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Opinion

Editorials are the official opinions of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Austin Chan, Editor in Chief Nick Bushak ’10, Business Manager Thompson ’10, Managing Editor Steve Howland ’11, and Executive Editor Michael McGraw-Herdeg G.


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Executive Editor
Michael McGraw-Herdeg G

Editor in Chief
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Managing Editor
Steve Howland ’11

Executive Editor
Michael McGraw-Herdeg G

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Fusion Power Could Be the Answer

shouldn’t we be getting closer to a breakthrough? If I can’t see a specific plan for a brighter energy future we will lose much of what MIT has to offer.
The Quixotic Search for a Silver Bullet

Fusion Research Is a Waste of Society’s Resources

Keith Yost

Take it from a nuclear engineer: there is no future in fusion power. It will never be economical. Even if the very sizable technical hurdles were surmounted — magnets, plasma physics, materials, and tritium availability — economic considerations would still make it a poor investment. For example, to mine uranium for 1500 years and the quality of the deposits would go down by only 50%. Given that uranium is a very small contributor to the end cost of fusion, we could use fissile power for millennia before any economic need arose to find alternatives.

Support for “loser technologies” is often predicated on a sloppy application of Moore’s law. Photovoltaic solar advocates are routinely in the business of claiming exponential annual increases in the efficiency of their technology while simultaneously presuming the stagnation of any competitor. They assume fantastical and sustained rates of technological increase, extrapolate out for N decades, and predict a year when their technology will be competitive with present-day alternatives.

One wonders why they don’t simply continue their extrapolation to N+1 decades and promise us effectively free electricity for everyone. One also wonders why they don’t think such fantastical breakthroughs can occur in mature technologies. In fusion for example, there are plenty of research areas, such as annular fuel or nanofluid coolant, which have similar game-changing potential.

Fusion and other “out-there” research is regularly billed as an investment in our future, but the more apt analogy is buying a Power Ball ticket. This is not a sound roll of the dice, this is a move born out of frustration, desperation and self-deception. It stems from a lack of political will to tackle the policy problems of today’s technology. Instead of bringing disparate stakeholders together to settle energy policy issues, we’ll much rather cross our fingers and hope for a technological savior to deliver us from the need for political courage.

The basic premise of economics is scarcity. If you want to spend resources on fusion, then you must necessarily take them from somewhere else. We always like to imagine that the resources will be taken from areas we don’t care, and, most importantly, other research. One of the troubles of letting government pick winners is that legislators and bureaucrats are likely to under-appreciate the opportunity costs of the funds they use. If the government is going to be productively involved in directing funding, it needs to set priorities and draw lines.

Fusion, unfortunately, does not make the cut.
**CONCERT REVIEW**

**Moz: ‘To Be Human Is to Be Loved’**

And Oh, How the Crowd Loves Him

By S. Balaji Mani

March 29, 2009

**ARTS EDITOR**

By S. Balaji Mani

ARTS EDITOR

By S. Balaji Mani

Featuring The Calder Quartet, Iva Bittova, and Oh, How the Crowd Loves Him

**Moz:** 'To Be Human Is to Be Loved'

ConCert review

Featuring The Calder Quarter, Iva Bittova, Robert Black and Gamelan Galak Tikar

The Broad Institute

April 5–19

**CONCERT REVIEW**

**The Calder Quartet will open the Beeline Festival this Sunday, April 5 at the Broad Institute.**

**Top of the Hub: Restaurant Week**

**Extraordinary View, Ordinary Food**

By Sun Kim

Top of the Hub

800 Boylston St #52

Prudential Center, Back Bay

(617) 536 1775

**Oregano**

Top of the Hub

800 Boylston St #52

Prudential Center, Back Bay

(617) 536 1775

Many major cities, Restaurant Week events have run as a traditional or a biannual tradition. Two or three course meals at acclaimed restaurants in the city go for relatively inexpensive prices. I took advantage of this event by taking my girlfriend to the Top of the Hub on the 52nd floor of the Prudential Tower.

Doing some research, I found out that Top of the Hub is not known for haut cui- sine, which tempered my expectations for The Three-Course Prix Fixe. However, the restaura- nant is regarded as being romantic and said to have a great dining atmosphere, which could lead to an enjoyable experience overall.

My party arrived a few minutes early, ex- periencing the typical traffic throughout Boston. We were greeted by cozy mood lighting and a fantastic view of the Boston skyline. The appletini was quickly seated us at a table that was not next to the window, but we were still able to enjoy the scenery of the East Coast line at dusk.

The Restaurant Week Menu looked intrig- uing, offering a variety of appetizers and main courses prepared in bulk. We sampled the entire selection, my girlfriend and I were more than pleased with the food from the main course.

For the first course, I ordered arugula with cheese, tomato, green apple, and a red onion. The dish was drizzed with caramelized walnuts and honey, served on a bed of arugula.

For the main course, I ordered the herb lemon roasted half chicken, accompanied by sweet potato puree, green beans, and fried sage. The chicken was well cooked and it was a great choice, as it was complemented with the herbed tomato salad, and the feta was savory. The fried onions were a bit oily and had a little too much fat, which supports my hypothesis that the dishes are prepared in bulk.

Overall, the meal started the three-course meal well, causing me to anticipate the main entrée with eagerness.

Shortly after we finished the appetizers, the main course arrived with steaming food and artful presentation. My presentation was braised, with veal ragout, porcini mushrooms, and roasted garlic. The ragout was flavorful, but overall over-seasoned and unsophisticated, reminisc- ent of a spice, saltier version of Campbell’s soup. I had to gulp glasses of lemon-flavored water to prevent dehydration. The meal had the consistency of a gravy of joes, stringy and tough to chew. The parsley mushrooms, meat and rice, was just too much for our taste.

During the course of the dinner, I noticed the atmosphere of the restaurant. The dinner was filled, but very simple and seemingly un- par for a reputed restaurant.

Throughout the meal, the atmosphere was very laid-back and comfortable. The service was attentive, and the overall dining experience was enjoyable. I would definitely recommend the Top of the Hub for a romantic dinner or a special occasion.
**THEATER REVIEW**

**MIT Shakespeare Ensemble Performs Pericles’**

By Sudeep Agarwala

**BoA Enters the American Pop Scene**

By Maggie Liu

**MIT Shakespeare Ensemble Performs Pericles’**

An Obscure Work is the Engineer’s Play

By Samuel Markson

**BoA Enters the American Pop Scene**

What happens in Troy

**BoA Enters the American Pop Scene**

Can the Korean Pop Princess Make It Overseas?

By Maddie Liu

**Trojan Barbie**

by Christine Evans directed by Caram Lee

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Renaissance is a perfect choice for a cast largely composed of engineers. A play with the less rigid modality of Hamlet turns constantly on the edge of absurdity, even in the hands of an expert cast. Pericles remedies by that not trying. There’s no choice but to suspend your disbelief. In fact, Pericles may be the most absurdly thought of an act in an act in the format of the play made good use of the natural talents of the cast, and let the cast explore their individual characters with a flexibility not afforded in other works.

Anna Krohn (Wellesley ’98) put on a notable performance as the Duke’s changeable wife, framing the drama between different acts. Krohn’s portrayal is believable a good foil to the absurdity of the rest of the play, and it’s to her credit that a character that doesn’t interact socially with any other arts was able to play arclight the rest of the cast. — Zachary Tribble ’12 and Rachel Williams ’12 also stood out as Pericles and her daughter Marina, locking together certain key scenes, particularly Marina’s Act IV enslavement in a brothel, and the reuniting of the pair in Act V.

Although the three-letter name does not necessarily recall the choral of familiarity in the minds of many, the commonality of its characters and plot certainly stakes her claims in our neighborhood. The pop star who took Korea by storm and ruled the top of the hal- lyu, the popular culture movement in Korea, is currently releasing her full-length (and self-titled) English album.

Many music critics had predicted BoA’s transition to the American entertain- ment industry to be a difficult and long process. Many Asian artists, successful and at the apex of popularity in their native countries, fail to penetrate American culture. Hikaru Utada (most well known for her Final Fan- tasy theme song series) failed with her al- bum although her English was fluent. BoA, who had to learn English over the last two years, does not seem to be a better candidate for success at first glance.

However, her songs are surpris- ingly good and I am already envi- on some of them being played at clubs or blaring on some dance floor. Granted, we have some help from the album’s composition: the album does not have a single bal- lad to follow the stereotypical of oth- er pop artists.

Song after song, the listener finds persistent beats and the incorporation of elements that made every other pop song successful.

This is what makes it a perfect choice for a cast largely composed of engineers. A play with the less rigid modality of Hamlet turns constantly on the edge of absurdity, even in the hands of an expert cast. Pericles remedies by that not trying. There’s no choice but to suspend your disbelief. In fact, Pericles may be the most absurdly thought of an act in an act in the format of the play made good use of the natural talents of the cast, and let the cast explore their individual characters with a flexibility not afforded in other works.

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MIT Alum Doesn’t Mince Words Discussing Comedy

Thank you, Students, Faculty, and Employees of M.I.T.

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Chan Hopes to Save Money; GSC Targets More Sustainability

GSC Pres, From Page 1

Chan believes that he was chosen because of his extensive experience in advocacy as Housing and Community Affairs Committee co-chair, which he thinks is important in the face of budget cuts. In his platform, he promised that even in these difficult times, he will not only be able to maintain the status quo of graduate student life at MIT but he will “bring it to an entirely different level.” Chan explained that the key elements to achieve this goal are creativity and sustainability. He referred to the BU/MIT party he helped organize and proudly explains that the event did not cost the GSC a dime. In fact, it earned them several hundred dollars. Chan is convinced that the GSC will find creative solutions to financial issues.

Chan also believes that he will be able to find ways to save money on the long run. He would like MIT to be a pioneer not only in technology, but also in sustainability. He would like to invest in a sustainable campus that will turn all students into responsible citizens and save considerable amounts of money at the same time.

In times of economic decline, he refuses to go into “defense mode,” but prefers to be aggressive instead, coming up with new initiatives to make sure that student life does not deteriorate ahead of time. He also hopes to establish the GSC as the “group that would be willing to go the extra mile to defend everyone’s welfare.”

Chan promises his decision-making will take into account the GSC’s visibility and diversity at MIT. It is his goal to increase the visibility of the GSC, and he wants to get more students involved.

Chan believes that with Charles Gammal, an MBA student in his secretary, he is confident that the council will finally be able to connect with the Sloan students.

Chan also wants to make sure that the activities they organize will attract new people, and he wants to increase the communication between the council and the student body in order to involve as many students as possible in the decision-making process.

Chan’s predecessor, Oza Nir G, told The Tech that one of the most difficult parts of being president of the GSC is that the organization depends entirely on its volunteers. Chan said he is confident that he will be able to motivate his team.

MIT Press Will Make More E-Books; Kendall Sq. Store Will Remain

Digital Press, From Page 1

press’ e-book sales come from users of the Amazon Kindle, a portable e-book reader that has access to over 250,000 books.

The e-books sometimes lack pictures or drawings originally in the physical copies, Schrader said. Many illustrators have not yet licensed their work to MIT Press for e-books that are not normally found in the press’ s revenue. “The fraction of the press’ s revenue. “The fraction of the press’ s revenue...”

The Cornell University Press is considered their work to MIT Press for e-books that are not normally found over 250,000 books.

The Cornell University Press is responsible for the longest span of the e-books. The press’ library. In effect, the press will reduce its printing and focus more on their business models. For instance, Yale University Press plans to cut back on printing and focus more on their new e-book program.

The Cornell University Press is following the same trend, as a result of students purchasing fewer course texts and borrowing more books from the university library. The University of Michigan Press, however, has reacted differently by reestablishing itself as a sub-organization of the university of the library. In effect, the press will receive funding as an academic department, lessening the pressure to follow a profitable business model.

MIT Press will continue to operate its bookstore located in Kendall Square, which contributes a small fraction of the press’ s revenue. “The bookstore is the MIT Press experiment with new and specialized books that are not normally found in general bookstores,” Schrader said. The bookstore also serves as a spot to host author events.

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them with privately-developed lines. Some even went to such lengths as managing separate laboratories for the two sources of funding, according to Professor Chris A. Kaiser, the head of the Biology department.

Boyer explained how computers purchased with federal money were tagged and could not be used for analyzing unapproved stem cell lines. Inefficient accounting hassles related to keeping non-approved stem cell lines under private funds will also no longer exist, making it easier for researchers to enter the field.

“Once NIH makes guidelines on which lines to use, there will be more and better cells to use,” said Professor Richard Hynes, who does research at the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research and was a member of the national committee that developed the current stem cell guidelines.

Hynes expects for the new NIH stem cell policy to include current guidelines where applicable, and to dramatically expand upon the current set of allowed stem cell lines.

This new policy must be formulated within 120 days of Obama’s March 9 executive order. While some lines may not be approved, scientists are expected to find the new selection to have many coveted cell lines that were heretofore only accessible under private funding.

Because of existing federal legislation, specifically the Dickey-Wicker amendment, Hynes strongly doubts that the NIH will approve federal funding for the creation of new stem cell lines. Such an approval would require Congress to overturn the amendment, something which was outside the power of President Obama’s executive order.

According to Kaiser, reduced government limitations on stem cell research will allow for scientists such as Jaenich and Boyer to run their labs more efficiently, no longer placing them at a competitive disadvantage to labs which are privately funded.

“It feels as if a cloud is being lifted,” Kaiser said. “If there would be a reason for MIT to dance in the streets, this would be it.”

4

Dickey-Wicker Law:
New Cell Lines Won’t Be Federally Funded

Students for the Exploration and Development of Space
(MIT Chapter)
seds@mit.edu

Want to build this over the summer of 2009?
web.mit.edu/evt

* Enter the Space Projects Exhibition and share your cool projects!
* Attend Workshops on Space Projects, Fundraising and Networking through Social Media
* Register online for FREE at http://seds.mit.edu/conference

APPLY
for a
Council for the Arts
Grant

Application deadline:
April 3, 2009
Contact:
Susan Cohen
cohen@media.mit.edu

Application:
web.mit.edu/arts/artsguides.html
The 2009 Harold & Arlene Schnitzer Prize in the Visual Arts

Paintings, prints, sculpture, video, photography, ceramics, art glass - all forms of visual art

All currently registered MIT students may enter the Schnitzer Visual Arts Competition

Deadline: **Monday April 13, 2009**
between 12noon and 5pm at the Student Art Association (W20-429), please submit:

1) Examples of artist’s work
   a. Three pieces that well represent your entire body of work
   b. Or one piece of original work and visual representations of other originals (i.e. slides, photographic prints, etc.)

2) A written statement concerning artist’s intent as it pertains to his or her works and art in general

**PRIZES & EXHIBITION**

Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place in the competition

Honorable mentions may also be awarded

Winners must be willing and able to display their work in the Wiesner Student Art Gallery for an exhibition that will open on May 26, 2009

This includes the installation and deinstallation of the exhibition

The show will hang in the gallery during Commencement, and close at the end of June 2009

There will be an opening reception at the gallery for the MIT community on May 26, 2009

- **FIRST Prize $5,000**
- **SECOND Prize $2,500**
- **THIRD Prize $2,000**

Please contact cohen@media.mit.edu for a pdf of the application package

http://saa.mit.edu//schnitzer.html
Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo

YOU HAVE 2,381,210 NEW MESSAGES

FIRST MESSAGE: DEAR LORD, PLEASE GIVE ME STRENGTH...

SO THAT I MAY HELP TAKE BACK THE HOLY LAND IN YOUR NAME.

DAMMIT! I CAN'T LEAVE THESE GUYS ALONE FOR ONE FREAKING MILLENNIUM!

...NEXT MESSAGE...

The Daily Blunderbuss

Wednesday, April 01, 2009

Humankind's first alien contact... unfortunately

Behold! I am Glork from the planet Splork. I have come to share my technology...

April Fools!!

$1 \text{ lol}$

Help Desk

by Michael Benitez

Problem:

What is the minimum current $I$ required for the coil to move upward when released?

$m = 20g$, $M = 100$ kg, $g = 9.8 m/s^2$, $N = 30$ turns

$c = 50 mm$, $r = 50 mm$

$I_{min} = ?$

Mistake:

$I_{min} = \frac{B_0 a^2}{2 \mu_0 N I}$

$I_{min} = \frac{0.8 \times 10^{-4} \times (0.005)^2}{2 \times 10^{-7} \times 30 \times I}$

$I_{min} = \frac{2 \times 10^{-7}}{30 \times I}$

Now to Just Punch Everything in...

IT TOOK YEARS, BUT THE LEVITATING COIL IS ALMOST A REALITY. GRAD STUDENT, SET THE OUTPUT TO 40000 AMPS!!

I WANT TO SAY THE MORAL HERE IS 'CHECK YOUR WORK', BUT MAYBE JUST DON'T STAY UP TOO LATE WITH PHYSICS OR WRITING COMICS FOR THAT MATTER...

40000 AMPS?

GOD, THAT'S A LOT OF CURRENT...

LOL

Kaboom!!
Figure 54. The graph shows the likability of the majority of songs listed on the Billboard 100 as a function of the times listened. Although some notable exceptions exist, most songs are not recognized as “hits” by an average listener the first couple of times that they are played. It is only by being repeatedly exposed to the same song that the public learns to like it, an effect that is observed with many acquired tastes. In fact, the author’s “Addiction Theory of Modern Music” argues that these kinds of songs show a likability curve similar to that of harmful substances such as alcohol, tobacco, and licorice candy, and maintains that a maximum level of exposure should be set by law. (Comments welcome at http://pseudocomic.blogspot.com).
A Message from the Global Education and Career Development Center (GECDC)

Dear MIT Students,

Greetings from the Global Education and Career Development Center (GECDC)! As you return from Spring Break, we want to reach out to students still seeking internships and jobs, as well as to those students who may have experienced rescinded or otherwise revised offers.

We want to share information on the current job market, alert you to a special seminar series that we have developed in response to the tight job market and note particular services and resources available to assist you.

For those graduating in 2010, initial projections indicate that the decline in college recruiting is likely to continue through next year, suggesting that you should begin your planning now with these recommendations in mind. Although the college hiring trends are not encouraging, there are companies and industries that are hiring and most importantly, there are effective strategies that can be utilized during this difficult economic period.

College Hiring Trends

As the year has progressed it has become clear that there has been a decline in college hiring. Specifically, the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Job Outlook Spring 2009 Update reports that employers who responded to their survey indicate that they expect to hire 22 % fewer new graduates from the Class of 2009 than they did last year. Hiring expectations have declined from nearly all industrial sectors, with the exception of federal government agencies and some companies from the logistics, transportation and utilities sector, which plans to hire more new college graduates than they did from the Class of 2008. The same report notes that all U.S. regions are reporting declines in college hiring, with the Northeast (down 16%) and the West (down 32.2%) with the most losses. Forty-six percent of respondents are uncertain about hiring goals for the Class of 2010, but only one-third of responding employers are projecting that they will hire the same amount or more graduates as this year. Our own review of MIT recruiting activity for this academic year shows a nearly 30 % decline in on-campus interviews compared to 2007-08. Specific to internships, the NACE 2009 Experiential Education Survey indicates that employers anticipate hiring nearly 21% fewer interns this year compared to last year. Despite this negative snapshot, it is important to note that this job market is challenging but not impenetrable.

GECDC’s Response

GECDC has already implemented a number of special programs in response to changes in the job market. In addition to a calendar of career planning and employment preparation programs and services. Be sure to take advantage of these free and targeted programs and services.

- **Tough Economy Series**—GECDC is conducting a series of special workshops offering information, tips and strategies for success in a tight job market. Among the presentations are Sloan Professor Howard Anderson’s presentation on “Getting a Great Job in a Tough Economy” and a special “Town Hall Meeting on the State of the Job Market.” The following is a list of the remaining sessions.
  - **Getting a Great Job in a Tough Economy by Sloan Professor Howard Anderson**
    Monday, April 6; 2:30-4:00 PM; Room 1-190
  - **Creative Job Search by Conducting Company Research by Kathleen Haggett (GECDC) and Anita Perkins (MIT Libraries)**
    Thursday, April 9; 3-4:30 PM; Room 14N-132
  - **Town Hall Meeting: State of the Job Market with Melanie Parker, Executive Director of the Global Education and Career Development Center (GECDC)**
    Tuesday, April 14; 7:00-8:30 PM; Room 4-237
  - **Negotiating Job Offers in a Tough Economy, Presented by a Panel of MIT Employers**
    April 23, 3:30-5:30 PM; Room 4-149

- **SPRING CAREER FAIR 2009**—The first annual “Just in Time” career fair provides employers a unique opportunity to connect with MIT students close to the end of the academic year. In addition to companies that traditionally recruit on campus, we have specifically targeted smaller companies and non-profit organizations. The event is completely booked with over 40 companies registered.
  - **April 24, 2009; 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM; Norris Hall 50-140**

- **Career Planning Services**
  - **Walk-in advising (M, Th, F; 12-2 PM; Tu; 11 AM-1 PM; W; 1-3 PM) and Career counseling by appointment**
  - **Career Assessments, including the Strong Interest Inventory and Myers Briggs Type Indicator**
  - **Career resources, including a free Career Development Handbook, online information (e.g. WetFeet) and print materials**

- **Employment Preparation**
  - **Mock interviews, resume and cover letter review, internship and job search planning**

- **Employment Search Services**
  - **Registration on CareerBridge, MIT’s online career management system**
  - **On-campus recruiting**
  - **Internship and job postings**
  - **Spring and Federal Job Fairs**
  - **iNet (internship posting consortium of schools)**

- **Resources and Strategies**
  - **I want to close with a top ten list of “guerrilla tactics” on how to survive and thrive in this challenging job market.**
  - **1. Start with a Solid Plan.** How can you find your job if you don’t know what you’re seeking and why? Good career planning includes self-assessment, research on career options that mesh well with your unique self, a knowledge of job search techniques, effective decision-making and development of contingency plans. GECDC can help you with your plans.
  - **2. Develop a Two-Minute Drill.** Be prepared to share your plan and your background, qualifications and goals quickly, to take advantage of networking opportunities during receptions, elevator rides, e-mails and telephone calls.
  - **3. It’s All About the Network.** Building and maintaining professional networking relationships are even more critical than ever before for success in hiring and retention. Employers are using professional networking websites and faculty to identify talent. Share your plans with your current network, including family, friends, parents of friends, former employers, alumni and faculty. They can help by providing information and sharing their insight and expertise on their career field and industry as well as suggestions for additional contacts. Send thank you notes and be prepared to return the favor—networking works best if there is mutual benefit.
  - **4. Conduct Information Interviews.** Information interviewing with contacts can help you determine your career field, company or geographic area is a proven method to increase your knowledge and network. Be sure to ask them for advice, support and additional contacts, which most individuals will readily provide, and not for a job.
  - **5. Be Persistent.** Finding a job takes considerable time. Follow up on leads and stay in touch with recruiters, even if they’ve turned you down. In this volatile economy things can change quickly. Be patient and persistent. To land a job, you will have to work hard and remain steadfast throughout this difficult period.
  - **6. Take Advantage of MIT Resources.** Talk to your department, use the ICAN network (see: alum.mit.edu), reconnect with programs in which you participated, such as UPOP, MITISF or F/ASP.
  - **7. Be Flexible and Focused.** Broaden the number of fields you are considering and apply for plenty of positions but research fields thoroughly so you can present a compelling rationale for your interest to employers.
  - **8. Use a Targeted Approach.** Blanketing companies or responding to online postings with generic letters addressed to no one in particular has less than a .1% chance of success of resulting in an offer. Research geographic areas or industries to identify potential companies and rank the companies. Expend the most time on your top prospects, conducting research and information interviews and using multiple means to get in for an interview with the decision-maker.
  - **9. Reach Out to Smaller, Start-Up, and Non-Traditional Employers.** In this economy, smaller and more nimble organizations are often better able to change direction and react quickly to the need for talent. These employers are not as visible on campus and their opportunities do not materialize synchronously with the academic year. Because they’re leaner, it is also easier to access the individual who has the power to hire.
  - **10. Consider “Stop-Out” Strategies, Including an Internship or Short-Term Work Experience.** Don’t just wait the market out, use the time to “get your feet wet,” to build skills or to meet other life goals. Stop-out strategies can include internships, volunteer work, temporary or contract employment, job shadowing, specialized training, graduate education, or an experience abroad.

For more information on any of these topics or resources, please visit our office, website, or attend one of the seminars or programs featured above. We are committed to helping you realize your career goals and wish you the best in your search.

Sincerely,

Melanie Parker, Executive Director
Global Education and Career Development Center
12-170 • http://careers.mit.edu/
Babson Wins Cricket Tournament

Cricket, from Page 16

won the toss and expectedly batted first; they posted a great total of 78 in 12 overs. Blue suffered an early loss of their best batsman in the first over of the chase. However, the moment brought out the best in the leadership of the Blues, with captain Ankur Sinha ’09 and vice-captain Vivek Jiwanal G playing match-winning roles. After their dismal leading to a few narrow overs, MIT Blue slid over the finishing line. The match reinvigorated the tournament, and symbolized a victory for the MIT Cricket Club as a whole.

At the end of the first round, three teams, Babson College, MIT Green, and MIT Blue shared the top spot with 4 wins and 1 loss each. To decide which teams would advance to the finals, the organizers had to resort to calculating the Net Run Rate, determined by formulae based on the number of runs conceded, the number of runs scored, number of balls faced, and the number of balls bowled in all the matches.

The finals of the tournament were a best of three-match-up between MIT Green and Babson College.

Babson entered the contest as the pre-tournament favorites. Moreover, owing to injury to key players, MIT Green faced an uphill task in countering Babson’s arsenal of pace and power.

The best-of-three finals format was designed to identify the truly better outfit among the competing teams, rewarding batting consistency over fortuitous moments. Babson made full use of their acquired advantage of batting first at both finals by posting huge scores that eventually wore down MIT Green’s batmen. They posted a record score of 94 runs in their allotted 12 overs, courtesy their premier hitters, Ronak Singh and Vishal Jaiswal. In reply, MIT Green had one man, Ishan Chugh ’12, taking on an entire battery of fast bowlers. Though Ishan’s exquisite strokeplay, and the indomitable spirit of a few others, MIT Green slashed and hustled their way to within 12 runs of Babson’s total, thereby playing their part in the highest scoring match of the tournament, and delivering a fitting finale.

The second final, played on the immediate wake of the first, followed a very similar script, with Babson’s batting posting a handy score of 75 that proved too much for MIT Green once Babson dislodged Chugh early. Although MIT Green reached a respectable total of 61 in 12 overs, the tournament belonged to Babson, the deserving candidates.

The tournament had several unique features owing largely to its indoor venue. Because of this, boundaries had to be determined, standards such as leg before wicket (LBW) dismissals and leg bye runs had to be modified, and special rules had to be outlined for cases such as the ball hitting the ceiling. The taped tennis ball that was used in the tournament is characteristic of the MIT Cricket Club. The standard cricket ball, made of leather, is not used since it bounces too high on the surface and can injure players with its hardness and bounce. The organizers chose taped tennis balls after experimenting with many different kinds of balls.

The MIT Cricket Club plans to organize more events in the future and hopes to involve more people in cricket at MIT. According to Sinha, president of the MIT Cricket Club, “The goal of the club now is to provide a healthy ambience for cricket, and provide opportunities for cricket enthusiasts to learn the game. The club would also hold intercollegiate cricket series with clubs and universities in the area. It is spring time, and during summer, we will be moving outdoors to play cricket on the turf!”

Chugh, the highest scorer of the tournament as well as a member of the squash team, says that “the tournament was a refreshing change from the ordinary routine of tournaments to the younger talent at MIT, creating opportunities for the young, motivated cricketers at MIT.”

The MIT Cricket Club is also undertaking ventures such as free cricket lessons to get more people from the MIT community excited about the sport that they spent their childhood playing.

Wellsing, Charpentier, Zhou, and Cummings

Swimming, from Page 16

overall in the consolation final.

MIT capped its season with an amazing effort in the 400 free relay. Once again smashing school and league records, the unit of Jeffrey Y. Zhou ’10, Cummings, Peter J. Wellsing ’09, and Charpentier swam to a time of 3:00.89. Finishing third in the consolation final, Zhou ignited the relay with a lead-off leg of 47.97. Wellsing split 45.56, while Cummings and Charpentier (44.77) were both under the 45-second mark as the Engineers improved the existing Institute record by two seconds after breaking the previous mark by two seconds at the 2009 NEWMAC Championships.
Men's Swimming and Diving Finishes Ninth at 2009 NCAA Championship

By James Kramer

The Engineers received another record-breaking effort in the 100 free as team captain and second-year teammate Lauren Charpentier '09 set another record with a swim of 44.89 during prelims. Cummings split 44.97 at night three in the consolation final. Charpentier missed finals in the 100 after swimming 45.56.

Amy E. Jacobs '11 closed out her season with a time of 53.23 in the 100 free. She missed finals, as did senior Nicole M. O'Keefe '09, although O'Keefe delivered a personal record with a terrific swim of 17:37.50 in the 500 free. Michael J. Dobson '09 split 2:00.44 at night to close seventh with a 49.09 in the 100 individual medley and a 1:02.09 in the 200 free.

With extraordinary outstanding performances, MIT's men's swimming and diving capped the 2009-09 season with its highest finish in 27 years overall. The men finished ninth overall in the team standings, with 92 points, good enough for just one point away from finishing eighth. The women's team also closed out the year with a pair of solid swims.

The Engineers enjoyed their second-best finish ever at the national meet, and their highest finish since taking seventh in 1982. Kenvon College scored 604 points to route its 30th consecutive NCAA title.

Kenny Timothy J. Stambaugh '12 authored the evening's biggest highlight as he set new institute and conference records in the 200 in both 200 back to All-American status. Stambaugh spits a sensational 1:50.09 while finishing sixth in the championship final.

Men's Gymnastics Finishes Fifth at USAG Championship

The MIT gymnastics team kicked off its post-season run with a fifth-place finish at the USA Gymnastics Collegiate National Championship this past weekend at the College of William and Mary.

In the individual event finals, Jacob T. Shapiro '09 finished fourth (14.350) on the rings while Boris Rasin '09 placed third spots behind him with a score of 13.800. On the high bar, Brett S. Lazzaro '12 ranked seventh overall with a mark of 5.200.

In the all-around, Lazzaro led the Engineers with a seventh-place finish (79.750) as Rasin finished right behind him in the all-around with a score of 79.450.

One parallel bars Rasin and Shapiro both re-

MIT’s best showing was on the rings with Shapiro recording a mark of 14.550, the Engineers a must score of 55.500, and Shapiro captured 10th place with a total of 79.050 while Thomas S. Caldwell '09 represented the highest finish of 79.450.

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