Metro storage set to make way for dorm

Remodel part of MIT 2030 vision, preserves the historic architecture

By Patricia Z. Dominguez

The Metropolitan Moving & Storage Warehouse, located on the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Vassar Street, will be closing after around 120 years of business. The institute did not renew the moving company's lease because it plans to renovate the building as part of the MIT 2030 capital projects.

The MIT administration first announced tentative plans for the warehouse in an April email to faculty and students. The email also announced that a Metropolitan Warehouse Advisory Group would be formed, and would comprise students and other members of the MIT community. The committee was to be led by the Offices of the Associate Provost for Space Planning and Campus Planning.

MIT's Capital Projects webpage says that the Institute will be renovating the building while preserving “the integrity of the historic architecture.”

Plans for the building’s redevelopment include student housing for up to two undergraduates, a maker space, and a street-level retail space along Massachusetts Avenue and Vassar Street. Proposals for a rooftop addition to provide a gathering area are also being considered.

The Metropolitan company informed its customers that all of their items in storage at the warehouse must be moved no later than Oct. 30. According to a Cambridge Day article, the letter informing customers of the warehouse’s closure recommended that they move their belongings to Extra Space Storage in Dorchester.

IN SHORT

Student registration is open for the MIT Fall 2015 Career Fair. The fair will take place on Sept. 22; register at career-fair.mit.edu.

The First Year Residence Exchange (FYRE) application opens Sunday, Aug. 30 and closes Wednesday, Sept. 2 at 2 a.m.

Online registration for classes this semester opens on Monday, Aug. 31 at registration.mit.edu. Schedule meetings with your advisor! Registration for freshmen must be completed by 5 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 3.

The annual Student Loan Art Program Exhibition and Lottery opens Tuesday, Sept. 1. View the collection at the List Visual Arts Center, and enter the lottery by Sept. 10 to borrow a work from the collection.

LaVerde’s Market will be open 24 hours a day starting on Sept. 2.

Quarter 1 PE registration opens at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 2 for undergraduates and closes at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 9. Graduate student registration opens at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 8.

Full registration for intramural sports opens Monday, Sept. 7 and closes Wednesday, Sept. 16 at 11:59 p.m. This year, hockey and basketball will be included in this registration block. Visit intramurals.mit.edu to check out which sports are offered and to register!

Send news information and tips to snsrvy@tech.mit.edu.

A crane sits in front of the Metropolitan Storage Warehouse, which is set to be converted into an underground dorm with ground-floor retail space.

Suspect charged with murder after shooting

Male victim shot on Windsor Street was found dead near Kendall MBTA

By Alexandra Delmore and William Navarro

On Monday, Rosoeulin Altidor of Medford was arraigned on a charge of murder for the Aug. 12 shooting of 31-year-old Rasan Nicholas near MIT’s campus.

Nicholas was shot through the windshield of his girlfriend’s car while they were parked near 199 Windsor Street in Cambridge. Nicholas’ girlfriend tried to rush him to the hospital but stopped for help when police arrived.

Nicholas’ girlfriend was shot in the leg and was pronounced dead at a local hospital.

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A crane sits in front of the Metropolitan Storage Warehouse, which is set to be converted into an underground dorm with ground-floor retail space.
By Vince Agard  

WEATHER

Tropical Storm Erika threatens U.S.

Tropical Storm Erika is currently impacting the Antillean islands, and it could become the first tropical cyclone to strike the continental United States this year. Erika became the fifth named storm of the 2015 Atlantic hurricane season on Tuesday, just a few days after Hurricane Danny became the first storm of the year to attain hurricane strength. After passing near Puerto Rico later today, Erika is expected to track to the north of Hispaniola and Cuba in the coming days. By the weekend, the storm could be strengthening as it encounters warier waters in the vicinity of the Bahamas. While it is very hard to predict the motion — and intensity — of a tropical cyclone several days in advance, there is a distinct possibility that Erika could impact the southeastern U.S. coast by the beginning of next week. Closer to home, returning students will find abundant sunshine at the Institute as high pressure settles in for the remainder of the week. High temperatures in the mid-80s (°F) can be expected through the weekend. The exception will be Friday, when a sea breeze that will allow cooler air to sneak in from the roughly 70°F Massachusetts.

Extended Forecast
Today: Sunny, high 84°F (29°C). Winds NW at 5-10 mph.
Tonight: Sunny, high 84°F (29°C). Winds NW at 5-10 mph.
Tomorrow: Sunny, high 84°F (29°C). Winds NW at 5-10 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, highs in the mid 80s °F (29°C).

A chance of showers or thunderstorms, highs in the mid 80s °F (29°C).

OPINION POLICY

Editorials are the official opinion of The Tech. They are written by the Editorial Board, which consists of Chairman Will Connolly, Editor in Chief Leon Lin, Managing Editor Anthony Yu, Executive Editor Tushar Kamath, and Opinion Editor Claire Lazar.

Letters are the signed opinions of editorial board members choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or be sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters, shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of The Tech, and will not be returned. Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on The Tech’s Web site and/or printed or published in any other format or medium now known or later that becomes known. The Tech makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

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

TO REACH US

The Tech’s telephone number is (617) 253-1541. Email is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to general@tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. You can reach the editor in chief by emailing editor@tech.mit.edu. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about events that call for correction to news@tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@tech.mit.edu. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at http://tech.mit.edu.

Are you addicted to Facebook or Twitter?

@The Tech is looking for social media experts to help develop our online presence.

Email join@tech.mit.edu or mention @thetech

WEATHER GRAPHIC

Weather Systems

Heat wave
High pressure
Cold front
Haze
Trough
Precipitation Symbols

Light rain
Moderate rain
Heavy rain
Thunderstorms

Other Symbols

Moist
Dry
Day
Night

Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, August 27, 2015

WEATHER GRAPHIC

Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, August 27, 2015
Educators discover new ways that students cheat on MOOCs.

Paper describes ways to detect two major methods

By Abby Abazorius
MIT News Office

While the proliferation of massive open online courses (MOOCs) has expanded learning opportunities for individuals around the world, the digital classroom is also subject to many of the same issues as the traditional one, such as cheating.

In a new paper, researchers at MIT and Harvard University identify a new method of cheating specific to open online courses and recommend a number of strategies that prove effective in preventing such cheating.

The working paper, “Detecting and Preventing ‘Multiple-Account’ Cheating in Massive Open Online Courses,” was published today on arXiv.org, an online repository for electronic preprints.

Isoac Chuang — a professor of electrical engineering and physics, and senior associate dean of digital learning at MIT, and one of the authors of the working paper — explains that he and his colleagues were inspired to examine the problem in an effort to better understand all the opportunities that online courses provide, including both learning and cheating.

“In some online courses,” Chuang says, “cheaters are circumventing the learning process and obtaining certification without going through the traditional routes of assessment and feedback, and therefore, the certification does not necessarily imply that they learned anything. This can seriously devalue MOOC certification,” Chuang says.

“This is a well-known issue in academics, and it’s happening in a new way in online settings. We want to understand and address this issue as online education continues to grow.”

Andrew Ho, a professor at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and an author of the working paper, adds that the paper describes “a new cheating technique that is particular to MOOCs. It is enabled by specific design features, including the ability to create multiple accounts for free. This is a method of cheating that has a potential to ‘defraud’ teachers and students who want to acquire a certification for a course in an hour, which is not possible through conventional cheating approaches. This is cheating of a different kind.”

CAMIO users

While analyzing data gathered from learners using the edx online learning platform, the researchers noticed that certain users were answering assessment questions “faster than is humanly possible,” according to Chuang. Upon further examination, the researchers realized that a number of learners appeared to be employing a cheating strategy that they refer to as “copying answers using multiple existences online” (or CAMIO).

In this method of cheating, a user creates multiple accounts, one of which is the primary account that will ultimately earn a certificate. The other accounts are used to find or “harvest” the correct answers to assessment questions for the master account.

To determine the amount of cheating occurring in classes where learners can obtain certification for passing the course, the researchers developed a new algorithm that can identify CAMIO users. The algorithm searches for pairs of related accounts in which one account responds to most of the answers incorrectly and the other provides mostly correct answers on the first attempt. Activity time stamps are then reviewed to see when the account suspected of harvesting answers solved a particular problem just after the master account did. The algorithm also looks to see whether related accounts might share IP addresses across multiple courses.

The researchers examined data gathered from 1.9 million course participants in 154 MOOCs offered by HarvardX and MITx from the fall of 2012 through the spring of 2015. They discovered that in 69 courses where users were found to have been employing the CAMIO strategy, 1.3 percent of the certificates earned (1,237 certificates) appeared to have been obtained through such cheating. Additionally, they found that among earners of 20 or more certificates, 25 percent appear to have used the CAMIO strategy. In some courses CAMIO users may account for as many as 5 percent of certificates earned.

Although these percentages are lower than the prevalence of reported cheating, which by some accounts is as high as 60 percent, the authors argue that these percentages are nonetheless significant. “This is not an isolated incident of copying on part of one assignment,” Ho says. “This is the wholesale falsification of a certificate.”

CAMIO usage was found to be higher among young, less-educated males outside the United States. The rate among users from the United States was particularly low, at 0.4 percent of certificates earned. The authors observe that these rates may correlate with the perceived value of the certificate across different countries.

The prevalence of CAMIO usage was highest in government, health, and social science courses, where 1.3 percent of certificates were earned by employing the CAMIO strategy.

The prevalence of CAMIO usage was highest in government, health, and social science courses, where just 0.1 percent of certificates were obtained using the technique.

Prevention techniques

The authors outline a number of strategies to prevent cheating in online courses, including restricting solutions to assessments until after assignments are due, and randomizing questions so that each learner receives a customized set of problems.

However, some of these strategies are costly or may limit learning opportunities. “We may lose a tradeoff between enabling learning and preventing cheating,” Chuang notes.

The researchers found that in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) courses, where such techniques may have been employed, CAMIO usage accounted for just 0.1 percent of certificates earned, as opposed to 1.2 percent of certificates earned in courses that did not use any prevention strategies.

While techniques including randomization are easy to employ in STEM courses, Chuang notes that they are more challenging to implement in humanities courses, where the prevalence of cheating is considerably lower.

The authors recommend that institutions develop content for 8.05, the course Zwiebach plans to use the grant to develop content for, 8.05; he plans to look into ways of analyzing incorrect answers to find common mistakes and provide more valuable feedback than has traditionally been possible.

The grants are intended to encourage MIT faculty to work toward the goals suggested by the Institute-Wide Task Force on the Future of MIT Education, including modularity and reusability.

“I am excited by the response to this call [for grant applications],” Sanjay Sarma, MIT’s Dean of Digital Learning, told the News Office. “The MITx Grant Program creates a space where faculty can experiment and reinvent their classrooms.”

Fourteen projects were considered for grants this year; the ODL plans to accept proposals twice annually.

—William Nourse

For more information, email join@tech.mit.edu

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

Become a DI varsity athlete in the ultimate team sport!

COME TO THE PIERCE BOATHOUSE (W8):
THURSDAY, SEP. 3rd @ 4:30 PM — INFO. MEETING

For more information please contact: novicecrew@mit.edu

Welcome Students!
MIT Libraries Orientation Events
Thursday, September 3

Freshman Explorations
Library Tours
Tours at 2:30 & 3:00 pm
Meet in Lobby 7

Ice Cream Social
in the courtyard for Freshmen
3:00 - 5:00 pm
Lipchitz courtyard (Building 14)
GRANTS FOR ART PROJECTS

All current MIT students, staff and faculty are invited to apply for funding to support art related projects.

arts.mit.edu/grants

APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 25

DISCOVER ART, ON US.

THE COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS AT MIT LOVES ART AND WANTS MIT STUDENTS TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCOVER THAT THEY LOVE ART, TOO.

CAMIT provides free and/or discounted tickets to hundreds of performances each year, and also underwrites free admission for every MIT student to the:

• Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
• Institute of Contemporary Art
• Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
• Harvard Art Museums
• Photographic Resource Center

Sign up for email alerts or for more information visit: arts.mit.edu/tickets
For more information about CAMIT, visit: arts.mit.edu/camit
Campus alerted of shooting

By 10:50 p.m., it was relayed through a follow-up Alert that “MIT Police do not believe there is any threat to the MIT community.”

Early in the morning on Aug. 13, MIT Executive Vice President and Treasurer Israel Ruiz SM ’01 sent an email to the MIT community with the details of the incident, also stat- ing that “while the MIT Police have informed me that there is no known danger to the MIT community, they caution us all to be especially alert.”

Several mailing lists, including e-discuss and the Media Lab’s official list, saw posts warning people to stay safe. A post on the latter list instructed people to “turn off the light and keep ... doors locked.”

Another thread invited those in the building to gather together to ride out the situation.

Strandbeests to be on exhibit at PEM

PVC ‘animals’ store wind energy

Strandbeests, from Page 1

Jansen, who drew inspiration from biologist Richard Dawkins, created species of creatures that evolve and go ‘extinct’ after year-long life cycles. “As soon as the development of an animal is at its end, I declare it extinct,” says Jansen on his website. His animals “evolve” as he tests different innovations to make them increasingly autonomous and incorporates successful ones.

“Hopefully, before I leave the planet, I can leave a new specimen on earth that can make their own decisions,” Jansen told the Globe. Laurent Hasbroucq, who observed the Whale at MIT in December 2013, said, “It was beautiful to see it in person.”

Cheating rare in US

Methods involve extra accounts

Cheating, from Page 3

“One of the most interesting lessons from the paper is that there are ways to mitigate cheating that are straightforward and implementable by the teams creating online course content,” Chaung explains. “We also expect platform improvements, such as virtual proctoring, to help reduce cheating.”

MindEx 2015

Saturday, September 12

Sanders Theatre, Harvard

Join the Harvard Personal Genome Project and the Mind First Foundation for a day of science & visions of the future, from universities, companies, and hackerspaces around the world.

Meet leaders and pioneers in genomics, microbiomics, neuroscience, psychology, artificial intelligence, participatory research, citizen science, and open-access research.

Discounts available for students and for Personal Genome Project participants!

For more information visit MindFirstFoundation.org

Solution to Birds

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Solution to Techdoku II

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Cheating, from Page 3

multiple-choice questions are commonly used as part of the assessment process. Nonetheless, the researchers are hopeful that their findings will inspire course content creators to implement some of the prevention strategies they have outlined and that this research will inspire further evaluation of cheating in MOOCs.

“One of the most interesting lessons from the paper is that there are ways to mitigate cheating that are straightforward and implementable by the teams creating online course content,” Chaung explains. “We also expect platform improvements, such as virtual proctoring, to help reduce cheating.”

“This paper addresses a growing challenge as higher education digitizes: ensuring that the work that students do is their work,” says George Siemens, executive director of the Learning Innovation and Networked Knowledge research lab at the University of Texas at Arlington, who was not involved in the research.

“MOOCs, and in the case of this paper, the development of multiple online identities, present a new set of challenges for academics,” Siemens says. “The stakes in learning can be high since academic performance can influence job opportunities. Ensuring that work is done by the student proclaiming to have done it will continue to be a challenge online and in classrooms.”

MIT List Visual Arts Center

Student Loan Art Program

Exhibition and Lottery September 1 – 13

Gallery Hours: 12 – 8 PM daily

Closed Labor Day

Take home a work of art!

#MITGETART #MITLIST

listart.mit.edu Building E15, 20 Ames St., Cambridge MA

MindEx2015

Saturday, September 12

Sanders Theatre, Harvard

Join the Harvard Personal Genome Project and the Mind First Foundation for a day of science & visions of the future, from universities, companies, and hackerspaces around the world.

Meet leaders and pioneers in genomics, microbiomics, neuroscience, psychology, artificial intelligence, participatory research, citizen science, and open-access research.

Discounts available for students and for Personal Genome Project participants!

For more information visit MindFirstFoundation.org

Keynote Speakers

Dr. George Church (Harvard Medical School)

Dr. Martine Rothblatt (United Therapeutics)

Register Today!
**ALBUM REVIEW**

**New Politics hits the mark with Vikings**

The band’s third album continues a successful streak.

By Karleigh Moore

I saw New Politics when they performed in Boston last fall, and of course I had already heard their viral hits “Harbor” and “Yeah Yeah Yeah,” but I wasn’t too familiar with any of their other work. However, the show really blew me away and inspired me to check out their other songs (many of which were just as catchy and still find their way onto my playlists). Near the end of the show, they promised that a new album would be released during summer 2015. New Politics released their first single for the album, “Everywhere I Go (Kings and Queens),” back in 2014, and I’ve been eagerly awaiting the release of Vikings since.

The band includes David Boyd (lead vocals and guitar), Søren Hansen (guitar, bass guitar, and vocals), and Louis Vecchio (percussion and vocals). The trio is known for its energetic stage presence (which often includes feats of gymnastics), and like the performance, the music is generally upbeat and catchy with a punky, indie rock feel.

On Vikings, however, some songs, such as “Lovers in a Song” and “Stardust” were slower than most of the songs on the band’s previous albums. As much as I appreciated the attempt to branch out, I much preferred their bouncy, punkier tracks. Nevertheless, apart from those slower songs, the album is a nice dose of energetic indie rock. “Girl Crush,” “15 Kier Tracks,” and “50 Feet Tall” were my favorite tracks by far. These same songs made up three of the four singles released for this album, so maybe the band agreed that these were its strongest songs.

Vikings is the Danish band’s third album, and it is just as strong as their previous works — I imagine the trio will continue to have a great deal of success if they keep turning out these sing-along indie-punk tracks. Vikings has 11 songs totalling 44 minutes of playtime. New Politics is coming back to Boston on Friday November 20 at the Boston House of Blues, and like I said, their performances rock, so I’ll definitely be there.

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**ALBUM REVIEW**

**Never Shout Never is back with Black Cat**

The band’s sound evolves but I miss the ukulele.

By Karleigh Moore

I used to listen to Never Shout Never all the time in high school. I first discovered the band when I saw them live at a local music festival back home; they were just an opening act for some band that I can’t remember the name of. Ukulele and light acoustic guitar made up the base of their instrumentals, and that’s what really caught my attention — I was just learning guitar at the time, and their music was simple enough for me to play. I was excited when I learned that they were releasing a new album, Black Cat, this August.

Black Cat has ten songs and a total playtime of only 34 minutes, so it’s a quick and easy listen. The band is known for its interesting and quirky sound which is a mixture of bubble-gum-pop and emo music. Some songs have sweet, romantic vocals accompanied by ukulele, while others are heavier with guitar and angsty lyrics. It was interesting to see the band incorporate (with varying degrees of success) electronic and rock elements to their sound with Black Cat. However, I was sort of disappointed that there wasn’t as much ukulele.

Singer Christofer Drew’s vocals were on point throughout the album, but not every track hit the mark lyrically — some songs were borderline boring, and others were well-meaning but teenage and cliche. Never Shout Never’s songs are generally either summery and full of romance (some tracks celebrate love, others lament it), or are fast-paced dance songs. While my favorite track was “Red Bull Rush,” I also really enjoyed “Hey! We OK!” and “Black Cat.” However, the remaining songs were pretty average: they were not bad — I wouldn’t skip them if they came up on Pandora — but I wouldn’t exactly go out of my way to add them to a playlist. While Never Shout Never had a few notable tracks on Black Cat, I think it’s safe to say that I prefer their older stuff. Regardless, the album is pretty feel-good and light-hearted, so I’d definitely suggest you give it a listen if you like poppy, indie, sometimes folky music (it’s mellow enough to serve as background study music at the very least).
Don’t judge a taco by its tortilla

Yeah, I’m not really sure what’s going on either

By Karleigh Moore

I’ve been walking past Naco Taco every day since it opened this past spring near Central Square. Its constantly-populated patio and brightly-colored-taco-truck exterior always caught my attention, and last week I decided I needed to give the joint a try.

It was a hot day, so I requested a table inside, though the patio looked as lively as usual. The first thing that struck me was that the indoor part of the restaurant contrasted with the outside. Outside, there is a food truck attached to the building (from what I could tell, it was an extension of the indoor kitchen), and everything is painted bright blue and orange. The interior was darker and more sleek and modern, and much more spacious than it looked from outside.

I was immediately intimidated by the menu which was much more sophisticated than I had expected. I wasn’t 100 percent sure what everything was, and as someone who doesn’t eat pork, I found it a bit difficult to decide what to order. If you are the adventurous type of person who will order anything at least once at a place like Clover, you’ll probably have a fun time ordering at Naco Taco. I was simultaneously impressed and disappointed that the menu lacked average tex-mex options.

Instead, the menu included things like crispy pigs’ ear chilaquiles, cordero (which is a dish made with lamb belly and fermented kale), and cabeza ahogada (pig’s head with bacon). I settled on a carne asada taco and a torched-avocado taco ($4 per taco) with a side of chips and guacamole ($8). I liked the grilled avocados in the torched-avocado taco, but I thought that the crunchiness of the almond salsa added a strange texture and it sort of ruined the taco for me. There was nothing to really complain about with the carne asada tacos, but also nothing special (this was probably the high point of the meal since I didn’t find any part of the dish unappealing). The portions were pretty small compared to what you’d get for around the same price at other tex-mex places nearby. I liked their house-made corn tortillas, but my boyfriend thought they were undercooked (which is a valid description, but I guess I liked that). The chips and guac were a little disappointing since the chips were pretty stale (and I suspect store-bought) and the guacamole had a little too much of something (I couldn’t quite place what that might have been, though). Everything seemed to look better than it tasted — definitely the kind of food you’d take pictures of to post on Instagram (if that’s your thing).

Their drink menu was more appealing to me than their food menu (though I didn’t order anything) — the sangria options looked delicious, the prices were low, and the micheladas (beer cocktails) other patrons ordered were visually appealing and likely worth a shot. I’d probably be down to venture back to Naco Taco for drinks with friends.

Overall, the food certainly didn’t live up to my expectations — I felt really jerked around, first looking forward to cheap food truck fare and later, after ordering, expecting a more refined (and creative) take on the cuisine only to find the food lackluster and bizarre. I imagine this is the type of restaurant you will either really enjoy or find really gross.

Personally, I won’t be going back to Naco Taco for dinner anytime soon. It probably wouldn’t surprise you to know that, after we paid the check, my boyfriend decided we needed to go to 7-Eleven so he could buy a proper dinner — a microwave breakfast sandwich — which cost $3 and made him much happier than the tacos he had ordered.

★★★★☆

Naco Taco
Address: 297 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139
Kitchen Hours: Sun-Wed 11 a.m. - 11 p.m., Thurs-Sat 11 a.m. - Midnight
Bar Hours: Sun-Wed 11 a.m. - Midnight, Thurs-Sat 11 a.m. - 1 a.m.

Do you like video games? Movies? Talking to famous people?

*fangirling*

How illogical

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Garrett Vassar-Conner

Random Hall

Random Hall is an ornate, yet contemporary space that serves as the hub of various activities. It is equipped with high ceilings, tall windows, and a grand piano that are perfect for intimate gatherings or impromptu performances. People are often seen practicing their pianistic skills or simply relaxing in the comfortable seating arrangements. The hall also features a bar area where refreshments are served, adding to the inviting atmosphere.

Simmons Hall

Simmons Hall is a beautiful building, with its warm, inviting interiors and aesthetic design elements. The hall provides a comfortable and welcoming atmosphere for various events, such as lectures, concerts, and social gatherings. The architecture and design of Simmons Hall reflect the rich history and cultural significance of MIT, making it a central location for students and visitors alike.

Baker House

Baker House is known for its vibrant atmosphere and lively events throughout the year. The hall is a central hub for socializing, studying, and engaging in various activities. It is a place where students can come together to foster friendships and create lasting memories.

MacGregor

MacGregor is a unique space characterized by its creative and adventurous spirit. The hall encourages students to explore their interests and passions, whether it be through art, music, or other creative pursuits. MacGregor is a place where students can express themselves freely and engage in meaningful discussions.

Maseeh Hall

Maseeh Hall is a functional space designed to cater to the needs of students. It is equipped with state-of-the-art technology and comfortable seating arrangements, making it an ideal location for seminars, workshops, and other academic events. Maseeh Hall is a place where students can come together to learn, collaborate, and engage in scholarly activities.

Maseeh Hall and McCormick Hall did not submit descriptions about their dormitories by The Tech's publication deadline. Senior Haus did not submit events or a description.

Welcome to Baker House! We’re one of MIT’s most social and most requested dorms on campus. Come hang out with us to find out more. Or, check out the REX booklet for our annual tradition, one of the largest parties on campus all year, the Baker House Skyline Party. They are full of innovative ideas, and our dorm government structure allows any resident to submit and vote on proposals and spend dorm funds to increase the happiness within the great Spondy.

On behalf of The Tech, we’d like to welcome the Class of 2019 to MIT! You’ll find in the following pages a curated guide to this year’s Residence Exploration (REX) events. We asked REX chairs to submit up to 25 events each and provide short paragraphs about their living groups.

At MITE, you have the special privilege of choosing which dorm you would like to live in. You should engage as much as possible in the fun events the dorms will host, so you can find the people you will love to hang out with for years to come. Visit other dorms even if you are satisfied in your current assignment, and remember that the people and culture of a dorm matter more than its physical amenities (or lack thereof). Switching dorms is more than possible, and don’t forget that the many fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups (SIGs) will also be recruiting in a couple weeks. You’ll find a similar guide to FSLG events in an upcoming issue. Don’t forget to have fun and pepper the upperclassmen with questions!

Maseeh Hall and McCormick Hall

Maseeh Hall and McCormick Hall are located near the center of campus, with easy access to dining, entertainment, and academic resources. Both dorms have a variety of programs and events that cater to different interests and needs. Maseeh Hall is known for its diverse community and inclusivity, while McCormick Hall is recognized for its strong academic focus and support system.

EAsT Campus

EAsT Campus is a unique and vibrant community that brings together students from different backgrounds and disciplines. The community is characterized by its inclusive and welcoming atmosphere, where everyone can feel at home and be a part of something special. EAsT Campus is a place where students can create meaningful connections and develop a strong sense of identity.

 adept — Kate Furrer ’17, Yago Jhl ’18, Kristina Kim ’17
9:00 AM
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM MacGregor House
MacGregor House of Pancakes. Come get the Pick-A-Pancake com-
tos with pancakes, eggs and two strips of bacon for $8.95 (free for freshmen).
12:00 AM - 5:00 AM MacGregor House
Water War Prep! The best offense is a good defense. Come make a shield to defend against condoms filled with water that probably won’t get you wet anyway. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM MacGregor House
@ A Entry (floor 14): A Entry thinks we have more of... Come see if you agree with them.
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Simmons Hall
Get fueled up before Orientation Kickoff by making your own pizza bagels! Carnivores and vegetarians welcome! (Please note velociraptors though)
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Next House
Like baking? Like helping people? Make cookies with Nexties :) Like baking? Like helping people? Come make cookies with Nexitics :) We will make enough to eat ourselves and donate the rest to a homeless shelter.
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM East Campus
EastCampus: cultured, like chobani at home. Help Simmons Hall prepare for the next big thing!
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Burton-Conner
Kickoff by making your own pizza. We will make enough to eat some next house and help build a giant cardboard fort in the Mathias lounge. We will be working on the construction all day and night so come along whenever to help out!
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM Burton-Conner
@ Floor Lounges (4, 5, 6): Cards Against Humanity and GRTs... what could go wrong?
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM MacGregor House
Bisexuals are greedy, but in a good way. The chocolate is flowing! Come to the chocolate fountain which we will be projecting on the wall! The rangers still have burgers left! 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Simmons Hall
@ Grill Pits: If you need a description to know what a BBQ is, just come check it out. If not, you know it’s worth it.
2:32 PM East Campus
“Tis on top of the Paul Murphy stuff! “As long as you’re not on top of Paul Murphy.”
3:00 PM
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Simmons Hall
Embrace your inner caveman and paint some obscure paleolithic beasts on some free T-shirts, or anything else you can think of. We have stencils, and plenty of apparel to go around.
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Simmons Hall
Go back to being a little kid and help us build a giant cardboard fort in the Mathias Lounge. We will be working on the construction all day and night so come along whenever to help out!
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM McCormick Hall
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM MacGregor House
@ German House lounge: Thera-
paintings. Please maintain a re-
 ourselves and donate the rest to a
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Burton-Conner
@ Floor Lounges (4, 5, 6): Cards Against Humanity and GRTs... what could go wrong?
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1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Burton-Conner
@ Floor Lounges (4, 5, 6): Cards Against Humanity and GRTs... what could go wrong?
Feeling like an artistic knight? Pre-
pare to claim your victory at Victor
Campus in the Water War by painting
your battle shield or making flags!

1:00 PM

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM New House

The International Development
House is turning 8 years old, so we’re
throwing a birthday party! There will
be pizza, cake, musical chairs, pin
the tail on the donkey, a pinata, hide
and seek, and more!

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM MacGregor
House

Come on and slam with Manny and
David. We ball so hard Bob Ramsey
wants to fine us!!

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM MacGregor
House

Here a favorite movie? Favorite band?
Favorite character? Paint it on a
shelf and call it art. And then use it
to defend yourself against people
who should be covering themselves
with it.

1:50 PM-3:30 PM EAt CamPUS

Next thing I know I was in the show-
every and be hung the pickle juice
and I was like "oh."

3:00 PM

3:00 PM - 5:30 McCormick Hall

Grab some watermelon, lemonade
and carnival goodies. Get your face
painted and play games on our lawn!

4:00 PM

4:00 PM - 5:00 McCormick Hall

Join Kvitro and Zakor in Ger-
man House for a cup of tea and to
reminisce about their legacy with
some highlights of Avatar: the Last
Savior and The Legend of Korra.

Located in the German House
House, New House 6, 2nd floor.

5:30 PM-7:00 PM Next House

@ Briggs: Join the Next Foot-
ball Club for a game of pickup soc-
cer! Good sportsmanship welcome;
free feed after at any time.

7:30 PM-8:30 PM EAt CamPUS

He throws the package at Desk and
gets a second copy. He throws the
second copy at the wall. He throws
the package at Desk again and
then goes to the computer. He gets
some tea and crosses the hall.

8:00 PM

8:00 PM - 10:30 McCormick Hall

Fondue; melted chocolate and
plenty of fruit to dip? What’s not to
like? Come check out the Boston
skyline from our penthouse at
our favorite open flame grill.

8:00 PM - 9:00 Next House

2 West + 2 Nerdy + 4 You. Play
your newly found game of hang out
with cool’2 West and Company
members for a game night set to mood
music from the 2 West YouTube
playlist for Terrifying Frosh.

8:00 PM - 9:00 Next House

@ Media Room: Stop by Maseeh to
watch a great movie! And no, we’re
definitely not telling you what’s up.

8:30 PM - 12:00 AM MacGregor
House

Tess Hold 'em. No limits. Crappy
deck.

9:00 PM

9:00 PM - 10:00 PM Next House

Food! Board Games! Video Games!
Crappy beer/SOFO All in one place!
Get ready to turnup with Next Two
East in all our outwardrox! Test
your skills! BYD (Bring your own in-
struments)! Draw on our numerous
chalkboards! Show us your talent!
Oh yeah, and food.

10:00 PM

10:00 PM - 1:00 am baker-Ex

Skyline Party sponsored by Rochester
Energy Drink! Come raging to the larg-
est party of REX at the most social
dorm on campus! Over 600 people
attended last year! Featuring all the
best house, top hi-hip-hop and trap
beats from two of Boston’s top DJs.

10:30 PM - 11:00 PM Burton-Con-
ner 5 Floor Lounge: Bad Sex
Advice Outfit. Because ostriches
don’t give good sex advice... Two
condos = Double the protection!
Get in the mood with some sexy
snacks;

7:00 PM

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM New House

Join Finn in House 9 for a deli-
cious, home-cooked meal. No pre-
vious eating experience required.
Bring your own eyes, mouths, noses,
etc.

7:00 PM - 3:00 AM New House

Join Desmound and a Finalist of
Ultimate Warrior wwevool, etc.

3:00 AM

3:00 AM - 6:00 AM Simmons
House

Top of the Sponge. Raise the roof
or/ on the roof of Simmons Hall! Party
until the sun comes up as you break it
down with new friends in 3E!

Tuesday, September 1, 2015

12:00 AM

12:00 AM - 1:00 AM baker-Ex

Skyline Party sponsored by Rochester
Energy Drink! Come raging to the larg-
est party of REX at the most social
dorm on campus! Over 600 people
attended last year! Featuring all the
best house, top hi-hip-hop and trap
beats from two of Boston’s top DJs.

12:30 AM - 1:00 AM Burton-Con-
ner 5 Floor Lounge: Harry Potter
erotic fanfiction. i’d like to sly-
therin your chamber of secrets with
your battle shield or making flags!

1:00 AM

1:00 AM - 2:00 AM MacGregor
House

Tally your score. How long will you
be able to participate.

1:30 AM

1:30 AM - 3:00 AM baker-Ex

Skyline Party sponsored by Rochester
Energy Drink! Come raging to the larg-
est party of REX at the most social
dorm on campus! Over 600 people
attended last year! Featuring all the
best house, top hi-hip-hop and trap
beats from two of Boston’s top DJs.

1:30 AM - 2:00 AM New House

Try planet-filled balloons at your friends in this clash
of colors — but never surrender, on pain of death. For our fashion for-
ward: fresh fur, ponchos will be pre-
ceived.

2:30 AM - 5:30 PM MacGregor
House

Water Pimp II “Aye, aye and you
may get wet. Run and you’ll say
‘dry’ — or at least a while.” —William
Wallace

2:30 AM - 2:30 PM New House

Have you ever been wrestling and thought, “This
would be 33 times better in jel-
l? No? You should probably try it

3:00 AM - 5:30 PM MacGregor
House

Festive party with friends in 3E!

3:00 AM

3:00 AM - 5:00 AM Simmons
House

Wake up to a wonderful mil-
cectar view of the Boston Sky-
line from our rooftop while you eat
breakfast and chat with Baker
residents.

4:00 AM

4:00 AM - 6:00 AM Simmons
House

3:30 AM - 5:30 AM Simmons
House

Get in your morning stretch in with
some yoga led by Simmons resi-
dents. Yoga mats will be provided
Free breakfast available starting at
7:00 AM.
new some jousts and thereabouts. Their "breakfast" story.  
4:00 PM - 5:30 McCormick Hall  
We’re not going to stuff you, but well feed you. 4:00 PM - 5:30 McCormick Hall  
Our pathway looks really plain right now. Use your artistic skills to help us make it pretty? If you’ve already met with your advisor, come and join us in placing some of our favor-  
4:00 PM - 5:30 New House  
Think your friend would look better with paint while helping Next House prepare for the Water War. 4:30 PM - 5:30 Burton-Conner @ Suite 336 (Burtonside). If you came to this event during CPW there was a lot of smoke, bacon, and people. I hope you can make it out again because this time we promise at least double the bacon and twice the amount of good looking people. 
5:00 PM  
5:00 PM - 7:00 New House  
What will you build with ridiculous quantities of marshmallows? Fully edible construction materials await you! 5:30 PM - 6:30 McCormack Hall  
Water War! Will you join in our crus- ade? Who will be strong and stand with me? Somewhere beyond the barricade is a land you want to see? (West campus best campus) 5:45 PM - 6:15 McCormick Hall  
Next House is a land from once in the wa- ter war? Stop by our booth to grab your new McCormick friends! 6:30 PM - 7:00 McCormick Hall  
@ Lobby: Two kingdoms. Two great armies. One shall survive. Who know Capture the Flag could be so medieval?! 5:00 PM - 6:00 McCormack Hall  
REX is pretty much over at this point. Finish it off the proper way with ice cream!! 8:00 PM  
7:00 PM - 10:00 Massee Hall  
@ Lobby: Taste of Boston. Get ac- quainted with one of the many de- licious dishes upon us in Cambridge/ Boston! From froyo to cannolis, this city has it all. 8:00 PM - 10:30 McCormick Hall  
Sleep Over! End REX with a fun night of games and snacks with all your new McCormick friends! 10:00 PM  
10:00 PM - 12:00 New House  
The students of House have made lots of power points in the last few years. Being the environmentally conscious people we are, we want to recycle everything we can! Come watch us try to deliver each other’s presents with zero preparation and non-stop jousting! 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM MacGregor House  
Speed Friending. You’ve got 5 min- utes to make a new best friend. NEXT 11:00 AM  
5:00 PM  
5:00 PM - 7:00 Massee Hall  
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Sleep Over! End REX with a fun night of games and snacks with all your new McCormick friends!
From the Birds by Sally R. Stein

Solution, page 5

ACROSS
1 Jack or deuce
2 More expensive
5 Hems and __ (can’t decide)
9 Whole bunch
14 Nabisco cookie
15 Hand-cream ingredient
16 Bert’s Sesame Street pal
17 Pepper grinder
18 Narrow walkway
19 Of prime importance
20 Postal Service delivery
21 Suffix quite nicely
23 Little Women author
25 Coop cackler
26 Bert’s Sesame Street pal
27 Scoundrel
28 Derive logically
29 Speedometer letters
30 General vicinity
31 Garden soil
32 Otherwise
33 Part of the eye
34 Discourteous
35 Not very many
36 Historical period
37 Between ports
38 Got people upset
39 Ceiling appliance
40 Solar system
41 Where to learn to draw
42 Best possible
43 Makes a mistake
44 Devoured
45 Stitched up
46 Scolds
47 Necessarily involve
48 Send for
49 Pocket change
50 Captured
51 Tire-pressure checker
52 Peanut coverings
53 Word-game pieces
54 Frog relative
55 Nullify
56 Barrel of laughs
57 Informal refusal
58 “That’s __ need to know”
59 Doing nothing

DOWN
1 Pause indicator on a page
2 Common computer font
3 Ancient artifact
4 Bit of whipped cream
5 Football game break
6 Jai __
7 Refuses to
8 Get boiling mad
9 Of prime importance
10 Infant’s bed
11 Prefix for virus
12 Watch face
13 Unload at auction
22 That lady’s
23 Fairy-tale villain
24 Fairy-tale villain
25 Coop cackler
26 Bert’s Sesame Street pal
27 Scoundrel
28 Derive logically
29 Speedometer letters
30 General vicinity
31 Garden soil
32 Otherwise
33 Part of the eye
34 Discourteous
35 Not very many
36 Historical period
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51 Tire-pressure checker
52 Peanut coverings
53 Word-game pieces
54 Frog relative
55 Nullify
56 Barrel of laughs
57 Informal refusal
58 “That’s __ need to know”
59 Doing nothing

Techdoku I
Solution, page 5

ACROSS
1 Display
5 Leaning Tower locale
9 Talks like Daffy Duck
14 Musical finale
15 Some lodge members
16 Prank
17 Wishes undone
18 Yale students
19 Biological classifications
20 Facing trouble
23 Farm pullers
24 Tooth pro’s deg.
25 Lamb’s dad
26 Treat icy roads
28 Wheedled
30 Horace Greeley phrase
34 Show approval
37 Grandson of Eve
39 Excedrin rival
40 Sword handles
42 Before, in verse
43 Gregg expert
44 Buffet’s hometown
45 Stats
47 Swirling water
48 Charlafan
50 Tennis great Rod
52 Blockhead
54 Hano holiday
55 Spelling contest
58 Lager, e.g.
61 Facing trouble
64 Gaveler’s cry
66 Twisty-homed antelope
67 Dead river
68 Divided into districts
69 Author of The NeverEnding Story
70 Ripening agent
71 Japanese city
72 Talk back to
73 Jaunty
74 Fairy-tale villain
75 Two pool lengths
76 Facing trouble
77 Underwater river
78 Stack
79 Read quickly
80 Blunder
81 Become droopy
82 Soft tennis shots
83 Facing trouble
84 PGA tourney locale
85 Espied
86 Ship out
87 Iliad locale
88 Karate blow
89 VIP’s vehicle
90 Two bad!
91 Position in opposition
92 Israel’s first king
93 Wide thoroughfares
94 Aussie hopper
95 Amt. once seen on vitamin bottles

DOWN
1 Boston entree
2 Harass
3 Playwright Clifford
4 Hamper contents
5 Nobility
6 Doomed
7 7 Do without
8 Wild equines

Techdoku II
Solution, page 5

ACROSS
1 Display
5 Leaning Tower locale
9 Talks like Daffy Duck
14 Musical finale
15 Some lodge members
16 Prank
17 Wishes undone
18 Yale students
19 Biological classifications
20 Facing trouble
23 Farm pullers
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95 Amt. once seen on vitamin bottles

DOWN
1 Boston entree
2 Harass
3 Playwright Clifford
4 Hamper contents
5 Nobility
6 Doomed
7 Do without
8 Wild equines

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.
Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun Fun

Thursday, August 27, 2015

by Jorge Cham

**HOW FUNNY YOU FIND PHD COMICS VS TIME**

- **ROFL**
- **LOL**
- **CHUCKLE**
- **SIGH**
- **SMILE**
- **WEAR**
- **WHY, THESE COMICS ARE FUNNY!**
- **SIGNS OF PROcrastination**
- **GOOD MUCH TIME WASTED ONLINE**
- **THESE COMICS ARE GETTING TOO REAL**
- **WHY DO PEOPLE LAUGH AT THESE COMICS? THIS IS MY LIFE! STOP LAUGHING!**
- **IF SOMEONE SENTS ME ANOTHER ‘HILARIOUS’ COMIC, I WILL SNAP**

- **PEAK OF procrastination**
- **ORDERS SET OF PHD BOOKS FOR OFFLINE procrastination**
- **STILL YOUNG, HAVING AND OPTIMISTIC ABOUT GRAD SCHOOL**
- **WHAT IF I DON’T GET IT?**

**YEARS IN GRAD SCHOOL**

- **DO YOU WRITE THIS DATA AS ... OR THE DATA ARE ...?**
- **IS IT SINGULAR OR PLURAL?**
- **THAT IS A DEEP PHILOSOPHICAL QUESTION, ACTUALLY.**
- **IT DEPENDS ON WHETHER YOU CONSIDER DATA TO BE FACTS (PLURAL), OR INFORMATION (SINGULAR).**
- **IT’S A FASCINATING GRAMMATICAL CONUNDRUM.**
- **WHAT IF I ONLY HAVE ONE DATA POINT?**
- **THEN YOU HAVE BIGGER PROBLEMS THAN GRAMMAR.**
Household tip: Tired of buying too much toilet paper? Try unspooling the paper from the roll before using it. A single roll can last for multiple days that way, and it's much easier on your plumbing.

Since people rarely try to cut down cell phone towers, after millions of years, as cell phone towers have gotten more treelike, trees have started growing fake cell phone tower attachments and shiny gray bark to protect themselves. This is a standard textbook example of convergent evolution.

A WEBCOMIC OF ROMANCE, SARCASM, MATH, AND LANGUAGE by Randall Munroe

[1567] Board Game

...Now this file is "allowable" deduction cards. You match them with cards in your hand to preserve their full point value.

[1569] Magic Tree

I'm not listening to you. I mean, what does a SQUIRREL know about mental health?

Yes, it took a lot of work to make the cards and pieces, but it's worth it--the players are way more thorough than the tax prep people are.
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WRESTLING ROOM
MWF 7:30-9

SELF DEFENSE AND EXERCISE

ENTERTAINMENT AND HACKING

LAZINESS, IMPATIENCE, AND HVBRIS

MENS ET MANVS COORDINATAE
As summer comes to a close, we’ve gathered this collection of photos to share our summer memories. These photos form the first part of a compilation of photos taken by photographers of The Tech and Technique. For more information on photographers, contact photo@the-tech.mit.edu.