Three tickets talk student issues in the UA debate
Presidential candidates address presidential search, student support, and orientation

By Anne Cai

In a debate co-hosted by The Tech and the UA this past Sunday, the three tickets of potential future Undergraduate Association (UA) leaders discussed issues such as the search for a new MIT president, student-administration relationships, MIT culture, orientation, and the role of the UA on campus. Running for UA president and vice president are Jonté D. Craighead ’13 and Michael P. Walsh ’13, Naren P. Tallapragada ’13 and Andrew C. Yang ’13, and Brendan T. Deveney ’13 and Mary A. Breton ’14. The debate, which took place on the first floor of the student center, had an audience of about 30, with more people attending for some portions.

As a ticket, Deveney/Breton said that their top three priorities were communication, advising reform, and dining, while Tallapragada/Yang asked, “What’s the value of electing someone new in giving [the UA] a vi- sion?” The latter emphasized a chang- ing student perception of the UA and building a foundation for MIT’s and the UA’s future. Craighead/Walsh echoed these sentiments, listing com- munication, transparency in the UA, and “changing the UA’s organizational inertia” as their priorities.

On the UA and the admin. relationship

Given the UA’s restructuring pro- cess over the past year and a string of presidential/vice presidential resigna- tions, the structure and vision of the UA in the next year is an especially prominent issue, and the three tickets cited a widespread lack of faith and student belief in the UA’s abilities. Craighead/Walsh emphasized their experience in positions within the UA which granted them the oppor- tunity to engage with a number of issues such as the search for a new MIT president, and “changing the UA’s organizational inertia” as their priorities.

On the UA and the admin. relationship

According to the agenda, the group exercise will in- clude discussion questions about priorities and assess- ment of the study’s work-to-date.

Central Square meeting tomorrow

Additionally, the city is holding an additional public meeting tomorrow, focused on Central Square. It is at 6 p.m., Wednesday April 11, at the Cambridge Senior Center at 806 Mass. Ave, opposite City Hall.

The Central Square phase of the Kendall-to-Central study will continue through the summer, with additional meetings on May 9 and June 1. This is unlike the Kendall phase which began in July 2011, and finishes around May.

—John A. Houghton

Meeting tonight to shape future of Kendall Square

The city is running a public meeting to present the work of the Kendall-to-Central study’s Kendall Square phase, and to solicit feedback.

It is 6 p.m. today at the Kendall Marriott, with some food. See: cambridgelegals.com/city/cp/eng/2k12/

Agenda:

- 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Presentation on vision, and then top- ics: Public realm, built form and use, sustainability, transportation.
- 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Group exercise in round-robin format on each of the above four topics. Reports from the groups.
- 8:00 – 8:30 p.m. General comments (facilitated).
- 8:30 – 9:00 p.m. Questions/answers.

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Microsoft to buy AOL patents for more than $1 billion

The global gold rush in technology patents gained pace Monday when Microsoft agreed to pay more than $1 billion for 860 patents held by AOL. The deal — valued at $1 billion a patent — reflects the crucial role that patents are increasingly playing in the business of the world’s major technology companies, including Microsoft, Apple, Google, Samsung and HTC.

Patents that can be applied to both smartphones and tablet computers can fetch the same price as the most valuable assets and feared weapons, as the market for those patents has exploded in recent weeks. The sale that inclusion of high prices, and in courtrooms, where patent claims and counterclaims are filed almost daily.

“Microsoft is increasing its arsenal, even if it is expensive,” said James E. Bessen, a patent expert and lecturer at the Boston University School of Law.

AOL’s slow progress as it transforms into a media company supported by advertising has brought pressure from restive institutional shareholders. That the failed sale of AOL and 300 others — is intended to help with both objectives.

—Steve Lohr, The New York Times

Syrian forces fire into Turkey in clash with refugees

BEIRUT — The deadly confrontation between Syria and opposition groups spilled into Turkey for the first time Monday as Syrian forces fired across the border near a refugee camp, casting a further pall over prospects for a U.N. peace plan due to be put into effect this week.

The shooting killed two Syrian refugees and injured at least 23 people, including a Turkish police officer, near the southeastern Turkish town of Kilis.

Residents of the camp reached by telephone said bullets had ripped through their prefabricated shelters, shattering windows and sending panic.

“Even the camp isn’t safe anymore,” said Ahmad, a refugee who used only one name out of concern of repercussions in Syria.

A senior Turkish Foreign Ministry official said Syria’s rapid escalation of violence and ground forces into Turkey had ripped through their prefabricated shelters, shattering windows and sending panic.

—Nati Harnik, The Associated Press

Seeing a Watergate in a South Korean spying scandal

SEOUL, South Korea — An unfolding political scandal ahead of Wednesday’s parliamentary elections has many South Koreans drawing comparisons with Watergate: illegal surveillance, an attempted cover-up, destruction of evidence, arrests of people connected to the president — and a president who used only one name out of concern of repercussions in Syria.

A senior Turkish Foreign Ministry official said Syria’s rapid escalation of violence and ground forces into Turkey had ripped through their prefabricated shelters, shattering windows and sending panic.

—Nati Harnik, The Associated Press

Iran sends mixed signals as nuclear talks near

By Alan Cowell

LONDON — A senior Iranian official hinted Monday that Iran would consider limits on its home-grown stockpile of enriched uranium, offering what seemed a modest concession to partly meet Western concerns ahead of the planned resumption this week of nuclear talks with a group of global powers.

The senior official, Ferydoon Abbasi, head of the Iranian Atomic Energy Organization, was quoted by Iranian news agencies as saying that Iran was prepared to enrich uranium to a maximum of 20 percent purity just to meet the needs for a medical research reactor.

Abbasi was further quoted as saying that other uranium enrichment activities would be restricted to much lower levels in order to reduce power generation reactors. But in what appeared to be an

—By Bettina Wassener

Food prices push rate of inflation up in China

By by Bettina Wassener

HONG KONG — The Chinese inflation rate edged up in March, data released Monday showed, in a development that may dampen, but not eliminate, the challenges of the Beijing government’s announcing added steps to pop up the flagging pace of growth.

Consumer prices in the Chinese economy rose 3.6 percent in March, compared with the rate of a year earlier, driven by a spike in the volatile prices for food.

The increase was well above the February rate of 3.2 percent and was nearing the government’s official target of four percent that analysts had expected.

Unlike the situation in Europe and the United States, where growth is anemic and inflation subdued, China and other emerging economies have been seeing significant inflation as robust growth and rising raw materials have pushed prices up.

In China, where millions struggle to make ends meet and where food makes up a large chunk of household spending, inflation is a particularly sensitive topic. Sharp rises in the prices of consumer goods and housing last year catalyzed inflation in the tail of Beijing’s list of economic worries and prompted the authorities to announce a series of steps designed to reduce growth and the inflation that accompanied it.

The current levels of inflation are likely to persist in coming months, analysts said Monday, citing fuel price increases and, eventually, a moderation in the Chinese economy.

At the same time, however, inflation now is well below the worrisome levels of last year — it hit 6.5 percent in July — and remains comfortably below the government’s target.

Even the slightly higher-than-expected rate recorded for March leaves the authorities with plenty of leeway to step on the economic gas pedal, if needed, analysts said.

The headline consumer price index “is still moderate and manageable,” Qu Hongbin, co-head of Asian economics research at HSBC in Hong Kong, said in a research note.

Supply constraints caused by extreme weather conditions appear to have caused price spikes for some foods, like spring onion and cabbage — one-time effects that will not have a lasting effect on overall food prices, he added.

Growth, rather than inflation, is “the main economic concern for Beijing policymakers,” Qu said.

Growth has softened markedly in the past few months as the tightening measures taken by the government last year have damped private sector activity.

European debt troubles have also helped slow growth by reducing demand for Chinese-made goods.

This combination has promised several economy-bolstering anouncements by Beijing in the past few months, notably a reduction in reserve requirement ratios for banks, a step that effectively opens the door to more lending.

The economic data for March will be closely watched for signs of how resilient the economy has been in the face of the European turmoil and for any indications of possible further policy action by Beijing.

Extended Forecast

Today: Partly cloudy and breezy with an afternoon or evening shower. High 57°F (14°C). Winds 10 to 15 mph, gusting to around 25 mph.

Tonight: Partly cloudy. Low 40°F (4°C). Winds at 5 to 10 mph.

Tomorrow: Partly sunny with a chance for an afternoon or evening shower. High 52°F (11°C).

Thursday: Partly cloudy with a chance of showers. Highs in the low 50s°F (11°C).

Friday: Sunny. Highs around 60°F (16°C).

Note: Supply constraints caused by extreme weather conditions appear to have caused price spikes for some foods, like spring onion and cabbage — one-time effects that will not have a lasting effect on overall food prices, he added.

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The reports followed days of confusing signals from Iran at one stage looking like a derailment of the negotiations. Even Monday, diplomats seemed to persist over the date of the talks and a Friday and a European Union official saying they would take place Saturday. Other reports had said the talks, which would resume negotiations suspended in January 2011 after a deadlock, would take place in March.

The talks bring together Iran and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — the United States, Russia, China, Britain and France — along with Germany.

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Facebook buys popular photo app Instagram for $1 billion

By Casey Newton

SAN FRANCISCO — Facebook took steps Monday to bolster its mobile strategy, acquiring popular photo-sharing application Instagram for about $1 billion in cash and stock.

The purchase, the social network's largest and the most expensive by far for a smart phone app, gives Facebook a company that's ad-supported and has the potential to become a leading player in the mobile app market.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg noted that the deal was unusual for a company that traditionally has bought startups primarily for their engineering talent. The price tag makes it one of the priciest startup acquisitions ever, in the same league as Google's purchase of YouTube for $1.65 billion in 2006. The acquisition is Facebook's largest and the most expensive.

“We don't plan on doing many more of these, if any at all,” Schwartz said. “We'd never make it if such big waves came,” said Hachiro Harada, the marine geologist who led the Japanese team.

New Jersey Institute of Technology

In 2004, the U.S. sought to forge an agreement with France, Japan, Russia and Canada to protect the Titanic's remains.

The decision puts Congress at the heart of a national dialogue over race and violence — Zimmerman, 28, is Hispanic; Martin, 17, was black — but also of the finer points of law. The fact that no arrest was made of Zimmerman after the death of Trayvon Martin is casting suspicion on that decision.

A grand jury won't convene in Trayvon Martin case in Florida

MIAMI — Angela B. Corey, a Republican state attorney with a reputation for toughness, has decided not to seek a grand jury review of the Trayvon Martin shooting, keeping the resolution of a case that has transfixed the nation solely in her hands.

Corey, who was appointed special prosecutor in the case by Flori- da's governor and attorney general, must decide how to proceed with the case, in which many facts are in dispute and no witnesses have come forward publicly. They are the latest examples of the national debate on the charges against George Zimmerman, the neighborhood watch volunteer who shot and killed the unarmed Martin, or to drop the case.

We know that the more you learn, the better you become; the more opportunity you have to explore, the greater the things you'll accomplish. That's why we provide free software and all the resources you need to feed your imagination.

The pressure to bring charges is "unbelievable," said Tor J. Fried- man, a national defense lawyer and author.

"We always talk about a rush to judgment in other cases," he said, but in this case the question is more like, "Why wasn't this person taken to the police station and charged in 2012?"

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Craighal/Walsh for UA leaders
But there is a place in student leadership for Tallapragada/Yang

By Andy Liang

On March 25, Leung Chun-Yin (Lee) was elected as the fourth-term Chief Executive of Hong Kong by a 1.200 member committee of academics and businesspeople. Leung, former convener of the Official Opposition, is the only non-Official Member of the Executive Council, won by the competition, Heney Tang (楊賢靜), a lawyer, garnered 285 votes and 76 votes respectively. But the public approval for Leung-Chun-Yin (Lee) is low (popularity is above 35 percent), and allegations made against Leung’s background are surfacing more and more (he was part of the Communist Party, etc.). His victory raises the question of whether (1.3 million concerned citizens of Hong Kong, what is on Leung’s agenda?)

The Chief Executive will act functionally as a president analog.

The 1.200 persons Election Committee accounts for less than 0.07 percent of the population of Hong Kong. Yet the Chief Executive assisted by this small-circle will act functionally as a president analog, who will effectively head the government of Hong Kong, and sign bills and budgets passed by the Legislative Council; these are the duties and powers enumerated under the Basic Law (Hong Kong’s constitution).

Originally under British rule, Hong Kong’s sovereignty was restored back in 1997, under the Sino-British Treaty Declaration. The Drafted Basic Law, and determined the capitalist autonomy for Hong Kong for which it was already practicing. Not delineated, however, was when Hong Kong would have legislative elections. On December 7, 2007, the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress (NPCSC) issued a ruling that Hong Kong would be granted universal suffrage in its election for the Chief Executive in 2007. But as these revising

The legitimacy of CY Leung
Leung lacks the support of his people

An article published last Friday on David House’s lawsuit against the government for giving information about a jail he was convicted of in 2006, to the government. The lawsuit was filed on Nov. 3, 2010, as the article stated initially, not in “spring 2006”, as stated later. Another article published on Friday on 2003 Nobel Peace

EDITORIAL

We urge Craighal/Walsh, if they are elected, to incorporate some of the bigger-picture ideas of Tallapragada/Yang, if not invite the other ticket to join their administration directly.

Thinking about what the UA can do beyond its traditional role is great, and it’s part of Tallapragada/Yang’s rationale for why UA outsiders can effectively run the organization. It’s a good question to think about — are UA “outsiders” so stuck in their ways that they can’t see new directions for the organization?

The answer to that question is complicated, but there is an argument to me made, and it’s made better by relying upon to make the UA run smoothly again, push the kind of “small-but-useful” change that the UA has traditionally done (e.g. supermarket shuttles, produce market, W20-SafeRide display), and be open to broader initiatives.

Some may wonder why — if theUA truly is “broken” — voting for long-time UA members would change anything. The truth behind the UA’s problems is more complex, and voters shouldn’t conflate prior UA experience with “being part of the problem.” On the contrary, it’s easy to think of thinking about the UA’s problems and thinking about the UA itself as having already been doing some time.

We urge Craighal/Walsh, if they are elected, to incorporate some of the bigger-picture ideas of Tallapragada/Yang, if not invite the other ticket to join their administration directly.

That’s not to say smaller things aren’t important. We feel that UA candidates should be relied upon to make the UA run smoothly again, push the kind of “small-but-useful” change that the UA has traditionally done (e.g. supermarket shuttles, produce market, W20-SafeRide display), and be open to broader initiatives.

Another article published on Friday on 2003 Nobel Peace

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Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community.

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Tuesday, April 10, 2012

The Tech

1,200 people cannot represent seven million; Hong Kong must have free elections

By Ali Talebinejad

On March 14, 2012, I attended the CIS (Center for International Studies) sponsored book talk by Trita Parsi of MIT [1]. I shall refrain from commenting on his book and instead focus on those interested in the Jan. 23, 2012 Wall Street Journal article by Sohrab Ahmari titled “Take It to Two to Engage” [2]. However I would write about the question I wanted to ask from Abbas Maleki, the discussant at the event, about his past.

To comply with their QA format, I would have introduced myself as a community member and alumnus of MIT (MS, 85 and PhD, 92). I also received my BS from the Mechanic Engineering Department of Shari’at University of Technology in Tehran which is incidentally the same department where Abbas Maleki proudly mentions in the first line of his resume [3] as the place where he has done his BS from 1975 to 1985.

Since 2009 fraudulent presidential elections in Iran, there have been violent crackdowns by the regime against peaceful protestors and dissidents which has resulted in severe human rights violations including deaths of tens of people according to many reliable reports. Consequently last year, U.N. appointed Ahmad-Abbas Maleki as an independent investigator to investigate the human rights abuses at the hands of the Iranian regime after the 2009 election [4]. Unfortunately, Khomeini-Ahmadiinejad regime neither allowed Ahmad-Abbas Maleki to travel to Iran nor responded to any of his questions. Instead, Mohammad-Iraj Lanjani, regime’s so-called “general secretary of high council for human rights” at the 20th UNESCO session in Geneva, denounced Ahmad-Bas Maleki and his report.

Any conscious human being can easily find the behavior of the Iranian (Islamic) Republic of Iran of its people and its agents outrageous. However, in order to understand the depth of the tyranny in this regime and the situation of the people of Iran, it seems odd to me to like take you back to the summer of 1988 when following a decree by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, thousands of political prisoners and protestors which were trying to investigate those killings.

A lasting and just solution for resolving the conflicts with the Iranian Regime

By Ali Talebinejad

These facts are reflected in annual reports of human rights organizations such as the PRC in response to the 1989 Tiananmen events in China and in the 1990’s, Abbas Maleki has continued helping the IR (Islamic Republic of Iran) regime to stay in power by holding key positions including acting as the adviser to Ali Khamenei, the Supreme Leader of Iran [5] and running for the presidency under the IR’s current electoral system [6]. Maleki should be held responsible for the crimes that IR regime has committed against Iranian people and humanity throughout decades that he has collaborated with the regime at very high levels.

Maleki should be held responsible for the crimes that IR regime has committed against Iranians.

Abbas Maleki, while enjoying his fellowship at MIT CIS, has recorded a video at MIT Feb. 14, 2012 with an MIT CIS background [13]. In this video, he is abusing MIT facilities to lobby for the IR regime without expressing his true identity to the MIT community, he indicates that he travels back and forth to Iran freely. He ends his video by giving access to those in this state as if nothing has ever happened and people are going about their lives as usual and then explaining for ending the sanctions against Iran which is the biggest wish of the IR regime.

Despite being in touch with daily life in Iran, Abbas Maleki does not say anything about the recent events and obvious violations of human rights in Iran by the regime. When renowned lawyers such as Nastaran Sotoodeh and Abolfath Soltani are imprisoned for defending their clients’ rights according to the laws of the IR regime, one might imagine what this regime has done and is doing to the rest of its population.

A democracy and a stable government can come to power in Iran sooner if the U.S. and its allies genuinely put Human Rights at the forefront of their foreign policies with regards to dealings with the Iranian regime. A democratic Iran not only can bring peace and justice to its own people and stabilize the region but also can resolve international concerns about Iran and its nuclear issues.

Stephen Kinzer in his well-documented book titled All the Shah’s Men explains that the democratic government of Mossadegh was overthrown by CIA because he had nationalized the Iranian oil. He concludes that restoring Shah to the throne and allowing him to impose a tyranny, ultimately sparked the Islamic Revolution of 1979 which has become the main headache of the U.S. and the world. The U.S. should not make another grand mistake by taking action unjustly against the real interest of the Iranian people again, namely by limiting the US’s freedom of actions and nuclear issues only.

After the 2009 fraudulent presidential elections, an unprecedented number of Iranian people came to the streets to claim their stolen votes while asking for human rights and democracy. Unfortunately, the Obama administration too exceptional opportunity for supporting the cause of the Iranian people who wanted to bring democracy to their homeland by offering a genuine and unconditional voice of support. The Obama administration recognized the presidency of Ahmadinejad to appease the regime in his wishful thinking of not jeopardizing the nuclear negotiations with Iran. This was yet another classic mistake of the U.S. settling for short term interests against the just, vital, and longer lasting benefits of the U.S. and the world, let alone Iran.

To achieve a stable, reliable, and democratic government in Iran, the U.S. must make human rights and democracy the main pillars of its policy towards Iran. Even in the West cannot resolve its nuclear conflicts with Iran, they should continue the current sanctions against the IR regime in order to force the regime to genuinely allow the Iranian people to benefit from the universal norms of human rights so they can establish a democratic government in their country and bring peace and prosperity to the region.

To achieve a stable, reliable, and democratic government in Iran, the US must make Human Rights and Democracy the main pillars of its policy towards Iran.

Aside from the governments, every individual and/or organization can play an important, positive or negative role in the process of achieving democracy in Iran. People such as Larry King and even Charlie Rose decided to invite Ahmadinejad to boost their program rating without being able to effectively questioning him about his government’s vast violations of human rights while Ahmadinejad used their outlets to spread his lies. But we work for the same democratic aspirations such as MIT CIS give position and venue to individuals like Abbas Maleki who should be prosecuted for his key roles in IR regime and his current support of it. And the worst is to learn that Jim Walsh of CIS is so proud of his dealing with IR regime that he plans to give a talk at MIT under the title of “My 5 Dinners with Ahmadinejad.” Such appeasements make the Khamenei-Ahmadiinejad regime to have more illusions than sadly prolonging the suffering of the Iranian people. This tyrannical regime will fall sooner if it and its agents do not receive such political supports from outside.

Abbas Maleki received his MS in 1981 and his PhD in 92

References:

[2] http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/obama-iranian-deal/2012/03/14/gIQGqDNg.png
[9] “I’d V of Iran: a call to action”
[10] “Abbas Maleki, Afl of Iran: a call to action”
[12] “I’d V of Iran: a call to action”
[13] “In the summer of 1988, thousands of political prisoners were massacred by summary executions [5, 6]. These facts are reported and confirmed by numerous reliable sources including Geoffrey Robertson QC [7, 8, 9].
[14] Iran’s regime neither allowed Ahmad-Abbas Maleki to travel to Iran nor responded to any of his questions. Instead, Mohammad-Iraj Lanjani, regime’s so-called “general secretary of high council for human rights” at the 20th UNESCO session in Geneva, denounced Ahmad-Bas Maleki and his report.
[15] A 1,200 people cannot represent seven million; Hong Kong must have free elections

less were not made for this 2012 election, it’s possible the promised revisions for 2017 will focus on the much more numerous, 1,200 will speak for seven million people.

Thus, the situation is seemingly Putin-esc. Elections that are considered fair, or seamless. This article was originally added by the People’s Republic of China (PRC) in response to the 1989 Tiananmen Square student demonstrations. The bill goes on to say that groups banned by the PRC are to be banned in Hong Kong, and for houses to be searched, and for people to be arrested without court evidence or warrants. This is baseless and can cause human rights violations against the Hong Kong people then following to a decree by Khomeini, thousands of political prisoners and protestors which were trying to investigate those killings.

A lasting and just solution for resolving the conflicts with the Iranian Regime

On September 2002, the Hong Kong government proposed Article 23, which allows the Government to “enact laws on its own to prohibit any act of treason, secession, sedition, or subversion.” The article was originally added by the People’s Republic of China (PRC) in response to the 1989 Tiananmen Square student demonstrations. The bill goes on to say that groups banned by the PRC are to be banned in Hong Kong, and for houses to be searched, and for people to be arrested without court evidence or warrants. This is baseless and can cause human rights violations against the Hong Kong people then following to a decree by Khomeini, thousands of political prisoners and protestors which were trying to investigate those killings.

Hong Kong people have a history of safeguarding their rights. This was most obvious in the people’s response to the Tiananmen Square student demonstrations on May 4th, in the days later. A.5 million residents through Hong Kong island in support of the boycott. But Leung does not share such progressions.

Leung, from Page 4

In the summer of 1988, thousands of political prisoners and protestors which were trying to investigate those killings.

With the increasing wealth gap, rising living costs, and growing pressures to remain the “number one city to do business,” Hong Kong is a city that shaped the future of China. Unfortunately, that chief executive is Leung Chun-ying, whose dedication to the Hong Kong people seems weak, and whose popularity among the people seems weaker.

The situation is seemingly Putin-esc.

The people’s prosperous spirit or collective thoughts, as he would consider resurrecting Russia, might be just the place for you!

Are you a font fiend? Do you like making presentations SHINE?

Are you a font fiend? Do you like making presentations SHINE?
Voters, fortunately, have a tough choice this year

Two tickets have what it takes to lead the undergraduate student body

By Ryan Normandin

Editor’s Note: Ryan Normandin is the UA Council representative from MacGregor House, formerly UA Senate.

On the Saturday prior to the UA debate, I had the privilege of interviewing all three tickets running for UA president (UAP) and vice president (UAVP). Let me begin by saying that all three of these tickets were enthusiastic and it was a pleasure to discuss campus issues with them. However, only two of these tickets are qualified enough to be considered for the positions.

Serving in a leadership position does not make one qualified for higher positions; it’s what one does in those roles.

Brendan T. Deveney ’11 and Mary A. Breton ’14 were certainly sincere in their desire to improve undergraduate life, but they lacked a sophisticated understanding of the most pressing issues facing students. They hadn’t heard of MIT 2030, had only a superficial understanding of the roles of UAP/UAVP, and did not have a clear answer to what they thought was the most important issue facing undergraduates. If Deveney and Breton were seriously interested in holding the positions, they would have put in the effort to familiarize themselves with the issues and how they are currently being addressed. This would have given them the opportunity to make a meaningful contribution.

The remaining two tickets are both quite strong, albeit for different reasons. Jonée D. Craighead ’13 and Michael P. Walsh ’13 are the candidates with the most experience working with the UA. Craighead served as speaker of the senate and Nen House senator, and Walsh has experience as chair of the Athletics Committee and fraternities senate. Both were also involved in the restructuring that resulted in the dissolution of the Senate and creation of the UA Council.

However, serving in a position of leadership does not automatically make one qualified for higher positions; it is what one does in those positions that is relevant. As speaker, Craighead presided over some of the longest meetings ever — stretching at the longest to six hours — which was a major factor in the unprecedented number of resignations and motivated beginning the restructuring process (however, roughly two-hour meetings were more typical). This could be either a positive or a negative, depending on how it’s viewed; perhaps the fact that meetings stretched so long under Craighead was indicative of just how badly the Senate needed restructuring. After all, Craighead was just following the rules.

At the same time, the position of speaker could have been used more effectively to limit the length of discussions, encouraging more strongly the use of the mailing list outside of Senate meetings, and even taking a lead in proposing legislation to simply cap the length of Senate meetings. Although Craighead did note many of these things, his inmost involvement in restructuring led to the development of a body that I consider to be inferior to Senate structurally. Whether he should again be put in charge of it is questionable, given the details above.

Naren P. Tallapragada ’13 and Andrew C. Yang ’13 have almost no UA experience, and this is unfortunate. Although the pair insisted in their interview that it was in fact a strength and that they will have new, fresh ideas that would be impossible to come up with for those inside the UA, understanding the vast range of roles and intricacies of the committees, Council, and the rest of the UA are most definitively advantageous.

Another element that the duo is missing — that Craighead and Walsh have — is connections with administrators. This, however, is not as critical, as I believe that the pair is more than capable of rapidly developing such relationships. And despite the lack of UA experience, they do have experience framing and discussing issues. Naren is one of the founding members of the student group “The Forum,” which discusses current events issues, including those taking place at MIT. They stressed during their interview their ability to facilitate discussion, and this was evident as they spoke with them. They excelled at framing the issues, identifying what the key points were, and considering the important questions moving forward.

Between Craighead/Walsh and Tallapragada/Yang, it’s a coin toss.

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However, my fear is that they will be stuck doing just that: facilitating and not taking an active enough role in the position of a leader. When asked questions, the pair often responded with more questions that would need to be considered, rather than giving me a solid position. It was clear that they intended these questions to be answered by information they would gather from students upon election. And while that is certainly a perfectly valid way of running a government, I’m not sure that someone who simply channels the will, or lack thereof, of students is what the UA needs. I would prefer the kind of leader who has solid positions and knows how to accomplish set goals, while also incorporating input from students, is what the UA needs rather than someone to serve purely as a conduit for students’ voices.

What then, besides experience, are the key differences? Both tickets have similar views on the role that the UA Council should play, serving as a managing body and in an advisory capacity. They also have similar views regarding the roles of the president and vice president and the relative importance of issues on campus.

The difference between them is in the scope of their vision and what they hope to accomplish. If Craighead and Walsh are elected, I have no doubt that they will accomplish almost everything on their agenda because all of the goals they set are definitely attainable and they are exceedingly capable individuals. If you vote for them, you know that you will be voting “safety” for a ticket that will do what they said and be successful.

Tallapragada and Yang, on the other hand, have much more of a “big-picture” idea of what the UA should be. They have a passion for helping students and making the UA into what they believe it has the potential to be. Not all their goals are “safe,” while they will certainly accomplish the more standard goals they’ve set (such as Craighead and Walsh!), they are unlikely to do so as well or as thoroughly as their opponents. However, they, more than Craig “safety,” have the potential and the vision to invigorate the UA and the undergraduate student body and to truly, create a culture shift in how undergraduate life is experienced. Yet this possibility is far from assured, and voting for them on this basis is risky — if they fail in the big vision area, they will be inferior to Craighead and Walsh in the others. But if they succeed in that area, then they will be exactly what the UA needs to have a truly transformative year.

I approached this column with a mind to endorse one of the tickets. By endorsing a ticket, I would back 100 percent the ability of the group “Craighead/Walsh and Tallapragada/Yang, it is a coin toss, a decision between the safe bet and the one that could either be a flop or a huge success. This is not a problem; rather, it is wonderful that there are two very capable tickets running this year. I would be excited to work with either pair, and I ask that every student reading this votes this week. The UA is an essential vehicle in its own right, and whoever wins will have a heavy burden to bear, yet we need every one of you to decide who is best-suited to bear that burden and turn the UA into what you believe it should be.
Fun
Fun Fun
Fun Fun Fun Fun
Fun Fun Fun Fun
Fun Fun Fun Fun
Fun Fun Fun Fun
Why are you so stubborn??
Maybe I am just right.

Help Desk by Michael Benitez

Day 1:
Discovery that eating in lecture keeps one from falling asleep.

Day 2:
Discovery of correlation between staying awake in lecture and better grades.

Day 3:
Realization that junk food is much less expensive than healthy snacks.

Day 4:
Strategy implementation.

Day 5:
Profit?

Quiz 1

A WEBcomic of Romance, Sarcasm, Math, and Language
by Randall Munroe

[1039] Rubisco

Ribulose bisphosphate carboxylase oxygenase!

A WEEKLY PICTURE COMIC

OH, SORRY!

MAN, CHEMISTS PICK THE WORST SAFETY WORDS

Saturday Stumper by Lester Ruff

Solution, page 18

ACROSS

1 Product promotion package
8 Not a lost cause
15 Demon
16 Printing
17 Not easily let go
18 Let
19 Most fundamental
20 Commuter reading
21 Cable operator’s offering
23 Aromatherapy supply
25 Refinement candidate
26 Major span
27 Just as expected
28 Jolly Roger hand
29 Acutely uncertain
32 Harangues
34 Point of decline
35 "Make friends of your enemies": Pythagoras
36 In a sense?
40 Celebrated Carnaval, maybe
44 Major spans
45 Goes

DOWN

47 Early six-century date
48 Rev lap
49 Results of some substitutions
52 Baltimore Ravens mascot
53 Rest
54 Concert venue
55 They’re hidden in some L.A. buildings
57 Patriotic on the move
59 Overly sweet stuff
60 Trendy toward the unusual
61 Bowling-center fixtures
62 Turns mild

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40 Celebrated Carnaval, maybe
Sudoku
Solution, page 18

\[
\begin{array}{cccc}
9 & 4 & 6 & 3 \\
6 & 4 & 3 & 5 \\
8 & 1 & 9 & 5 \\
2 & 5 & & \\
7 & 3 & 9 & 1 \\
2 & 9 & 7 & 1 \\
4 & & & 1 \\
7 & 9 & 1 & 2 \\
\end{array}
\]

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.

Techdoku
Solution, page 18

\[
\begin{array}{cccc}
48x & 6x & & 5 \\
4 & & 6+ & 60x \\
150x & & & \\
24x & 6x & 6 \\
& 12+ & 2x & \\
1 & & 120x \\
\end{array}
\]

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.

We get you the tickets.
You get us the review.

ARTS at
events • movies • theater • concerts
music • books • restaurants • interviews
join@the-tech.mit.edu
It's not you, it's a disease

Professional help can alleviate the weight of depression

By Grace Taylor

We MIT kids are a messed up bunch. Almost, like, I can't even have conversations with my friends about real stuff without them saying that we are so weird or messed up or less messed up than anyone else in a small, claustrophobic, bubble. Over the last three and a half years, I've met a lot of people who are having a really rough time, but just by no feasible way to improve their images. I'm not talking about your run-of-the-mill, overworked MIT students; I'm talking about people who are struggling with life and the large amount of anxiety, depression, and feeling sad. I don't mean to sound like I have some sort of superpower, but it's safe to say that there's a silence of MIT students who are dealing with anxiety or depression but not addressing it. I know a few people who listen, but when friends approach me about how horrible they've been feeling today and every day in their recent memory. I end up telling them to go to Mental Health (or the Yellow Pages) and to seek psychotherapy or psychopharmacology instead of just talking to them. They rarely heed my advice, but I think it's probably just a problem. I'm not entirely sure why. I've been living with depression since I can remember. It's something that you have to learn how to manage on your own, and to the average person's perception of mental illness, it seems like a problem that can be solved with a quick fix. I want to tell you the story of how I became such a big fan of mental health treatment.

Story time! I was a small, cute, little kid. I was relatively smart and very, very, very, very shy. I had no friends and was losing weight. I was one of the cause of these feelings, or refusing to get out of bed in the morning. I had no percept that there was something wrong, or even depression in my family. Yet it took three years, two psychiatrists, and a joy of depression in order to come to the realization that there might be a serious problem with me.

Finally, I was prescribed Prozac. At the time, I thought that the idea of me on Prozac was ridiculous. My fourteen-year-old worldview indicated that drugs were for sick people, and that I was just bad at being a normal, happy kid. My first few weeks on Prozac were like a prolonged version of that scene in the 2002 Spiderman movie where Tobey Maguire wakes up, and instead of being a skinny, weak nerd, he's buff and can fly through the skyscraper canopy of Manhattan. For the first time ever, I felt like life was a pretty good time. The pervasive feelings of sadness, anxiety, and fear that had plagued my life subsided almost completely. Besides the actual relief of my symptoms, I felt incredibly relieved by the fact that my symptoms could be relieved. It's not me. It's a disease. It's treatable. Feeling horrible is not an inherent quality of my character... I'm not the mostinitiaI Spiderman moment, but things will never be as bad as it was for those first four years, because now I know I have the ability to get better. That's what depression is for me. I'm talking about it because I managed to stumble around totally handicapped by it for two-thirds of my life, even though I'm a pretty smart and informed person in an environment of smart and informed people. When you're trying to assess something as fundamental as your mood, it can be like trying to hold a herring without dipping it into the pot if the water slowly increases in temperature. You're used to it. You don't know it's bad or think to change it.

MIT students by and large are not particularly invested in taking care of themselves. We're not waking up every morning and thinking about what we can do to feel good today, we're thinking about how to get through whatever mountain of work we have before us. You don't have to be a textbook depressive to be someone who would benefit from being more mindful of his or her mental health. I'm still in therapy (I figure I have to always be)... and even, times, even if I've been feeling completely fine, it's really good to spend fifteen minutes thinking and talking about how things are going.

Supportive friends are incredible, but no friend in the world could have changed my life the way that good therapy and good medication did. The people who have helped me have PhDs and MDs and only one purpose: to get me mentally healthy. That isn't possible within a friendship. Talking with friends is enough for some people, but I need the big guns.

I hope you have a good day. For real.
Ten years of Anime Boston!

By Jessica J. Pourian

Students and passersby taking the T this past weekend were likely baffled by the high number of folks in strange costumes; they were here due to the arrival of two conventions in town. Cosplayers flocked to Boylston for Anime Boston, and to south Boston for the Penny Arcade Expo (PAX). I split my time between the two cons, though I spent considerably less time at Anime Boston than PAX — I was there only for Saturday morning. This is Anime Boston’s fifth year since its inception in 2008, when it was created by the New England Anime Society Inc.

I’m not quite sure how this scheduling conflict arose, but its effect was obvious in the convention hall. It felt like there were less people at Anime Boston than last year, though that might just be the effect of jumping from the behemoth Boston Convention and Exhibition Center where PAX was held to the considerably smaller Hynes Convention Center. It also seemed as if there were fewer events than in previous years at Anime Boston.

“You could definitely feel the effects of Anime Boston and PAX East being the same weekend,” said Todd Tsui ’14. “Anime Boston had fewer, lower quality panels than last year. I really hope the two cons don’t end up on the same weekend next year.”

Despite the seeming drop in attendance, Anime Boston still had a strong showing of cosplayers, and a solid artists’ corner (known as “Artists’ Alley”) where local and national artists could sell their art to excited fans. The fan art varied from crocheted Pokémon to prints of reimagined video game characters and watercolor portraits of popular anime characters. Fans looking to spend money could buy local at the Artists’ Alley or go to the dealer room, which had hundreds of vendors peddling everything anime, from posters and figurines to DVDs and stickers.

Jennifer T. Fu ’11 was in the Artists’ Alley selling some of her artwork, which ranged from prints and buttons to iPad decals and dojinshi (fan comics). “I started [selling work at conventions] when I was 15, and I’m 22 now,” she said, “I’ve been doing Anime Boston since I was a freshman, so this is my fifth year.”

“I like interacting with people,” she explained. “They are generally really nice. … I can leave the table unattended and people won’t steal anything. They are generally really nice. … I can leave the table unattended and people won’t steal anything.”

It’s also fun to do this, she said, because this way she “is able to find people for the more niche anime I’m into. If I find one person, that makes it worth it to me.”

Rui Wang ’15 was at the table with Fu, selling her homemade plushies. She “had a lot of fun people watching” and talking to vendors at adjacent tables, she said.

“The main reason I go to these conventions is to see what other people do,” she elaborated, “you see some really amazing things.”

Lessons Learned at the Anime Boston Formal Ball

• Incorrect dosages of sleep, food, and Viennese Waltz may result in extreme dizziness, nausea, loss of equilibrium, and mild hysterical laughter.

• Do not attempt the rumba without absolute confidence in the integrity of your hips.

• Try to reach the venue early, lest you find yourself trapped at midday in a Green Line subway car that smells distinctively of nerd.

• Just because you’re dancing the tango doesn’t mean you have to wear a “seductive death glare.” It’s unsettling for your partner and painful for your face.

• You’re not afraid to cover your lack of dance moves with petite small talk, costume compliments, and apologies.

—Michael T. Lin

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“You could definitely feel the effects of Anime Boston and PAX East being the same weekend,” said Ben Wang ’14. “You could definitely feel the effects of Anime Boston and PAX East being the same weekend,” said Ben Wang ’14. "I follow several entrants year-round online, so it’s exciting to see which one of their videos end up winning,” said Jennifer Wang ’14.

Next year, the conflict between the two cons shouldn’t be an issue — Anime Boston will take place on May 24 – 26, while PAX will be on March 22 – 24. Check out The Tech this Friday for our PAX East coverage!

The Artists’ Alley is often a good indicator of what shows are popular at the moment. The number of My Little Pony merchandise made it seem like the series has stayed strong this year, and Pokémon remains a fan favorite 16 years later. A number of people were also dressed up at characters from Homestuck, an online adventure game.

The Penny Arcade Expo is the nerd convention that seems to grow every year. The dealer room was the same huge hall as before, but there was definitely a bigger presence of vendors this year. People were everywhere, from the floor to the ceiling, and it seemed like they were buying all the time.

The formal ball was slightly smaller than in previous years, though that might just be the effect of jump-
Institute Double Take

This was taken at Legal Seafood at sunset. I nearly missed the reflection the first time around. The lack of warm colors in the sky provides a nice contrast to the incandescent lighting of the fish. At first, I thought the wind would ruin the long exposure picture, but instead the shaking of the trees just made the photo more surreal.

Focal Length: 18mm
Sensitivity: ISO 200
Aperture: f/22.0

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REVISITING PORT HURON

Tom Hayden
Cofounder of Students for a Democratic Society, political activist, politicians, and author, his new release book is The Long Strides: From FDR to Barack Obama.

Noam Chomsky
Professor of Linguistics at MIT (emeritus), he has written and lectured widely on linguistics, intellectual history, contemporary issues, and U.S. foreign policy.

Wednesday, April II  7:00pm
Wong Auditorium, MIT E51 Tang Center, 70 Memorial Dr

cosponsored by
Boston Review, MIT Political Science Department and CIS Starr Forum

Students for a Democratic Society

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WE’RE SEEKING TO BUILD OUR FORCES
JOIN@TECH/MIT.EDU

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Institute Double Take

Focal Length: 18mm
Sensitivity: ISO 200
Aperture: f/22.0
ASIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION’S 14TH ANNUAL
GRAINS OF RICE
FEATURING VICTOR KIM

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Low-income students pay same self-help as others

Increases in tuition and self-help level appear uncorrelated with MIT’s admission yield

Tuition, from Page 1

offsets almost all of that $6,000. Approximately 20 percent of undergraduates received Pell Grants this academic year, and the average per recipient is $4,191, according to statistics given by Hicks.

When explaining the move from the two-tier to the one-tier self-help system, Daniel Hastings, Dean of Undergraduate Education, said that they didn’t want to raise the higher tier to more than $6,000. "I guess the decision was just to make it simpler. We actually know that from survey data when we talk to parents: having a simpler system to explain actually does help," said Hastings.

Hicks said this two-tier system came into place only recently in 2006. Self-help level was a lot higher before that, based on the expectation that people going into science and engineering careers can afford to borrow more, but it had been decreasing since 1998. Amidst the economic downturn in 2008, however, this steady decrease was considered unsustainable, and a decision was made in 2009 to move back towards an one-tier system.

"MIT made conscious efforts to bring self-help down and in particular tried to, in response to some of our peers, create a two-tier system, so we can have a very low self-help for the lower tier with the hope that maybe you can get the self-help lower for all tiers," said Hicks. "It became clear that not only could we not lower self-help for everyone, which our peers have done, but we’d also have to reverse the decision about the two tiers. But in reversing that decision, we left into place another enhancement we had put in, and that is to use the Pell Grant as a mitigating factor."

According to Hastings, the self-help level was around $8,000 in 2000. "$6,000 is a self-help level that we feel students in general can accomplish through a combination of work and loans. It’s not, we feel, an excessive self-help," said Hastings.

"They decided it was appropriate to ask students to do more. And again, it wasn’t done lightly; it was done in concert with the Committee on Undergraduate Admission and Financial Aid, with input from students, faculty and administrators, and the senior leaders of the institute, and finally the Corporation. And the Corporation includes members of MIT who went to MIT years ago when they were asking students to do far more," said Hicks.

Stuart Schmill, Dean of Undergraduate Education, does not think the increase in self-help level will have a huge impact on student choices of whether or not to go to MIT.

"There’s a very small handful of schools that have lower self-help level, such as Yale, Harvard, and Princeton. So will students choose where they want to go based on [self-help]? Well I hope they will choose a college based on where they think a better fit for them is, with the understanding that, yeah, there’s a small difference in the self-help level now, which I can appreciate being a burden, but that once they graduate and move on will not make a difference," said Schmill.

"In comparative studies we engaged in with peers, the average income of our financial aid recipients is slightly lower than other schools, such as Harvard, Princeton, Stanford, and Yale," said Hicks.

Despite the stemmed growth in financial aid budget and an increase in self-help level last year, the percentage of admits who eventually chose to go to MIT — i.e. MIT’s yield — went up from 63.8 to 64.6 percent last year, according to Schmill.
Science is curved, soft, and elastic; silicon wafers are not. Semiconductor technologies that bridge this gap in form and mechanics will create new opportunities in devices that adopt biologically inspired designs or require intimate integration with the human body. This talk describes the development of electronics that offer the performance of state-of-the-art, wafer-based systems with the mechanical properties of a rubber band, explains the underlying principles in materials science and mechanics that enable these outcomes, and illustrates their use in bio-integrated, tissue-like electronics with unique capabilities in mapping neural activity on the brain and monitoring physiological status through the skin. Demonstrations in humans and live animal models illustrate the functionality offered by these technologies, and suggest several clinically relevant applications.

The Wulff Lecture is an introductory, general-audience, entertaining lecture which serves to educate, inspire, and encourage MIT undergraduates to take up study in the field of materials science and engineering and related fields. The entire MIT community, particularly freshmen, is invited to attend. The Wulff Lecture honors the late Professor John Wulff, a skilled, provocative, and entertaining teacher who inaugurated a new approach to teaching the popular freshman subject: 3.091 Introduction to Solid State Chemistry.
MIT postdoc arrested in Colorado in sex sting
Yaron Segal arrested by undercover agent, was deemed flight risk and denied bail

By Anne Cai
News editor

MIT mechanical engineering postdoc Yaron Segal, 30, was arrested on March 28 for allegedly arranging a sexual encounter with what he thought was a mother and her two underage children.

Segal, who is originally from Israel and received his PhD in physics from Yale last year, flew to Grand Junction, Colorado from Cambridge, Mass. for the meeting and was instead arrested by federal authorities. According to the criminal complaint of USA v. Segal, he was charged for willfully traveling “for the purpose of engaging in a sexual act with an individual under the age of 16 years old and … with an individual less than 12 years old.”

On March 29, Assistant Professor Tonio Buonassisi in the Department of Mechanical Engineering submitted a letter from his perspective as the principal investigator (PI) of MIT’s Photovoltaics Research Laboratory (PVLab), in which Segal worked. Buonassisi described Segal as a “productive” postdoc who “is a leader within [his] research group, closely mentoring five graduate students” and “[engages] in projects for communal benefit.” Despite this account, last Wednesday, Segal was denied bail and remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshal, with the court determining that he was a flight risk and that “there are no conditions of release that can be imposed, which would assure [Segal’s] continued appearance before the court.” According to the criminal information sheet associated with the case, Segal could face a maximum 30 years of imprisonment and/or a maximum $250,000 fine if convicted.

The mother was in fact undercover Special Agent Vanessa Hipps of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigation. Hipps stated in the affidavit that beginning on Feb. 2, Segal had been corresponding with her undercover persona by chat, email, and phone. She discovered in mid-March via Microsoft Online Services that the email address Segal had provided was opened in New Haven, Connecticut, and was in use in Cambridge, Mass. Hipps soon confirmed Segal’s identity, and they arranged to meet after he purchased flight tickets to Grand Junction.

The Tech
Coop Student Board of Directors

Election Update

The following student Coop members are candidates for the Board of Directors for the 2012-2013 academic year.

MIT Undergraduate Students:
- Joshua Dunaway, 2014
- Paige Finklestein, 2014
- Emma Kane, 2015

MIT Graduate Students:
- Ellie Bertani, MBA, Sloan/MPA, HKS, 2013
- Samuel Shaner, PhD, 2015

Harvard Undergraduate Students:
- Cody Dean, 2014
- Hilary Higgins, 2015
- Joshua Zhang, 2014

Harvard Graduate Students:
- Christina Adams, MBA, 2013
- Oliver Hauser, PhD, 2013
- Mathew Morgan, MPP, 2013
- May Lam, MBA, 2013
- Allison Trzop, JD, 2013

Voting Deadline is April 26

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EDUCATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN INDIA

SPEAKER:
Ashish Rajpal
Founder & CEO, iDiscoveri

Wednesday, April 11 | 5:30 pm
MIT Sloan School, E62-276

FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

http://legatum.mit.edu/lectures
UA presidential candidates debate various issues
Debate in student center hits on matters that future UA leadership will have to consider

The UA is not here to fight the world leader, "explained Craighead. "Your opinions are equal to those of our counterparts, and they advise confirming the in-

The next president will have the opportunity to impact campus over the next decade, in terms of admin-

Craighead/Walsh emphasized the need for compromise, stating that student leaders cannot go into meetings with administrators, saying that those are the people who are ultimately deal-

Deveney/Breton countered with a UA-outsider perspective from Page 1 of the UA newsletter.

"We feel like there are a lot of open questions," said Craighead. "A number of recommendations were relegated to further study."

Craighead called the recommendation that students be charged for housing over orientation and during FPOPs "questionable," saying that they would talk with administrators about whether other options exist.

Deveney/Breton also saw an opportunity for the new president to further the mission and culture of MIT through recent projects like MITx, Panthe- loric Association (Panhel), and Dormitory Council (DormCon) to make sure "nothing valuable is lost."

Tallapragada/Yang also objected to the orientation housing fee, and they expressed concern with the recommendation to decouple the adjustment lottery process from REX (residential exploration). Yang urged investigating whether financial aid would be available for fresh-
men wishing to participate in FPOPs but simply cannot afford it.

"Cutting CityDays and postpon-

"There’s a disconnect between the people who give you help, and the people who are ultimately deal-
ing with you on a daily basis," said Tallapragada.

Deveney/Breton reminded the audience that the recommendations "leave a lot of things unchanged," and they advised confirming the in-
tent to go forward with changes be-

"Cutting CityDays and postpone-

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Course 2-A curriculum sees major changes

The Department of Mechani-
cal Engineering (Course 2) is mak-
ing major changes to its 2-A pro-
gram, which will take effect for the Class of 2016. A pilot program for current freshmen who choose to opt in will take place in Fall 2012.

Course 2-A is a modified, more flexible version of the traditional Course 2 track; in 2-A, students declare 72-unit concentrations in a related engineering discipline of their own choice — for exam-
ple, biomedical engineering or product development. In the tra-
ditional Course 2 track, students have more required departmen-
tal core subjects in place of the concentration.

The most significant change for the new 2-A program is that nearly every 2.06x class — with the exception of 2.009 (Product En-
ingineering Process) — will have a 2.0x analog, designed specifically for the 2-A curriculum.

Each 2.0x class will be six units. Some like 2.00 (Introduction to Design) will be taught for an en-
tire semester, while the majority will run for half a semester, to be taken sequentially. For example, a student would take 2.06 (Elements of Structures) for the first quarter and then take either 2.06B (Me-
chanics of Materials: Properties and Applications) or 2.06B (Me-
chanics of Structures) the second quarter.

The program will also require a 12-unit “Engineering Mathematic-
s” class on linear algebra and ordinary differential equations, as well as a six-unit probability and statistics class. These classes will replace 18.03 (Differential Equa-
tions), which will no longer be required. As in the old 2-A cur-
riculum, a concentration will still require 72 units.

Brandy Baker, the Course 2 undergraduate academic admin-
istrator, said that these changes came about because of growing enrollment in the 2-A program, as well as a desire to better meet the needs of 2-A students.

Every 2.00x class will have a 2.0x analog, designed specifically for the 2-A curriculum.

“In the past, especially since we became accredited, 2-A has seen a large increase in enrollment — about 40–45 percent of Course 2 is 2-A,” said Baker. “When the fac-
ulty reviewed the curriculum, the department realized there were enough students that we could design a curriculum specifically for 2-A. We’ve introduced six-unit classes to make the curriculum more modular, and we’ve added new classes to fulfill needs that students have been asking about for a long time, such as 2.678 (Elec-
tronics for Mechanical Systems).”

Current freshmen who plan to declare Course 2-A will have the option to participate in the new 2-A pilot program or stay with the present 2-A curriculum, as part of a transition plan. Eight new class-

es for the new 2-A curriculum will be offered in the fall.

The department will be hold-


ing an info session today at noon in 1-390. Two more info sessions will follow on April 20 during CPW and on April 24.

—Deborah Chen
Undergraduates!

You’re invited to the

Course 15 Open House

Friday, April 13th
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By Zach Hynes

Starts Ter M. Swanson '12 pitched a masterful, complete-game shutout as the Engineers dispatched the Springfield College Pride, 10-0, in the first game of Saturday’s doubleheader at MIT. Given plenty of base-runners due to the erratic pitching of Springfield starter Greg Mursako-vits, the Engineers seized every opportunity in building an early lead for Swanson. Leading 2-0 headed into the bottom of the third inning, the Engineers combined two hits with three walks and a hit batsmen to produce four runs, advancing runners on both wild pitches thrown during the inning. Swanson’s perfect effort was finally broken up when Pride catcher Matt Milano doubled in the bottom of the fifth. With two outs in the top of the seventh and a 10-0 lead, Swanson nearly lost the shut-out when Milano hit a hard shot down the right field line with designated hitter Karl Quist on first base. However, the ball was ruled out of play and Milano was held to a double. Swanson shut the door on Springfield and preserved the shut out with his third strikeout of the day.

The Engineers dispatched the Springfield College Pride, 10-0, on Saturday.

In the ensuing ninth-inning contest, MIT starter Scott M. Hendrix '12 picked up where Swanson had left off in the first game, keeping the Pride hitless through the first three innings. However, the Springfield pitchers answered the challenge in the second game. Starter Alex Williams turned in a remarkable, seven-inning effort, scattering four hits over seven innings of work and, most crucially, giving up no walks to the Engineers’ patient offense. Facing a 1-0 deficit in the eighth with Williams out of the game, the Engineers went to work against reliever Casey Zysk. With Adam J. Harnsbaugh '12 on third, Reid Bishop doubled in the tying run. Zysk limited the damage for Springfield, however, as Bishop was caught in a rundown on the ensuing at-bat. A sacrifice fly in the top of the ninth inning from Springfield’s Milano brought in the eventual game-winning run for the Pride. Zysk preserved the 2-1 lead in the ninth for the win.

The Engineers now stand at 3-9 in conference play heading into an important stretch of games before the NEWMAC tournament at the end of April. After a matchup with Endicott College on Monday, the Engineers will prepare for a crucial home-and-away series against conference foe Clark University next weekend.

Women’s Lacrosse faces off against Southern Maine, 14-10

In a monsoon win on Saturday at the University of Southern Maine, the Engineers’ season stood on the line. After just as MIT began to feel safe, however, the Huskies scored two straight, bringing the game to 10-15. Yet, MIT responded by creating the largest lead of the game, 13-5, with goals from Lyndy A. Muri ’15 and Funcking and a free position shot from Wright. Southern Maine answered the Engineers with another goal, but McShane’s free position shot kept the Engineers well ahead. However, the Huskies suddenly energized and put out a 4-0 lead, ending the game at 14-10 (Engineers).

Wacker sought out Kauf- man again to score a goal in the beginning of the second half. Just as MIT began to feel safe, however, the Huskies scored two straight, bringing the game to 10-15. Yet, MIT responded by creating the largest lead of the game, 13-5, with goals from Lyndy A. Muri ’15 and Funcking and a free position shot from Wright. Southern Maine answered the Engineers with another goal, but McShane’s free position shot kept the Engineers well ahead. However, the Huskies suddenly energized and put out a 4-0 lead, ending the game at 14-10 (Engineers).

Kaufmann’s impressive three draw controls, along with Mc- Shane’s four draw controls and four groundballs in addition to Wacker’s four draw controls characterized the strength of this game. MIT also excelled defensively with 15 saves bygoal keeper Sarah E. Ritter ’14. "The Engineers will next play Wellesley College at 4:30 P.M."

—— Katie Bodner, Associate Sports Editor

Men’s Volleyball dominates at weekend tournament

The nationally ranked MIT Varsity Men’s Volleyball Team won all four matches this past weekend, completing their own scramble tournament and pushing their overall record to 25-8 on the year.

The Engineers first took on Bard College winning 3-0, before an epic battle against nationally ranked Middle- above. After winning the first two sets by good margins, MIT’s only set loss came in the third set as momentum as Medallie rallied back to win the next two sets ty- ing the match. The third set was a back and forth affair with MIT finally coming out on top 16-14 to win the match 3-2. It was more of the same on Saturday, except this time the Engineers found themselves down zero sets to two against Philadelphia Biblical College. This was the same team that ended MIT’s season last year during the second round of the NEVCVA Post-Season Tournament. This year, however, MIT would not be denied as they clawed their way back into the match, winning the next two sets and even denying their opponents when facing match point in the fourth set. The deciding fifth set, MIT took complete control winning 15-3 to complete the comeback and win the match 3-2. The final match of the tournament saw the Engineers handle Southern Vermont College 3-0 to finish the tournament with a 4-0 record. For their strong play over the weekend, Malcolm K. Bean G and Matt Holtenberger ’13 were named to the All-Tournament Team. On Tuesday, April 10, MIT will face New Utrecht College in Rockwell Cage at 7 p.m.

—— Paul Dill, Team Representative

SPOTLIGHT ON SPORTS

Baseball beats Springfield

Engineers deliver a shutout in doubleheader

Andrew Z. Sommer ’13 and Stephanie Tong ’12 of the MIT sailing team face off against Tiffany Huang—The Tech engineer delivered a shutout in doubleheader.

The first half came to a close at 5-1. Once more the Huskies attempted to come back with another goal; however, MIT’s huge 4-0 run solidified their lead, ending the game at 14-10. However, the Huskies suddenly energized and put out a 4-0 lead, ending the game at 14-10 (Engineers).

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