Climate sit-in ends with an agreement after 116 total days

FFMIT, VPR joint statement

by Vivian Zhong

An agreement with Vice President for Research Maria T. Zuber officially ended Fossil Free MIT’s 116th day sit-in outside President Reif’s office 1 p.m. Tuesday.

The Institute did not agree to dis- vest, but did agree to establish an ad- visory committee on climate action and create a forum to explore the ethical considerations of climate change, Fossil Free and administra- tors from the office of the Vice Presi- dent for Research (VPR) wrote in a joint statement.

The administrators also agreed to strengthen MIT’s Plan for Action on Climate Change, re-identifying the 32% reduction in carbon emissions on campus as a “floor” rather than a “goal.” Under the agreement, MIT’s Office of Sustainability will also annu- ally re-assess the Institute’s progress toward its goals.

The agreement was reached after months of closed-door discussions; students, faculty, and alumni main- tained that since MIT’s Climate Action Plan was published last Oc- tober. That protest was an attempt to put pressure on the administration to continue dialoguing.

“The deal was done,” Zuber said late Tuesday in a joint interview with The Tech and FFMIT representatives Ioana Knopf, Daniel Mascoop, and Jeremy Poindexter.

President R. L. Reif tasked Zuber and her office with leading negotiations with FFMIT. It was a difficult pro- cess, she said, and negotiations went through multiple drafts and missed multiple deadlines before they reached an agreement.

“The original goal, Zuber said,” was published by us in the CAP because that was what the government rec- ommended and was not based on any analysis of instituting energy ef- ficiency on this campus. Of course [the original goal] is not sufficiently ambitious to meet the 2°C goal,” half a dozen and a dozen FFMIT members have been actively negotiating the scope of the plan with Zuber for the last few months.

Zuber attributed to the students’ idea of “leading to carbon ne- utrality as a grand challenge.” Said Poindexter, “We saw value in move- ing to carbon neutrality because of its potential to galvanize the com- munity and in potential to elevate the Institute as a leader in demonstrat- ing and implementing real actual solutions.

“The administrative side of things, MIT doesn’t want to make a statement of something that we can’t do,” Zuber said. “The Institute wasn’t willing to sign up for something that was not well-received, he said that students have recently considered other stratagems, and residence halls. While he acknowledged that the rise in mental health care and improve mental health outreach and access have improved.

“Siegel said that he has seen “more of an Opensp- kenness” in MIT-students over his tenure, which he considered to be “very constructive.” Whether in mat- ters of politics or mental health, he said this “greater sense of agency” is better for students, allowing their voices to be heard.

Siegel’s decision to retire comes after a “success- sion planning” process that lasted four years. These plans are meant to ease the transition of people in important positions reaching retirement age.

According to Siegel, this planning is typical for several offices, including MIT Medical, that report to Execu- tive Vice President and Treasurer Isabel Ruiz.

At 75, Siegel is still going strong. “I don’t feel like I’m finished,” he said. While he is unsure of how he may work with MIT in the future, he said that he will “continue [his] teaching and supervision of trainees on the faculty of [Harvard Medical School],” as well “maintain a small private practice in [his] outside office.

Medical Director Cecilia Stuopis 90 commended Siegel for working “diligently to destigmatize men-tal health care and improve mental health outreach throughout the MIT community.”

“Through his efforts,” Stuopis said, “service qual- ity and access have improved.”
Art of the Internet scam

New MIT List exhibit explores deception in the virtual world

By Christopher Wang

February 19 to April 17

I found some answers. In the MIT List Center’s most recent curatorial venture, “I Must First Apologize…” Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige MIT List Visual Arts Center

While waiting for the train back to Boston last Thanksgiving, I was approached by a notorious scammer with a tragic story. He had lost his way through recently-discovered hole in his pocket. Now he was stranded in the station with nothing. Would I be able to spare some money? He had $5. I would be glad to help out. Sitting on the train a few minutes later, I was faced with a dilemma. Why did I fall for such an obvious scam? How could I trust a stranger? Weeks later, at an art exhibit, I found some answers. In the MIT List Center’s most recent curatorial venture, “I Must First Apologize…” Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige MIT List Visual Arts Center

The art world is awash in fakery and abstraction. Rather, it is an impression of all the arrogance, creativity, bravado, and debt that doesn’t awaken a new generation of artists. Rather, it is an impression of all the arrogance, creativity, bravado, and debt that doesn’t awaken a new generation of artists. Sometimes, it challenges listeners to see beyond the superficiality of many of West’s records, and present it in the physical world. Visitors hear a scam artist discuss his trade secrets in “Fidel” (2016), or browse a bound collection of spam emails. Hanging from the ceiling, a tangle of speakers chronicling the thefts of the “scammers” — vigilantes dedicated to wanting the time of scammers. When solicited by a scam artist, a scam-beater will trick the unsuspecting victim into running a fool’s errand as a sign of good faith. This particular exhibit adds a nuanced layer to the exhibit’s depiction of scammers. “Trophy Room” highlights the differences between the spammers and the spammers. Most of the scammers seem to live in more developed nations. The pranks that they pull on the scammers, while most harmless, seem to cruelly take advantage of the scammers’ less privileged backgrounds. Taken together, the exhibits do “I Must First Apologize…” — a great job of pulling truth from noise. Although spam emails in- tended to mislead, they contain real information about the recipient’s expectations and credibility as the scammer perceives them. When scammers or scam-beaters set out to deceive, they consider the intelligence and emotion of the deceived. Through a series of carefully constructed pieces, “Apologize” unpacks these intricacies, encouraging an honest human trust from a collection of spam emails.

In the back of the hall, a project rotates through a series of video portraits in “5% All Real” (2014). In the process of recording the monologues for “The Rumor of the World,” the artists also collect- ed genuine stories from their ac- quaintances, a woman speaks of her life in Lebanon after fleeing Iran, and a young man ex- presses his wish to reunite with his missing mother. The authenticity of the experience is refreshing and a little comforting, a reminder that the world is less composed solely of scammers and scam-beaters: some people are trying their best to construct a real identity.
Hannibal Buress performs stand-up comedy at MIT

The actor, writer, and comic brings his unique persona to the Institute

Hannibal Buress
Kresge Auditorium
February 26, 2016

By Gabe Fields

Stand-up comic Hannibal Buress performed to a sold-out Kresge Auditorium on Friday night, in a comedy set ranging from commentary on the previous night’s Republican debate to a solid five minutes of gibberish rap. The show was sponsored by the De Hoozer Fund for Humor, and tickets were distributed by lottery to members of the MIT community.

The Chicago-born comedian has had short stints writing for Saturday Night Live and 30 Rock, but is most well-known for his stand-up comedy and his role as Lincoln in the stand-out Comedy Central show Broad City. Earlier this month, he released a new comedy special, Comedy Camisado, on Netflix, to critical acclaim. Buress is also often credited with helping push the rape allegations against Bill Cosby to the forefront of the public consciousness. Buress has a way of talking about these topics without making it obvious that he was laughing, expertly transitioning from topic to topic without making it obvious that he was telling a set list of jokes. That, in my opinion, is one of the most important characteristics of great stand-up comedy: the ability to get an audience to willingly suspend their disbelief of conscious. Buress kept the audience engaged and laughing, expertly transitioning from topic to topic without making it obvious that he was telling a set list of jokes. That, in my opinion, is one of the most important characteristics of great stand-up comedy: the ability to get an audience to willingly suspend their disbelief and take in a set as if it’s complete stream-of-consciousness. Buress has a way of talking very softly, almost at a whisper, at certain parts of jokes, and he utilized that expertly to keep the crowd hanging on his every word. Whenever he lowered his voice, the entire room would become virtually silent. And his personality, low-key and laid-back but also unpredictable, is an integral part of his comedic persona, manifesting itself in his television characters as well as his stand-up.

Much of Buress’s comedy centered around telling stories. He also talked about contemporary issues like the water crisis in Flint, Michigan, where he went on to headline at a benefit on Sunday, and the current presidential race (my favorite bit from that: “Bernie Sanders is gonna die soon. How has Hillary not pulled that out in debates?”). Also, he’s bad. If the president’s bad already, how are we going to track his stress?”)

But perhaps the most unique part of Buress’s comedy is his experimentation with musical cues. He had a DJ on stage for the entire show who began incorporating into his humor, and who functioned almost as a comedy backup singer. In one joke, Hannibal remarked about how many rap songs start with a line about morning wood. “Don’t believe me?” he said. “I brought evidence.” He proceeded to have the DJ play five-second snippets of every single song that starts with a morning wood remark, commenting on each one. Later on, he played the opening bass line to the song “Fancy” over and over again, making a different joke about how stupid it was every time and bringing it back later to tie into other jokes. The use of preset musical cues somewhat undermined the sense of spontaneity and natural flow that comedians work to construct, but on the other hand it was refreshing to receive acknowledgement of the planned nature of comedy, almost like a wink from backstage. The show was an intriguing mix of traditional stand-up and rehearsed elements, providing hints of where comedy could go in the future.

Just when it seemed like the show was over and Hannibal was about to walk offstage, he yelled, “Ballerinas!” and music blasted as four dancers pirouetted onstage. Buress started rapping over the music as the ballerinas danced. It was unimportant to me, but like most people, I just assumed that there must be decent or funny lyrics buried underneath all the noise from the music and cheering. He did the same song twice, and then one last time with no music, to reveal that he had just been rapping gibberish the entire time. It was a wonderfully disorienting ending to a great show.

COMEDY REVIEW

Solution to Primaries from page 5

Solution to Caucuses from page 5

Solution to Candidate from page 5

WIN $15,000 TO LAUNCH YOUR ART-FOCUSED STARTUP!

APPLY ONLINE BY MARCH 6

Be a PENguin
write for us
e-mail join@tech.mit.edu

arts.mit.edu/15k
#stARTupMIT

Thursday, March 3, 2016

The Tech 3
High pressure across the region will give way to a developing nor’easter that will strengthen and move off of the Carolina coast by Friday morning. The system will deliver a glancing blow to southern New England on Friday as it skirts northeast, bringing a period of light snow and breeze to conditions. Cape Cod may see a period of heavy snow. The low pressure system will spread precipitation into the region. The snow will clear by late Friday as cold temperatures with lows near 20°F (-7°C) remain in the region.

High pressure, partly sunny skies, and cooler temperatures will dominate through Sunday as temperatures moderate slightly. High temperatures will approach 40°F (4°C) by next week. Beyond the weekend, light precipitation may approach the region from the northwest next week as high pressure slides south and low pressure passes to the north and east.

Extended across the region, these weather conditions will persist in the coming weeks until we see an increase in accumulation of precipitation. We may see another period of heavy snowfall. As temperatures continue to drop, residents should prepare for the incoming weather conditions.

OPINION POLICY

Editorials are the opinion of The Tech. The opinions expressed by the Editorial Board, which consists of Chairman Colleen Madlinger, Editor in Chief Katherine Nazemi, Managing Editor Vivian Hu, Executive Editor William Navare ‘19, and Opinion Editor Claire Looby ‘19, are those of the Editorial Board, which consists of Chairman Colleen Madlinger, Editor in Chief Katherine Nazemi, Managing Editor Vivian Hu, Executive Editor William Navare, and Opinion Editor Claire Looby. Dissents are signed opinions of editorial board members. The Tech reserves the right to publish or reject any manuscript submitted to us, whether or not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to newsletter@tech.mit.edu.

Different hands of public officials, especially in the fields of education, may be called upon to produce the final act. It may be that the time for protest is ripe. The public is still aware of its duty to defeat the government by the consent of the governed, by not voting at all. “We need active consent of the governed or the electorate — by the consent of the people — and the only way they could do that is by the consent of the people themselves — and the only way they could do that is by the consent of the people themselves,” said a member of the editorial board.

The Tech reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. The Tech will not be accepted. Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by email to news@tech.mit.edu. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors to general@tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to editors@tech.mit.edu. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at http://tech.mit.edu.

By Keertan Kini

The self-fulfilling prophecy of polarization

In a 1944 radio address to the American people, FDR said, “Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote against the American people themselves — and the only way they could do that is by the consent of the people.”

Regardless of the failures of the government and the political system, democracy pos- sesses an essential virtuousness that is ultimately, the accountability for the system resides with the people themselves — by the consent of those who are governed. We can therefore be reasonably certain that the chaotic elec tion, gridlock between government and, and public and polit ics is ultimately our fault.

The question, then, about polarization, is perhaps the most curious. For years, the American people have witnessed a polit ical system that has compartmentalized the electorate as in the case of immigration reform, and often arguing over reality itself, in the context of climate change. Yet now the notion that we are now simply Romanovs watching political gladiators engage in bloodsport of their own choice is absurd, given that we built the Colosseum and defined the rules of the game.

GIVEN that the last election before 2008 to exceed 60 percent voter turnout occurred nearly five decades ago, and that the more extreme elements vote most frequently, it is no wonder that politicians are more interested in the margins than the center ground. During the 2014 election, for exam ple, nearly 65 percent of the electorate did not vote, not meaning that members of Con gress had little incentive beyond honorable obligation to represent that 65 percent. Yet that population holds the balance of power and the means to bridge the divide. A Pew poll found that only 21 percent of the voting-age population is “consistently liberal or conservative, whereas nearly double that number have mixed opinions.” The “inconsistent, or ‘ideological,’ voters are more likely to show up on election day, so partisan mi norities exercise outside control over elec tion officials. In a vicious cycle, candidates may then seek to increase turnout from the Neutral corners and into the center ground.

We need active consent of the governed

We need active consent of the governed or the electorate — by the consent of the people — and the only way they could do that is by the consent of the people themselves, to shy away from making a decision on the individuals who, for better or worse, become the voice of the people. It is long past time we show up on election day, so partisan mi norities vote most frequently, and the only way they could do that is by the consent of the people themselves, to shy away from making a decision on the individuals who, for better or worse, become the voice of the people. We need active consent of the governed or the electorate — by the consent of the people — and the only way they could do that is by the consent of the people themselves, to shy away from making a decision on the individuals who, for better or worse, become the voice of the people. We need active consent of the governed or the electorate — by the consent of the people — and the only way they could do that is by the consent of the people themselves, to shy away from making a decision on the individuals who, for better or worse, become the voice of the people.

The final point, about polarization, is extreme elements vote most frequently, it is no wonder that politicians are more interested in the margins than the center ground. During the 2014 election, for example, nearly 65 percent of the electorate did not vote, not meaning that members of Congress had little incentive beyond honorable obligation to represent that 65 percent. Yet that population holds the balance of power and the means to bridge the divide. A Pew poll found that only 21 percent of the voting-age population is “consistently liberal or conservative, whereas nearly double that number have mixed opinions.” The “inconsistent, or ‘ideological,’ voters are more likely to show up on election day, so partisan minorities exercise outside control over elected officials. In a vicious cycle, candidates may then seek to increase turnout from the Neutral corners and into the center ground.

This phenomenon should not be sur prising. Recent voter ID laws such as that currently being challenged in North Carolina are increasing the activation energy for a voting-age individual to actually exercise his or her political voice, much as poll taxes and literacy tests were instituted to disenfranchise voters and thereby reduce the size of the electorate. This tactic is aided by poorly publicized registration deadlines.

Ideally, a candidate would be elected through persuasion, using a majority of their constituency through rhetorical strength. Cynically, a candidate would be elected by pandering to a majority of their constituency. Currently, a candidate would ignore the majority of their constituency, prefer ring instead to strengthen the margins to boost turnout and dishearten the rest of the electorate to reduce it.

In the past, I respected abstention as a valid option for voters to take. I used to rationalize that it is free and that the political system is discouraging, and I repeat edly excused peers when, out of cynicism or distrust, they sacrificed their political voice for expediency. Now, I believe that to vote is to say that one is shirk one’s duty as a citizen, to shy away from making a decision on the individuals who, for better or worse, become the voice of the people.

As Associate Justice Brandeis wrote, “The most important political office is that of the private citizen.” It is long past time we start respecting that office and do our job, if we ever want our representatives to do theirs.
## Primaries

Solution, page 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12+</th>
<th>10+</th>
<th>15x</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30x</td>
<td>4−</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10x</td>
<td>432x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>6x</td>
<td>12x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2−</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4+</td>
<td>4−</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

## Caucuses

Solution, page 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>22+</th>
<th>8+</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3+</td>
<td>1−</td>
<td>20x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120x</td>
<td>216x</td>
<td>3+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9+</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1−</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30x</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

## "Establishment Candidate"

Solution, page 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>15+</th>
<th>5+</th>
<th>2−</th>
<th>45x</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48x</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5−</td>
<td>9+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45x</td>
<td>21+</td>
<td>5−</td>
<td>12+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6+</td>
<td>240x</td>
<td>5−</td>
<td>32+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>36x</td>
<td>5x</td>
<td>12x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31+</td>
<td>56x</td>
<td>45x</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–9. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.
LEADERS BUILT HERE

Escape the bustle of campus and enjoy time away to build, bond and inspire at the MIT Endicott House conference center. Situated on 25 acres of grounds, Endicott House offers an affordable destination experience, yet only 12 miles from campus. Book & hold your retreat prior to April 31, 2016 and qualify for your choice of a complimentary workshop: greenhouse gardening, outdoor teambuilding course or team cooking challenge!

617-715-4900 or endicott-sales@mit.edu

OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

MIT can be a bewildering place if you don’t know what’s going on.

Don’t be a confused panda!
Instead, be a smart panda.
A happy panda.

Tech reporters hunt down news; photographers get exclusive shots; arts reviewers attend exclusive contents and interview stars; opinion writers rouse campus support (or ire) on important topics; our business department sells advertisements from all over the nation; and production staff see the entire issue—even the parts that don’t make it to press—long before we print.

Want in? Join The Tech!
Women feel less prepared for Course 6, report finds

A report based on results from the EECS Undergraduate Experience Survey revealed that women feel less prepared and are less confident than men in their ability to succeed in Course 6. Across all surveyed class years, more women indicated that they doubted their EECS abilities. Among sophomores, 67 percent of women indicated they had doubts at some point, which is more than double the 28 percent of men who felt the same way.

Of these respondents, 41 percent of women claimed their lack of confidence was due to “something a Course 6 student said or did,” compared to only 16.4 percent of men.

Based on open-ended survey responses, factors that may have contributed to gender inequities and a general lack of confidence include student and department culture, which might promote one-upmanship and generally cause feelings of inadequacy. Some classes, often introductory classes, are structured such that less experienced programmers apparently feel discouraged, according to responses.

The report also proposed a set of recommendations to alleviate some of the perceived inequalities in Course 6. Teaching Assistants and Lab Assistants could be trained to address gender bias; help change the traditional gender roles of how students interact. Professors might provide self-assessments for their courses, helping students decide what to take and boosting the confidence of students who would otherwise be discouraged by their peers. Advisors could be instructed to correct false perceptions about the EECS department to give students a more realistic perspective of their abilities.

The survey was prompted by findings of the Undergraduate Student Advisory Group in EECS in 2014. The group found that a smaller proportion of women take classes that are considered more difficult.

—Ray Wang

Is there anyone you want to shadow for 24 hours?

We’re looking for writers to follow someone around for one day and write about it!

It’s a great way to make connections on campus!

Join Campus Life @ The Tech!

E-mail join@tech.mit.edu

2016 Scholarships and Awards

To support members investing in their education and communities, MIT Federal Credit Union is offering scholarships and award opportunities for Spring 2016.

- MIT Federal Credit Union Memorial Scholarship Program
- MIT Federal Credit Union People Helping People Award

Submission Deadline: March 15, 2016

Learn more and apply online today: mitfcu.org/ScholarshipsAwards

Cyber issues have quickly risen to the top of the US-China bilateral agenda. While espionage has grabbed the headlines, the cyber struggle with Beijing involves every dimension of national power.

James Mulvenon is senior vice-president of DRI’s Intelligence Division. A Chinese linguist and a specialist on the Chinese military, he is a leading international expert on Chinese cyber issues.

Joel Brenner was senior counsel at the National Security Agency and head of U.S. counterintelligence under the director of national intelligence. He is currently a Robert E. Wilhelm fellow at the MIT Center for International Studies.
SUCCEss! It's up
My stilt as a stand-up comedian
By Chloe Yang
ASSOCIATE CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Allows me to describe a mo- ment of distilled fear. Imagine Simmons Hall Auditorium: MIT students line the seats, crammed shoulder to shoulder. Audience members spill from plush red roses onto the stairs. Every pair of eyes is fixed on a lone figure onstage. A spotlight chains her in place. As initial applause dies down, she begins to speak into the microphone in her hand—and in that moment, more than anything in the world, she wants the audi- ence to laugh.

For all you super sleuths out there, that lone figure was me. Two Thursdays ago, 14 other stu- dents and I each performed five minutes of stand-up comedy. I stood in front of 150 people and told them about winning “Most Improved Christian” at my racist church camp, about my haircut (which makes me a man and a lesbian, according to my mother), about the DNA polymorphisms that aid this hair-induced transforma- tion, and more.

Adrenaline, anxiety, and ex- citement drowned out all memo- ries of performing. Only sensory snippets remain: the numb, wob- bly weakness I felt in my hands, the heat of the spotlight in my hand, the heat of the spot- light and balmy waves of laughter.

Before you ask, this show was not affiliated with Roadkill Buffet, nor was it improv. We were not in- spired by the science of watching stand-up clips on YouTube over bowls of stress ice cream while attending MIT, it is all too easy to believe that the only ideas we learned to MIT and breathed life into our Tuesday nights. I left each class with flushed cheeks and a giddy buzz in my chest, feel- ing like I had just run a marathon.

Mehran exceeded what I imag- ined a comedian would be. If people were gourmet chocolates, he would be a fiery blaze of chili pepper in your dark chocolate truffle. Every word he spoke was saturated with absurd, crude, side-splitting honesty. He made us squirm, then giggle; he forced us to be our most brazen selves, to share like I had just run a marathon.

For me, this all started with a Class of 2019 Facebook post. A SUCC alumna linked the appli- cation and encouraged us all to give it a go. I had no experience with comedy, but I had a habit of watching stand-up clips on YouTube over bowls of stress ice cream and unfinished psets. It was a dream of mine to perform, but now that opportunity stared me in the face, could I take it?

My thoughts were shredded in uncertainty. Was I too awkward, too vanilla? I love puns to the point of near defenestration. Was it silly of me to think that I could make people laugh? I felt myself su- vever, so I did the only thing that could prevent me from chicken- ing out. I messaged a friend—all caps, dramatic Facebook stick- ers, the whole nine yards — and forced him to apply, too.

At the time, as I drafted that Facebook message, I was terri- fied of failure. Stand-up comedy as a performance art is uniquely unforgiving, vulnerable, and self-ish. To be a comedian, you must be narcissistic and confident and crazy enough to think that your stories should make people laugh, that your ranting deserves their undivided attention and love. If you are met with a wall of silence, there is no question about where the blame falls. Comedy is entirely personal. On stage, you unravel yourself for the audience: you let them see inside your Pandora’s box of idiosyncrasies and taboo thoughts. They hold a bow and ar- row trained on you; you hope that they won’t shoot.

Looking back, though, I’m glad I transcended my stress ice cream and YouTube binges. SUCC was the host favor I could have done myself. It is too easy to precon- cuncate on dreams; they are safe from the scientific method. Following the tail end of a half-baked fancy, however, opened the floodgates of my mental dam.

I want to do stand-up com- edy, all I have to do is go to open mics. If I want to sing, I’ll try out for a cappella. If I want to speak my mind, I’ll do it, even if it scares me. There is no further prepara- tion, no fanfare, no good omen required. As Shia LaBoeuf once vehemently expressed via viral videos, “just do it.” I am more comfortable in my own skin, now that I’ve informed 150 people of my “lesbian” hair and lived to tell the tale. I’ve re- alized that it is easy to saddle fu- ture me with my dreams, and it is easy to hope that she will be more qualified to do everything I am afraid to do now. That is not the case. If I want something, I need to SUCC it up, take the mic, and step into my spotlight.
PORTRAITS OF RESILIENCE

Tyler Hess

Editor’s Note: Portraits of Resilience is a photography and narrative series by Prof. Daniel Jackson. Each installment consists of a portrait and a story, told in the subject’s own words, of how they found resilience and meaning in their life.

The first time I got a B in my life, I broke out in tears. That was in Mrs. Griffen’s fourth grade reading class, and never did I get a B again until I came to MIT. She fooled me; I would motivate me, but instead it crushed me and was a traumatic experience I remember to this day. I was in the gifted program. I cared so much about grades, I was pulling all-nighters in elementary school.

It wasn’t coming from my family. They rejoiced that night that I came home and cried about my grades, and I vividly joked, “Finally! Proof you’re human!” They even baked me a cake. My family is one-in-a-million. My dad showed us the value of hard work, commuting three hours a day so we could grow up in the picturesque Poconos Mountains. You couldn’t find a more loving and caring mother. In her eyes, my three brothers and I could do no wrong.

In high school, I really cared about grades, and when I got good grades it was super rewarding. I found myself wanting to do things that used to bring me pleasure. I started putting off and worked for some startups — joined a research group, but that wasn’t happy there either. I decided I had enough. I wanted to feel something. I was pretty sure it was safe. I had scoped it out the summer before with a friend, and we went down the water as deep as we could to check it out. There was no one down in the water. As I jumped, I realized how much I really liked. He said, “We’re going to MIT!”

One of my friends offered me a job at Booth Allen Hamilton. I wasn’t sure it was the right choice, so I took it. The first opportunity I had to leave went to work with one of my old professors, who was starting a university in Russia. I wasn’t happy there either, and I was like, “Maybe I’d like to do research.” So I came back to MIT and joined a research group, but that wasn’t my thing either. I took a year off and worked for some startups — all these world-class opportunities that some people would probably kill for. But I wasn’t happy, and that’s when I realized it wasn’t the external things.

As I took a year off, I dropped all my responsibilities and started practicing yoga. I did a yoga teacher-training program, and I became really interested in Buddhist philosophy. I started attending the Cambridge Insight Meditation Center.

I was raised Catholic, and one of the things you hear is, “You’re created in God’s image.” There are many different ways of interpreting it, but one way I heard at a Buddhist study group was that it’s like a glove with a God-shaped void inside. I feel that void, but I’m not sure it’s God that fills it. One of my Christian friends at yoga suggested reading the Bible but replacing every instance of God and Jesus with the word love. What if filling this void is being part of loving and supportive relationships. You see that some people would probably kill for. But I wasn’t happy, and that’s when I realized it wasn’t the external things.

One of my friends offered me a job at Booth Allen Hamilton. I wasn’t super happy there, so I took the first opportunity I had to leave. I went to work with one of my old professors, who was starting a university in Russia. I wasn’t happy there either, and I was like, “Maybe I’d like to do research.” So I came back to MIT and joined a research group, but that wasn’t my thing either. I took a year off and worked for some startups — all these world-class opportunities that some people would probably kill for. But I wasn’t happy, and that’s when I realized it wasn’t the external things.

As I took a year off, I dropped all my responsibilities and started practicing yoga. I did a yoga teacher-training program, and I became really interested in Buddhist philosophy. I started attending the Cambridge Insight Meditation Center.

I was raised Catholic, and one of the things you hear is, “You’re created in God’s image.” There are many different ways of interpreting it, but one way I heard at a Buddhist study group was that it’s like a glove with a God-shaped void inside. I feel that void, but I’m not sure it’s God that fills it. One of my Christian friends at yoga suggested reading the Bible but replacing every instance of God and Jesus with the word love. What if filling this void is being part of loving and supportive relationships. You see that some people would probably kill for. But I wasn’t happy, and that’s when I realized it wasn’t the external things.

One of my friends offered me a job at Booth Allen Hamilton. I wasn’t super happy there, so I took the first opportunity I had to leave. I went to work with one of my old professors, who was starting a university in Russia. I wasn’t happy there either, and I was like, “Maybe I’d like to do research.” So I came back to MIT and joined a research group, but that wasn’t my thing either. I took a year off and worked for some startups — all these world-class opportunities that some people would probably kill for. But I wasn’t happy, and that’s when I realized it wasn’t the external things.
Agreement’s core points include ethics committee

FFMIT still supports divestment, though Institute has not reconsidered its position

Sit-in, from Page 1

... as a way of advancing progress on climate change,” meaning that the first goal of the sit-in, divestment from fossil fuel companies, has not been met.

“MIT did not divest from fossil fuels because engagement with industries will enable progress to be made more quickly,” Zuber asserted. “We agree that we disagree [with FFMIT]. The idea of shareholder responsibility is something we consider important. It’s not just a climate change issue. It’s not part of this discussion because it is broader.”

Zuber explained some of the limits that MIT will face in reaching carbon neutrality, namely the available technology and funds. On the latter issue, she asserted that “we are not cutting back on financial aid or anything else that is important to our students.”

A second point of agreement between FFMIT and the VPR office resulted in a “new climate action advisory committee” which will “provide advice to identify, develop, and publish engagement strategies and benchmarks,” as well as a forum, to be convened by Zuber, “to explore benchmarks, as well as a forum, to provide advice to identify, develop, and publish engagement strategies and benchmarks,” as well as a forum, to be convened by Zuber, “to explore benchmarks, as well as a forum, to provide advice to identify, develop, and publish engagement strategies and benchmarks.”

For FFMIT members, the sit-in resulted in “a sense of validation,” with Zuber noting “the enthusiasm over this committee and its transparency.” The next steps for FFMIT, Mascoop said, are to work together with the VPR office on the ethical considerations of climate change. Previous efforts, he held a “dialogue between the major climate companies” praised as “the start of a real change.” Zuber pointed out that MIT’s “commitment to the 2°C goal at the Paris climate change conference” has helped MIT in sharing “the progress and performance of the Climate Action Plan with the MIT community.”

The idea of shareholder responsibility is something we consider important. It’s not just a climate change issue. It’s not part of this discussion because it is broader.”

Zuber replied that MIT’s implementation of the Climate Action Plan could serve as a model for the countries that committed to the 2°C goal at Paris climate change conference. “I bet you that not all those countries know how to get there,” she said, adding that Janos Pasztor, the former Assistant Secretary General on Climate Change to the UN, has expressed interest in sharing the results and recommendations with other countries.

Zuber has already begun to gather faculty members for the forum on the ethical considerations of climate change. Previously, her office held a sit-in to enjoy celebratory cake.

For FFMIT members, the sit-in resulted in “a sense of validation,” with Zuber noting “the enthusiasm over this committee and its transparency.” The next steps for FFMIT, Mascoop said, are to work together with the VPR office on the ethical considerations of climate change. Previous efforts, he held a “dialogue between the major climate companies” praised as “the start of a real change.” Zuber pointed out that MIT’s “commitment to the 2°C goal at the Paris climate change conference” has helped MIT in sharing “the progress and performance of the Climate Action Plan with the MIT community.”
Arinze C. Okeke ’18 won individual golds in the triple and long jumps at the recently-concluded New England Division III Indoor Championships and is in line to represent MIT at the NCAA Division III indoor meet. Okeke has taken major strides since entering the track scene in his high school days. Now he has set his sights on a first-place finish at the national meet.

The Tech: February page of the month opens up about what it takes to get better at jumping, how he motivates himself, and his love for anime.

The Tech: Congratulations on first-place finishes in both the triple and long jumps in the New England Division III meet and on qualifying for the NCAA Division III Nationals. How does it feel?

Okeke: I am pretty excited. It has been my goal since the last season to jump over seven meters. My triple jump goal has not been reached yet but I feel that the nationals will be a perfect place to achieve that. I am aiming for first place and the school record. Currently my best is 14.70m but I would like to break the school records for both indoor (15.84m) and outdoor (15.35m) seasons.

The Tech: Have you always been a triple and a long jumper?

Okeke: I started track in high school. I was a sprinter and jumper. My long jump was at 2.20 at 12th. After my first year in high school my coach put me on the triple jump team but took me out of the long jump team. After I had improved at triple jump, I was added back to the long jump roster during my junior year.

The Tech: How does one improve at jumping, triple or long?

Okeke: The two key components are speed and power. If you have good speed but good power you will not travel well horizontally. On the other hand, if you have good speed but no power you will not have as much time. Here we train for both hand-in-hand. We do both Olympic lifts and sprint drills to work on our power and speed.

The Tech: You compete in both indoor and outdoor track. What is the difference between the two?

Okeke: For jumps there is not a whole lot of difference between indoor and outdoor besides the wind. If the wind is at your back, you might want to buckle up a bit so you do not fall if you are about to jump. If it is flowing toward you, maybe move up a little or just wait for the wind to die down.

The Tech: Is there such a thing as a favorite track? Are there tracks you prefer more than others?

Okeke: I really like competing at home. It is where we practice so there is a lot of familiarity. The Boston University track is pretty good. That track is springy. When you are doing a triple jump you should stay vertical throughout. If you lean back, your leg is in front of you and then you are braking instead of pushing forward and that can hurt on a hard track as opposed to a springy track. So those would be my two favorite tracks.

The Tech: What is your goal for the NCAA Division III Indoor meet?

Okeke: I am aiming for first place in triple jump. The long jump is more competitive. My goal for that event is to score as many points as I can, which requires finishing in the top eight. At the last national outdoor meet I was in eighth place and I got run down, and pushed out of scoring to 9th place, by the person who was behind me. Intellectually, I am currently ranked No. 1 in triple jump, so I am excited to compete against him. I am using that as my motivation.

The Tech: What do you like to do off the track?

Okeke: I am a Course 20 major. I am minoring in chemistry and maybe mechanical engineering or Japanese. For the Japanese minor I need six language classes and two cultural classes. I will definitely take the six language classes. My interest in Japanese stems from my love for anime since I was in middle school. So I thought it would be cool to learn the language. I am going to Japan this summer through the MIST program and I am really looking forward to that experience.

The Tech: Today is the leap day of this leap year. You clearly love to jump. What makes jumping so appealing?

Okeke: I love jumping. It is something I do well enough to be able to compete. It is like some video games. You know how the game goes but you keep trying to get a better score each time you play. So I like that I can compete against myself as well as compete against other athletes. The other jumpers at MIT are also amazing and therefore we constantly keep motivating each other to do better.

The Tech: Thank you for your time and all the best for the national meet!

Okeke: Thank you.

Editor’s note: This interview was edited for clarity and brevity. You can nominate your teammate or friend for Player of the Month at sports@tech.mit.edu.

Men’s basketball edged in close New England final

Babson Beavers pulled away after late changes to defeat the Engineers 81–69

By Souparno Ghosh

Babson Beavers pulled away late after 11 lead changes to defeat the Engineers 81–69

Thursday, March 3, 2016 The Tech

It was a game of back-and-forth with neither team being able to take control of the contest, with neither team being able to take control of the contest. The Tech: Congratulations on first-place finishes in both the triple and long jumps in the New England Division III meet and on qualifying for the NCAA Division III Nationals. How does it feel?

Okeke: I am pretty excited. It has been my goal since the last season to jump over seven meters. My triple jump goal has not been reached yet but I feel that the nationals will be a perfect place to achieve that. I am aiming for first place and the school record. Currently my best is 14.70m but I would like to break the school records for both indoor (15.84m) and outdoor (15.35m) seasons.

The Tech: Have you always been a triple and a long jumper?

Okeke: I started track in high school. I was a sprinter and jumper. My long jump was at 2.20 at 12th. After my first year in high school my coach put me on the triple jump team but took me out of the long jump team. After I had improved at triple jump, I was added back to the long jump roster during my junior year.

The Tech: How does one improve at jumping, triple or long?

Okeke: The two key components are speed and power. If you have good speed but good power you will not travel well horizontally. On the other hand, if you have good speed but no power you will not have as much time. Here we train for both hand-in-hand. We do both Olympic lifts and sprint drills to work on our power and speed.

The Tech: You compete in both indoor and outdoor track. What is the difference between the two?

Okeke: For jumps there is not a whole lot of difference between indoor and outdoor besides the wind. If the wind is at your back, you might want to buckle up a bit so you do not fall if you are about to jump. If it is flowing toward you, maybe move up a little or just wait for the wind to die down.

The Tech: Is there such a thing as a favorite track? Are there tracks you prefer more than others?

Okeke: I really like competing at home. It is where we practice so there is a lot of familiarity. The Boston University track is pretty good. That track is springy. When you are doing a triple jump you should stay vertical throughout. If you lean back, your leg is in front of you and then you are braking instead of pushing forward and that can hurt on a hard track as opposed to a springy track. So those would be my two favorite tracks.

The Tech: What is your goal for the NCAA Division III Indoor meet?

Okeke: I am aiming for first place in triple jump. The long jump is more competitive. My goal for that event is to score as many points as I can, which requires finishing in the top eight. At the last national outdoor meet I was in eighth place and I got run down, and pushed out of scoring to 9th place, by the person who was behind me. Intellectually, I am currently ranked No. 1 in triple jump, so I am excited to compete against him. I am using that as my motivation.

The Tech: What do you like to do off the track?

Okeke: I am a Course 20 major. I am minoring in chemistry and maybe mechanical engineering or Japanese. For the Japanese minor I need six language classes and two cultural classes. I will definitely take the six language classes. My interest in Japanese stems from my love for anime since I was in middle school. So I thought it would be cool to learn the language. I am going to Japan this summer through the MIST program and I am really looking forward to that experience.

The Tech: Today is the leap day of this leap year. You clearly love to jump. What makes jumping so appealing?

Okeke: I love jumping. It is something I do well enough to be able to compete. It is like some video games. You know how the game goes but you keep trying to get a better score each time you play. So I like that I can compete against myself as well as compete against other athletes. The other jumpers at MIT are also amazing and therefore we constantly keep motivating each other to do better.

The Tech: Thank you for your time and all the best for the national meet!

Okeke: Thank you.

Editor’s note: This interview was edited for clarity and brevity. You can nominate your teammate or friend for Player of the Month at sports@tech.mit.edu.

In a game that saw 11 lead changes and seven ties, No. 3 seeded-MIT put up a fight against No. 1 seed Babson College in the championship game of the 2016 New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference (NEWMAC) men’s basketball tournament. The Beavers managed to pull away late in the second half, however, and claimed the championship with an 81–69 victory.

Junior Flannery was named the tournament MVP and scored 24 points. He claimed the championship with an 81–69 victory. Junior Joey Flannery was named the tournament MVP and scored 24 points. He claimed the championship with an 81–69 victory. Junior Joey Flannery was named the tournament MVP and scored 24 points. He claimed the championship with an 81–69 victory. Junior Joey Flannery was named the tournament MVP and scored 24 points. He claimed the championship with an 81–69 victory.

By Phil Hess

By Phil Hess

By Phil Hess

By Phil Hess

By Phil Hess

By Phil Hess

By Phil Hess

By Phil Hess

By Phil Hess

By Phil Hess

By Phil Hess

By Phil Hess
FLY FROM BOSTON ON THE ULTIMATE ADVENTURE WITH ISRAELIS ON THIS SUMMER’S BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL: SHORASHIM MIT, WELLESLEY, + BOSTON COMMUNITY FRIENDS EXPERIENCE!

APPLY NOW @ ISRAELWITHISRAELIS.COM/MITSIGNUP

THIS TRIP IS A GIFT FROM BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL • #BIRTHRIGHT #SHORASHIM

CONTACT SHOSHANA GIBBOR: (848) 992-7374 I BIRTHRIGHT@MIT.EDU