Staff RepoRteR

By Vinayak Ranade

Saving $200M Pension Plans, Employee

MIT May Cut “self-supporting.” Foundations and shipments because the system is largely

MIT’s international research partner-
downturn has “not really affected

res explained that the economic

Associate Provost Claude R. Caniza-
eration.

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the coming years. Unlike some oth-
could not be considered asobjectives in the

By Yuliya Preger

the areas of environmental monitor -

ning after alert residents reported

next House. Whether the arrested

The number of MIT attendees

In its 2009 accreditation self-

VICE President for Research and

Global MIT,

gram has expanded to fields such as

chemical and pharmaceutical engi-

the Singapore-MIT Alliance

The Singapore-MIT-Model

among the proposed cuts in workforce

cost-cutting ideas will be presented in the preliminary

the new Kerry/Boxer Senate cli-

President Barack Obama will encourage Americans to lead the global

economy in clean energy during his speech today in Kresge Audito-

At noon, the President will tour

Photo: Fred Fruchter/TED

President Barack Obama will encourage Americans to lead the global

economy in clean energy during his speech today in Kresge Audito-

the best option for GIR classes near their capacities.

the ability of espe-

Should MIT Have Fewer Grad Students? Admins Still Evaluating Options

By Aparna Sud

Is MIT really going to increase

the undergraduate class sizes? MIT’s

isn’t sure when or how much, but some sort of increase likely looks

likely. MIT’s Institute Planning Task Force has suggested that MIT can

accommodate a small increase in undergraduates without raising the
total cost to educate the undergradu-

ate body, and without compromising

MIT’s academic excellence. An in-

crease of 10 percent would generate

$4M in additional revenue, the Task

Force preliminary report noted.

The costs of an increase need to

be considered as well. Vice Chan-
cellores Steven R. Lerman ’72 points

cut extra classrooms for already-full

By Ana Lyons

Among the 200 cost-cutting ideas

the preliminary Institute-wide task force report, several ideas

stand out for their potential to impact graduate student life at MIT, if

implemented.

Do you want Windows 7?

Do you want Windows 7? Are you a student, faculty member, or staff?

you now can download Windows 7 for free at http://msca.mit.edu/32-

and 64-bit versions available.

Students are limited to two installations, the website says.

Send news information and tips to

options.

Along with the release of report — were discussed in the Sep-

tums community forums, and have

since gaining the attention of MIT’s Graduate Student Council.

GSC President Alexander Chan says that the GSC plans to re-

lease a short memo next week to the

Donors for Graduate Education and Student Life and the Chancellor, ad-

dressing some of the GSC’s concerns with these ideas.

Faster Grades? Page 15

Increasing Transfers, 3+2 Masters Program

By Apama Sud

Is MIT really going to increase the undergraduate class sizes? MIT’s isn’t sure when or how much, but some sort of increase looks likely. MIT’s Institute Planning Task Force has suggested that MIT can accommodate a small increase in undergraduates without raising the total cost to educate the undergraduate body, and without compromising MIT’s academic excellence. An increase of 10 percent would generate $4M in additional revenue, the Task Force preliminary report noted. The costs of an increase need to be considered as well. Vice Chancellor Steven R. Lerman ’72 points out extra classrooms for already-full Freshman General Institute Requirement classes, like 8.02 TEAL, would cost money and could offset revenue. But increasing the number of undergraduates may not simply be increasing the freshman class size: Lerman suggests three other approaches that might be more likely: increasing the number of transfer students, implementing a “3+2” program to grant a five-year bachelor’s degree to students who have attended three years at another institution and two years at MIT, or a “3+2” program that grants a master’s degree. According to Lerman, adding more freshmen does not seem to be the best option for GIR classes near their capacities. The ability of espe-

Pension Cuts, Saving $200M

MIT May Cut Employee Pension Plans, Saving $200M

By Vinayak Ranade

MIT may cut employee pension plans as part of a plan to save $27–$199 million over the next 2–10 years, according to the preliminary report of the Institute-Wide Planning Task Force released in August. The retirement plan cuts constitute much of the proposed cuts in workforce policies and practices recommended by the report. The task force report is expected to come out on Oct. 30, but these cuts will not become final before further discussions with service worker’s union SEIU Local 615 and possibly a faculty response. The final deci-

dions, which are expected to be made in the autumn, are in the hands of MIT’s top executives.

The report argues that pensions should be cut because the current system offers a strange incentive to retire: employees may sometimes get more money per year from retire-

foreign entities typically provide the start-up costs.

The Singapore-MIT Model

The Singapore-MIT Alliance (SMA), which has endured since 1998, serves as a prime example of this system. According to Canizaros, the National Research Foundation of Singapore funded this alliance” since they were “keen” to harness the capabilities of MIT, particularly “in the areas of environmental monitoring and testing.”

Over the past 10 years, the pro-

MIT Seeks To Grow Its Research Abroad

In Singapore, a Foreign Government Funds Millions of Dollars of MIT Research

By Yuliya Preger

In its 2009 accreditation self-

study, MIT identified global engage-

ment as one of the top priorities in

the coming years. Unlike some oth-

ers, this initiative has remained un-

able. Students are limited to two

versions avail-

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Send news information and tips to

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In Short

MIT police arrested an intruder in Baker House late Thursday even-
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known. A full report on the arrest was not available at press time.

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news@the-tech.mit.edu.
Labels Show Swedes Their Food's Carbon Footprint

By Elisabeth Rosenthal

STOCKHOLM

Shopping for oatmeal, Helena Bergstrom, 37, admitted that she was flummoxed by the label on the blue box reading, “Climate declared: 40°N.”

“I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom. “Right now, I don’t know what this means,” said Bergstrom.
Senate Votes to Expand Hate-Crime Protection

By David Stout

WASHINGTON

The Senate voted Thursday to extend new federal protections to people who are victims of violent crime because of their gender or sexual orientation, bringing the measure close to reality after years of fierce debate.

The 68-29 vote sends the legislature to President Barack Obama, who has said he supports it.

The measure, attached to an executive-saluting amendment to the military and called its passage a worthy tribute to President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the opposition’s efforts have largely stalled in the face of unrelenting government pressure, arrests, lost detentions, harsh sentences, censorship and a strategic refusal to compromise.

Pakistani Brigadier Assassinated in Capital

By Jane Perlez and Salman Masood

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

Two assailants on a motorbike fired on a Pakistani army jeep in a heavy rush-hour traffic Thursday morning, killing a brigadier and his driver, a security official said.

The assassination of the brigadier, Misrathan Ahmed, was believed to be the first targeted attack on a senior military officer in Islamabad, the Pakistani capital, and also suggested a new tactic in the continuing war between the government and Islamist militants. Before now, the military has been fast enough in following stories to secure to local law enforcement agencies. Ten Republicans voted for the measure and 281-146, and would give the federal government the authority to prosecute violent, antigay crimes when local authorities failed to.

The measure would also allocate $5 million a year to the Justice Department to assist local communities in investigating hate crimes, and it would allow the agency to assist in investigations and prosecutions of local agencies requested help.

Federal protections for people who are victims of violent crime because of their sexual orientation have been sought for more than a decade, at least since the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay Wyoming college student.

Behind War Between White House and Fox

By Jim Rutenberg

WASHINGTON

Late last month, the senior White House adviser David Axelrod and Roger Ailes, chairman and chief executive of Fox News, met in an empty Midtown Manhattan steakhouse before it opened for the day, neutral ground secured for a secret tête-à-tête.

Ailes, who had reached out to Axelrod to address rising tensions between the network and the White House, told him that Fox’s reporters had been fast enough in following stories to secure to local law enforcement agencies. Ten Republicans voted for the measure and 281-146, and would give the federal government the authority to prosecute violent, antigay crimes when local authorities failed to.

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Questions Remain About Obama's Certificates

It seems everyone is excited for President Obama's visit to MIT today. Or should he barack Hussein Obama, de facto Presid-
ent? My question is: has anyone seen Obama's original, ISK-Tissued Personal Certificate? I have been referring to his2008/2012

The Silen of 30 Million Missing Chinese Women

President Obama's visit to MIT is a great honor, especially after winning the Nobel Peace Prize Award. However, there are many mixed feelings about his visit when one considers the world's
dispell.

The impact of such pro-abortion policies can be seen in the three times greater incidence of spontaneous abortion in the US than in other countries. The US also has one of the highest rates of abortion in the world, with over 500,000 abortions performed annually. This is in contrast to China, where abortion is illegal and voluntary abortion is not an option. The Chinese government has implemented strict one-child policies to control population growth, leading to widespread use of sterilization and abortion. This has resulted in a significant decrease in the population growth rate and an increase in the average age at first birth. The policy has also contributed to gender imbalances, with a higher ratio of boys to girls at birth due to selective abortion of female fetuses. This imbalance has led to a number of social and economic problems, including a shortage of female partners for young men and a skewed sex ratio in some regions of the country. The policy remains in place, with potential changes to be evaluated in the future. The Chinese government has acknowledged the issue and is working to address it through targeted measures and education campaigns. The overall impact of this policy on Chinese society is complex and warrants further study. The policy remains in place, with potential changes to be evaluated in the future. The Chinese government has acknowledged the issue and is working to address it through targeted measures and education campaigns. The overall impact of this policy on Chinese society is complex and warrants further study.
Obama Is Not the First Questionable Recipient

President Obama didn’t deserve the Nobel Prize. We get it. But a big thanks to Ernst and Young, who for the fourth year in a row, more than the weekend push-out-the-back-the media has given itself. “Look at us,” they seem to be saying, “We’re controversial! We can say bad things about Obama!” Fox News, of course, is in the back seat. In the front seat of the audible, a is slighting outsiders. What perhaps the “shock dea...
Metropolitan’s Production of Aida Refreshing

By Joyce Kwan

Aida
Metropolitan Opera, New York, NY
October 12, 2009

The audience at the Metropolitan Opera was surely as dramatic as the performances on stage. Despite boisterous conductor Daniele Gatti for what it considered a lackluster performance of Verdi’s Aida, the audience seemed quite content with a repeated performance a little over a week later. Apparently, following the opening night performance of the Met’s revival of Aida, singers were greeted with ovations and cheers while Gatti, the conductor, had to stomach significant boos. The logic behind this is slightly baffling since the conductor, in no small way, is in charge of the singers. Nonetheless, after the performance I attended a little over a week later, the audience seemed generally pleased.

The performance was the revival of a 1988 production done by stage director Sonia Frisell that has proven to be reliable over the years. It envisions Aida at its most grand and traditional, depicting ancient Egypt as imposing, but doing so without overpowering the performers, as grand sets are wont to do (as those designed under Zeffirelli’s direction). All the performers, as grand sets are wont to do (as grand and exotic, but doing so without overpowering tional, depicting ancient Egypt as imposing), were greeted with ovations and cheers for a lackluster performance of Verdi’s Aida. The Met something worth discussing.

The singers impressed the audience with the subtler side, so as not cheapen an opera role of Amneris, wrought a woman of nearly an opposing state. Zajick, in the supporting role of Amneris, won a nearly equal complexity through dramatic precision, one whose jalousie isباطتة by a tender and equally hopeless love.

The Met has been facing a fickle audience recently, starting with this year’s season opener, a new production of Puccini’s Tosca. Realized as stark and kinky, the production understandably drew boos and catcalls so adamant that the performers decided to receive the response from a side balcony.

But perhaps these are the markings of a new Met, one that general manager Peter Gelb is working hard to achieve. Pushing boundaries with new faces, rarely staged works, and radical productions of storied favorites, Gelb will undoubtedly turn away some longtime Metgoers, as stark and kinky, the production understandably drew boos and catcalls so adamant that the performers decided to receive the response from a side balcony.

The audience certainly had no problems this time since he received as much applause, if not more, as the singers. The Met is at its most grand and traditional, depicting ancient Egypt as imposing, but doing so without overpowering tional, depicting ancient Egypt as imposing. The subtler side, so as not cheapen an opera role of Amneris, wrought a woman of nearly an opposing state. Zajick, in the supporting role of Amneris, won a nearly equal complexity through dramatic precision, one whose jalousie is白天 by a tender and equally hopeless love.

Gatti’s conducting fittingly remained on the subtler side, so as not cheapen an opera role of Amneris, wrought a woman of nearly an opposing state. Zajick, in the supporting role of Amneris, won a nearly equal complexity through dramatic precision, one whose jalousie is白天 by a tender and equally hopeless love.

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Barbara DeMarco. Although entertaining, Tony Wickham, the salon owner, distractedly snipping away her piano loudly). The plot is set into motion when Barbara discovers the death of Mrs. Czerny. Her slightest intonations and body lines was their enthusiastic delivery; all of the chemistry of the cast questions each other in the “whodunit” portion, in which the cast questions each other in the “whodunit” portion, in which the cast questions each other in the “whodunit” portion, in which the cast questions each other in the “whodunit” portion. The murderer’s confession at the end of the act raised the stakes considerably, which the cast questions each other in the “whodunit” portion.
CONCERT REVIEW

A Smorgasbord of MIT A Cappella Groups

By Emily Nardoni

Greatest Boston Invitational Song Kresge Auditorium, Cambridge, MA October 10, 2009

Last weekend had a lot to offer to MIT students, as the wide variety of student groups on campus showcased their love of everything but math and science to the visiting families. One of the weekend's highlights was the Saturday night a cappella concert, dubbed the "Greatest Boston Invitational Songfest." The lineup included all nine campus a cappella groups, each performing two numbers of their choice.

First up were the Chorallaries, MIT's oldest co-ed a cappella group, known for their impressive arrangements and an eclectic range of performances. Their opening number, "Zombie" by the Cranberries, gripped the audience with its haunting harmonies, stinging vocals by soloist Minnan Yin '11, and zombi-esque choreography. Their enthusiastic and beautifully composed second selection, "High" by the Lighthouse Family, got everyone clapping along.

Up next were the MIT Muses, displaying their signature girlish flare and sweet style at the campus' only all women's cappella group. A perks rendition of Elvis' "Can't Help Falling in Love" got the audience giggling in a good way, while their vocals really shone in "Fidelity" by Regina Spektor.

The pace changed with the MIT/Wellcelly Toons' "funky rendition of Keri Hilson's 'Knock You Down.'" The Toons' contigious beat and unique choreography — including the formation of a human airplane reaching to the rhythm of their music — wowed fervent applause. They kept it playful with The Orion Experience's "Obsessed With You," which again showcased their incredible vocals and super-cool style.

In contrast to the intensity of some of the other groups, the Asymptones' lighthearted approach made their music feel much more low-key performance of Deep Blue Something's "Breakfast at Tiffany's" and "Finite Simple group" speak for itself. Catchy harmonies and comic touches (like beginning their set with the Warner Brother's theme song) effectively get the whole room smiling and nodding along.

The next three groups, the Cross Products, Techya, and Syncopean, each brought a little of something different to the table. The Cross Products' inspiring songs of faith and hope had the unique flavor of MIT's only co-ed Christian cappella group — and a "woe" factor that listeners of all religious backgrounds could appreciate: MIT's Jewish, Hebrew, and Israeli a cappella group, Techya, impressed with a rap and Hebrew twist to "New Soul" by Yael Naim. The newest group on campus, Syncopean, soulfully performed in a mix of Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese, and English. They also performed some of the best beat blocking of the night.

Second to last, the all-male Logarithms knew how to work a crowd. Rushing onto the stage in a variety of creepy costumes — featuring Harry Potter, Zorro, and a talented soloist clad head to toe as Hermione from Sesame Street — the Logos' explosive versions of "You Give Me Something" (James Morrison) and "Knock on Wood" elicited the loudest and longest applause of the night. Their awe-inducing harmonies and modern flare provided a great lead into the last performance of the night by Resonance. "Resonance's trendy "Crush" (by David Archuleta) and highly charged "Unstoppable" (The Veronicas) brought an energetic end to the hour and a half long concert, and left the audience begging for more.

There's plenty more to come from the a cappella groups this year. Be sure to check out your favorite group's performance schedule.

CONCERT REVIEW

Say Hi: Raw Like Sushi

Second Opening Steals the Show

By Matt Fisher

Say Hi: TT's The Bear's Place
October 21, 2009

Say Hi (formerly Say Hi to Your Mom), the little-known second opener at TT's, proved to be by far the most talented and of the evening, blowing both the opening act and the headlining band out of the water. Raw and loud without any sacrifice to their catchy, simple melodies, Say Hi's show on Tuesday was a performance that changed the way one would listen to a band's recorded work.

Opening for Say Hi, The Soft Drugs pursued outstandingly mediocre, minor-key, guitar-driven rock fronted by ex-Pedro the Lion member T. W. Walsh. The Soft Drugs presented an interesting arrangement where almost all of the singing was crooned by the drummer. However, the novelty of their setup, even tempered by the louder, rawer musical style, their album

Detroit's "Roadkill Buffet's "The She Sells Sea Shells by the Sea Shores" last Saturday. Members of the University of Massachusetts Boston's Selection Naturelle show off their moves during ASHASI 2009, MIT's 10th annual African culture night.
The House Of Bluegrass

The Yonder Mountain String Band (below) brought their Colorado spirit to the House of Blues on Friday, October 23. The group played to its largest crowd ever in Boston, mostly gaining a fan base through word of mouth. Mandolin player and lead vocalist Jeff Austin (left) and bassist Ben Kaufmann (right) formed the group in 1998 in Nederland, Colorado with Dave Johnston and Adam Aljala.

Photography by S. Balaji Mani

Guitar Knives Rock Out ‘@ the Coffeehouse’

The Guitar Knives was the first to perform as part of the concert series “Live! @ The Coffeehouse” on Oct. 16. Other performances will take place on Oct. 30, Nov. 13, Nov. 20 and Dec. 4.

(clockwise from right)
Thomas M. Cervantes ’11 of The Guitar Knives strums the bass.
Acoustic guitarist and songwriter James Levi “Levi” M. Schmidt ’10 opened the show.
Kevin A. Rustagi ’11 drums a beat
The Head of the Charles: A Rower’s Perspective

By Melodie Kao

The Head of the Charles is the largest regatta in the world, comprising over 8,000 rowers and 1,700 boats. The Man-long race course connects the MIT, BU, Riverside, Harvard, Cambridge Boat Club, and Northeastern boathouses.

On the cold, windy, and rainy final day of the Head of the Charles, rowers warm up inside.

Eight silhouettes of bodies black against grey windows and clad in even blacker spandex fill the absence of color with sound; whooshhhhhhh, whooshhhhhhh — as the fans in the ergometers cycle through crescendos and decrescendos, the shadows swing back in unison, and flashes of red stripes begin to profile the powerful lines of the bodies. Punctuating this rhythm are the sharp commands of the coxswain: “One team, one body — send it up, swing it back and lock it in!”

Twenty feet above the frigid water, held in midair by a worn tilted floor, eight bodies begin to blend into one. Arms lent, hands steady, and the room begins to smell of a heady mix of human sweat, adrenaline, and the humming tension of utter concentration.

In this room and on the twisting expanse of water below, intellectual power transforms into physical power, where singleminded intensity takes on the form of loose jaws and relaxed backs, gentle hands, and eyes boring into the river just beyond the boathouse windows.

As muscles bunch across shoulders and whirring fans rise to a cacophony of wheels, tears from the stinging salt mix with the sweat that drips onto the floor, tracing out a line that sings the motion of the rowers: pushhhh return, pushhhh return, whooshhhhh, whooshhhhh. Each drop shimmers against the dull concrete banks and steel grates, and the river gushes over the oars magnifies and fills the space, like the crescendo of the ergs, before dispersing over the oars magnifies and fills the space, like the crescendo of the ergs, before dispersing over the oars magnifies and fills the space, like the crescendo of the ergs, before dispersing over the oars magnifies and fills the space, like the crescendo of the ergs, before dispersing over the oars magnifies and fills the space, like the crescendo of the ergs, before dispersing over the oars magnifies and fills the space, like the crescendo of the ergs, before dispersing over the oars magnifies and fills the space, like the crescendo of the ergs, before dispersing over the oars magnifies and fills the space, like the crescendo of the ergs, before dispersing over the oars magnifies and fills the space, like the cres...
Lightweights Send Three Boats To the Head of the Charles

Men's Lightweight Crew raced in three events at the 45th running of the Head of the Charles last weekend. In the Club 8+ event on Sunday first in the Lightweight Fours event was led by coxswain Henry G. Skupniecz '13, followed from stroke to bow by Zachary C. Segal '13, James E. Byson '13, Samuel F. Simmons '13, Cameron S. McAlpine '13, John R. DeMino '13, Stephen A. Freiberg '13, Samuel T. Reineman '13, and Devin A. Cela '13.

In blustery, snowy conditions, the varsity contingent took to the water on Sunday first in the Lightweight Fours event where Tech finished in 10th place overall and sixth among collegiate crews with a time of 16:28.3. The boat was driven by coxswain Diana T. Wu '11, and rowed by stroke Michael K. Lo '12, Justinia M. Kebschull '11, and Erick W. Fuentes '11. In the Lightweight Eight competition, MIT put together a team of 46 in a time of 16:19.491. The squad was led by coxswain Emily C. Shao '11. In the Lightweight Eight competition, MIT put together a team of 46 in a time of 16:19.491. The squad was led by coxswain Emily C. Shao '11.

Women's Tennis Closes Regular Season with 2-7 Loss to Babson

Women's Tennis closed out the regular season with a 2-7 loss to Babson College on Tuesday, 7-2. With the loss, the Engineers wrap up their season with a 3-5 record (3-4 NEWMAC) and enter this weekend's Conference Tournament as the number six seed.

All three doubles matches were decided by just two games, with Babson taking two of the three for an early 2-1 lead. First doubles pair Anastasia Vishnevetsky '12 and Alexandra C. Hall '12 gave MIT its first point, winning 8-6. Babson dominated in the singles matches, winning five of the six matches. Vishnevetsky again provided the lone victory, defeating her opponent 6-3, 7-6 (5).

The Engineers will host third-seeded Babson in a rematch of Tuesday in the first round of the NEWMAC Tournament. The match starts Saturday at 11 a.m. on the Point Courts.

—David Zhu, Sports Editor

Volleyball Fights Off Babson, 3-0

The MIT women's volleyball defeated formidable New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) foe Babson College, 25-14, 26-24, 25-20, on Tuesday night. With the win, the Engineers improved to 22-5 on the season and 7-0 in conference action while the Beavers dipped to 2-7 on the season and 0-7 in conference play.

Babson opened the third set with seven unanswered points and went on to hold a 17-13 advantage. MIT's senior class responded with six straight points to capture the lead. Barden A. Cleeland '10 ignited the spurt with a pair of kills and then collaborated with May on a block that evened the frame at 17. Catherine Melnikow '10's solid serving throughout the rally yielded all three of her aces. Each side traded points as Babson stayed alive until Li recorded her third set point of the night. May posted a double-double on 13 kills and 13 digs as Cleeland notched 10 kills and three blocks. JasPan-Roque registered nine kills and five blocks while Li racked up five kills and five blocks. In addition to her timely trio of aces, Melnikow added seven digs. Alyssa L. Rothman '13 tallied 33 assists and three aces as Katie K. Spielbauer '13 and Amin D. Dikina '11 rounded out the defense with eight and six digs, respectively.

Next up for MIT will be the Hall of Fame Tournament held Oct. 23-24. —Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

Power Supply: Energy Resources in the MIT Libraries

Opening Reception:

TODAY! Friday, October 23, 1-3pm
MIT Libraries, Malhagen Gallery (14N-130)

Check out the exhibit and enjoy refreshments with friends!

This event is free and open to the MIT Community. libraries.mit.edu

INFORMATION SESSION
Wednesday, October 28, 2009

6:00pm - 7:30pm
Gassler Center

www.brandeis.edu/programs/education/mat
Steal My Comic
by Michael Ciuffo

Sudoku
Solution, page 13

<table>
<thead>
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</tbody>
</table>

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Help Desk
by Michael Benitez

Fact:
AT THE WINDOWS 7 LAUNCH PARTY LAST NIGHT, GUESTS COULD WIN A FREE COPY OF WINDOWS 7 BY BRINGING SEVEN TECHNOLOGY-RELATED ITEMS.

Fact:
LAST WEEKEND AT LEAST SEVEN LAPTOPS WERE REPORTED STOLEN FROM VARIOUS DORMS.

Coincidence:
I DON'T THINK SO.

Doonesbury
BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams
ACROSS
1 Angle
6 Like disco dancers
10 "Wow"
13 Explorer __ de León
14 Structural sci.
15 Nightclub in a Manilow song
16 Atlanta university
17 Health nut?
18 Prefix with dermal
20 PC support person
21 Village paper?
22 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
25 Toy in a holster
26 Eightfold
27 Winter mo.
28 Arg. neighbor
29 IM provider
30 Arles assent
31 Get ready, briefly
32 Where hogs go hog-wild?
36 Satirist Mort
37 Blood

DOWN
1 Swimwear brand
2 California city near Vandenberg Air Force Base
3 Consecrate using oil
4 Big name in 40-Acrosses
5 Mystery writer Josephine
6 Reproductive cell
7 In the cooler
8 Deep wound
9 Pole Grounds hero
10 "I don't get it"
11 Gastronomes
12 Gone from the plate
13 Photoshop command
14 Big name in 40-Acrosses
15 "A __ of Wine, a Loaf of Bread..."
16 Notable 1969 bride
17 Food in a flat box
18 Author Hunter
19 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
20 Form 1040 ID
21 Lhasa __
22 Two-wheeled artillery wagons
23 Small game bird
24 Rent-__
25 Attends
26 Tarzan, e.g.
27 Biological divisions
28 Where hogs go hog-wild?
29 Brit. record label
30 Notable 1969 bride
31 Power of ten
32 11-Down, e.g.
33 Battered repeatedly, in slang
34 ThinkPad maker
35 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
36 Bun seeds
37 Zaps in a microwave
38 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
39 Saloon sound
40 Rent-__
41 "I don't get it"
42 Polo Grounds hero
43 Latin law
44 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
45 motel
46 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
47 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
48 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
49 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
50 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
51 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
52 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
53 "Make him an offer he can't refuse," e.g.?
Students Energetically Await President Obama’s Visit, Speech

By Robert McQueen

The news of President Barack Obama’s arrival on campus has sparked excitement throughout the MIT community, but it has also prompted protests.

Jared S. Silver G is one of the lucky students who received a ticket for Obama’s address. His thesis work involves carbon monoxide to diesel particulate emissions. According to an MIT supervi- sion, “I was surprised to be picked,” Lu joked. He is happy that he was picked despite the fact that he is Canadian, he joked.

Director Ernest J. Moniz of MIT Energy Initiative said that some

MIT Plans to Proactively Court Other Countries for Research Partnerships

Global MIT, from Page 1

Canizares said that MIT tries to make sure they pay for themselves, but there is always overhead and fe-
gal costs.

Frequently, the management of international activities places bur-
dens on MIT’s administration, be-
cause administrative costs are higher for international activities.

Benefits to MIT

In 2007–2008, SMA generated about $4 million in revenue for MIT. In fact, “international collabora-
tions with foreign governments” was listed as one means of revenue enhancement the Institute Planning Task Force. Total revenue was estimated in the range of tens of mil-

Potential Partners

For developing countries, pursu-
ing an alliance with MIT could be cost-prohibitive (especially with price tags around $20 million as with SMA.) Canizares confirmed that MIT would invest more if it could pay. MIT would have “different mo-

pay. MIT would have “different mo-
tives” for establishing partnerships with those groups, so the financial outlay would not prove a deterrent. In these cases, MIT would also at-
tem to secure a donor or founda-
tion funding.

According to the accreditation self-study, overtures from other na-

tions funding.

Solution to Crossword

A Select Few Will See Obama Speech; Cable Will Carry It Real-time

Obama & Protests, from Page 1

himself are determined to get cli-

mate change legislation done. With growing support in the Senate and a forceful ally in the White House, we look forward to moving this process forward and ensuring that the world sees the United States as the leader on climate change in Copenhagen come December.”

Kerry will not be attending the event due to a prior commitment.

Deans Allocate Tickets

About 100 of the tickets were selected through the deans of MIT’s five schools.

Marc A. Kastner, Dean of the School of Science, said that he was going to “try to get a diverse group of students, obviously those whose work involves energy.” Kastner, whose school represents 20 percent of MIT’s student population, had only 10 tickets to allocate to stu-
dents and another 10 to faculty and staff.

Kastner said he would not take a ticket for himself, but would watch it on TV so someone else could at-
tend. “I think we should all enjoy this event,” he said.

Most of the deans have solicited recommendations of who to send from their department heads. Obama’s visit to MIT has been hastily scheduled. MIT learned of Obama’s plans over the weekend, and has been scrambling since. The plans became widely known on Tuesday.

Second MIT/Energy speech

In March, Obama and MIT Presi-
dent Susan J. Hockfield appeared together at a White House event, “Investing in Our Clean Energy Fu-
ture.”

Air Force One is scheduled to touch down at 11:30 a.m. at Logan Airport, and Obama will speak at MIT at noon. Afterwards, Obama will attend a fundraiser event for Massachusetts Governor Deval L. Patrick, and then Air Force One departs for New York at 3:40 p.m. The President will then attend a fundrais-
ing dinner for Senator Christopher J. Dodd (D-Conn.) in Stamford, Conn. before returning to Washington D.C. tonight.

Solution to Sudoku

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Oct. 26
11:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Oct. 27
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Oct. 28
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
State House
2nd Floor, Doric Hall
24 Beacon St., Boston
Sponsored by MIT Falun Dafa Club

Truth-Compassion-Tolerance

International Art Exhibition

Falun Dafa Club

www.FalunArt.com

International Art Exhibition

Oct. 26 – Oct. 28
State House
2nd Floor, Doric Hall
24 Beacon St., Boston
Sponsored by MIT Falun Dafa Club

Solution to Sudoku

Join the MIT Alpine Skiing Club and compete in slalom and giant slalom or just come out and have a great time racing down slopes on some amazing mountains!!!

Informational meeting for new recruits is on Monday, October 26th at 7:15 p.m. in the Z Center Media Room (W35-199).
One of the biggest concerns voiced by MIT community members at forums was the idea of “right-sizing” the MIT graduate student population. At the forums and in an internal memo to staff, Tech, there was discussion that such drastic measures as reducing 1,000 graduate students could result from “right-sizing” efforts.

Administrators Deny 1,000 Cut

In a recent interview, Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings ’78, clarified that cutting 1,000 graduate students was not his idea. Hastings, speaking by phone in response to a memo from the MIT Corporation, said that “no number implied” the Task Force’s suggestion. Hastings is a co-chair of the Task Force’s Academic Education team.

Hastings explained the Task Force’s motivations: historically MIT had hired a large number of undergraduates and “sometime around 1980, the Institute came to be majority grad from majority undergrad.” Where new the student population stand roughly at 6,000 undergraduate students and 4,000 graduate students—a shift in maintaining an “approximately const the Faculty,” said Hastings.

Hastings said the biggest growth in the graduate student body was likely due to the large increase in doctoral students in the School of Engineering, and that a number of departments experienced “basically, unparalleled growth” where “the cor relation with research is very high.”

W. Eric L. Grimson PhD ’80, who co-chairs the Academic Education team with Hastings, clarified that “We aren’t explicitly saying decrease the size [of the graduate student body].” What we’re saying is that in the last thirty years a gone from being roughly equal size between graduate students and under graduates, to major de crease in the last thirty years, MIT has now gone from being roughly equal size between graduate students and undergraduates, raising the question of “Is this the right thing for MIT?” Grimson is also co-chair of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Com puter Science.

Grimson said that the idea to “right-size” the graduate student body, if pursued, would require further research and data col lection, and that the Institute would like to have a large group to con struct a model of the net benefit of the average graduate student. “In order to better understand the student’s impact on space, infrastructure, and other resources, such as faculty work load,” Grimson also said that graduate student growth is currently unregu lated beyond the scope of individual departments, and there is no cen tralized planning for the number of graduate students admitted.

GSC Responds, Concerned

Chan, the GSC President, gave the graduate students’ perspective on the “right-sizing” idea, saying, “Graduate students are very data driven, and before we start talking about right-sizing, a lot of data needs to be collected.”

Chan said the biggest GSC concern is that cutting the MIT student body might be oversimplified. “The idea that a complete degree can vary greatly not only between departments, but even across graduate students,” also said Chan.

Also, Chan worried that some of the less-sizable sources of rev enue, such as the intellectual prop erty generated by graduate students’ work and research, might also be underestimated during the “right-sizing” evaluations.

GSC Concerns on TA Cost

Separate from the “right-sizing” Chan said that the GSC also had “very strong opinions” on the Task Force idea for reducing TA costs as well as concern over ideas to imple ment new ways for students to obtain masters degrees, either through a 3-2 program or online.

Both Task Force Academic Edu cation co-chairs, Grimson and Hastings, spoke on these issues during interviews, and said that, like in the case of “right-sizing” the graduate student body, any future changes in TA pay or the implementation of transfer-student or online-based master’s degree programs would require extensive research before any serious changes would be considered.

Grimson said that the Task Force idea of matching appointment and pay to actual TA effort was a reflec tion of fractional TA appointments which may exist, where not all TA appointments require the full formal 20 hours.

“The main part [of this idea] is to not treat all TA appointments the same, but be full, or fractional,” such as in the case of TA appointments requiring only 10 hours a week of preparation and teaching time. Chan said.

Likewise, Grimson says the re port’s idea to “consider providing every doctoral student with at least one semester of teaching experience for course credit in lieu of pay,” stems from the fact that researchers and departments already have a degree requirement for teaching” decorated from graduate students. Grimson also said that the ideas for “TA Cost Abatement” found in the preliminary report are degrading the quality of TA, and if they could ultimately result in decreasing the amount or quality of TA appointment, “it would both affect graduate student as well as undergraduates” because “it’s a situation where you are also being reduced the learning ex perience of undergraduates.”

Some MIT Employees Might Be Exempt from Proposed Pension Cuts

Pension Cuts, from Page 1

ment benefits than they do in salary the year before they retire.

Employees can choose between a “defined benefit” and a “defined contribution” plan. Retirees under the current defined benefit plan receive an annual check for 1.65 percent of the total amount they made in their career.

Under the current defined contribution plan, employees can make contributions to a separate retirement account such as a 401(k) for up to five percent of their paycheck. The retirement earnings then depend en tirely on that account.

Among the proposed cuts, one would reduce the defined benefit so that it only pays 1.65 percent of the total amount employees make over their first 30 years at MIT, rather than their entire time. Under a second proposal, employees contributing to the defined benefit plan would receive a 401(k) which would receive only a four percent of their paycheck to the account, and people on a fixed income don’t get the op portunity to contribute to their 401(k) because “it’s a situation where you vaguely, and if they could ultimately result in decreasing the amount or quality of TA appointment, “it would both affect graduate student as well as undergraduates” because “it’s a situation where you are also being reduced the learning experience of undergraduates.”

On the idea to provide doctoral students with at least one semester of teaching in lieu pay, Chan said that “it’s sort of a disguised sense of cre ating forced labor” for the graduate students. Moreover, Chan said that MIT is a research institution, and TA appointments are a way for grad uate students to get financial support while doing research, which is their main task as a graduate stu dent.”

Online Master’s Degree Unlikely

The main part [of this idea] is to not treat all TA appointments the same, but be full, or fractional,” such as in the case of TA appointments requiring only 10 hours a week of preparation and teaching time. Chan said. Likewise, Grimson says the report’s idea to “consider providing every doctoral student with at least one semester of teaching experience for course credit in lieu of pay,” stems from the fact that researchers and departments already have a degree requirement for teaching” decorated from graduate students. Grimson also said that the ideas for “TA Cost Abatement” found in the preliminary report are degrading the quality of TA, and if they could ultimately result in decreasing the amount or quality of TA appointment, “it would both affect graduate student as well as undergraduates” because “it’s a situation where you are also being reduced the learning experience of undergraduates.”

Chan expressed similar concern about “interactive options of obtaining masters degrees, saying “people are worried that the dilution of the rep utation of a grad degree at MIT, and how this would effect getting into a master’s program.”

“How might this pool of people compete with current students for resources, even if it doesn’t compete for admissions” is an important question to ask, Chan said.

Proposed MIT Pension Plan Changes

Proposed MIT Pension Plan Changes

Retirement Package Current Package Task Force Package

Defined Benefit

1.65 percent + 0.00 percent +
Accrued Employee Earnings +
0.00 percent +
Accrued Employee Earnings +
Defined Contribution

Match entire employee contribution up to 5 percent +
Match entire employee contribution up to 5 percent +
Match entire employee contribution up to 5 percent +
Match entire employee contribution up to 5 percent +
Accrued Employee Earnings in first 30 years +
Accrued Employee Earnings in first 30 years +
Accrued Employee Earnings in first 30 years +
Accrued Employee Earnings in first 30 years +
1. Tomorrow will see the most widespread day of political action in the planet’s history: **4,200 rallies in 171 nations**, including 1,800 across your own country, all with the same theme: **the most important number in the world is 350**, as in parts per million CO$_2$. **What can you say to give those people hope that the world’s leaders will actually pay attention?**

2. When he was vice-president, Al Gore said of climate: “**The minimum that is scientifically necessary far exceeds the maximum that is politically feasible.**” Since that still seems true, **what’s your plan of attack for really educating Americans about the dangers that global warming poses?**

3. Your administration has talked about the need to limit temperature increases to two degrees celsius and CO$_2$ concentrations to 450 ppm. Given that 1 degree, and 390 ppm, has been enough to melt the Arctic, destroy the great pine forests of the west, and spread mosquito-borne disease, **don’t we need more aggressive targets?**

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**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CLIMATE ACTION**

Tomorrow this message goes viral, with actions and rallies and demonstrations in almost every nation on earth. There will be 300 rallies in China, 150 in India, over 4500 around the globe—and quite a few right here in Greater Boston.

You can join us at Concord Bridge at 2, or at 3 at Christopher Columbus Park near the Aquarium T stop, where we’ll be holding a Boston Underwater Festival. Search for more events happening in Boston at 350.org/map.

**Join with millions across the planet to take a stand for a safe climate—and for scientific literacy in the planet’s politics.**

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350.org is the first global grassroots climate campaign. 350 is designed to draw attention to the most important number on earth. Many scientific teams have concluded that we’ve already got too much carbon in the atmosphere—that 350 parts per million represents the safe upper limit.

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“**It’s the same kind of coalition that helped make the word “apartheid” known around the world.**”

- Desmond Tutu, USA Today, Oct. 22 2009