Participants in a silent walk against terrorism placed lights on the steps outside Memorial Lobby (Lobby 10) as symbols of hope, remembrance, and solidarity on Wednesday evening.

Walk and vigil commemorate victims of Paris terror attacks

By Vivian Zhong

The French community at MIT led a silent walk for remembrance and solidarity on Wednesday night following the Paris terrorist attacks last week.

In the chilly darkness, the walkers quietly tread a path from the Collier Memorial to the War Memorial in Lobby 10, where they laid lights on the steps outside “as a symbol of hope and solidarity.”

As an organizer of the walk explained, the Collier Memorial was chosen as the starting point because it was “the MIT symbol of the fight against terrorism.” The Collier Memorial was built in honor of Sean Collier, the MIT police officer who was killed while on duty in the aftermath of the 2013 Boston mara-

Audit: sluggish processing and a ‘hidden deficit’ caused UA crisis

‘No issues of misappropriation’ came to auditor’s attention

By Alex Delmore

Slow transaction processing and a burgeoning "hidden defi-
cit" caused the UA to overestimate its available funds each fiscal year since 2001, according to an Institute audit that UA President Matthew J. Davis ’16 released to undergradu-

New House suffers third pipe burst

A heating hot water pipe burst in New House earlier this week, resulting in a fire alarm and the evacuation of the building. It was the third pipe burst in New House this year.

Suffolk Construction staff quickly addressed the damage, according to a report from Resi-
dential Life and Dining on Tuesday, but heating in House 3 was be shut down until the repairs were finished. The report stated: “The damage is minimal and should be repaired quickly.” Once the pipe repair is complete, we will open up the two kitchens in this area. Currently, we expect that this repair will be completed today.

Construction crews were seen Tuesday night plastering a hole in the affected wall in House 3.

In an email to residents, New House president Richard "Trey" Watts '18 wrote that several stu-
dents were concerned about the structural soundness of the dorm. "Some students have expressed concern about staying in New House because of the pipe bursts, and those concerns were unfounded."

Student life fee may increase by $11 over the next three years

Davis: increase ‘long overdue’ and necessary to fund student groups

By Emma Bingham

The Council of the Undergradu-
ate Association voted Monday night to propose a $4 increase in the stu-
dent life fee (SLF) for the upcoming fiscal year. The Council also dis-
cussed possible additional increases of $4 and $3 in fiscal years 2017 (FY17) and 2018 (FY18) respectively.

The current student life fee is $304 per year.

UA president Matthew J. Davis ’16 said that the increases are “long overdue” and are necessary to en-
sure student groups will be ade-

IN SHORT

The Choose to Reuse event takes place today, Nov. 19. Drop-off begins at 8 a.m. Participants can pick items to take home between 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The event is held in Stata Center’s lobby at the corner of Main and Vassar Streets.

MIT Community Blood Drives will be held Monday, Nov. 23 and Tues-
day, Nov. 24 from 1 to 6 p.m. on the second floor of the student center.

There is no class on Thursday, Nov. 26 and Friday, Nov. 27.

Send news and tips to newsytech.

mit.edu.

Student life fee, Page 2
Additional $4 and $3 increases not guaranteed

Proposed student life fee increases come after Undergraduate Association debt crisis

Student life fee, from Page 1 count growth in the number of student groups, for which the current trend is an additional 16 new active groups per year. An increase in the SLF, according to Davis, is insurance against bad future leadership in the UA. It also takes into account that financial windfalls received this year, such as a grant from the Division of Student Life and the GSC’s funding for shuttles, will not necessarily be extended to future years.

“If we don’t increase the fee ... the [people] it’s going to hurt [are] students, plain and simple,” Davis said. UA Treasurer Alekhya K. Reddy ’16 emphasized the importance of student groups to the culture of MIT. “Someone puts in of student groups to the culture of MIT, and that ‘the university has the money.’

If MIT can afford to buy large quantities of USB wall plugs to give out at fairs, he said, then it is ‘with- in their ability to do some slight accounting magic’ to find money without raising the SLF.

Another student, David J. Bustillos ’18, questioned the apathy of the student body. “I think it’s about the principle of the thing. When the UA makes a decision, students will just roll over and accept it. I don’t like this trajectory we’re on.”

Student Support Services

Extended Walk-In Hours

NOV 30th – DEC 11th (10am-11:30am and 2:00pm-3:30pm)

It’s Dangerous to Go Alone!

Take This. join@tech.mit.edu
MIT APPLICATION ESSAYS THAT WORKED

‘I am shameless’

This is part of a series of MIT application essays submitted by students who were later admitted to the Institute. The following prompts are from the 2014-15 and 2013-14 admissions seasons. Note that word counts aren’t strictly enforced!

Prompt
What attribute of your personality are you most proud of, and how has it impacted your life so far? This could be your creativity, effective leadership, sense of humor, integrity, or anything else you’d like to tell us about. (200–300 words)

Response
I am shameless. I’ve worn shark costumes on camera, pretend to be a rooster for a Spanish presentation, walked around with a poster that said ‘BET YOU CAN’T HIT ME WITH A QUARTER’ for a band fundraiser, worn a batman costume for my biology lab, and I’ve taken pies to the face in front of my whole school on multiple occasions. People know me as the girl dressed as (insert ridiculous costume) or who got hit with (insert crazy non-lethal object) in a video, club meeting, class project or assembly. I have performed one-woman skits in front of Unitown camps about proper community shower etiquette. I have been laughed at by a Rubix cubing team after singing to (and getting rejected by) my (almost) date for my junior prom. If I was Jehovah’s Witness half the country would convert and the other half would file restraining orders against me. My willingness to go out of the box and approach strangers has helped me rally support for projects I’m passionate about. Most people like to stay in their little bubbles and not get involved. But if you can get their attention, you have a second opportunity to sell yourself and what you’re trying to accomplish. And that’s all I need. Whether it’s landing a website job, a demonstration on microaggressions, or club recruiting, I always go the extra mile to hook someone in. And more often than not they end up not hating me and become another team member in the project I like to call my life.

—Nina Lutz ‘29

Prompt
We know you lead a busy life, full of activities, many of which are required of you. Tell us about something you do simply for the pleasure of it. (200–250 words)

Response
I am a skier. For days before winter storms, I am filled with nervous anticipation, distracted daydreaming, obsessive checking of weather reports. The morning of a powder day is a frantic rush to score fresh tracks and the euphoria they bring. Some call skiing my addiction, and I am often inclined to agree. It’s a drug whose high is as much spiritual as physical. It facilitates a connection to that primal urge to let go, to dream and dance a half-remembered waltz of soul and snow, letting gravity lead across a mountain ballroom.

—William Popov ‘38
Cold front means rain, cool air to end the week

By Colin Thackray

A cold front passing over the eastern U.S. will bring with it some rain and wind to end the week here in Cambridge and some coldest overnight lows through the weekend. While we won’t be getting the chance of snow and Arctic air that will intrude down into the Midwest, we should have a chance to see the thermometers readings drop before freezing for the first time this month. Saturday will be the best day to go outside, with clear skies and quieter winds than the rest of the week.

The northeastern U.S. earlier this week was hit by an unusually powerful windstorm. The low pressure system brought incredible gusts of more than 70 mph to many regions in Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming, with some locations measuring gusts of more than 110 mph. Such high winds caused heavy damage, leaving many people injured and a million without power.

Extended Forecast:


Tomorrow: Low of 50°F. Wind SE 15-20 mph. Rain likely overnight.

Saturday: High of 50°F. Wind N 5-10 mph. Clear. Low of 32°F.

Sunday: High of 50°F. Low around 32°F. Chance of light rain in the morning.

WEATHER

By Lemmy Martinez

Sunsets in my home state of Florida are usually pretty boring, but here in Cambridge they can be quite spectacular. I walked out of the student center and had to run back in to grab a camera.

There is this intense feeling of serenity when you see the perfect sunset. It makes you all warm and happy inside and makes me love this place just a little bit more.

Institute Double Take

By Lemmy Martinez

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Are you a tetris ninja?

Use your powers for good!

94% of MIT students understand that a lack of no does not equal consent.

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Theatre Review

An enchanting trip into the Woods

Musical Theatre Guild performs Sondheim’s beloved fairytale musical

By Tara Lee

For their fall production, MIT Musical Theatre Guild’s (MTG) took on Into the Woods, one of Stephen Sondheim’s most treasured musicals. It’s got fairy tale characters, an endless stream of wishes, and a charming sense of humor. The musical follows a childless baker and his wife, and their quest to break a witch’s curse, where they must journey through the mysterious woods to obtain a set of items for the witch. During their adventure through the woods, their paths intertwine with those of the characters from Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, Cinderella, and Rapunzel, and the plot thickens once the characters begin arguing over questions like “What is right?” and “What should I do with this giant in my backyard?”

You’ll be singing the phrase “I wish” in rising seconds and humming bits and pieces of the show for days.

From “Prologue” to “Last Midnight,” she hit every note with passion and power, and her character exploded with humor and crazed impatience. Brandon Sanchez also had a notable performance, provocatively singing “Hello Little Girl” in the role of the famished Wolf with clear intonation and an impressive voice. In his role as the charismatic Cinderella’s Prince, Sanchez sang a hilarious rendition of “Agony” in a duet with Andrew Koche as Rapunzel’s Prince.

Other noteworthy songs included “Gi- ants in the Sky” (sung by David Favela as Jack), and the technically tricky “Your Fault,” which wove together the voices of Favela, Caroline Walsh (as Little Red), Natasha Batten (as Cinderella), and Trevor Long (as the Baker) into an energetic tune toward the end of the second act. Highlights of the set included Rapunzel’s castle, which doubled as Cinderella’s mother’s grave, and the modular houses that were able to be used in both the forest and the village scenes. I was also a huge fan of the cow, Milky White, complete with a tail and udders.

Running just under three hours, the show is not for those with short attention spans. As a study break, or simply for the enjoyment of watching a fantastic Sondheim musical, catch one of the last couple showings of Into the Woods to enjoy an enchanting trip into the woods.
UA deficit lurked for 4 years

To address budget transparency moving forward, UA will reform its accounting practices, Davis says

Audit, from Page 1

cations were made for FY13. “When it talks about settle-
ments not being processed,” said Davis regarding the report, “that is not the UA’s purview, that is an S&A pov-
iew.” The S&A manages transactions for the UA. Student groups submit their RFPS, or requests for payment, to the S&A, which then processes them and distributes reimburse-
ments. When the UA creates its bud-
get preceding each fiscal year, it asks for a cumulative account balance report from the S&A. On this report, only processed transactions appear.

“The assumption is that every-
things have been properly reconciled,” Davis said in an interview with The Tech, adding that student groups don’t generally ask the S&A. “Are you sure that these are all the trans-
otions that we have? Prove to me that this is the case.”

The report observed that the Fin-
bond account has been accumulat-
ing a deficit for several years. “Since
FY11,” the report from MIT Audit Di-
vision said, “funds transferred into the Finbond account were not suf-
ficient to cover student group actual expenditures.” This “hidden deficit” was corrected during FY15, meaning that the account balance was overes-
timated, by an additional $71,000, at the beginning of FY15.

Going forward, the UA plans to reform its accounting system so that RFPS go through the UA before being processed by the S&A. That way, the UA can keep track of its own records to check against cumulative balance reports from the S&A. “Now what we will be moving to is a system where the expense comes to us, we check it off, then it goes to S&A, and then they process the RFP,” said Davis. “That way, there is nothing that is approved as an expense before it comes to us.”

The UA Council passed a pro-
posal this week to increase the stu-
dent fee by $4, which would add to the UA umbrella income’s steady revenue.

The UA is also planning to form a committee to assess their finances. The committee will be composed of faculty, staff, undergraduates and graduate students from across MIT. Davis wrote in his email to undergraduates.

The UA announced that it was in a state of financial crisis this past June when, in an email to under-
graduates, UA President Matthew J. Davis ’16 wrote that the UA finished fiscal year 2015 with an unexpected deficit of $55,570.22 on its umbrella account. This is the account from which the UA allocates funding for student groups and class councils, among other expenses. The annual UA allocation of about $350,000, which comes from student life fees and other fundraising, paid the defi-
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UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Thursday, November 19
Men’s Basketball vs. Gordon College
7 p.m., Rockwell Cage
Men’s Water Polo vs. Fordham University
10 a.m., Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center

Saturday, November 21
Squash vs. Colby College
3 p.m.
Men’s Basketball vs. Eastern Nazarene College
2 p.m., Rockwell Cage
Men’s Water Polo vs. CWPA Championship
TBA, Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center

Sunday, November 22
Men’s Water Polo vs. CWPA Championship
TBA, Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center

MIT loses three of its four weekly matches in squash

MIT’s sole win comes against Bucknell at Navy Round Robin

By Max Berkowitz
DAILY STAFF

The MIT squash team, ranked No. 25 in the Dunlop Men’s College Squash Association (CSA) Pre-season Poll, went 1-3 this weekend at the Navy Round Robin held at the United States Naval Academy over the weekend.

The Engineers fell to No. 16 Navy, 9-0, and Johns Hopkins University, 5-4, before falling to No. 24 Hobart College, 6-3, on Sunday in MIT’s first road trip of the season.

Jeffrey H. Hu ’16 was the only Engineer to take a set against Navy at position No. 3 in the opener by a score of 11-5, as Navy’s offensive attack was too much for the Cardinal and Gray. After dropping the first two sets by 11-7, 18-16 decisions, Hu took the third in a 11-5-3 victory to move forward.

After Johns Hopkins took the first set, Nikhil N. Pumansay ’17 evened the second match 11-1 with an 11-5, 11-7, 11-9 sweep of Blue Jay Luca Pinelli. The Engineers had a 4-1 match advantage after Hu, Dominick G. Hansford ’17 and Bowden Baker ’16 swept their respective opponents.

The Blue Jays battled back to take the final four matches, two of which went to five sets, for the 5-4 victory over the Engineers. Both Marina F. Crowe ’16 and Elizabeth L. Wi ’17 fell behind early at No. 7 and No. 8, but took the third and fourth sets before falling in a decisive fifth, giving Johns Hopkins the win.

Against Bucknell, MIT opened with five straight victories as the Engineers claimed the 5-4 win over the Bison. At the No. 1 position, Justin P. Restivo ’19 was taken to five sets, but in the fifth Restivo hung strong for the 11-8 win for the early 1-0 match advantage.

Pumansay, Hu, Hansford, and Baker all followed with three set sweeps of their respective opponents to seal the win for MIT.

In the final match of the weekend, MIT fell to nationally ranked Hobart by a 6-3 score. Hobart’s Josh Oakley opened the match with a 3-1 win over Restivo, but the Engineers fought back with three straight wins by Pumansay, Hu, and Hansford.

Despite falling behind 3-1, Ho- bart took the final five sets, all in 3-0 sweeps, to claim the 6-3 win over MIT.

MIT (5-3) competes next on Fri- day, Nov. 20 at Harvard University against Stanford University. Action is expected to get underway at 5:00 p.m.

MIT policy prohibits the use of skateboards, bicycles, roller skates, scooters, or any other form of wheeled personal transportation inside Institute buildings with the exception of medical mobile equipment.

More information can be found in the MIT 2015-2016 Mind and Handbook section V.2. Bicycling on Campus or online at http://police.mit.edu/bicycle-safety-information