Stephanie Lin wins Rhodes
Senior will study medical anthropology at Oxford

By Derek Chang
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Stephanie Lin ’12 was recognized this week as an MIT Rhodes Scholar. The award, which is one of the most prestigious academic scholarships in the world, is given to 45 students each year to pursue their studies abroad.

Lin said that she was surprised when she found out she had received the scholarship. "I was very happy," she said. "It’s a great honor to be recognized for my academic achievements." Lin will be spending the year at Oxford University, where she will be studying medical anthropology.

Lin’s interest in medical anthropology was sparked by her experience working at Health Leads Boston, a community health center. "I was interested in studying how social and environmental factors affect health outcomes," she said. "I thought that studying medical anthropology would be a great way to explore these issues in depth.

Lin’s research at Oxford will focus on the impact of global health policies on developing countries. "I’m interested in understanding how international health policies are implemented and how they affect local communities," she said. "I hope to contribute to the development of more effective and equitable global health policies.

Lin plans to return to the United States after completing her studies in Oxford. "I’m excited to come back to MIT and share my experiences with my peers," she said. "I think that there is a lot to be gained from this opportunity to study abroad."
China bends to solar complaint by US but plans retaliation

HONG KONG — Solar panel makers in China plan to shift some of their production to South Korea, Taiwan and the United States in hopes of defusing a trade case pending against them in Washington, according to industry executives.

But at the same time, the Chinese industry is considering retaliating by filing a trade case of its own with China’s Commerce Ministry.

The most likely target would be U.S. exports of China’s polysilicon — a prime ingredient in solar panels — Chinese manufacturers last year exported about $873 million of polysilicon to China last year, nearly as much in dollar terms as the value of shipments from the United States.

The Chinese moves come after the United States Commerce Department opened a trade case against China’s solar panel makers earlier this month, at the request of seven U.S. solar companies.

—Keith Boudreaux, The New York Times

France, Sarkozy look vulnerable as euro crisis persists

PARIS — With the humiliating defeat on Sunday of the Socialists in Spain, the two-year euro crisis has already toppled eight governments, sending shivers of anxiety through the Elysee Palace and even the White House.

The main theme of recent elections has been voters’ unhappiness with austerity, uncertainty and whatever party or coalition happens to be in power. But under the pressure of the market, the most important of all countries — Germany, Europe’s fiscal leader, new governments have largely had to promise more of the same.

As the markets have swung from one vulnerable target to another, Ireland, Portugal, Greece, Italy, Finland, Denmark and Slovakia have all had to budge their governments, either through elections or parliamentary maneuverings.

The original “six degrees” finding, published in 1967 by the psychologist Stanley Milgram, was drawn from 296 volunteers at Facebook and the University of Milan reported on Monday that more than half of people over 13 are on Facebook, it was just the average distance between any two people by computing algorithms developed at the University of Milan to calculate the phrase “six degrees of separation” into the language, scientists said.

The findings were posted on Facebook’s website Monday night. “It’s the chief executive’s job to bring people together and to provide leadership,” Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg said. “I don’t see that happening.”


Obama sidestepped the deficit committee debacle

By Jackie Calmes

WASHINGTON — In remaining aloof from the special deficit committee in Congress even as it collapsed on Monday, President Barack Obama showed his calculation more clearly than ever before: Republicans will never agree to raise taxes on the wealthy to balance any spending cuts, so let the voters decide.

Congress still could reach a bipartisan compromise in the next month, or next year, to avoid the threat of automatic spending cuts, especially in military programs, in 2013. But the president is figuring that Congress will not, and he will campaign by contrast what he calls his “balanced” approach to putting the nation on a solid fiscal footing again to Republicans’ anti-tax reliance on spending cuts, especially for Medicare and Social Security.

Yet the president’s strategy of not deeply engaging with Congress carries a big risk that he will be seen as failing to lead on a serious threat to the country’s future, the mounting federal debt. And if Washington’s dysfunction extends to next November, voters show every sign of taking out their wrath on everyone involved — not least the occupant of the White House.

Republicans wasted no time trying to fuel the idea of a leadership deficit in the White House, even before the deficit committee made its failure official on Monday.

“He’s done nothing,” said Mitt Romney, the former Massachusetts governor who is seen by the Obama circle as the candidate most likely to be the Republican presidential nominee. “It’s another example of failed leadership.”

But Republicans were not alone in attacking. In New York, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, a Republican-turned-independent, said the buck rests with the president.

—By David D. Kirkpatrick and Liam Staker, The New York Times

Egpyt's civilian government submits offer to resign

Separating you and me? 4.74 degrees.

Adding a new chapter to the research that cemented the phrase “six degrees of separation” into the language, scientists at Facebook and the University of Milan reported on Monday that the average number of acquaintances separating any two people is not as big as 4.74.

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Weather

By Vince Agyard

While the day before Thanksgiving is often the busiest travel day of the year in the United States, those heading home for the holiday may experience weather-related problems tomorrow. A low pressure system will move across the Midwest while the eastern seaboard today, indicating other weather fronts moving into the eastern part of the United States this weekend, bringing stormy conditions for tomorrow, with rainfall totals from 1 to 2 inches, and winds possibly gusting in excess of 30 mph. Those conditions could contribute to significant travel delays, especially for those traveling by air.

For those staying in town, Thanksgiving will be wet with Thursday, Friday and Saturday in its own right. The strong winds today mean that what little snow that may fall will most likely melt by Monday, although there might be some lingering snow showers on Tuesday and Wednesday. Be prepared for strong winds.

Extended Forecast

Today: Sunny. High 40°F (4°C).
Tonight: Cloudy, rain beginning late. Low 42°F (5°C).
Tomorrow: Windy with rain becoming heavy at times. High 42°F (5°C).
Thursday: Sunny. High 50°F (10°C).
Friday: Sunny. High 59°F (12°C).

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—By Vince Agyard
Syrian opposition meets with British officials

By Sebnem Arsu
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ISTANBUL, Turkey — Syria’s political opposition widened its outreach Monday, sending representatives to Britain as the Syrian government withdrew signs of further isolation over an uprising that is increasingly resembling a prolonged armed struggle to oust President Bashar Assad.

Assad’s regime intensified its crackdown against antigovernment protesters, Senator Abdelbasset Sarour, who has served as foreign minister since the government emerged in the central city of Homs, an epicenter of the uprising, which has claimed more than 3,000 lives by the United Nations’ count since it began in March. Reuters said the latest civilian deaths included two youths killed by Syrian security forces in the central city of Homs, an epicenter of the movement, as the forces were looking for a Syrian soccer celebrity, Abdulaziz Sarsour, who has been leading protest rallies against Assad.

Thedevelopments came as anti-Assad activist groups reported 12 new deaths Monday in the Syria central city of Homs, an epicenter of the uprising, which has claimed more than 3,000 lives by the United Nations’ count since it began in March. Reuters said the latest civilian deaths included two youths killed by Syrian security forces in the central city of Homs, an epicenter of the movement, as the forces were looking for a Syrian soccer celebrity, Abdulaziz Sarsour, who has been leading protest rallies against Assad.

Unable and free him. The security forces used tear gas when they barged into the office, the witnesses said, and they arrested at least 32 other people. It was not clear how many others had been released. Javadlou is the chief executive of the official Islamic Republic News Agency, known by its acronyms IRNA, and the manager of BNAs print affiliate, Iran, the official daily newspaper. He is one of the most powerful figures in publicizing Iran’s government policies and messages to the outside world. Details on the exact circumstances of the raid were not clear. But the episode appeared to be the most dramatic instance in which the friction between Ahmadinejad and conservatives in the administration emerged in the open; the president’s conservative critics have increasingly challenged him over what they regard as a “distant current” of presidential advisers who want to subvert the authority of the Islamic clergy.

The catalyst for the Javadlou’s arrest appeared to be a ruling Sunday by an Iranian court that Javadlou had offended Islamic values by questioning the Islamic dress code for women. The court ordered him imprisoned for a year and barred him from working in journalism for three years, but Javadlou had a few weeks to appeal the punishment.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bias in Occupy Harvard article?

Thank you for the full-width front-page photograph and the MFFTREE in this 
15 edition. What an outstanding 
sight.

However, the reporting involving our distinguished alumnus better mana-
ded than was forthcoming in the 
stunning image, in the caption that 
awesomely captures the

The piece contained language that 
could be devoting their energy to these matters 
be identified in an open letter; and yet "bias 
also thought out. "Problems" are 
not capable of being "raised": "Problems 
may exist, or be perceived, which may 
subsequently lead to "questions" or "is-

the subject of a piece of writing regarding 
that is absent, imply-

syntactically that the piece is 
being reported, rather than an 

also the phrase "show solidarity 
with" unqualified is hardly correct form for a 
meaningful public -- a 

Communications, Massachusetts Institute 

the editor should be sent to

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the editor should be sent to

Totally Random by Elise Stave

Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun
Fun
Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun
Tuesday, November 22, 2011 The Tech

Arthursaurus Rex by Ramya Swamy

What MIT feels like during hall week:

What MIT feels like every other week:

Dilbert by Scott Adams

Crossword Puzzle Solution, page 8

ACROSS
1 Grip
6 High. pref.
10 Old Icelandic saga
14 Heart connection
15 Bellow
16 Playwright Coward
17 Star of “The Wise Little Hen”
19 Seethe
20 Superlatively tempestuous
21 Part of a mailing add.
22 Bruno of “City Slickers”
23 Gateway rival
24 Most strange
27 Thinks about
30 Gargoyle
31 Beauty parlor
33 Actress Ruby
34 Final bio?
35 “Call Me...”
36 Nutmeg spice
37 Drawn Aamer
38 Fascidious
39 Trap for the unsuspecting
40 Chic
42 Taxi devices
43 Chip’s chipmunk buddy
44 “Crazy” singer
46 Folklore creature
48 Detroit suburb
52 Demolish
53 Illinois senator
54 Grace closing
55 At rest
56 Softly, in music
57 Twisted
58 Horse turns to the right
59 Spiral pin

DOWN
1 Rakes and heels
2 Spols taken
3 Pisa’s river
4 Most blatant
5 One kind of fortuneteller
6 Egyptian weight
7 Wretchedly bad
8 Diplomat’s strong suit
9 Annoy
10 Wrap around
11 Share a night out
12 Display model
13 “Roots” author Haley
18 Malicious gossip
21 NYC station
23 Destine to tragedy
24 Ancient Greek coins
25 Red figure
26 Exercise count
27 “...Misty for Me”
28 Happen again
29 Dozes
31 Ozi
32 Madison Ave. output
33 Artistic inspiration
34 Like a shooting star?
36 Contents of a folder
37 Takeoffs
38 Periodical sequence
39 Bodies of water
41 Grieve audibly
42 Look after
44 Peripatetic sequence
45 Bodies of water
46 Snatch
47 Title
48 Broad
49 Slope lift
50 Fork prong

51 Enough, at one time
53 Shift dirt

A WEB COMIC OF ROMANCE, SARCASM, MATH, AND LANGUAGE
by Randall Munroe

[979] Wisdom of the Ancients

Who were you, Denderader??
What did you see??

Look, a square!
Squares have four equal sides.
Daddy’s kind of a square too,
but that’s another story.
Everyday moments can be learning moments with your kids. For more tips, visit bornlearning.org

This space donated by The Tech
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.

**Sudoku**
Solution, page 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 8 | 9 |

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

**Techdoku**
Solution, page 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10x</th>
<th>4+</th>
<th>90x</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12x</td>
<td>15+</td>
<td>2x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>6x</th>
<th>4−</th>
<th>1−</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1+</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2−</th>
<th>80x</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>72x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Melancholia opens with a series of breathtaking shots resembling four-dimensional-surrealist-painting scenes. The powerful prelude from the opera Tristan and Isolde directs the visual phenomena. Nothing comprehensible about the plot is given; we only know the movie is going to be intense. Suddenly, the music stops. There appeared on the screen “Melancholia — Lars Von Trier” in the most strangely frivolous font. It is as if someone just blew a party horn after making a solemn speech. We only know the movie is going to be absurdly ridiculous. It is Lars Von Trier, after all.

Melancholia is a hard dose of reality in a surrealistic narrative. The movie was nominated for Palme d’Or, and Kirsten Dunst won Best Actress at the Cannes Film Festival. Danish director Lars Von Trier (Antichrist, Dancer in the Dark, Dogville) depicts the negative side of humanity, with commentary on the world’s materialism, and attachment to the nonsensical. It is comical and devastating. It is a farce. It is about us.

In the film, the world is portrayed as a corrupted place, and Justine represents a pure being that is free from external reinforcement, false values, and ignorance. The movie exaggerates her independence to the extent that she is appears to be detached from reality. But, just as in Shakespeare, we know that the insane is the enlightened. If the juxtaposition of Justine and the world is a portrait of insanity and sanity, the truth is a negative print of that picture.

One of the major themes in the movie deals with the absurdity humanity has adopted as its normalcy. From the first scene on Justine’s wedding day, the imbalance is

Kirsten Dunst plays a woman facing the end of the world in Melancholia. Kirsten Dunst plays a woman facing the end of the world in Melancholia.

Melancholia is a dramatic exploration of depression and disaster.

Tensions brew on Earth

Melancholia

Directed by Lars Von Trier

Starring Kirsten Dunst, Charlotte Gainsbourg and Kiefer Sutherland

Rated R

Now playing at Kendall Square Cinema

Globalization: A Bipolar Story juxtaposes local landscapes with foreign concepts

Globalization: A Bipolar Story

By Jonathan E.D. Richmond

Seven students sit typing on their laptops outside the Teachers and Students Center at Dhaka University. As with their Western counterparts, too much of their time is spent in idle Facebook gossip. But the context of the picture, “Global Gossip” by photographer Md. Huzzaatul Mursalin, differs strikingly from Western expectations. The background setting is worn and depressing, conflicting with the display of modernity in the foreground. And, despite the dirt, the typists have taken their shoes off, Bangladesh-style.

The students sit alone, locked in their personal Facebook worlds.

A part of the global phenomenon is that “global gossip” has augmented and at times replaced local gossip when the laptop screen rules over direct human contact — and as the picture shows, it is a strangely lonely activity.

MIT student Raqeebul I. Ketan “I’ll have tremendous effort organizing an international photo exhibition on the theme of Globalization: A Bipolar Story.” The show has already been seen in Dhaka, and is now running at the Wiesner Art Gallery in the MIT Student Center through Nov. 30.

The pictures are about the impacts local practices have on the globe and on the consequences of imposing foreign concepts on local landscapes.

The most disturbing photos focus on industry in Bangladesh. As they show, Bangladesh’s low-cost labor gets the dirty work others would rather do without. Vehicle parts are reconditioned in a cramped Dhaka workshop. “Geyservay and Grim Repairs” by Zahid Hasan, spiders fly at a steel rolling mill that appears to be located on Hell (“Burning the Iron Wishes” by Sylif Islam Rony), ships are scrapped at a Chittagong yard known for its hazardous work practices (“Pollution Migration” by Abdul Aziz Azam).

The output of brick kilns blights the river landscape (“Toxicity in the City” by Himil Nas Nizam) while a river is dyed psychedelic green by the dumping of industrial effluent (“A Story of Rivers” by Adnan Arsalan). A boy holds a dead fish pulled out of a dead river (“Fish out of Water” by Iaved Md. Abulazad). “Global Motorization” by Darshan Chakma blames global influences for traffic jams and their associated pollution.

The photos tell compelling stories, but they don’t necessarily depict the whole picture.

It was especially shocking to see these pictures in a Western art gallery for they underlined how easy it is to get used to the unacceptable and regard it as somehow “normal.” I had seen numerous colored rivers of death in Bangladesh, and observed apalling work conditions on too many occasions — in one case, a manager offered me tea and biscuits and gentled chit-chat at the same time as small children were straining under the weight of heavy objects in the background. Seeing such images out of their context underlines their outrageousness.

While the photos Ketan has put together are excellent and tell compelling stories, aided by a write-up submitted by each photographer, they don’t necessarily depict the whole picture. While the world places demand for dirty industries in places like Bangladesh where labor is cheap and can work under conditions unacceptable in the developed world, and international trends in automotive mobility transport desires for car ownership to Bangladesh, the negative impacts of such phenomena do not have to be quite so dire.

It is true that Westernimporters want the cheapest possible product, but have not done nearly enough to promote decent workplace conditions and environmental practices in countries such as Bangladesh. However, it is too easy to blame the outside world alone when the reality is that industry could be a lot cleaner and less dangerous in Bangladesh were industry to be less exploitative of its workers; would be government to have
The nonsensical becomes the norm in Melancholia

Melancholia, from Page 7

too large to make a turn on a tiny road on the way to Claire’s mansion on a beautiful hill. Justine giggles and smiles as the couple waste a few hours and head back to their hotel. The night is beautiful, the sky is clear, and the movie is engrossing. Everyone in the audience is個人百人編著的 "The Global History of the World’s Indigenous Peoples". The book covers a wide range of topics, from the history of indigenous peoples around the world to the present-day challenges they face.

The end of the movie leaves the audience either laughing or crying hysterically, the general reaction to humanity when we actually take a good look at it. Personally, I would do both simultaneously but I couldn’t so I ended up feeling nauseated.

The ability to regulate work and its inevitable corruption and its inevitable ties to greed and disregard for one’s fellow humans is in decline. Would rivers and their ecosystems face death if the lead- ers of industry were unable to pay boksheesh to deflect at- tempt to control its flows? Could today’s urban areas be eyesore blights instead be found near the shore of TV, to be found in even the poorest of Dhaka’s slums, at least outside the hours of load shedding.

The photography is terrif- able, the show thought provok- ing. For example, a single word can contain the meaning of an entire sentence!

Global influences

Globalization, from Page 7

The ability to regulate work and its inevitable corruption and its inevitable ties to greed and disregard for one’s fellow humans is in decline. Would rivers and their ecosystems face death if the leaders of industry were unable to pay boksheesh to deflect attempts to control its flows? Could today’s urban areas be eyesore blights instead be found near the shore of TV, to be found in even the poorest of Dhaka’s slums, at least outside the hours of load shedding.

The photography is terrific, the show thought provoking. For example, a single word can contain the meaning of an entire sentence!

We Still Live Here

Part of the PBS series Independent Lens

Directed and produced by Anne Makepeace

Solution to Crossword

From page 5

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We Still Live Here

The film tells us about the Wampanoag nation that once lived on the land. Through interviews and footage, the film shows how their language and culture were lost and how it is now being revived. The film also highlights the importance of preserving indigenous languages and cultures.

What do you hope to achieve with this film?

AM: We Still Live Here has always been a story about the language. Many screenings of it were scheduled for November, and its premiere on PBS is timed to be broad- cast exactly one week before Thanksgiving, a time when the Wampanoag community will be celebrating the language. This film is about the language. The end of the movie left the audience either laughing or crying hysterically, the general reaction to humanity when we actually take a good look at it. Personally, I would do both simultaneously but I couldn’t so I ended up feeling nauseated.

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The photography is terrific, the show thought provoking. For example, a single word can contain the meaning of an entire sentence!
A tale of two turkeys

Don’t wing it when cooking turkeys

By Deena Wang

Once upon a time, there were two turkeys, which I shall refer to as Turkey A and Turkey B, in order to avoid garnering any sympathy for them. Fortunately for them, they lived a charmed life on a small family farm, unlike their debauched relatives on overcrowded farms. Instead of being the industrial Broad-Breasted White breed, too broad-breasted to reproduce without artificial insemination, they were a slowly-dying heirloom variety with a more robust flavor.

But regardless of their life, their death was the same. At the tender age of 24 weeks, Turkey A and Turkey B were slaughtered, gashed, and placed in preparation for our annual feast upon their kind. Their corpses sat in the grocery freezer, naked and cold, ready to be purchased.

In good time, they were, by the Aigh family and the Bea family. Two turkeys, of the same breed, were purchased by families nearly identical, yet turned out very differently.

For you see, though each family prepared their turkey in the refrigerator three days before, whereas the Bea family only paid attention to their turkey a day beforehand, soaking it in hot water for an hour beforehand, soaking it in a brine of salt, sugar, and orange juice for six hours, allowing flavor and moisture to permeate the meat, the Bea family rubbed their turkey with oil and salt, which is also acceptable for flavoring the meat. However, they also jammed stuffing into their turkey, allowing the bacteria-laden juices to soak into the stuffing.

To cook the turkey, the Aigh family followed Alton Brown’s advice and first cooked the turkey for 30 minutes at 350 degrees Fahrenheit to fry the skin in the turkey’s own fat, then lowered the temperature to 350 degrees so the rest of the turkey could cook unimpested. Following their family’s custom, the Bea family cooked the turkey at 350 degrees, basting it every half an hour with the fat drippings. However, since turkey skin is nonpermeable, opening the oven merely let out the heated air, increasing the cooking time which dined out the turkey’s extremities.

Once they reached an internal temperature of 165 degrees, Turkey A and Turkey B were ready to leave the oven. The Aigh family allowed their turkey to rest for 15 minutes under a foil cover to allow the juices to redistribute inside the meat, making gravy from the turkey drippings. Starved from their extra-long wait, the Bea family carved open their turkey immediately, allowing the juices to pool on the plate. In the end, the Aigh family had a wonderfully moist, flavorful turkey as the center piece for their meal. As for the Bea family, let’s just say that their dog ate very much the meat. However, they also jammed stuffing inside the meat, making extremities.

MIT reconciled my love of humanities with technical studies

Before MIT, I wanted to study Classics and biology. I worked for the National Institutes of Health throughout high school, and I was my state’s honor Classics League Vice President. When I got to MIT, I felt more bullied than ever to declare a major in science or engineering, and consequently, I oscillated between declaring a degree in biology or a degree in writing. I chose writing ultimately because of its small department size and the fact that my professors teach me instead of TA’s, and subsequently, I better actually, they actually learn my name. I’ve loved my experience in the biology department, but a professor teaching 250 students is rarely going to learn your name, even if you get an A. If anything, my biology professors probably remember me as the writing major.

Since majoring in writing, I’ve experienced many “microaggressions” from various members of the MIT community. “Why come to MIT to study writing?” I’ve been asked many times by my professors throughout high school, and these challenges humbled and inspired me. A visiting professor once asked me what my perspective on a topic was as a student studying humanities, and I responded, “I’m not sure that my response will actually reflect a humanistic point of view since I consider myself just as technically these days.” Even though I’m uncertain of my post-graduate plans, I’m confident that my experiences as an undergraduate have adequately prepared me to succeed in a wide spectrum of fields.

Talk wordy to me

21W @ MIT

My odyssey into the writing department

By Christine Yu

When I first came to MIT, I was very insecure of the fact that I wanted to study humanities at a technical school. It didn’t help that I surrounded myself with people that were premed, and these individuals always said I was taking the easy way out. It also didn’t help that my sister majored in writing, and I witnessed firsthand how difficult it was to for her to secure adequate employment without pursuing further graduate studies.

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Pfizer stresses MIT collaboration

Center will complement Kendall area biotech cluster

Groundbreaking, from Page 1

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Orientation, from Page 1

presentation and a public forum, where students and staff spoke about FPPoPs, IEK, greek rush, and CityDays. Squires presented some of the guiding principles and findings of the committee thus far. Smith said the most important question for the committee is: "Will (changing orientation) make the experience of first-year students better?"

During the presentation, Smith said that the committee wants to ensure that first-year students feel welcome at MIT and that the residential communities, settle into their selection of classes, become aware of issues they might want to consider during the year, and learn how to get help when the "inevitable pressures of MIT" begin to mount. The committee will be giving a report to Dean Chris Columbus and Dean Daniel E. Hastings "in sometime in December or January.” At this point, the committee is “in no position to make any recommendations” and is still gathering information, Smith said. An additional forum may be held in January to get additional feedback.

Smith said that the committee focused on four areas: REX, Orientation, Rush, and FPPoPs, and said that the entire orientation period extended to a $656,675 loss to MIT (not including Rush) from housing for early returns, food, and space usage — though they said cost would not be a big factor in their decision. The committee’s suggestion is that freshmen are more overall satisfied with their orientation experience and feel more connected to MIT when compared to the orientation surveys conducted in 1997 and other those of other universities today. Smith identified the main successes of orientation as helping first-years meet, introducing them to off-campus activities, and getting them settled into classes.

The findings also reflected that students were more satisfied this year with summer dorm assignments and had “overwhelmingly positive” experiences with their FPPoPs. With Rush, the committee reported that many students felt that if they did not have much time to make a decision, though participation in Rush did not correlate with satisfaction with orientation. When it comes to advising, which could “benefit from increased faculty participation in Rush,” meetings with advisors and associate advisors was mentioned slightly more helpful than in 1997. The committee also wants to explore how to continue discussions of topics like alcohol awareness and sexual harassment into the year via living groups.

A Public Forum

The latter half of the event constituted an open forum where members of the MIT community could provide feedback. Kristin G. Kehlinger, Community Volunteer Administrator from the Public Service Center, spoke about how participants of the Freshman Urban Program (FUP) benefit from community involvement and individual introspection, and also spoke about how the community benefited from both FUP and CityDays, an institution-sponsored day of volunteering. The committee inquired about the merging of the two, which may be explored in the future.

Some students also spoke up about the benefits of FPP and other “development” (as opposed to academic) FPPoPs — namely the Freshman Arts Program (FAP), Freshman Outdoors Program (FOP), and Freshman Leadership Program (FLP) — and also about how CityDays was a substitute for students who could not participate in an FPOP. The committee said that its members “recognize the value of all FPPoPs” and do not plan on doing away with them.

Another student asked if the committee had considered doing away with REX altogether since she didn’t think it was doing its job and was losing money. The committee replied that the data showed that REX was helping people meet each other and “find their way around social MIT.” The committee members said that they want REX to focus more on community building and not be limited to occurring before the housing readjustment lottery deadline.

Many students were also there for issues regarding FSSLg rush. Affiliates from Epsilon Theta, Phi Kappa Theta, and other FSSLgs spoke in defense of the current timing of Rush and Recruitment, saying that often the only con seems to be “Rush being too rushed,” there are many benefits to an early Rush. One recent alumna recalled that Recruitment was moved to Orientation from IAP for many good reasons — particularly the fact that some societies have national regulations that they must follow that necessitate an early Recruitment — and said that the community was not at the time the necessary discussions were happening. Students also emphasized the “uniqueness” of MIT living groups in that they have their own methods of men- torship and community. Students said that Rush is also at a good time in the beginning of the year because freshmen benefit from past no-record and FSSLg members have more free time to recruit. A later Rush could see stressed freshmen, busy upperclassmen, and inclement weather.

—Bruno B. F. Favieres
Rhodes, from Page 1

proposed in at MIT contributed to her interest in biology and medicine. “I did a couple UROPs related to medical science, and those research experiences made me increasingly interested in studying medicine,” she said. She hopes to attend medi- cal school after finishing her year at Oxford.

At the Whitehead Labs, she did research on the Karposis’s sarcoma vi- ruses, a cancer-causing virus that com- monly infects AIDS patients. She has also worked with Assistant Professor of Biology Jerome Sarij, studying the parasites of tapeworms, which primarily targets cats and rats.

Lin has also been very active in the campus community. She cur- rently acts as vice president for educa- tion officer in the Student Assembly, a role that has drawn increased attention following the pepper-spraying incident. She also is the editor-in-chief of MIT’s literary magazine Bunz. She is also a fluent speaker of Spanish and Mandarin (in fact, Lin’s concentra- tion is in Spanish). Lin has worked abroad in Mexico during AIP and the summer as part of MIT’s Global Poverty Initiative. There, she worked on developing agricultural education and building greenhouses to improve nutrition, and teach people how to use agricultural technologies. “My experiences abroad really drew me into global health, particularly because there is such a huge disparity in health care quality between developed and de- veloping nations,” she noted. “My interest in infectious diseases ties well with international health issues, because of the presence of malaria and tuberculosis in some develop- ing nations.”

According to Lin, one of her mo- tivations for applying to the Rhodes Scholarship was the abundance of diverse programs at Oxford. She feels that Oxford is a good place to explore the social side of education. “I like the self-directed learning ap- proach at Oxford and the strong hu- manities program,” Lin said. “It’s a terriﬁc place to think and grow.”

“The application process was deﬁnitely challenging,” she added. “But I deﬁnitely got a lot of support throughout the application process, from my family, friends, sisters at Theta, professors, and staff.”

When asked about what advice she would give to students, she said, “Be ﬂexible and don’t be afraid to pursue what you are genuinely exci- ted about. Make sure to take advan- tage of the great opportunities MIT offers outside of your coursework.”

Lin acknowledged that it is easy to feel overwhelmed with studies, but she emphasized the impor- tance of exploring MIT’s opportuni- ties and forming close relationships with students. “It’s very special that here you can form bonds with other students who are passionate about math and sciences, and who will have amazing accomplishments in the future,” Lin said.

Qimin Quan wins ﬁrst place in the “Pitch to China” business plan competition for his biosensor technology for medical diagnostics. “Nano Health,” on Sunday. The competi- tion was part of the MIT China Innovation and Entrepreneurship Forum, a two-day event designed to encourage collaboration between China and the United States in technology and entrepreneurship.

Student ‘Occupiers’ protest tuition hikes in UC system

University of California tuition has nearly doubled over past several years, amidst education cuts

Protests, from Page 1

A video that showed two Universi- ty of California, Davis, police ofﬁcers using pepper spray on seated protest- ers has gone viral, with hundreds of thousands watching what might have been a relatively small encampment when compared to the larger protests across the country. The video has led to demands that Chancellor Linda P. B. Katehi resign. On Monday, Katehi said she was putting the campus po- lice chief on administrative leave as a way to rebuild trust on campus.

The attack has galvanized protest- ers on other campuses. Students at the Los Angeles, Berkeley, Riverside, and Davis campuses said Monday that they intended to extend their encamp- ments Monday night, in part to test whether they will be rotated or arrested if the wake of the pepper-spray ing.

After years of watching the state’s budget for higher education erode, they are demanding that the state and university administrators ﬁnd a way to lower tuition that they say is squeezing out the middle class.

These are institutions that we call the people’s university, but all of us who are in it have just watched this thing collapse on itself being starved for resources year after year,” said Lil- lian Távä, the president of the Califor- nia Faculty Association, the union that represents professors in the Cali- fornia State University system. “What keeps happening is that we are turn- ing the university into a place where really only the wealthy can go. The students are watching their parents fall out of the middle class and watch- ing their own ability to move into it be stalled.”

Tuition at the University of Cali- fornia has nearly doubled over the past several years, and next year the system will collect more money from student tuition than from state reve- nues. And with the state budget situa- tion worsened by the month, the Legis- lature seems likely to impose another $200 million in higher educa- tion cuts next week. Last week, the California State University Board of Trustees approved a 9 percent tuition increase, even as it cancels courses and shrinks programs. “For the last several years, the de- bate has been what are we going to cut, but we need to change the conversa- tion in order to get paid more in public education,” said Kyle Arnone, one of the protest organizers at the Univer- sity of California, Los Angeles, and a graduate student in sociology. “We are forcing people to consider the ﬁnan- cial implications of tuition hikes.”

Like many of the organizers in- volved in the protest, Arnone is a member of the union that represents graduate students. The union is part of a coalition of labor groups and other organizations that are pressing to close a loophole in the state’s prop- erty taxes and to increase taxes on the state’s wealthiest residents. Arnone said the organization hoped to pres- sure the regents who oversee the sys- tem’s budget to sign a pledge backing the changes in the state’s tax system.

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Logan M. Trimble '13 is a junior in Course 108 and a member of the MIT Cross Country, Indoor, and Outdoor Track teams. As an active sophomore last trim, Trimble competed for MIT at the NCAA Division III Championships and was a part of his relay team earned All-American status. Last year, Trimble won the NEWMAC Academic All-Conference Award, demonstrating excellence in varsity sports as well as academics. When asked about what motivates him to do varsity sports, Logan said, "I like [the teams] because they give me an opportunity to be really competitive at something I enjoy doing. I also love the small, tight-knit team mentality of MIT track. It's probably not the most dominant team, but still somehow tight-knit, track teams. But running I've always been Logan's only passion. "I also loved playing soccer, so when I went to high school I participated in as much running and soccer as I could. I eventually realized I was better at running, so I didn't do soccer anymore."

What is the MIT running plan for Logan? "Practice on Mondays and Tuesdays varies from 45 minutes to one hour. Later Friday night I usually stay in because I have a meet the next day, on Saturday I go to the meet, and on Sunday I play catch-up." Logan said he is not all, though, since there are also track meets to consider. "We have several races each year in Boston (from Franklin Park for cross-country, for indoor track, or here at MIT for indoor and outdoor track). This year our meets are generally one to two hours away in New England."

How does Logan manage to balance his running life with his academic life? Careful. "Since practice is during a limited time each week, there is very little room to do anything else." Logan added that he will "get back to you if I ever figure it out."

Although Logan deviates a good deal of time to running, he also devotes the necessary time for certain classes, either because they are intense or because they're his favorite. His most intense class is [Transport Processes], because it's 13.02. It's a math class, but I also have to write papers and do a mass transfer. My favorite class right now is Engineering Innovation and Design. It approaches engineering from a different angle that most classes don't; the design," Trimble said.

In case Logan manages to find space time, Logan knows how he will use it. "My favorite spare time activity would probably be to go out to dinner somewhere in Boston and find something to do. Otherwise I enjoy an evening in, watching a movie."

His hobbies include playing the guitar, playing video games (Guitar Hero), and other music-related endeavors. Career-wise, Logan aspires to improve his skills in academia and industry. His interests are in pharmaceuticals and other fields that will "directly impact people's well-being."