Grant funds threatened by sequester
Institute predicts lower research, exploring financial alternatives

By Austin Hess
NEWS EDITOR

With over 70 percent of MIT’s yearly research funding coming from the federal government, the federal budget sequester will have a significant impact on research at the Institute.

The sequester, a set of across-the-board cuts on certain defense and non-defense spending categories, was meant as an unwanted consequence to encourage Congress to make a budget deal to prevent it. Since Congress failed to make a deal, the cuts began March 1.

Yesterday, Stand With Science and Global Education and Career Development hosted a panel to discuss the effect of the federal budget sequester on science research at MIT. The panelists included Maria T. Zuber, MIT’s Vice President for Research, William B. Bonvillian, Director of the MIT Washington Office, and Samuel D. Britton G, MIT student and Executive Director of Stand With Science, who helped moderate the discussion.

According to Bonvillian, Barack Obama’s FY14 budget proposal, made in April, would end the sequester, but he said it is unlikely to be approved by Congress.

Zuber said that Defense R&D will be cut by 7.3 percent, while non-defense R&D will be cut by 5.1 percent, though the National Science Foundation will only experience a 2.1 percent cut.

She said that agencies are still deciding an implementation strategy since many did not plan for how to deal with the cuts, expecting the sequester to not take place. “The lack of guidance from above is causing frustration among some faculty,” said Zuber.

Less funding for research

Zuber predicted a “decrease in the research volume on campus of about 3 to 4 percent” due to the sequester. The federal government provided $473 million in funds for research on MIT in FY14.

Harder hit, Zuber said, would be MIT’s Lincoln Laboratory, which received $844 million in sequester funds.

Sequester, Page 11

Course 18 moving Temporarily relocating to E17, E18

By Anthony Yu
STAFF REPORTER

Handing out math problem sets may now require more exercise. In late June or early July, the entire Department of Mathematics will be moving to E17 and E18 as their current space in Building 2 undergoes a significant renovation.

Undergraduate math majors have already experienced the effects of the construction, with their undergraduate lounge moved to the Compton Room, opposite 2-100, this past January. For the duration of the construction, the lounge will remain in the Compton Room. As for the rest of the department, all faculty, staff, and graduate student offices will be moved to the new “swing space” in E17 and E18, which will be shared with the Department of Economics, whose space in E12 is also being renovated.

Consequently, some recitations and professor office hours will be farther away from main campus. “I guess (the move) is inevitable. I guess I can just take the Tech Shuttle to Ames Street and walk there now. Being able to stop for food truck food is a plus” said Jennifer F. Wu ’18, an undergraduate mathematics student.

One benefit of the new location is the close proximity to restaurants in Kendall Square, where students may choose to congregate instead. “There might be a cultural shift in the department for the next couple years,” said Department Head Michael Sipser. “Graduate students will experience the greatest improvement in office space after the renovation, temporarily trading right office spaces for cubicles.”

The 10 classrooms currently under construction are expected to be completed by late June or early July.

Math moves, Page 9

Survey: Students, though stressed, are glad to be at MIT

Results from the Student Quality of Life Survey are now available online. In early March 2013, Chancellor Eric Grimson Ph.D. ’80 invited all students enrolled at MIT to participate. Over 54 percent of the graduate and undergraduate population responded to at least part of the survey before it closed on April 1, 2013.

90 percent of respondents reported being somewhat or very satisfied with being a student at MIT, and almost 82 percent said they would choose to come to MIT if they could decide all over again.

Students were also asked to describe the atmosphere at MIT across 13 dimensions. For each dimension, the survey provided a pair of words and students ranked MIT’s climate on a six point scale. For most word pairings, students were more likely to select positive words over negative words, such as “Exhilarating” over “Boring,” and “Friendly” over “Hostile.” However students were also much more likely to select “Stressful” over “Calm”—47 percent of students chose 1, 2, or 3, on a scale of Stressful(1) to Calm(6).

When asked how many of the past seven days students got enough sleep, 34 percent of graduate students and 42 percent of undergraduates reported that they felt well-rested fewer than three days per week. Nearly 58 percent of all respondents said they felt exhausted (not as a result of illness) at least part of the time.

“Tie breakers are important skill of all researchers,” said Kari B. Lounsbury, High School Mathematics at the University of Vermont.

---Stephanie Holden

Number of days per week MIT students get enough sleep to
wake up feeling rested

JOIN THE TECH!
Interested in reporting or writing reviews? Making interactive? Taking photos? Design and layouts? There’s a place for you at The Tech!

WORLDVIEWS: ASK A-THEIST
Is there an absolute right or wrong?
CAMPUS LIFE, p. 8

THE TECH’S NBA PREDICTIONS
Miami Heat expected to advance to Round 3. SPORTS, p. 12

INSPIRASING SPRING SHOWCASE
Asian dance groups perform in this year’s spring showcase on Sunday. PHOTO, p. 7

THE SECRET LIVES OF RESEARCHERS
Getting better at the important skill of asking questions.
CAMPUS LIFE, p. 8

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WEATHER, p. 2
TUES: 63°/47° Partly sunny.
WED: 67°/51° Showers.
THURS: 67°/54° Showers.

Volume 133, Number 24
Tuesday, May 7, 2013
Slowdown in rise of health care costs may persist

By Annie Lowrey
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — One of the economic mysteries of the last few years has been the bigger-than-expected slowdown in health spending, a trend that promises to bolster wages and help close the wide fed-

eral deficit over the long term — but only if it persists.

Major new studies from research-

ers at Harvard University, the Henry 

Kaiser Family Foundation, and elsewhere have concluded that at least some of the slowdown is unre-
solved to the recession, and might per-
sist as the economy comes back.

D. Cutler, the Harvard health econo-
mist and former Obama adviser, es-
imates that, given the dynamics of the slowdown, economists might be overestimating public health spend-
ing over the next decade by as much as $770 billion.

Between 2009 and 2011, total health spending grew at the lowest annual pace in the last five decades, at just 3.9 percent a year, although rising out-of-pocket costs have hit millions of families. In contrast, be-
tween 2000 and 2007, those annual growth figures ranged between 6.2 and 7.9 percent, according to govern-
ment figures. Data from the Asthma 

Institute, a nonprofit research orga-
nization in Ann Arbor, Mich., sug-
gests that the low pace of growth has continued to 2012 and early 2013.

The studies — including some re-

leased Monday in the journal Health 

Affairs — shed new light on the com-
mix of factors that have led to the flattening-out. One of the main reasons for the concord that the deep recession and sluggish recovery are the main reasons for slowing growth in spending. During the recession, millions of Americans lost their jobs, and thus their insurance coverage; millions more struggling families were reluctant to see a physician or undergo a procedure. But the slow-

down in health costs proved steeper than forecast. It also occurred in populations whose health spend-
ing was mostly shielded from the economic shoes, like Medicare patients.

That led economists to surmise that other factors were at play. In new research, the Kaiser Family Founda-
tion estimated that the recession ac-
counted for about three-quarters of the lower spending trajectory, with the rest attributed to other factors not directly related to the economy. Cutler of Harvard calculates that the recession accounted for about 35 percent.

Among other factors, the stud-
ies found that rising out-of-pocket payments had played a major role in the decline. The proportion of workers with employer-sponsored health insurance enrolled in a plan that required a deductible climbed to about three-quarters in 2012 from about half in 2007, the Kaiser Fam-
ily Foundation has found. Moreover, those deductibles — the amount a person needs to pay before insur-
ance steps in to cover claims — have risen sharply. That exposes workers to a larger share of their own health costs, and generally forces them to spend less.

Still, while economists have cheered the flattening in health spending, families have assumed more and more of the health care burden.

Iran warns Syrian rebels after report of shrine desecration

By Thomas Erdbrink and Henia Mourad
FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran’s Shiite leaders warned regional.secular

ic parties that a Syrian Rebel claimed responsibility for the desecration of the shrine. The heroes of the Free Syrian Army

sion. The Free Syrian Army is also a popular pilgrimage site be-

The shrine of the revered Shi-

the Islam Brigade of the Free

rallah, the leader of Hezbollah, the

morning to the heroes of the Free Syrian Army. "Stop, stop the exhuming of

front claimed responsibility for

as a former colonizer for "sowing

Iran’s supreme leader, Ayatol-

hanging a figure between

ary, Iran’s Shiite rebels said a Shi’ite shrine in a suburb of Damascus last week, destroying the site and making off with the remains of the revered Shi’ite figure. It was impossible to indepen-

ently verify the report, which appeared on a Facebook page on April 28, through the course of the civil war, the Syrian government and the rebel opposition have proven adept at manipulating the media to implicate each other in atrocities, trading accusations that cannot be substantiated.

The shrine of the revered Shi’t

front claimed responsibility for

“death to Israel,” while pro-gov-

eral deficit over the long term — but

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wages and help close the wide fed-

eral deficit over the long term — but

only if it persists.

Europe rules against patent play by Google's Motorola unit

By roman Kowch
STAFF REPORTER

BRUSSELS — The European Commission issued a pre-

liminary antitrust finding on Monday against Google’s mobile communication unit, Motorola Mobility, for seeking and en-

forcing injunctions that would prevent it from licensing essential patents to block others from using the technolo-
gy’s and the infringing products. It also said that holders of some of the most popular consumer electronics

"I think that companies should spend their time innovating and competing on the merits of the products they offer — not

inventing legal engines," said Joaquim Almunia, the European Union’s competition commis-

ssioner. Almunia, who is in charge of competition policy at the European court of the YES.

Motorola Mobility obtained an injunction from a German court preventing Apple from using patents called standard-

essential patents that it holds.

The commission said it regarded some injunctions to en-

force patents as "unreasonable," but it also said that holders of standard-essential patents that have agreed to fairly, reasonable and nondiscriminatory licensing terms had to meet conditions before seeking to injunctions.

Google referred questions to Katie Dove, a spokeswoman for Motorola, who said the company had followed the proced-

ure in a German court ruling.

"We agree with the European Commission that injunctions should not be used as an alternative to selling licenses," he said in a statement.

Motorola would respond to two months to the charges. "The patent wars are now widespread," said Michael A. Carrier, a Rutgers School of Law professor who specializes in antitrust, patent and technology law. "For years, the international community recognized that the patents which have been issued, held by the businesses, really taken phones out of people’s pockets, and that’s probably one of the reasons that the Europeans are probably really worried about it."


WEATHER

Clouds and rain ahead

By roman Kowch
STAFF REPORTER

After a long stretch of clear, calm weather for our area, chances for rain will increase this week and the coming days. A broad high pressure system pushed offshore in the northern Atlantic will finally lose its grip and allow more unsettled weather to invade New Eng-

land. The high should sustain a light

southeasterly breeze during the past week, pushing in cool air off the Atlantic and limit-

ing daytime maximum tempera-

tures. This pattern will continue through today, before a weak low pres-

sure center to our south brings warmer and moister air. This low will be sluggish, producing oc-

casional showers through this week and keeping skies cloudy. However, it will provide a gen-

erally light flow that should allow tem-

peratures to rise to the upper 70°F (26°C).

The best chances for rain will come late Wednesday into

Thursday as some thunder-

storms activity forms near the low.

Extended Forecast


Situations for Noon Eastern Time, Tuesday, May 7, 2013

Wether

Low Pressure

High Pressure

Cold Front

Warm Front

Haze

Precipitation Symbols

Showers

Thunderstorm

Light

Warm Front

Cold Front

High Pressure

Low Pressure

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Extended Forecast


Israel and Turkey negotiate compensation in flotilla raid

By Isabel Kershner — The New York Times

JERUSALEM — Talks here Monday between Israeli and Turkish officials over compensation for a deadly Israeli commando raid on a Gaza-bound flotilla almost three years ago demonstrated that while relations between the two countries are improving, they will not be as warm as they once were.

The Turkish delegation, led by the undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ferhat Hadi Sinirlioglu, was the highest level diplomatic mission to visit Israel since relations were frozen. But the Turks kept a low profile and the sides put out a brief statement revealing little about the discussions other than to say that an agreement was near.

Israeli officials and analysts say they do not see a return to the intimate Israeli-Turkish alliance of past decades, when the Israeli, Turkish and U.S. navies carried out joint exercises in the Mediterranean and Israeli fighter jets trained in Turkey’s relatively vast airspace.

Yet bilateral trade is thriving and in recent months Turkish exporters have started using Israel as a trade corridor, with Turkish shipping lines docking in Israeli ports, then transporting goods onward to Jordan and other Arab countries in order to bypass the bloody civil war in Syria.

This is not so much about going back to the old alliances,” said Gadafi Lindenstrauss, an expert on Turkey at the Institute for National Security Studies at Tel Aviv University, “but about lowering the level of hostility between the two countries.”

Israeli officials view the trade corridor as an important, even strategic, development. Lindenstrauss said it showed Turkish recognition of Israel as a stable partner when much of the Middle East is in turmoil.

Significant progress in the atmosphere between the leaders, she added, would be likely to contribute to increased cooperation at the unofficial level.

Turkey used to be Israel’s closest ally in the region and its most important partner in the Muslim world. But relations began to sour over Israel’s three-week offensive against the Hamas militant group controlling Gaza in the winter of 2008-09, which came after years of rocket fire by Gaza militants against southern Israel.

Up to 1,400 Palestinians were killed during the campaign, hundreds of them civilians, and the prime minister of Turkey, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, accused Israel of attempted genocide.

The strategic partnership plummeted further in May 2010 when eight Turks and an American of Turkish descent were killed after Israeli commandos met resistance aboard a vessel seeking to break the Israeli naval blockade of Gaza. Turkey sharply downgraded its diplomatic and military ties with Israel in September 2011, angrily expelling the Israeli ambassador after Israel refused to apologize.

In view of the potentially explosive situation in Syria and grave concern about the chemical weapons stockpiles there, he added, “we would like ideally to have a more open and honest conversation with the Turks about how to meet these challenges.”

At the same time, trade between the two countries peaked at $4 billion in 2011, split almost evenly between imports and exports, according to Israeli Finance Ministry of Economy, up from $300 million in 1997 after a free trade arrangement was signed.

The legislation would allow states to force online retailers with more than $1 million in annual out-of-state sales to collect sales taxes for state and local governments, sending the issue to the House, where anti-tax forces have vowed to kill it.

The Senate returns Tuesday, May 7, 2013 The Tech
OPINION POLICY

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the Editorial Board, which consists of Chairman Sarah Bitter, Editor in Chief Anne Cai, Managing Editor Ian M. Goroshed, Executive Editor Deborah Chen, and Opinion Editor Jacob London.

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

To Reach Us

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Saturday Stumper

Solution, page 9

Across
1. Head
5. Onetime Peggy
15. Absorbed by
16. Builder of America's first copper mill
17. Day
18. Made a mess, maybe
19. It may be underfoot
20. Augers
21. Brass band, e.g.
22. Large bowl
24. Boiling
26. Name for the nameless
27. Cleaning conveniences
29. Mag that went online only in 2011
31. Trap opening
32. Certain shopkeepers
36. Actress who got an Honorary Oscar in '94
37. Fatty acid source
38. Fatty acid product
44. Cooling off area
45. First Reality Prizemine Emmy winner
48. Comedic inspiration
50. "When Nature __ great masterpiece designed . . .": Burns
51. Withdraw, with "out"
55. Topsles
56. Itinerary details
58. Out of sight, with "up"
60. "Helps you pull it off" brand
61. Engineer's workplace
63. River that ends at Yuma
64. Helps out at the orchard
65. Set down
66. Like jumpers
67. Pole, for one
68. "Politics is the art of the possible" source
69. Out early
70. Exam administrator
71. Ex. Mora's VTB
5. In itself: Lat.
6. Resort developed by Augustus
7. Giant of 18th-century math
8. _Duck (Daisy Duck pall)
9. O'Keeffe, circa 1908
10. Most preferred
11. Maintain
12. Laugh at
13. Earlier
14. Water chestnut and sawgrass
20. Flutter
23. "You can count on me"
25. Most significantly, in texting
28. Term coined by Ericsson in '97
30. Capital SSE of Miami
33. Key that doesn’t work by itself
34. Opposite of "hence"
35. Sticks refusal
39. Dispersant target
40. "Fatti per volare alto" sloganer
41. Panasonic product
43. __ show
45. #1 in all-time Olympic gold
46. Freshen up your plants
47. Farsighted one
48. Take all of
52. All of it
53. Powerful group
54. Takes the plunge
57. Arch support
59. Batter ender
62. More than a millennium ago
63. Real blast

Down
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63. Real blast
**[1207] AirAware**

**What’s That?**

It's a drone for my new business, [AirAware].

Ourung, follow you and learn your schedule. If you miss a turn, forget an appointment, or give someone inaccurate information, they alert you.

I'll be there in five. Ruh! Doesn't work.

That sounds annoying. Who would pay for that? Huh? Nobody pays. I'm just making these and releasing them.

That's not a business. You're just yelling at strangers from the sky. A business has to make money somehow.

---

**Sudoku Solution, page 9**

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

**Techdoku Solution, page 9**

```
10+ 18× 7+
24× 6
60× 12× 6
19+ 12× 3÷
5+ 20× 6
```

---

**Getting help is as easy as 1, 2, S³**

Student Support Services has tripled the number of walk-in hours May 6th – May 17th

- **For an appointment:** Call 617-253-4861
- **New Walk-in hours in 5-104:**
  9:00-10:30 a.m. and 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Don’t forget to take advantage of the many resources available for academic, social and personal support.

- S³
- Community Wellness
- MIT Mental Health & Counseling
- Houseemasters
- GRTs
- Area Directors
- Advisors

**MITogether**

http://together.mit.edu

Working together, we’ll find a way.
MIT Asian Dance Team portrayed the passing of the four seasons in a year in "Seasons," the event’s last performance. Here, a dancer displays the "devastation and destruction" of autumn.

Music by two South Korean artists, Wonder Girls and T-Ara, are showcased in the first act by MIT Asian Dance Team.

MIT Asian Dance Team performs "Oynasun" in the style and dress of the people of Xinjiang, a rugged region in western China.
Don’t be afraid to ask

Questions are an important part of research.

By Emily A. Moberg

The Internet is littered with quotes about how it’s the questions that make the answers. It’s true, and it’s wonderful about it, really. I had just assumed this was talking about my research questions, the big important questions, and never will, I decided to practice and to pay more attention. I have learned some new things and now have even more research ideas I don’t have time for than I did before.

After a brief existential panic in which I convinced myself that I had never asked a good question and never will, I decided to practice and to pay more attention. I want to share what I’ve learned from this.

1) The big questions aren’t the ones I ask to clarify questions, even if they seem simple. I learned this by attending seminars or reading reports and asking questions about specific ideas. It is that these scientists can talk about to make sure your questions are clear and interesting.

2) Practicing asking questions isn’t as scary as I thought it would be. I asked great questions during our weekly departmental seminar this week. During the talk, one slide stuck me as really interesting, so I decided to tuck it in the back of my head to ask about later. After making that decision, I spent the next quarter of my energy analyzing every other slide to make sure it didn’t invalidate or answer my question, but after all that, I still managed to raise my hand and ask it. And what do you know, I got an answer. It was a good answer and it was interesting. It gave me the courage to ask questions about the interesting things I found in another talk later the week. Nothing catastrophic happened, except that I learned some new things and now have even more research ideas I don’t have time for than I did before.

3) Asking questions leads to interesting conversations. This may seem obvious, but after asking questions, in every case, I ended up having a great conversation later with the scientist who was giving the talk. I could wax poetic about science being about communication and questions being the gateway or academia being about seeking knowledge, or I could be cynical about how scientists all want to talk about our work, but I don’t really know whether those conversations happened or why they were so interesting. If they were just a fluke! The moral of the story is that as far as I’ve experienced in my short lived experiment, asking questions produces some interesting results and I plan to keep trying to ask more questions! Practice makes perfect, right?

AFTER问ING QUESTIONS, IN EVERY CASE, I ENDED UP HAVING A GREAT CONVERSATION LATER WITH THE SCIENTIST WHO WAS SPEAKING.

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ASK A-THEIST

Is there an absolute right or wrong?

If not, why is the idea of right and wrong ingrained so deeply into our society?

By Aaron Scheinberg and Stephanie Lam

A: It is an absolute right and wrong. The idea of right and wrong is ingrained so deeply into our society, and we have been taught that it is true.

Q: Is there such a thing as absolute right and wrong? If so, where does it come from? If not, why is the idea of right and wrong ingrained so deeply into our society, and are there any other ways of thinking about moral standards?

A: It is possible to have different views on morality, but there are certain principles that are universally accepted, such as the desire to benefit and preserve the species. Most people believe that it is wrong to harm others or engage in harmful behavior.

Q: Is there such a thing as absolute right and wrong? If so, where does it come from? If not, why is the idea of right and wrong ingrained so deeply into our society, and are there any other ways of thinking about moral standards?

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Student arrested in Boston bombings seeks release

Former UMass Dartmouth student Robel Phillipos accused of lying to the authorities

By Katherine G. Seelye and Anne Druckenmiller

BOSTON — Robel Phillipos, the former University of Massachusetts student who is accused of lying to the authorities investigating the Boston Marathon bombings, will seek to be released from federal custody on Monday, his lawyers said in court papers filed over the weekend.

The lawyers said that Phillipos, 19, had nothing to do with the bombings and was frightened and confused when he was interrogated about going with two other friends to the college dorm room of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, one of the two chief suspects in the case, and removing a backpack and fireworks that the investigators considered to be evidence. The other suspect, Tsarnaev’s older brother, Tamerlan, 26, died after a shootout with the police.

As Washington gears up this week for its first hearings on the Boston Marathon bombings, Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., said Sunday that he believed the brothers did not act alone.

“We have to consider to be evidence. The other friends filed over the weekend. Phillips' lawyers, Derege B. De- misie and Susan B. Church, said in the court papers that the charges against their client were “refutable.” They said that he was no longer a businessman from Maryland who had sold handbags to Tsarnaev’s immediate family, although he had spoken to the brothers’ father. “He’s not really in contact with Tsarnaev’s immediate family,” said Healy, who said that federal officials should have seen Dzhokhar as a terrorist from overseas or having at least facilitat- ing and precision acting by these two could have carried out this level of attack with this level of sophistication and precision acting by themselves, either without training from overseas or having at least facilitat- ing here at home,” King, a former chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security, said on the CNN program “State of the Union.”

Also on Sunday, an uncle of the Tsarnaev brothers in about five years. “A dead person needs to be buried — that’s what tradition requires, that’s what religion requires, that’s what morals require.”

Phillipos, who attended high school with Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, was questioned a number of times without a lawyer present, his lawyers wrote.

“For me it’s very difficult to believe that these two could have carried out this level of attack with this level of sophistication and precision acting by themselves, either without training from overseas or having at least facilitat- ing here at home,” King, a former chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security, said on the CNN program “State of the Union.”

The Tech Tuesday, May 7, 2013

Phillipos, who attended high school with Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, was questioned a number of times without a lawyer present, his lawyers wrote.

Phillipos is to appear in U.S. Dis- trict Court in Boston on Monday and will ask to be released on bond, his lawyers said. In a criminal complaint filed last week, federal investigators said that Phillipos had given three different versions of events on the night of April 15 — the day that the FBI released photographs of two men whom the authorities had iden- tified as suspects — until he admit- ted that he and two other friends had gone to Dzhokhar Tsarnaev’s dorm room on the campus of the Univer- sity of Massachusetts in Dartmouth.

The other two friends — Azamat Tazhayakov and Izzad Kadyrbayev, originally from Kazakhstan — have been charged with obstruction of justice and destroying evidence, and each face a five-year prison sentence and $250,000 in fines. They are to ap- pear in court next week. Phillipos, an American, faces a stiffer sentence: eight years in prison and $250,000 in fines.

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Zuber, Bonvillian talk sequestration

Sequestration, from Page 1

in federal support last year and
focuses on research for defense
applications.

MIT administrators are explor-
ing ways to keep research at MIT
thriving even as the cuts threaten
more grant applications.

“The typical length of time for
a [National Science Foundation]
proposal is three years. If you
are in year 1 or year 2, there is a high
chance that your funding this year
could be reduced,” Zuber said. But
the “unlucky people who are in
the third year” face the additional pos-
sibility that their funding won’t be
renewed at all. “All the provost and I
and the deans are trying to think of
ways to invest funds in order for the
PIs to keep their proposals as com-
petitive as possible.”

Alcator C-Mod, a
prominent project
losing funding, will
announce layoffs of
a third of its staff.

She said she hasn’t met a “smart
graduate student who is now on the
street” just yet, but that very serious
effects of the sequester may be seen
in the future.

“The effects of this erosion
might not be seen a week or even
a year from now, but ten years from
now they will be greatly seen,” Zu-
ber said.

Zuber feels optimistic that MIT
can deal with the cuts better than
any other institutions. “We’re doing
more to help our researchers than
any of the other plans I’ve seen for
the other universities. There’s going
to be a smaller pie, and we’re going
to need a larger share of the pie.”

“We have been out in front in
going to the private sector [for
funding],” she said. “We think we’re way ahead
of our peers.” Zuber said.

Still, Zuber and Bonvillian em-
phasized the importance of reach-
ing out to lawmakers. “If we were
to ignore the situation in Washing-
ton, it would be devastating.”

~25 laid off from C-Mod
team

One of the most prominent
projects to face the loss of federal
funding is the Alcator C-Mod ex-
periment at the Plasma Science
and Fusion Center, which will an-
nounce layoffs of around a third
of its 75-person staff today, accord-
ing to director Earl Marmar. The ex-
periment itself, one of only a handful
of U.S. plasma facilities, has been
slated for shutdown by the Depart-
ment of Energy’s budget proposal
for FY 2014, although this has yet to
be approved by Congress.

Most of the 25 students work-
ning at Alcator C-Mod already have
enough data to finish their theses,
according to PSFC director Miklos
Porkolab. These students are most-
ly fourth-, fifth-, and sixth-year
PhD students, Marmar said, since
the group stopped taking in new
students more than a year ago.

According to Porkolab, MIT is
working hard to make sure to make
sure that graduate students work-
ning on the project can finish their
degrees, possibly with help from
similar research facilities.

Zuber said there are efforts to
work with the Department of En-
yergy to consider ways to continue
to fund C-Mod, but the discus-
sions are limited since some of the
relevant officials have not yet been
confirmed to their positions.

Leon Lin contributed reporting.

Sequestration, from Page 1

Events are free, all are welcome.

Nairy Baghramian

Alan Uglow: Standards and Portraits

List Projects: Gabriel Abrantes

MIT List Visual Arts Center
Spring Exhibitions
Opening Reception
May 8, 2013 5:30–8pm

listart.mit.edu Building E-15, 20 Ames St. Cambridge, MA
Miami Heat expected to advance to Round 3
Series between Thunder and Grizzlies could come down to a Game 7 showdown

By Austin Osborne and Dharshan Anandasivam

SPORTS STAFF

(1) Miami Heat vs. (2) Chicago Bulls

Miami comes into this series after a long loss following Round 1. They swept the Milwaukee Bucks convincingly and earned a week-long rest before Round 2. Unfortunately for the Heat, they are matched up against the Chicago Bulls after they upset the 4th seeded Brooklyn Nets, but the Bulls are ready to battle Miami, as they play incredibly tough defense. Luol Deng will make life difficult for league MVP LeBron James, and Jimmy Butler will likely be matched up with Dwyane Wade for the majority of the series. Chris Bosh may be the key to the series. If he can dominate in his match against a hobbling Joakim Noah, the Heat will make quick work of the Bulls, but if Noah can play consistently well, Chicago could make things interesting, even without Derrick Rose. As a side note, the Bulls ended Miami’s 27-game winning streak earlier this season.

Prediction: Heat in 5

—austin osborne

The Miami Heat were the only team in the East to sweep during the first round, and this proof of their domination in the East. The Chicago Bulls, who ended the Heat’s 27-game win streak near the end of the regular season, will be a tough challenge each game, but LeBron James and Dwyane Wade should have no trouble closing out the fourth quarter. Bulls forwards Joakim Noah and Carlos Boozer may perform well in the paint, but the Heat can torch from outside with perimeter shooting.

(2) New York Knicks vs. (3) Indiana Pacers

The Pacers showed some flaws in their series against the Hawks. They looked great in the first two games, and it showed on the scoreboard. They dominated Atlanta early in the series, but once they went on the road, they began to fall apart. It will be a key for the Pacers to take one of the first two games of the series on the road against New York, so they can get some momentum early. The Knicks didn’t look particularly stellar against the Celtics, either. They started the series strong, much like Indiana did, but allowed the Celtics to win two in a row, and they almost blew a 2-point lead in the 4th quarter. That does not bode well for this Round 2 series, as the Pacers have more firepower than the Celtics. The problem with the Knicks is that they rely on two largely inconsistent players, Carmelo Anthony and J.R. Smith. When they are playing well, they are two of the best pure scorers in the league, but when they’re off, they simply don’t have a chance. New York has won as of writing, as they simply continue to shoot. I expect the Pacers to pull out a win in this evenly-matched series.

Prediction: Pacers in 7

—austin osborne

The New York Knicks and Indiana Pacers are both teams that can pass, find the open man, and shoot the ball well. However, Warriors sharp-shooter Stephen Curry suddenly became a star during this series with his stellar shooting off the dribble. With Klay Thompson and Jarrett Jack to boost his scoring, Golden State may be able to pull this series out in seven.

Prediction: Warriors in 7

—dharshan anandasivam

MIT Baseball's Perez and Cornwell honored

Two members of MIT Baseball have been honored for their achievements on the diamond and in the classroom this season. Ricardo ‘13 and Hayden K. ‘13 were selected to the Capital One Academic All-District baseball team, the College Sports Information Directors of America has honored.

MIT’s first baseman Perez is among the top ten in the NEWMAC in each of those categories. The owner of a ten-game hitting streak this season, he has gone hitless in back-to-back games just once this season.

—austin osborne