

Eric Grimson to serve as chancellor *'I need to understand the pulse of the students,' says EECS prof.*

By Robert McQueen
NEWS EDITOR

President Susan J. Hockfield announced yesterday the appointment of W. Eric L. Grimson PhD '80 as MIT's next chancellor. Grimson will take office on Mar. 1 and will succeed outgoing Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75.

Grimson said that one of his first objectives as chancellor will be to listen to faculty and students in a variety of environments. "I need to understand the pulse of the students," he said.

To that end, Grimson hopes to better understand students not only in the academic setting, but also in extracurricular activities. "Half of what happens here is not in a lab," he said. Grimson specifically plans to reach out to student leadership groups, including the UA, GSC, DormCon, and the ASA.

When asked his stance on current student issues like dining and orientation, Grimson said he will listen to all perspectives, as the issues will still exist when he steps into office. He believes all groups must be heard even if they cannot all be satisfied.

Looking into the future, Grimson wants to prepare students for beyond MIT. "Our students have incredible intellectual abilities," Grimson said. "Our job is to empower that."

Grimson also said that he would like to increase interaction between departments and teach students how to package and explain their ideas. "How do you sell your ideas to Bill Gates?" Grimson said.



SARANG KULKARNI—THE TECH

Professor W. Eric L. Grimson PhD '80, Head of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, was named as the next chancellor of MIT on Thursday afternoon. He will assume his new role on March 1.

Continuing professorship

Although Grimson is leaving as head of the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science department, he still plans to teach classes. "I love teaching; I really do," Grimson said.

This semester, Grimson is teaching 6.01 (Introduction to EECS I) and next year, he is considering teaching a freshmen seminar. "[Teaching is a] great way

for getting to know what students are about," he said. Grimson currently advises 26 students, and he intends to continue advising just as many as chancellor.

Still, Grimson's new responsibilities will require him to cut back in other areas. Grimson expects that he will have to "ramp down" his current research, which relates to machine vision, "in order to leave time ... to pay attention to

broader student issues."

Grimson will discontinue a few faculty positions he currently holds because his new role as chancellor will introduce conflicts between those current positions. For example, Grimson will no longer hold a position on the Faculty Advisory Board for Student Support Services because that

Chancellor, Page 11

At Walker, students to hear about renovation

By Stan Gill
STAFF REPORTER

Student groups affected by the potential restructuring of Walker Memorial may soon learn more about the plans for the future of the space. The administration is hosting an open meeting on Monday, Feb. 14, at 5 p.m. in Morss Hall to provide information and updates on the current status of the Walker review process. The meeting will consist of a presentation by Associate Provost Martin A. Schmidt PhD '88, a question-and-answer period, and a tour of the facilities.

The meeting is the first public engagement on the situation since the start of the semester. The administration announced plans late last term to repurpose Walker for use by Music and Theater Arts. The Graduate Student Council (GSC) has taken the lead in representing the affected student groups and conversing with relevant administrators. The GSC has also made formal student engagement proposals to the administration and met with representatives of student groups.

"We are hopeful that the relationship with the administration will continue to improve over the coming months," said GSC President Ulric J. Ferner G, "and we look forward to contributing both to the strategic planning of this project as well as to its due diligence." Ferner added that he and the GSC expect the administration to cooperate with the student community.

Neither the affected student groups nor Music and Theater Arts have heard much about the status of the project since the start of the new year. The administration brought in professional architects and surveyors to evaluate the building during the closing weeks of fall term, but, according to the GSC, the results of the evaluations have not yet been released to the student groups.

"Everyone is unclear on the situation," Music and Theater Arts department head Janet Sonenberg said. "We did all of the work we could do. We know that there are issues beyond our expertise to be dealt with and we have not yet had the experts come in."

Since December, the administration has been meeting with select student groups historically tied to Walker. The meeting on Monday will be the first time the administration will be opening the floor to all Walker groups — and other students — and allowing them to share their specific concerns with the restructuring proposal.

Court releases written decision in Tang case

Judge Bruce R. Henry released a written decision in the case of Anna L. Tang, the former Wellesley student who stabbed MIT student Wolfe B. Styke G, then a sophomore, in October 2007.

The four-page decision was dated Tuesday but docketed and released yesterday. The actual decision was made on Monday, Feb. 7.

Judge Henry found Tang not guilty by reason of mental illness in December, and this week's decision dismissed the Commonwealth's request to commit Tang to a mental health facility.

The Commonwealth failed to prove that Tang would be a serious risk of harm to herself or others if released.

A copy of the decision is available at <http://tech.mit.edu/V131/N4/annatang/tangdecision.pdf>.

—John A. Hawkinson

Asian-interest sorority planned *Aims to establish colony this year, potential chapter by 2012*

By Derek Chang
STAFF REPORTER

Plans are under way this spring to introduce a new sorority aimed at Asian women on campus. The new group would be MIT's seventh sorority and the only Greek letter organization with an Asian focus. Kappa Phi Lambda, Sigma Psi Zeta, and Delta Phi Lambda are among the candidates.

Vivian A. Lee '12, who has been leading plans for the Asian-interest sorority, felt the sorority was needed in order to spread cultural awareness. "Asian culture is still vastly under-repre-

sented on campus," Vivian noted. "There is currently no student group at MIT that focuses closely on the sociopolitical challenges that Asians and Asian-Americans face everyday as the 'silent minority' in the U.S."

The sorority's recruitment process would be similar to the week-long fraternity rush, a departure from the standard sorority recruitment model. The events would be designed to allow potential sisters to get to know each other closely and to feel unified by the sorority's specific values. The new sorority intends to be a smaller group, with no more than thirty members at any given

time. In contrast, sororities currently on campus generally have over 100 members.

Unlike existing Greek groups at MIT, the sorority would be unique in its support of both Asian- and female-specific philanthropic causes and Asian sociopolitical advancement; current candidate national organizations support these types of causes. Sigma Psi Zeta works to fight violence against women, while Kappa Phi Lambda supports the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum. Delta Phi Lambda has been supporting

Asian sorority, Page 11

IN SHORT

Next Tuesday, Feb. 15, will be the last day to waive the Student Extended Health Plan. To waive, visit <http://medweb.mit.edu>.

Zero murders occurred in Cambridge last year, according to Cambridge Police. The number of serious crimes increased by 1 percent, and 23 rapes were reported — up from 20 in 2009.

Robberies were down to 163 from 172 in 2009, and aggravated assaults incidents dropped from 255 to 251.

Class of 2013 Ring Premiere is tonight, from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium.

Cambridge's Kendall to Central study has received ten bids for consulting on the project.

The MIT Libraries have received a \$650,000 grant from the Library of Congress to further develop Exhibit, a software tool which aids visualization of data on the Web.

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REPEAL PPACA? FUGGEDABOUTIT.

Keith Yost and Andy Liang explain why ObamaCare repeal is a pretty bad idea.
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LIVE, FROM CAIRO

A first-hand perspective on the political turmoil in Egypt. OPINION, p. 4

A PRETTIER MARRIOTT?

The courtyard outside the Marriott in Kendall is being renovated! NEWS, p. 11



BIUTIFUL IS BEAUTIFUL

Alejandro Iñárritu's film *Biutiful* is a heart-wrenching look at a man's life during his dying days.
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THE FUTURE OF HIGH-SPEED RAIL

An HSR infrastructure might have some problems, especially if it's Maglev.
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GUEST COLUMN

Difficult times encourage patriotism, hope

First-hand observations from Egypt in turmoil

By Cody Zoschak

During the many hours I spent in Cairo following the recent protests, the appearance and the opinions of the protestors surprised me more than anything else. Citizens of Cairo are generally very down-to-earth, easygoing people with a great sense of humor, and this mood was evident during the protests, despite the harsh conditions. I was also surprised at the lack of animosity the protestors displayed towards the United States in light of the support and aid the U.S. has given to Hosni Mubarak's regime in the past. Every time I got into a taxi, the driver could not wait to give me his opinion of American politics — which generally boiled down to “Bush: Bad, Carter: Good” — and assure me that he still liked America and wanted to travel to or live here someday.

This general feeling extended to the protestors as well. Whenever my nationality came up in conversation with protestors, they would express their excitement that Americans were present and in support of their movement. Due to the regime's tendency to violently suppress protests in the past, the initial protest on Jan. 25 was such an unusual occurrence for Egyptians that they weren't sure what it would become or whether they were doing the right thing. The presence of foreigners reassured them and gave them confidence.

As the protests grew, the protestors gained confidence and began to coalesce into a more coherent group from which goals and purposes began to emerge. At this point, it was fairly clear to me that many of the West's fears of a post-Mubarak Egypt were unfounded: the Muslim Brotherhood did not have the widespread support required to control a new government, the protestors did not seek alienation from the West, and there was little risk of the new Egyptian government acting in a highly hostile manner to the United States.

As I neared Tahrir Square and entered the much smaller Talaat Harb Square, the column of protestors thinned and I saw a

black mob of riot police flanked by large military trucks waiting for us, obviously intending to disperse the crowd. A couple of Egyptians that I had met turned to me and told me that if the police got violent, I should hold up my American passport as high as I could and run away with them. While they didn't explicitly say it, I suspected they thought the passport would protect all of us. They recognized that the police would not attack foreigners during this early stage of the protests for fear of negative publicity. About thirty seconds later, the riot police advanced on the small crowd of marchers with batons raised. I did exactly as I had been told and ran with my passport held high for all to see. I emerged from that skir-

It is clear to any unbiased individual on the ground in Cairo that this is in no way an anti-American movement.

mish unharmed, yet some of my Egyptian friends were not as lucky. Once we reached Tahrir Square later that night, the crowds were larger and I had more of an opportunity to speak with the protestors and get to know their opinions. I spoke with over fifty different Egyptians and pressed them for their opinions on domestic Egyptian issues, as well as their wider world-views. The overarching opinion in Tahrir that night was that the United States has good intentions and does good across the globe, but that the actions or policies of the government — like supporting Mubarak — occasionally have unintended consequences. Those whom I spoke with had a fairly strong knowledge of U.S. foreign policy in their region and understood that support for Mubarak was intended to encourage peace with Israel. While they didn't support this policy, they understood it. Many suggested that one of their primary hopes for the protests was to

attract the attention of policy makers, such as President Barack Obama, and compel them to rescind their support of Mubarak's regime.

Additionally, they made it very clear that this was a secular movement and that the West's fear of a repeat of 1979 was unfounded. At points, I felt that the entire protests were a show put on by Egyptians for the world media.

The protestors' attitudes towards religion were also interesting. On the first day, the call for evening prayer sounded while the mob was gathered in Tahrir Square. The crowd began to reorganize itself into clear lines and a man who was obviously recognized as a high-ranking Imam made his way to the front of the crowd. I expected the vast majority of the protestors to join in prayer, yet in the end, less than a third of the assembled Egyptians took part in the religious expression. When I later asked a friend of mine who is very religious why he didn't take part, he responded that the day was about Egypt, not about Islam. This separation of Islam from this nationalist movement was confirmed by the celebration of the masses upon the pseudo-retirement announcement by President Mubarak. The first cheers that arose from a small section of the square consisted mainly of “*Allahu Akbar*” (God is great), but they were almost immediately drowned out by chants of “*Masr*” (Egypt), and those who started the initial chant were rebuked. Islam clearly had no place in the celebrations, and likely will not hold a central role in a post-Mubarak Egypt.

Now that I have returned to the U.S. and am following the events via CNN and other news outlets, I am disappointed by the poor quality of the reporting and the heavy editorializing of the events. It is clear to any unbiased individual on the ground in Cairo that this is in no way an anti-American movement, nor do the people of Egypt have any desire for Islamic governance.

Cody Zoschak is a sophomore in Course XVIII.

Health care reform works for students

Not only is the PPACA a moral good, it's practical necessity

By Andy Liang

STAFF COLUMNIST

Last week, I woke up with the right side of my face paralyzed. When I used some mouthwash, the right corner of my lip quivered, dripping liquid. Then I wiggled my ears (because I can): only the left ear wiggled. I looked into the mirror, and laughed at seeing my face with un-

matched expressions. Then it wasn't so funny anymore.

I left for MIT Medical.

In Urgent Care, the doctor reported I had a condition called Bell's palsy which was swelling in my seventh cranial nerve, responsible for facial movements. I have to take prednisone to reduce the swelling. I took her prescription notes and left for MIT Medical's pharmacy. Waiting for my

drugs, I came to appreciate how quickly I was taken care of. As an MIT student, I am comforted knowing that no matter how close I might get to passing out from all-nighters, or from anxiety on a test, or from missing meals, I am insured.

But this is still not the case for all college students. According to the 2008

Health Care Reform, Page 5

CORRECTIONS

An article published on Feb. 4 about cut varsity sports incorrectly characterized club wrestler Grant M. Kadokura '11 as the 2010 NCAA Division III Wrestling Champion. Kadokura is the 2010 National Collegiate Wrestling Association (NCWA) National Wrestling Champion, not the NCAA varsity champion. The NCWA is the collegiate club wrestling league.

In a pair of articles about Anna L. Tang from Jan. 5 and Feb. 8, the given name of the court-appointed psychologist who evaluated Tang's mental health after her December 2010 acquittal was misspelled. She is Dr. Elizabeth Wollheim, not Elizabeth. The Feb. 8 article also gave the wrong year for Styke at the time of the stabbing in Oct. 2007. Styke was then a sophomore, not a freshman.

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Fencing team hosts Eric Sollee Invitational

Eleven East Coast schools bout at MIT; women's sabre boasts 36-17 record

By Craig Kaufman
DAPER STAFF

The MIT Men's and Women's Fencing teams both won two matches at Sunday's Eric Sollee Invitational Fencing Tournament, held at MIT. The women's team scored a 25-2 thrashing of Yeshiva University and a 22-5 victory over Hunter College, while the men's team took care of Yeshiva by the same score and Hunter by a 17-10 tally.

The biggest victory for the women may have been in their 20-7 defeat at the hands of defending national champion Penn State. Sabre Molly A. Kozminsky '12 came through

with a 3-0 record in the match, including a 5-2 victory over World Junior Championships bronze medalist Nicole Glon.

The women's sabre team cruised to a 36-17 record, losing only one match, a 5-4 loss to Penn State. Kozminsky had 14 victories, including another sweep of Yeshiva, while Robin S. Shin '12 went 15-3 in her bouts, posting sweeps of Penn State, NYU, and Yeshiva.

Women's foil won 19 of their 54 matches, v8-1 win over Hunter. Jenna G. Caldwell '11 and Julia A. Hopkins '12 each posted perfect 3-0 records in both of those matches, while Ana S. Escalante '12 added one in the win over Yeshiva. The epee team posted a 24-30 record, including 7-2 and 8-1 wins in the squads two victories.

On the men's side, the best record was posted by the sabre team, who went 26-28 in winning three of its matches. Maximilian L. Brand '11 posted 9 victories for the Engineers, including sweeps of NYU, Hunter, and Yeshiva, and Tech's only two points in a loss to Penn.

The epee squad won 24 of its 54 matches, led by Jackson T. Crane '13. The sophomore finished the afternoon with a 13-5 record, shutting out opponents from Penn, Hunter, and Yeshiva. The foil team won 18 matches. Benjamin N. Nield '12 took eight points for MIT, sweeping all of his competitors from Penn. Daniel S. Levine '12 also pitched in several important points for the men's foil.

The Engineers' women dropped their other three matches, a 14-13 heartbreaker

to NYU, a 20-7 loss to Penn, and a 21-6 defeat at the hands of Duke. Tech's men also fell in its four other matches, losing 24-3 to Penn State, 15-12 to NYU, 18-9 to Penn, and 25-2 to Duke.

The Eric Sollee Invitational, named after the long-time MIT fencing coach, featured 11 schools from across the East Coast competing in seven rounds of competition on both the women's and men's side. Joining MIT were Penn State, Brandeis, Penn, Boston College, Hunter, Yeshiva, NYU, Duke, Harvard, and Brown.

The Engineers will have a week and a half to recover from the long day of competition and will hit the strips again on Feb. 16 at Brandeis to compete in the mid-week Beanpot, starting at 6 p.m.

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MIT men's volleyball raises record to 11-7

Engineers post victory over Endicott

By Paul Dill
HEAD COACH

The MIT Men's Volleyball team emerged with a 25-23, 25-18, 25-17 victory over division rivals Endicott

College on Tuesday night. The nationally-ranked No. 7 Engineers raised their record to 11-2 for the year and 7-0 in conference play. MIT scored the first three points of the match and later held an 8-4 lead. Endicott countered with a 6-1 spurt which put it in front for a majority of the frame. Five ties ensued until a strike by Kenneth M. Siebert '14 ended a long rally to give the Engineers a 21-20 edge. A kill from William B. Evans '14 increased the margin, which prompted a timeout from the Gulls. After the break, both sides traded points, and another Siebert blast closed the set. Endicott jumped out to a 6-3 advantage in the second game, but MIT responded with a 9-3 run to pull ahead. The Gulls capitalized on several miscues by the Engineers, tying the set at 13. An Endicott service error followed by an ace from Siebert gave MIT some breathing room. However,

both squads exchanged serves as a kill from Endicott's Jeremy Siden brought the Gulls within one point. MIT countered by registering an 8-2 run to wrap up the set.

The visitors built a 4-1 lead in the final frame, but it was quickly erased by a 10-1 run by the Engineers. Trailing 17-10, a pair of blocks and an ace narrowed Endicott's deficit to three and resulted in an MIT timeout.

When action resumed, a serving miscue along with a block by Garrett L. Winther '11 and Patrick J. Vatterott '13 extended the Engineers' advantage to 19-13. The Gulls picked up the next two points courtesy of a blocking error and a solo stop. MIT responded by scoring six of the final eight points to clinch the victory.

Siebert finished with a match-high 18 kills to go along with four digs. Matthew P. Hohenberger '13 posted 10 kills and three digs as Evans added five kills. Vatterott totaled six kills and five blocks, and Winther contributed five kills, five assists, and four blocks. Timothy R. Lee '11 compiled 37 assists and 11 digs as Jeremy J. Velazquez '12 collected six digs. Caine L. Jette '10 led the team with two aces.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, February 12

Men's and Women's Track and Field Coed Invitational 12 p.m., Johnson Track

Women's Basketball vs. Mount Holyoke College 2 p.m., Rockwell Cage

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