Four new MacVicar fellows this year

Hosoi, Ram, Rajagopal, and Richards win teaching prize

By Margaret Cunniff

Associate Professor Anette E. "Peko" Hosoi of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Professor Norvin W. Richards PhD ’97 of the Department of Linguistics, Professor Rajeev J. Ram of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, and Professor Krishna Rajagopal of the Department of Physics were named MacVicar fellows last Tuesday.

The fellowship is a yearly award given to recognize outstanding contributions to undergraduate education and provide an opportunity for continued improvement. The fellowship was named in honor of the late Margaret L. A. MacVicar ’64, a former professor of physics and dean for undergraduate education who founded MIT’s UROP program.

Tenured faculty receive a grant of $100,000 paid in $10,000 installments over 10 years for support of education and research expenses. Junior faculty receive the award for three years initially. The grant is extended to the full ten years if tenure is received.

All four of the fellows spoke highly of the experience of teaching at MIT and working with MIT undergraduates. “[MIT students] are pre)motivated. You don’t want to damp to enthusiasm they come in with,” said Hosoi.

“The average MIT student is amazing, and then there’s this tail of the distribution that blows you away,” Rajagopal said.

Rajagopal told of a first semester freshman who took Quantum Mechanics II, 8.05. The student was interviewed for taking the class, and he was allowed to do as long as he was aware it was an upper-class level class and would likely be difficult. The student went on to score a 179 on the MCAT.

Ray Stata, prominent benefactor of the Ray and Maria Stata Center, will deliver the 2010 Commencement Address to graduates on June 4. Stata is seen here at the Analog Devices corporate Commencement Address.

Subra Suresh might lead NSF

Science reported rumors about dean on Friday

By John A. Hawkins

Rumors are swirling that MIT’s Dean of Engineering, Subra Suresh ScD ’81, may be the new director of the National Science Foundation.

Science reported early afternoon Friday that Suresh “has been tapped by the White House” for the position, replacing Arden Bement, Jr., who is stepping down from his six year term. But that same day, Nature followed up with a counterpoint, “New NSF director selected ... or not ... yet,” questioning the meaning of “tapped.” The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy claimed no decision had been made, Nature said.

Suresh did not return inquiries on Monday afternoon, but The Tech heard back from Chad J. Gals, a spokesman for the School of Engineering.

Gals said there was “nothing to say” until a official statement was issued by the NSF or the White House.

Science and Gals both mentioned Suresh’s background as a working scientist while carrying the heavy load of Dean of Engineering. Suresh maintains an active research group in nanobiomechanics, and his work covers human diseases, including malaria. See http://sureshgroup.mit.edu/.

Suresh has been Dean since 2007, when he replaced Institute Professor Thomas L. Magnanti, who served since 1999. Suresh previously served as department head for Course III, Materials Science and Engineering, from 2000 to 2006.
Junk bond avalanche looms for credit markets in 2012

When the Mayans envisioned the world coming to an end in 2012 at least in the Hollywood telling — they didn’t count junk bonds among the disasters that would lead to worldwide disaster.

May be they should have, because 2012 also is the beginning of a three-year period in which more than $700 billion in risky, high-yield corporate debt begins to come due, an extraordinary surge that some analysts fear could create a glut in the debt markets.

The $700 billion in maturing obligations and in the next few years is a wave of bankruptcies.

Indeed, worries about the growth of national, or sovereign, debt prompted Moody’s Investors Service to warn on Monday that the United States and other Western nations were moving “substantially” closer to losing their top-notch Aaa credit ratings.

The credit markets in 2012 will guarantee the Jackson estate up to $250 million in advances and other payment terms and offers an especially high royalty rate for sales both here and overseas.

The estate, which is seeking $75 million from Sony, wants to seal the deal with Congress and the American health care votes one by one.

In Washington, the House Budget Committee opened the formal legislative process by which Democrats hope to complete the crucial revisions to the current law.

The first recording covered by the new contract is the “This Is It” soundtrack, released last year, and Sony plans a new album of unreleased recordings for November.

In Ohio, Obama appeals for health care votes one by one

There is another reason, the one you probably didn’t hear about.

By alison a. wing

Northern New York 

A strong nor’easter brought high winds and heavy rains to the region for the past three days.

A strong nor’easter brought heavy rains and winds to the Boston area for the past three days.

A new record for March 14 daily maximum rainfall was set in Boston on Sunday, with a total of 3.40" of rain recorded at Logan Airport. This is just short of the record for highest daily rainfall in March, which is 3.49".

As of 8 a.m. yesterday, a storm total of 0.45" in Boston and 0.21" in New Bedford, there had been 0.35" in Cambridge, and rain continued through the day yesterday added to that total.

The high winds associated with this system (sustained winds in the 30–40 mph range, with gusts to 50 mph were observed) caused some downed trees and flooding, along with some power outages.

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U.S. reins in special forces in Afghanistan after civilian deaths

By Richard A. Oppel Jr. and Rod Nordland

WASHINGTON — An ill-timed municipal housing announce- ment in Jerusalem has mutated into one of the most serious conflicts between the United States and Israel in two decades, leaving a politically embarrassed Israeli government scrambling to respond to a tough list of demands by the Obama administra- tion.

The Obama administration has put Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a difficult political spot at home by insisting that the Israeli government halt a plan to build housing units in East Jerusalem. The administration also wants Netanyahu to commit to substantive negotiations with the Palestinians, after more than a year in which the peace process has been moribund.

With the administration's special envoy, George J. Mitchell, suddenly delaying his planned trip to Israel, the administration was expecting a call from Netanyahu, after a tense exchange last week with Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

But on Monday, Netanyahu sounded a defiant note, telling the Israeli parliament that construction of Jewish housing in Jerusalem was not a matter for negotiation.

He is struggling to balance an increasingly unhappy ally in Washington with the restive right wing of his coalition govern- ment.

Join MIT Rugby today!

- All skills and sizes welcome
- Beginner's clinic for new players
- Fantastic exercise
- Great friendships & experiences
As MIT faces more and more budget concerns, the Undergraduate Association and its affiliated organizations need to find ways to strengthen their financial basis. The UA has been struggling to raise funds in the past several years, resulting in a need for new strategies to ensure its long-term viability. This editorial highlights the importance of financial stability for the UA and emphasizes the role of student engagement in sustaining its operations.

The editorial also points out the need for clear and effective communication within the UA, particularly regarding issues related to funding and financial planning. It challenges the UA to take a proactive approach in addressing these concerns and to ensure that its members are well-informed about the financial status of the organization.

Furthermore, the editorial encourages UA members to take an active role in decision-making processes, emphasizing the importance of transparency and accountability in the organization's management. It highlights the significance of student involvement in the financial planning and decision-making processes, urging the UA to foster a culture where students feel empowered to contribute to the organization's success.

In conclusion, the editorial underscores the need for a comprehensive and strategic approach to financial management within the UA, advocating for increased student engagement, transparency, and accountability to ensure the organization's long-term sustainability.

The pair are deeply knowledgeable, competent, and willing to cite the specific committees and administrators involved in any of a multitude of issues. Beyond their considerable political knowledge, Modii and Wyman have an effective plan to divide the responsibilities of working with administrators and internal UA management. They also demonstrate an understanding of the importance of the UA community — without question, this race would be uncompetitive and a failure of the democratic process. Vrajesh Modi and Samantha Wyman have been to leave the UA in a much stronger position. Preventing changes is not simply needed to ensure the Association’s viability. All three were clear that this plan for the future would not represent drastic departures from the status quo.

What next year’s president and vice president need is a clear grasp of how the UA and the MIT administration function. Their favorite subject in the past executive positions. Both have served as dormitory senators, and Modii has proven he can bring ideas to the table that will benefit the Association. Several voters are enthusiastic about the choices concerning dining, and they believe they have a firm grasp of the realities of the job. While there is only one ticket that clearly exemplifies these traits, the Tech endorses Vrajesh Modi ‘11 and Samantha Wyman ‘11 for UA president and vice president.

As the only candidate pair to register before the election cutoff date, Modii and Wyman demonstrated from the start that they took their candidacies seriously. But the Tech commends the opposing tickets for their stance, and their efforts clearly exemplify these traits. The Tech endorses Vrajesh Modi ‘11 and Samantha Wyman ‘11 for UA president and vice president.

The write-in ticket of Ariel Torres ‘11 for president presents a clear choice to the MIT community with whom to contact, send mail to news@tech.mit.edu. We encourage the Tech editor to review and publish the write-in letter from Stephanie Brust ‘12.

A sports short about women’s tennis last Friday incorrectly stated that Jenny C. Dohlman ‘11 played doubles tennis. In fact, it was her teammate Hillary E. Jenny ‘12. Dohlman plays doubles tennis.

CORRECTIONS

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Editorial page

Who do you support for the UA elections?

Tell us at letters@tech.mit.edu

OPINION POLICY

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of Chairman Steve Howland, Editor in Chief Jeff Guar, Managing Editor David M. Templeton, Executive Editor Natasha Plotkin ‘11, Associate Editor Josephine ‘11, Associate Editors: Divya Chhabra ‘13, Joanna Kao ‘13, Histribert ‘13, Alvin Lee ‘13.

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Letters to the editor are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily of The Tech. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to editor@tech.mit.edu.

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Debunking trade myths

The U.S. does not economically “compete” with other nations

By Keith Yost

On February 24th, Barack Obama appeared before the Business Roundtable, an association of corporate CEOs, to give an address on what has now become a major talking point of his administration: competitiveness. In the president’s view, the main problem facing the U.S. is that other nations are catching up, they are making investments in education and infrastructure that have been left behind by the United States, and as a consequence, American economic well-being has been eroded. The solution, he explained, is to renew America's competitive edge with new-found health, education care reform, stricter financial oversight, and closer integration between business and government to promote America's exports abroad. In his own words, “Winning the competition means we need to export more of our goods and services to other nations.”

We’ve seen this type of rhetoric before, more notably when it was called by its proper name, “mercantilism,” but also in recent decades whenever a trade-imbalanced America hunts for scapegoats upon which to blame some new economic malaise. It is a popular argument for many it seems obvious that, in the words of President Clinton, the United States is “like a big corporation competing in the global marketplace,” and that our problems nation faces are essentially identical to the problems of Font comparable to the problems of Ford economies, you will find that one of them is learning.

At the core of this belief is the notion that there is a fixed amount of jobs and economic activity, and that unless we are more productive than our rivals, we will not be able to maintain or gain a share of this activity and our economic well-being will decline. International trade, this idea posits, is very nearly (if not entirely) a zero-sum game, in which the winners are rewarded with economic growth and prosperity, and the losers are punished with chronic unemployment and stagnation.

As persistently popular as this idea is, it is entirely false. It has virtually no basis in empirical evidence, and is logically flawed that it has not been seriously considered in academic circles for nearly two centuries. Let us say I could say it is not clear right now that the national living standards of the United States is almost entirely independent of productivity and work. If other nations, we do not economically compete with the world in any meaningful way, and none of our important economic problems can be attributed to a failure in competition.

The benefits of free trade are described by a very simple idea that laymen seem determined to avoid learning.

If you take any two multi-good economies, you will find that one of them is relatively better at the other at producing a subset of goods. Even if one of the two nations can produce every single good that the other can produce (what economists term absolute advantage), there will be room for mutually beneficial trade as one nation produces only the goods in which its productivity advantage is greatest and the other produces the goods in which its productivity disadvantage is least.

There is room for winners and smaller winners in trade. Remembering the example of the two men and their computers, the two trading men could set the terms of trade anywhere between 2-1 and 3-1. If the first man were a truly magical, efficient negotiator, it would be possible for him to convince his friend to trade at three bananas for one computer and capture all the benefit of trade for himself.

In practice, terms of trade are not set that way. By trade, it is merely that his potential gains from trade have been reduced as his partner's economy becomes more similar to his own. Second, what if the other man had improved his ability to produce bananas instead of computers? If the other man’s machine had changed into a 4-1 device, the gains from trade would have increased, not decreased. Unspecified productivity gains by a trade partner are just as likely to improve the United States' well-being as they are to reduce it, and typically they do not change it much at all.

We look at the data from the past fifty years, we find that by and large, changes in our terms of trade have not significantly impacted our well-being. As we would expect, our terms of trade have improved as our productivity has rapidly multiplied and our wages of Americans are determined almost entirely by their own productivity gains and losses — when a typical worker can produce one computer per hour, he enjoys a standard of living and level of consumption equal to the value of forty bananas per week, regardless of how well or poorly Japan produces its own computers. When his productivity falls, his standard of living falls proportionately, and when it rises, he captures only the extra value that he produces.

It is false to say that our economic well-being is determined by our own currencies, as much as laying the blame on currency fluctuations. While other economies perform, but it is the truth. Opposite what “competitiveness” advocates believe, free trade has a small and almost unambiguously positive impact on the economic prosperity that we enjoy.

The first is this a first in a series of commentaries on international trade.

About a boy

By Cinjon Resnick

Please, sit down. Breathe. I want to tell you a story about a boy. He’s in high school. I guess you could call him ‘Ryan’. He’s six-foot-one. Blond hair, blue eyes. His build is that of a soccer player, but there’s something else you seem to be perceiving into the distance, imagining the possibilities. I’ve been told he’s very attractive. He’s been known to talk about nothing short of the social sciences and as a Catholic family. At school, he takes solace in the sciences, excelling in programming, chemistry, and physics.

He gains an interest in Spanish culture from his work helping immigrants gain citizenship. Shakira enters his life and takes over his music collection. From there, he learns the language and enlists “Felix.” He shares this with his family and friends, and the news that she passed the citizenship test.

He remembers a girl. That’s so sweet... what are words when there is first love?

He remembers each time their hands clap (five) and each so often and soft ban (two). He is all so sweet, so gorgeously sweet, before it must end. Cruelly, she must return to her homeland.

But our protagonist is a capable and resourceful man. Two days later, he sneaks away and jumps on a plane to reunite with her. The ensuing hug is by far the sweetest, the tenderest, the most pleasin and enduring of them all.

Ryan Davis died three years ago. All that remains of him is memories, thoughts, and impressions. Perhaps the world will never know him. But, I sincerely hope that I am not remember when he was born. But every year, I remember March 15, the last day that I saw him. I remember that he was a good man, a fair man, to me as the best man that I ever knew.

And 2010.

Maybe you remember two fools sitting frost and center of East Campus. Over the course of that semester, I became friends with Ryan, mainly because we both liked those things.

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From there, he learns the language and exults “¡Fe-lix!” He wanted to be happy. He wanted to be happy. But our protagonist is a capable and resourceful man. Two days later, he sneaks away and jumps on a plane to reunite with her. The ensuing hug is by far the sweetest, the tenderest, the most pleasin and enduring of them all.

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And 2010.
Steal My Comic by Michael Ciuffo

OH GOD, NOT AGAIN!

Fun
Fun
Fun
Fun
Fun
Fun
Fun

Doonesbury by Garry Trudeau

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 14

ACROSS
1 Showy parrots
7 Execrable
13 Orbital extremes
15 Light amber brew
16 Citizen’s Bank Park
denizen
18 Like windows
19 Forensics letters
20 Rugged ridge
21 Coal or opal ending
22 Floor support
24 CCLXIII quadrupled
25 God, to da Vinci
26 Willingly, once
28 D-Day vessel
29 Nissan model
31 Nincompoop
33 Quick to learn
34 Partially carbonized
35 Affected by
37 Six in Siena
7 White House initials:
1881-85
39 Comfy shoe
40 Blows out
42 ___ es Salaam
44 Harmony part, perhaps
46 Big name in copiers
47 In ___ (undisturbed)
49 Predatory
53 ___ Cruces, NM
54 Psychic’s gift
55 Of tongues
56 Of tongues
57 Mickey Mouse
courses
58 Target with a throw

DOWN
1 Charted
2 Loss of language
ability
3 Numismatists’
holdings
4 Joyous, in poetry
5 Tuesday in
Hollywood
6 Six in Siena
7 White House initials:
1881-85
8 Arm bone
9 Upgrade guns
10 Wide receivers?
11 Upper cruster
12 Double dealing
14 Spiritual Az/ona
town
15 Synchronized
17 Nabokov novel
22 “The Complete
Book of
Running” writer
23 Multiscreen
cinema
26 Tres y cuatro
27 Pintal ducks
30 Reward for
waiting
32 Computer music
format
35 Sun rooms
36 Ladd or Tiegs
37 Put into gear?
38 Sound of gunfire
39 Statuary stone
41 Presley’s middle
name
43 Totals
45 Branch of
science: suff.
47 Audible breaths
49 Predatory
shorebird
51 Printer’s measure
53 ___ Measures
54 Psychic’s gift
56 ___ Cruces, NM

Clue 1
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Clue 58

Solution, page 14

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

Easy Sudoku

Solution, page 14

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>1</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
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Hard Sudoku

Solution, page 14

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<table>
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<tr>
<th>4</th>
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Porn For Women

TO THE AUTHORS OF PORN FOR LONELY:
YOUR BOOK FEATURES PICTURES OF NOT CUMMED GUYS CLEANING, DOING LAUNDRY, AND VACUUMING

THE IDEA SEEMS TO BE THAT MY DEEPEST FANTASIES, LIKE THE REST OF MY LIFE, LIKELY REVOLVE AROUND HOUSEWORK.

SO I WANTED TO WRITE IN TO CLARIFY:
IN MY PORN,

PEOPLE FUCK

Android Boyfriend

I THOUGHT YOUR ANDROID GIRLFRIEND WAS COOL, SO I GOT MYSELF AN ANDROID BOYFRIEND.

HE'S REALLY GREAT. I LIKE NOW--

UH.

ZED

...HUM.

IT'S LIKE SOMEBODY STUCK A VOLLERT IN A FLESHLIGHT.

Unser. No pathos. Click.

Applied Scheduling

I need to finish Final Fantasy before God of War comes out.
If I put in ten hours, per day, that'd give me two days to recuperate.

Why not save God of War for the summer, though? When there's nothing else out?

Spoilers! That's zero! How could I stop panicking?

It's not the Sixth Sense, man. You don't need to kill Kratos with everybody.
The End.

Maybe there's more to this one.

I bet you're right.

Maybe Kratos is the original Kilimanjaro.

by Jerry Holkins
and Mike Krahulik

by Randall Munroe

Yes, there are a lot of longing looks across the bridge of Galactica first, but that's beside the point!

Which is, coincidentally, the most unsettling mantelpiece decoration in my house.
BROUHAHAA RHYTHM
Rocking out with Ryanhood
Band and fans play together on plastic instruments

By Michael T. Lin

A few weeks ago, I had the chance to hang out with one of my favorite bands. My friend invited me over for gaming after missing their March 6 concert—a fan of acoustic guitar duo Ryanhood, probably while rolling their eyes and sighing. As it happens, I’m not the only person with a connection to the Greater Boston-Cambridge metropolitan area who considers myself a fan of the band, which recently had a show in the area. Caitlin Mason and Chris Chiampu in Malvern, unable to make it to the concert in Boston on March 6, opened her apartment to Ryanhood the next day for some Beatles: Rock Band with band members Ryan Green and Cameron Hood. Luckily for me, a few fans got to come along for the ride myself included.

I’m fairly sure that if I randomly encountered a Hollywood celebrity on the street, I would almost certainly be rendered incapable of forming coherent sentences and would instead stand gaping on the side of the street with the Livio campus students who have the right toppings, you can make just about any flavor. Brick Lane is the most popular ice cream flavor of all time, but with the right toppings, you can make just about any flavor.

The missionary would be referred to as the “vanilla of sex,” but that doesn’t make it boring. Doesn’t it?

I live in envy of people who can have a normal conversation with famous people without developing a stutter or sharing too much information.

A friend of mine, an absolutely rabid Firefly fan (something else I’m an eye-roll-first fan, instead of walking up and talking to Michael Palin when he passed on the street, she could only turn to a nearby bystander and say, “It’s Michael Palin!” preceded by an expletive. Fortunately, she said it loud enough for Mr. Palin to hear, so he turned around and gave her the signature Vulcan salute.

When I got to Chris and Caitlin’s apartment, I was obviously early, which is just for the course, I mean, a punctuality paranoiac. What wasn’t par for the course was the fact that I managed to find the place without getting lost once (which is why I’m a punctuality paranoiac and why I was so early to begin with). After Ryanhood’s arrival, the videogaming commenced shortly.

I also have some advice to dispense to the guys, if I may. The number one complaint about my beloved missionary is that some guys tend to go crazier with the jackhammering than the construction workers at the Media Lab Extension. Listen, some of us like it rough, but a lot of you supply more hammering than the construction workers. In addition to controlling and varying the pace, you might want to examine the technique. In and out is the basic mechanics of missionary, but nobody can mix it up a bit, can they?

I have paper-thin walls. If you’re going to get loud enough for Mr. Palin to hear, so he turned around and gave her the signature Vulcan salute.

When I said my favorite position is the missionary, I was obscenely early, which is par for the course, I mean, a punctuality paranoiac.

What wasn’t par for the course was the fact that I managed to find the place without getting lost once (which is why I’m a punctuality paranoiac and why I was so early to begin with). After Ryanhood’s arrival, the videogaming commenced shortly.

Aside from the expected technical difficulties with calibration, a common concern with rhythm-based games, things went fairly smoothly. Unsurprisingly, both Ryan and Cameron rocked lead vocals, and were understandably hesitant to play “Dear Prudence,” which they covered on one of their early albums. What was surprising, aside from Cameron being at least as good as drums as he was on guitar, was how much the afternoon played like a normal gaming session.

While Ryan and Cameron are both professional guitarists, instruments were exchanged as freely as with any other group of gamers I’ve played with. No red carpets, no giddy fawning, although I do recall that Ryan and Cameron had no trouble leaving at the end of the evening with a Tupperware container full of cookies. Just a solid afternoon of good fun with interesting people — and not just the rock stars, either. Our hosts and their friends were equally fascinating, including a scholar of literature and a development writer for, among other things, the Discovery Channel. When you’re sitting across from someone who has met (and was allegedly checked out by) the host of Cash Cab, and

The Tech wants to know what kind of experiences you’ve had when meeting celebrities! Which celebrities were nice? Which ones weren’t as you expected? Were they random encounters, or did you wait for hours in line for a ten-second conversation and an autograph? Send your stories to cl@tech.mit.edu, and the best will be printed in a future issue.

The Tech wants to know what kind of experiences you’ve had when meeting celebrities! Which celebrities were nice? Which ones weren’t as you expected? Were they random encounters, or did you wait for hours in line for a ten-second conversation and an autograph? Send your stories to cl@tech.mit.edu, and the best will be printed in a future issue.

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Why do birds sing? Why does water turn to ice? Why does my heart beat? Nothing is as exciting as science when you experience it firsthand. As scientists do. Thinking critically, working in teams, adapting to change. That is exactly what the Bayer Making Science Make Sense® program is all about. An initiative aimed at advancing science education through hands-on science programs, employee volunteers and public awareness.

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Current MacVicar Faculty Fellows

2019
- Gunter "Peko" Hossie
- Mechanical Engineering
- Khimbu Rajagopal
- Physics
- Rajeat Ram
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Norrin W. Richards
- Linguistics

2009
- Vladimir Balovic
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Diana Henderson
- Literature
- Daniel Jackson
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- David Jones
- Program in Science, Technology, and Society

2008
- Tania A. Baker
- Biology
- W. Craig Carter
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Sanjai Samra
- Mechanical Engineering
- Stephen Tapscott
- Literature
- Barton Zwiebach
- Physics

2007
- Voel Fink
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Jonathan Gruber
- Economics
- Charles E. Leiserson
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- James B. Orlin
- Sloan School of Management
- David B. Wallace
- Mechanical Engineering

2006
- Samuel A. Bowring
- Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences
- Thomas M. Freeman
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Leslie K. Norford
- Architecture

2005
- Haynes R. Miller
- Mathematics
- Ruth Perry
- Literature
- David Pesetsky
- Linguistics and Philosophy

2004
- David L. Darmofal
- Aeronautics and Astronautics
- Jean R. Jackson
- Anthropology
- David Irwin
- Mathematics
- Steven B. Leeb
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Anne B. C. McCants
- History

2003
- Peter Child
- Music and Theater Arts
- Isabelle de Courtivron
- Foreign Languages and Literatures
- Jesús A. del Alamo
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Barbara Imperiali
- Chemistry
- Ian A. Watt
- Aeronautics and Astronautics

2002
- Alan H. Guth
- Physics
- Steven R. Hall
- Aeronautics and Astronautics
- Kap V. Hodges
- Visiting Professor in Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences now at Arizona State University
- Nancy G. Kanwisher
- Brain and Cognitive Sciences
- David Thorburn
- Literature

2001
- Mary C. Boyce
- Mechanical Engineering
- Anne M. Meyers
- On Leave from Materials Science and Engineering
- David A. Mindell
- Program in Science, Technology, and Society
- Heidi M. Nepf
- Civil Engineering
- Janet Sonenberg
- Music and Theater Arts
- J. Kim Vandiver
- Mechanical and Ocean Engineering

2000
- Daniel Jackson
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Diana North
- Foreign Languages and Literatures
- David Pesetsky
- Linguistics and Philosophy
- Thomas M. Freeman
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Steven B. Leeb
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- David Jerison
- Mathematics
- Anne E. C. McCants
- History

1999
- David L. Darmofal
- Aeronautics and Astronautics
- John M. Poetter
- Molecular and Cellular Biology
- Thomas M. Freeman
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Michael G. Miller
- Biology
- Jean R. Jackson
- Anthropology
- Frederick S. Hickam
- Applied Mathematics

1998
- Francis G. Narcowich
- Mathematics
- David G. Kurtenbach
- Chemical Engineering
- William W. Buhler
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- David Thorne
- Literature
- Stuart M. Zare
- Chemistry

1997
- Stephen Thaler
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Allen G. Claxton
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Charles S. Johnson
- Chemistry
- Nancy G. Kanwisher
- Brain and Cognitive Sciences
- Susan H. Solomon
- Political Science

1996
- Jonathan Orsay
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Jeffrey W. Barsukow
- Chemical Engineering
- David L. Darmofal
- Aeronautics and Astronautics
- Sheila C. O'Leary
- Biology
- Benjamin S. Wilf
- Biology
- Susan H. Solomon
- Political Science

1995
- Michael Stegmaier
- Chemical Engineering
- Charles S. Johnson
- Chemistry
- William W. Buhler
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Stephen Thaler
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Yasuhiro Takagi
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

1994
- Nancy G. Kanwisher
- Brain and Cognitive Sciences
- Francis G. Narcowich
- Mathematics
- William B. Stothers
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Michael G. Miller
- Biology
- John M. Poetter
- Foreign Languages and Literatures

1993
- John A. Křivánek
- Computer Science
- Charles E. Leiserson
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Michael Godfrey
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Robert M. Gray
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Paul A. Heimburg
- Geology and Planetary Science

1992
- Louise L. Luciano
- Psychology
- Nancy G. Kanwisher
- Brain and Cognitive Sciences
- John M. Poetter
- Foreign Languages and Literatures
- Thomas M. Freeman
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- George D. Akerlof
- Economics

1991
- Sarah Beeson
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Mark E. Wegman
- Mathematics
- Dina B. Kuan
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Manuel M. de la Peña
- Biophysics
- Michael D. Wyman
- Chemistry

1990
- Richard K. Belew
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Michael G. Miller
- Biology
- Sarah Beeson
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Michael D. Wyman
- Chemistry
- Wayne E. Peterson
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

1989
- Michael J. Hirst
- Chemical Engineering
- Michael G. Miller
- Biology
- David J. Catlin
- Chemistry
- Richard K. Belew
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- James A. Bedkids
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

1988
- William W. Buhler
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- Michael J. Hirst
- Chemical Engineering
- Michael G. Miller
- Biology
- David J. Catlin
- Chemistry
- James A. Bedkids
- Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
- H. Louis Smith
- Chemical Engineering
Margaret MacVicar’s legacy keeps on rewarding
This year’s four MacVicar fellows honored for outstanding teaching

MacVicar Fellows, from Page 1 of Tuesday, March 16, 2010   The Tech
out of 180 on the final in the class, by far the highest grade in the class.

Rajagopal and Ram see MIT’s commitment to undergraduate ed-
ucation as a strong asset to students and faculty alike.

"People teach better here and it’s valued here and it’s valued in real ways," said Rajagopal. Being surrounded by other faculty who are not only pushing the frontiers of science in their research, but are also committed to excellence in ed-
ucation is seen as a strong motivating factor by Rajagopal.

Ram similarly praised MIT’s commitment to undergraduate ed-
ucation. "I knew I wanted to teach, that was the highest priority," said Ram, who initially was looking at faculty positions at smaller liberal arts schools because he was look-
ing for a program with an empha-
sis on education. Ram had gone to
art schools because he was look-
ing for a program with an empha-
sis on education. Ram had gone to

At MIT, Ram found that "the
I, 2.001, and Thermal Fluids Engi-
neering II, 2.006. "Don’t be afraid to try new things, especially at MIT," where Hosoi says students will tell you what is and what isn’t working.

She sees videos as a nearly essential teaching tool — "I don’t know how people taught without YouTube." Ram starts lecturing Electro-
magnetic Energy: From Motors to Lasers (6.607) with a discussion of the
technology works, "Ram said.

Hosoi works off a simple
blackboard and lecture format. Rajagopal has taught exclusively
undergraduate classes since start-
ing at MIT in 1997. "When you’re teaching quantum mechanics and
statistical mechanics, you’re open-
ing students eyes to a whole new
world in a different way," he said.

"MIT undergraduates should
be given to those physicists.
"For me, my teaching and my re-
search are one," said Rajagopal. "It’s not right to separate the teaching
and the research," said Rajagopal. "For me, my teaching and my re-
search come from the same place." Rajagopal’s research is in the field
of theoretical nuclear and particle physics. Other fellows echoed the
same idea, presenting the idea that research and teaching strengthen
each other.

All four fellows seek to instill
a sense of understanding in their stu-
dents, something that often chal-
enges their own understanding of the subject.

Hosoi said "If you can’t articu-
late your understanding, then you
don’t really understand it." Re-
ognizing the best way to explain com-
plex topics is commonly recognized as one of the greatest hurdles in ef-
fecutive teaching.

Beyond simple understanding, the fellows commonly want to in-
still interest and passion in their students. Richards says one of the most rewarding parts of teaching
undergraduates is seeing that "your lecture has made them think about
the world in a different way."

"Undergraduate education is not professional training," said Ba-
jajopal, who believes that an un-
dergraduate education should be able to set a strong foundation for
later work, while allowing explora-
tion of passions. An education in
physics should be given to those
who are passionate about the sub-
ject, not just who wish to become physicians.

The fellows have employed a va-
niety of teaching styles in their class-
rooms to best foster understanding.
"I try to get them to argue with each
other, test hypotheses in class," said
Professor Richards. Richard says
it is common for students to come
into his introductory linguistics
class with little background but
many preconceptions about how
language works, giving opportuni-
ties for exploration of how much
people think they know about lan-
guage actually applies.

Professor Hosoi tries to experi-
ment with her methods to find the
best way to teach her classes, which
include Mechanics and Materials
I, 2.001, and Thermal Fluids Engi-
neering II, 2.006. "Don’t be afraid to
try new things, especially at MIT," where Hosoi says students will tell
you what is and what isn’t working. She sees videos as a nearly essential
teaching tool — "I don’t know how
people taught without YouTube." Ram
starts lecturing Electromag-
netic Energy: From Motors to Lasers (6.607) with a discussion of the
iPhone. In 6.007, Ram wants his
students to “make the connection
between the Course VIII classes and
the devices [they] own." He starts
his first class with discussion of
what the iPhone can do, from
touch screen to accelerometer, and
what principles enable those abili-
ties. "MIT undergraduates should
graduate knowing all the cool
technology works," Ram said.

Rajagopal works off a simple
blackboard and lecture format. Rajagopal has taught exclusively
undergraduate classes since start-
ing at MIT in 1997. "When you’re
teaching quantum mechanics and
statistical mechanics, you’re open-
ing students eyes to a whole new
language," he said.

One of the main challenges in
Teaching quantum mechanics is
helping students gain an intuition
for the topic, something that comes
much more easily for classical me-
chanics. Rajagopal wants his stu-
dents to gain a deep understanding
of what the material is and how it
works. "Any one of these subjects
has implications all over the place,
and I try and make those connec-
tions clear."

Though they have only recently
received the grant, some of the fel-
loves teaching, but also has an appreciation for photography.

Anette E. “Pelo” Hosoi, who is currently on sabbatical at Harvard, shows some of
the things she’s been working on while away from MIT. Hosoi was recently chosen as a
MacVicar fellow.

Professor and associate head of the physics department Krishna Rajagopal

Professor of Electrical Engineering Rajeev J. Ram teaches about application-based
electrical engineering, such as optical traps and nanomachines.

Norvin W. Richards, professor of linguistics and philosophy, has deep insights into
both linguistics and teaching.
Coop Student Board of Directors Election Update

The following student Coop members have been nominated by the Stockholders as candidates for the Board of Directors for the 2010-2011 academic year.

MIT Undergraduate Student:  
Christina Johnson, 2011

MIT Graduate Students:  
Tongyu Chou, PhD/MBA, 2011  
Loreanna Lee-Houghton, PhD, 2011  
Jim Morrison, 2011  
Paul Romano, PhD, 2011

Harvard Undergraduate Students:  
Lauren Dai, 2013  
Melissa Oppenheim, 2012  
Danni Xie, 2012

Harvard Graduate Students:  
Jessica Rabl, HBS, 2011  
Justin Kliger, HLS, 2011  
Aaron Chadbourne, HBS/HLS, 2011  
Danni Xie, 2012  
Harvard Graduate Students:  
Jessica Rabl, HBS, 2011

Any student Coop member may petition to be a candidate on the election ballot. A Petition application is available online at www.thecoop.com. The Petition period is March 15 to March 29, 2010. For complete Petition rules consult the information posted in the election section on the Coop website at www.thecoop.com.

Road Trip!

College Students  
Get 15% OFF full-price items. Must show valid college ID. Restrictions apply; visit store for details.  
Harvard Square  
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Second Floor  
617-864-2061

Project Full Breeze

An MIT group wants to erect a wind turbine on one of the west campus sports fields. The Cambridge Planning Board will conduct a public hearing about the wind turbine tonight at 7 p.m. at the Cambridge Community Development offices at 344 Broadway. If the turbine is approved, it may be installed within a couple of months, according to Kelley Brown, a senior planner in the Department of Facilities.

One proposed location is the southwest corner of the Steinbrenner Stadium, on the edge of the small grass practice field. The other location is the westernmost part of Briggs Field, on the grass between the two soccer fields. The final location will be chosen based on the impaction on wind and the impact on pedestrians at the location.

The wind turbine will be a Skystream 3.7 manufactured by Southwest PowerWind Inc., with three 12-foot turbine blades about 68 feet above the ground. The wind turbine can generate 2.4 kilowatts. The energy generated will be delivered to the nearest underground transformer connection and will be connected to the campus power grid according to Kathleen M. Araujo-G, vice president of the Wind Energy Group, in cooperation with the Department of Facilities.

Brown said the project is being funded by an outside donor. The wind turbine has already met certain local standards such as Cambridge Noise Ordinance; it will produce 45 dB sound pressure level at 40 feet, softer than a quiet restaurant.

Araujo said that, if approved, this will be the first wind turbine installed at MIT.

The wind turbine is a side project of MIT's Wind Energy Group, a corporate effort to develop wind-derived energy systems, of which Araujo is president.

Called "Project Full Breeze," the turbine project consists of graduate students led by Araujo and Katherine Dykes, vice president of the MIT Energy Club and founder of the Wind Energy Group.

According to the Project Full Breeze website, http://sites.google.com/site/windenergymit/, the group first began by installing anemometers and other wind measurement equipment donated by NRG Systems, a company which produces wind assessment tools, on a light pole in the Steinbrenner stadium. Then group then installed the meteorological tower, also donated by NRG, on the fields near the Westgate Parking lot.

Araujo said that the meteorological tower is currently fenced off and will be removed once MIT athletes begin using the fields. Some students have shown concern about the placement of the wind turbine.

Alexander M. Mannion '11 said, "I could see how it would affect people playing pick-up. Those fields get really crowded on weekends...Having a large metal structure next to a playing field would not be a good idea. Perhaps they should consider putting a barrier around it."

Araujo said that much thought has been put into the selection of the wind turbine locations and that the wind turbine is effectively no different from the light poles on the fields.

Project Full Breeze has been working on installing the wind turbine for about a year, she said. "It’s wonderful to see that MIT is proving to be a living laboratory...We’re thrilled to see the progress made thus far, particularly the ways in which the project continues to advance!"
Speaker announced Mar. 16, not in Dec. as in some years

Ray Stata, from Page 1

Itok Chan, president of the Graduate Student Council and member of the Commencement Committee, said that Stata was a “great example of an MIT success,” and that he “used what he learned at MIT to make a difference in the world.”

Stata is a “great example of an MIT success.”
— Eric L. Grimson

Chair of Commencement Committee

Student reactions

Arjun Naskar ’99, who is graduating this year, did his MIT admissions interview with Stata. “He’s a great guy,” Naskar said, and “he’ll definitely give great advice.”

Naskar said he was unsure if “the class will be stoked compared to the speakers that Harvard and most other schools get.”

When asked about who the “cool” speaker was, he initially said “Cold!” but admitted she had suggested Bill Nye “The Science Guy,” and Tina Fey, and so was “kinda disappointed.”

Grimson discusses selection

Grimson, who has chaired the committee since 1998, cited MIT’s role as a co-chair of the Massachusetts Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Collaborative, aimed at increased interest in STEM fields in Massachusetts schools; Stata’s funding of MIT startups such as Stata Venture Partners; and Stata’s “giving back” to MIT as examples of his success and his maintained contact with the MIT community.

According Grimson, being an alumnus of MIT is “plus” when being chosen as commencement speaker, since alumni know the MIT culture and can talk about how MIT got them where they are now.

Grimson said that other factors considered when selecting a speaker are the resonance a speaker’s message has had with the timeliness of the speaker’s message, and the presentation abilities of the speaker.

Stata reflects

MIT President Susan J. Hockfield contacted Stata to ask him to be this year’s speaker. According to Stata, Hockfield felt that Stata, as an MIT graduate who knew MIT and had benefitted from an MIT education, could share thoughts and experiences that would be of interest to graduates.

At first, “I was a little hesitant,” Stata said, being unsure of the interest and value of his message. But on reflection, he said, he accepted because “there were so many exciting things to say about the enormous impact MIT has had on society, as well as the lives and careers of graduates,” including his own.

Stata added that his ideas for the address were still being formulated, and declined to go into detail about them.

Who is on the committee?

The Commencement Committee is comprised of Executive Officer of Commencement Gayle M. Gallagher, Grimson, faculty members, and student representatives. This year’s student representatives were Chan, Class of 2010 President Jason A. Scott ’10, and Undergraduate Association President Michael A. Bennett ’10.

Chan said that the committee initially received a list of over 150 suggested names from students, which the Committee shortened to 10-15 speakers. This list was forwarded as an advisory list to President Hockfield, who ultimately made the final selection of the speaker. It is not a requirement that the chosen speaker be on the short list, and those on the committee would not say if Stata was on it.

According to Scott, this short list was submitted to the Committee, and the members of the Committee were informed of Stata’s selection at a meeting last week.

Both Chan and Scott said that

Barack Obama was a popular suggestion, as were Bill Nye the Science guy and Oprah.
14 The Tech
Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Undergraduate Students working in Energy...

There is still time to provide key feedback to the MIT Energy Education Task Force on ways to improve curriculum and career development that’s focused on energy.

Complete this short survey by March 19th to be eligible for one of four $50 Amazon.com gift certificates!

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8VR92VK

Many thanks,
Sara Barnowski
Undergraduate Student Representative
MIT Energy Education Task Force

Solution to Sudoku (Hard)
from page 7

1 2 4 7 5 3 6 8 9
3 7 8 9 6 4 2 5 1
5 9 6 8 1 2 3 4 7
6 3 9 5 2 7 1 4 8
8 1 2 3 4 9 7 6 5
7 4 5 6 1 9 3 2 8
4 8 3 1 7 6 5 9 2
2 6 7 4 9 5 1 3 8
9 5 1 2 3 8 4 7 6

Solution to Sudoku (Easy)
from page 7

4 8 6 2 7 9 3 5 1
5 7 3 6 1 8 2 9 4
2 1 9 3 5 4 6 8 7
1 6 5 8 4 2 7 3 9
8 3 2 7 9 1 4 6 5
7 9 5 3 6 1 2 8
6 2 1 9 8 7 5 4 3
9 5 7 4 2 3 8 1 6
3 4 8 1 6 5 9 7 2

Solution to Crossword
from page 6

Connor Kirs Chbaum—The Tech

On March 14 (π day), Admissions released decisions for the Class of 2014. Overall this year, 9.7 percent of the 16,632 applicants were accepted. See story, p. 1

MIT Students Accepted, Per 100 Applicants

2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010
(15.0%) (15.5%) (15.8%) (16.4%) (15.9%) (14.3%) (13.3%) (12.5%) (11.9%) (10.7%) (9.7%)
2010 NCAA Tournament
Men’s Bracket

MIDWEST REGIONAL

St. Louis
March 26 & 28

Syracuse
March 25 & 27

Houston
March 26 & 28

Salt Lake City
March 25 & 27

WEST REGIONAL

EAST REGIONAL

2010 NCAA Tournament

The Tech’s
Sports Editors’ Picks

Feel like arguing our picks? E-mail sports@tech.mit.edu
Track and field competes at NCAA D-III championships

Women finish 10th, men finish 17th

By Greg McKeever

The MIT track and field teams traveled to DePauw University in Indiana over the weekend for the NCAA Division III Indoor Championship.

The women’s team came in tenth out of 61 scoring teams, the best finish in program history. The Engineers secured four All-America nods, as three individuals and one relay made it to the awards podium. Portia M. Jones ’12 and Hazel L. Briner ’11 each had an individual All-America performance in addition to their part on the 4x400 relay team and Kaín E. Fisher ’11 also finished among the top eight in the pole vault.

Jones had a very strong showing in the 400 meters, an event in which she owned the fastest time in the country. She won her heat of the prelims with a time of 56.82 seconds, a personal best. She followed that up with a fourth-place finish, 56.72 in the finals. Teammate Jamie L. Simmons ’12 came running 56.72 in the finals. Teammate Jamie L. Simmons ’12 came up short of the finals of that event.

In the 55-meter hurdles, Jones placed fifth in her heat (8.33) but missed out on the finals by just one-hundredth of a second. Jones and Simmons were then joined by Martha M. Gross ’12 and Briner on the 4x400m relay that finished in fourth-place with a time of 3:54.84 in the final event of the meet on Saturday afternoon.

Briner was also entered in the pentathlon and pole vault, two events occurring simultaneously on Saturday morning. The junior started off with the 55-meter hurdles, finishing in fifth with a personal best of 8.73 seconds. She followed that up with an 11th-place showing in the high jump (5.00 feet). A fifth-place result in the shot put (31-1.00) and 11th in the long jump left Briner in eighth overall headed into the final event, the 800-meter run. Briner won the 800 to move up to third overall while setting a new MIT record for total points (1391).

In the pole vault, Briner was able to secure a 10th-place result while Fisher matched her personal best by clearing 12-4.00 feet to earn MIT’s fourth All-America honor with a sixth-place finish. Brooke C. Johnson ’13 was unable to make the finals in the mile run, completing her preliminary race in 5:03.89. The distance medley relay team of Johnson, Gross, Simmons and Alina E. Gatuski ’11 also finished just off of the All-America stand with a sixth-place finish, improving on his eighth-place showing in 2009.

Morton entered the meet with high expectations, coming in with the top overall mark in the triple jump and was seeded second in the long jump. After a disappointing foul out in the long jump, Morton finished first in his preliminary flight of the triple jump. The senior followed that up by shattering his own Institute record in the finals, jumping 49-3.00 feet, just a half-inch behind the national champion, Chris Jones of Centre College.

MIT’s other entry in the meet was Kyle J. Hannon ’11 in the pole vault. After a disappointing showing from a year ago, Hannon finished first in his preliminary flight of the pole vault. The senior finished first in his preliminary round with a vault of 16-1.75 feet on his third attempt. That height proved to be too difficult for all but six vaulters and put Tao onto the All-America stand with a sixth-place finish, improving on his eighth-place showing in 2009.

Morton entered the meet with high expectations, coming in with the top overall mark in the triple jump and was seeded second in the long jump. After a disappointing foul out in the long jump, Morton finished first in his preliminary flight of the triple jump. The senior followed that up by shattering his own Institute record in the finals, jumping 49-3.00 feet, just a half-inch behind the national champion, Chris Jones of Centre College.

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