

MIT's Oldest and
Largest Newspaper

tech.mit.edu



WEATHER, p. 2

FRI: 62°F | 56°F
Heavy rain
SAT: 69°F | 60°F
Morning rain
SUN: 76°F | 60°F
Partly sunny

Volume 133, Number 27

Friday, June 7, 2013

Drew Houston speaks at 147th Commencement

Dropbox founder — youngest Commencement speaker to date — delivers keynote address



ARTHUR PETRON—THE TECH

Ásbjörg Kristinsdóttir, PhD candidate in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, receives her doctoral hood from Chancellor Eric Grimson PhD '80 and department head Andrew Whittle ScD '87 in Rockwell Cage Thursday.

By Jessica J. Pourian
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Over 2,600 students will graduate from MIT today, receiving over 3,300 degrees. Killian Court is expected to be filled with over 13,000 guests at the Institute's 147th Commencement. MIT will award 1,042 bachelor's degrees, 1,749 master's, 11 engineer degrees, and 587 doctoral degrees, according to Registrar Mary Callahan. (September and February degrees are included in this count as well.) 977 undergraduates and 1,658 graduate students will walk in today's Commencement exercises, while PhD students were hooded at yesterday's doctoral hooding ceremony in Rockwell Cage. The Graduating Student Survey, conducted annually by MIT's office of Global Education and Career Development (GECD), found that 37 percent of the undergraduate Class of 2013 will be continuing on to graduate school, while 56 percent will be entering the workforce. 2 percent have enrolled in another education program,

another 2 percent are undecided, and the final one percent is doing another activity, according to Deborah L. Liverman, the director of career services. Of those planning to work, 95 percent will be in the US — the most popular states for employment are Massachusetts (29 percent), California (26 percent), and New York (14 percent). 52 percent of the undergraduate class responded to the survey as of June 4 at 9 a.m.

Keynote speaker

Today's keynote speaker will be Drew W. Houston '05 (pronounced "house-ton," unlike the city in Texas), the founder of the popular online file storage service Dropbox. Houston, 29, will be the youngest MIT commencement speaker in at least 30 years — beating out last year's speaker, Sal Khan '98, who was 35 at the time. Houston is the age of some of the graduates today!

Houston graduated from MIT

Commencement, Page 8

One year, 27 schools, 1 million enrollments

EdX sees new schools, classes, & design

By Kath Xu
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

It's been a little more than a year since edX, the nonprofit online learning enterprise founded by MIT and Harvard, first launched with much fanfare and a lot of press. Now, the enterprise encompasses 27 schools from 11 countries. In the past two weeks alone, edX has added more than half of those schools. At the same time, edX has completely overhauled its website design with the

intentions of making it more colorful, sleek, and ultimately more appealing to the world. Finally, last Saturday, edX released its entire source code with the hopes of making the learning platform an open source project to which the community can contribute.

New schools, new courses, new design

The 15 additional schools who have now partnered with edX

EdX, Page 14

Swartz evidence to be released

Redacted documents to be made public within 88 days

By Joanna Kao
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

The 88-day process to make evidence in the Swartz trial public has begun. The government, Aaron Swartz's lawyers, MIT, and JSTOR submitted a plan last Friday to release certain documents, but identifying information about MIT employees will be scrubbed, among other redactions. The plan was endorsed on Monday by U.S. District Judge Nathaniel M. Gorton. Swartz's lawyers will have to turn over the evidence they collected for the trial to the Attorney's office by

Monday, and the other parties will have 60 days to make the appropriate redactions. Swartz's lawyers will have 14 days to review the redactions, and all parties will have seven days to settle any disputes. If there are no extensions, the entire process will take a total of 88 days.

Swartz was federally indicted in July 2011 for downloading 4.8 million documents from JSTOR using MIT's resources (by leaving a laptop in a wiring closet in the basement of building 16 that was downloading articles using MIT's network) with the intent of distributing them. Swartz was also indicted by the Middlesex

Superior Court in November 2011, but those charges were dropped in March 2012. In September 2012, the federal indictment was revised from four counts to thirteen counts against Swartz. Swartz pleaded not guilty to all 13 counts.

Because of the sensitive nature of the case, the court placed the documents collected in preparation for the trial under a protective order in November 2011, meaning that those documents would not be made available to the public.

The case was dismissed after

Swartz, Page 17

Eastgate evacuated due to penthouse stove fire

SidPac by day, Hyatt for some at night

By Joanna Kao
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Residents in MIT's Eastgate graduate dorm were forced to evacuate their building on Saturday when a stovetop fire broke out at 1:35 p.m. in the penthouse kitchen on the 29th floor, which is open to all residents. Residents were transported by bus to Sidney-Pacific, where food, childcare, and air conditioning (the temperature was over 92 degrees Saturday afternoon) was available. Most residents were allowed back into the building at 8:30 p.m. (around seven hours after the fire), but MIT had to put up a few residents in the

Hyatt overnight. Since this event occurred the week before graduation and summer classes begin on Monday, some residents had moved in just days before the fire.

When the fire broke out, the sprinklers and smoke detectors in the kitchen went off at the same time — no one had pulled a fire alarm. The water from the sprinklers got into the elevators, stairwells, and the hallway on the 27th floor. Water also intruded into three apartments on the 28th floor, including the housemasters' apartment.

In the hours following the fire,

Eastgate, Page 13



JESSICA L. WASS—THE TECH

Architect Alan Joslin '77 holds up concept art as he explains what Phi Beta Epsilon will look like once construction is finished. The \$7.2 million project includes building a new tower on the Amherst Alley side of the house, as well as a complete renovation of the existing interior and roof deck.

IN SHORT

The next Dean of Undergraduate Education will be professor of electrical engineering Dennis Freeman, succeeding Daniel Hastings.

For more Commencement information, visit <http://web.mit.edu/commencement/>.

MIT is collecting ideas for a permanent memorial for Officer Sean Collier. Email suggestions to ideasformemorial@mit.edu by June 30.

LaVerdes is on summer hours and will be open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Saferide hours have changed for summer. Check http://web.mit.edu/facilities/transportation/shuttles/schedules/Saferide_holiday-2012.pdf for more information.

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

DRUNK OFF THE FIREHOSE AT MIT

MIT has produced many successful graduates — but how can it improve? **OPINION, p. 4**

THE HIGHEST COMPENSATED

Who are MIT's highest compensated employees of 2011? **NEWS, p. 18**

MITWE, VIDEO, AND SHARIFI

Partnering for PBS documentary on the Arab Spring: *Awakening*. **ARTS, p. 9**



MIT: LAND OF THE NERDS AND GEEKS?

Missed *The Tech's* fandom special in the last issue? Check it out at <http://bit.ly/mitfandom>.

MIURA DIES IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENT

CSAIL visiting scientist Kanako Miura passed away May 19 after an accident. **NEWS, p. 13**

SECTIONS

World & Nation . . . 2
Opinion 4
Campus Life 6
Fun Page 7
Arts 9
Sports 19

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By Ryan Normandin
STAFF COLUMNIST

For the last four years, MIT has been my world. The Institute is a cruel and jealous master, demanding nothing less than complete devotion. It consumes you, and you become consumed by it.

Yet the payoff for one's time here is nothing less than grand; my four years have enhanced nearly every aspect of my person, making me smarter, more hard-working, and better at solving problems. I am more conscious of the complexity and nuances in the problems the world faces today. It's made me both more eager to tackle them and more capable of doing so.

Yet for all the praise that is heaped upon the Institute by its students, by its faculty, and by the rest of the world, there is still much work to be done. Is MIT one of the best at what it does? Absolutely. Can it do better? Significantly.

As a graduating senior, someone who has lived and breathed MIT for the last four years, I will attempt to comment on its model of education and its culture, the two aspects of the Institute that I have had the most intimate interaction with. While I do not have answers to all the questions I pose, I hope this piece will help frame discussions around some of the problems facing MIT.

The problem with lecture

MIT boasts world-class academics. It conducts cutting-edge research in nearly every technical field, its undergraduate students have unparalleled access to this research, and its graduates go on to incredible success. It is typically unquestioned that MIT's academics are exceptional; just look at its outputs!

Yet it is also no secret that MIT is incred-

ibly selective. In March, it admitted only 8.2 percent of applicants to the Class of 2017. Thus, the students attending MIT really are really a select group of individuals; they are the ones who would excel regardless of the quality of academics. Indeed, many of these students have self-studied content without the help of any teacher. It is therefore difficult to attribute their success at and after MIT to the classes here.

How, then, can we ascertain the quality of MIT's model of education?

With the recent frenzy of education reform in America, there has been a significant amount of time and money dumped into trying to figure out the best ways to educate students. Unsurprisingly, it is generally agreed that hours of lecture is not the optimal method, and there is a strong push to make high school classes more interactive and dynamic.

Why, then, does MIT continue to employ the standard lecture/recitation format? For those unfamiliar, most technical classes at MIT consist of two or three 60- to 90-minute lectures by the instructors, with one or two weekly 60-minute recitation sections. Particularly in the introductory classes, lectures are given to hundreds of students in halls. The recitation sections split the class into smaller groups of fifteen to thirty, conducted in various manners dependent on the instructor. Some recitations incorporate lots of student input, taking questions, working problems, and

discussing solutions, while others are an extension of lecture.

How useful is this model of teaching, utilized in most other institution of higher education? Empirically, the number of students in almost every class I've attended wanes dramatically over the course of the semester. On the first day, finding a seat can be a challenge. On the last day, lecture halls are mostly empty seats.

Is some of this due to students skipping lecture due to laziness, lack of sleep, or work overload? Sure. But with MIT having such an intense and driven culture, many students stop attending lecture because they have better things to do with their time.

During my years at MIT, I attended three or fewer lectures for under a fifth of my classes. This means I went in on the first day (maybe the second, to get a feel for the usefulness of the lecture) and decided that my time could be better spent otherwise. My average GPA in those classes is higher than my overall GPA. I also stopped attending lecture halfway through or later in more classes for the same reason, and I would have attended even fewer had attendance not been part of the grade for some.

Many lectures do not actually contribute to learning. At MIT, students learn the most by doing problem sets or working on projects. Any questions that are not clear can usually be clarified by friends in the class or by the professor during office hours.

Of course, while incredibly ineffective at teaching directly, this system makes MIT students excellent self-learners. A friend of mine from high school was once asked who his best football coach ever was. The student replied that his best coach was the

Normandin, Page 5



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Houston possibly to give startup advice to seniors

Of graduating seniors going into workforce, most living in California & Massachusetts

Commencement, from Page 1

with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering (6-3) in 2005. He says that MIT’s Athena system, which allows students to access their files from any computer on campus, served as an inspiration for Dropbox. He worked on the company with Arash Ferdowsi, an MIT student who left the Institute to work with him in 2007.

The two were successful — Dropbox appeared on the cover of *Forbes* magazine last year and today boasts over 100 million users.

In an interview with *The Tech* in October, Houston hinted that today’s speech might include some tips for those students looking to found their own startups.

“Building Dropbox has been the most amazing experience of my life, and I’m really excited to share the experience and what I’ve learned in this whole journey,” he said. “Starting a company is a very mysterious process.”

Institute President L. Rafael Reif will deliver the traditional charge to the graduates.

Seniors

Undergraduate seniors spent their last few days at the Institute participating in a variety of Senior Week events hosted by the 2013 Senior Week Committee. The week kicked off with a champagne toast hosted by Chancellor Eric Grimson PhD ’80 last Friday and included events like skydiving, kayak-

ing, a club night, a dodgeball tournament, a Red Sox game, bowling, and laser tag.

Every year, the undergraduate senior class organizes a fundraiser to raise money for a particular cause. This year’s class raised \$30,000 to fund Mad Money grants for MIT students. Mad Money grants are meant to help fund student groups that need cash for things “beyond the scope of [their] annual budget for travel or special projects,” according to the Senior Gift website.

The Class of 2013 set a record for class participation — 83 percent of the class donated to the cause, and alumnus George Dotson ’62 pledged to match up to \$25,000 of the senior class gift.

Upped security

This year’s Commencement will feature some of the heaviest security since 2002 — the Commencement immediately following the 9/11 attacks.

All graduates and attendees will be required to pass through metal detectors at the entrance to Killian Court. No backpacks, large bags, or other large wrapped objects will be permitted during the ceremony. Bottles and other beverage containers are also prohibited. While diaper bags and purses are allowed, the MIT commencement website warns that all items taken to the court are subject to search. Electronics will require demonstration in order to be brought inside. Guests should bring government issued photo ID with them to the ceremony.

Commencement Schedule

The entrance to Killian Court opens at 7:30 a.m. today, though many families arrive earlier to be ready to grab prime seats. However, it’s not necessary to arrive that early — the actual ceremony begins at 10 a.m. However, the gates do briefly close at 9:45 a.m. for the academic procession.

Those who do not have a view of the stage can sit next to the Jumbotron screen by the back right section of the audience. Tickets are required for all attendees over the age of three, and are required for re-entry into the court.

Though today’s forecast calls for rain, families should note that umbrellas are not permitted in Killian Court. Guests who do not wish to sit outside can watch the ceremony from a variety of indoor locations that will have a live broadcast (see sidebar). It is only in case of severe weather — such as hurricanes or thunder storms — that the outdoor ceremony would be canceled.

The length of Commencement varies every year, but should end sometime between 1:15 and 1:30 p.m. The court will remain set up for a couple hours afterwards in order for graduates and their families to take photos. Immediately following the ceremony, departments hold individual receptions with food and refreshments. A list of receptions can be found in the sidebar.

More information about the commencement exercises can be found at <http://web.mit.edu/commencement/2013/index.html>.

Department Receptions

Receptions take place immediately after the ceremony unless otherwise noted.

School of Architecture and Planning
Building E14, Sixth Floor

School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences
Tent on the North Court amid Buildings 32, 76, and 68

School of Engineering
Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics
Tent in front of Building 33

Department of Biological Engineering
Tent on Eastman Court between Buildings 6 and 14

Department of Chemical Engineering

Tent on McDermott Court between Buildings 18 and 62

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Tent at BBQ area behind Kresge Auditorium, Building W16

Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Tent on the North Court amid Buildings 32, 76, and 68

Engineering Systems Division Doctoral Program

Building E40, Room 298, 1:30–4 p.m.

Department of Materials Science and Engineering

Tent on Eastman Court between Buildings 6 and 18

Department of Mechanical Engineering

Tent in front of Hayden Memorial Library, Building 14 (on

Memorial Dr.)

Center for Transportation & Logistics, Supply Chain Management Program

Lipchitz Courtyard, inside Building 14

School of Science
Department of Biology

Magasanik Room, Building 68, Room 180

Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences

Building 46, Third Floor Atrium

Department of Chemistry

Building 18 Lobby, 1:30–3:15 p.m.

Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences

Ida Green Lounge, Building 54, Room 923

Department of Mathematics

Building 6C Atrium

Department of Physics

Pappalardo Room, Building 4, Room 349, 3–5 p.m.

Sloan School of Management
Building E62, First Floor Lobby

Operations Research Center

Building E40, Room 106

Sloan Fellows Program

MIT Faculty Club, Building E52, Sixth Floor

System Design and Management Program

The Liberty Hotel, 215 Charles St., Boston, 2–5 p.m.

Other Receptions
Concourse

Building 16, Room 128, 3–5 p.m.

Martin Trust Center for MIT Entrepreneurship

Building E40, Room 160, until 3 p.m.

Viewing Centers

A live stream of the Commencement exercises will be broadcast to the following classrooms. Each number represents a specific room on campus; the number before the hyphen is the building number, the numeral immediately after is the floor number, and the remaining numerals are the classroom number.

Locations are main or adjacent buildings surrounding Killian Court:

Building 1 Rooms 1-246, 1-273, 1-277, 1-371, 1-375, 1-379, 1-390

Building 2 Rooms 2-131, 2-132, 2-135, 2-136, 2-139, 2-142, 2-143, 2-146, 2-147, 2-151

Building 3 Rooms 3-270, 3-370

Building 4 Rooms 4-231, 4-237

Building 6 Room 6-120

Building 10 Room 10-250

Locations a short distance from Killian Court:

Building 26 Room 26-100

Building 34 Room 34-101

Building 56 Room 56-114

Locations nearby in the Stata Center:

Building 32 Rooms 32-123, 32-124, 32-141, 32-144, 32-155

These locations are on the east side of campus:

Building E51 Rooms E51-372, E51-376

From <http://web.mit.edu/commencement/2013/family/viewing-centers.html>.

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Tyrese Gibson as Roman makes a death-defying leap.

MOVIE REVIEW

Speed and fury at its finest

Fast & Furious 6 dazzles and entertains

By Bogdan Fedeles

STAFF WRITER

They're back! The star-studded cast of the venerable 12-year-old franchise, with its explosive combination of fast cars and furious drivers, returns to deliver another high-octane action thriller. Justin Lin is once again at the helm of the movie, continuing his stellar directing performance on the franchise. Lin was in fact instrumental in resurrecting and rebooting the series after the first few mediocre sequels.

Fast & Furious 6 delivers on all counts. For the diehard fans of the series, it brings together all the major characters from the previous films and contains numerous inside jokes and references to past storylines. However, the plot is straightforward enough that the movie is equally entertaining and satisfying for newbies as well. The action sets new records for intensity and spectacle. Aided by stunning visuals and bold cinematography, and featuring lots of sports cars and many other surprising vehicles, the car chases are so rich in adrenaline that they border on ludicrous, yet they still thoroughly satisfy. The thrill of the action is also magnified by contrasting static scenes that delve into character development, perhaps even more so than in the previous movies. While it's hard to be taken seriously in this genre, and scenes with unintentional humor still abound, the actors (especially Vin Diesel and Dwayne Johnson) deliver convincing performances that stretch beyond simple posturing. Finally, the movie makes excellent use of the comedic talents of Tyrese Gibson and Ludacris.

ris, keeping the dialogue snappy and the whole atmosphere light hearted.

The last Fast & Furious movie, *Fast Five*, had the protagonists scatter around the world to enjoy the fruits of their successful Rio heist, but unable to ever return home. When confronted with a new elite underground organization of car smugglers, CIA agent Hobbs (Dwayne Johnson) enlists Dom (Vin Diesel) and his team for help, in return for full pardons. Hesitant at first, Dom accepts the challenge when he finds out that his former flame Letty (Michelle Rodriguez), presumed dead, is in fact alive and among the leaders of the smugglers. At first, Dom's team finds itself at a disadvantage being significantly outclassed in the "vehicular warfare" category. Nevertheless, what starts out as a predictable, linear story quickly develops into a thrilling adventure full of suspense, and delightful twists and turns. Passion, betrayal, revenge, sacrifice — all are elements that fuel the dramatic buildup which culminates in the (literally) explosive finale.

As in with the other movies, the cars are the bread and butter of *Fast & Furious* 6. The dizzying variety in makes and models is part of the movie's appeal. We see run-of-the-mill BMW M5s juxtaposed to sexy sports cars (Nissan Skyline, Eagle Speedster Jaguar E-type, Lamborghini Murcielago, Lucra LC470) and a few American muscle cars (Dodge Charger, Ford Escort, Ford Mustang). The cars are also used effectively to describe the personality of their drivers, which is why every protagonist has a different car: Shaw (Luke Evans), the smooth villain boasts a Bond-style Aston Martin;

Dom's ruggedness is embodied in his roaring Dodge Daytona; Letty whizzes by in a sleek Jensen Interceptor, while the hulking Hobbs drives around a Navistar MXT military jeep. In fact, the vitality of the people is further exemplified in the car crashes: unlike in real life, almost no car crash is fatal. Even more incredibly, breaking your fall onto a car (as opposed to onto a pavement) makes the difference between life and death. While the selective application of the laws of physics can be irritating, it does bestow a certain mystical aura upon the cars that the audience can easily relate to.

Fast & Furious 6 features more than just cars. Numerous other kinds of vehicles get chased and eventually smashed up. We also witness innovative uses of high-tensile titanium cable, and we learn how to neutralize a tank chasing you on a busy highway. With the right skill and some luck, even a massive Antonov cargo plane can be brought down using a few intrepid cars and drivers. Once again, the laws of motion and gravity are treated as optional guidelines, but the suspension of disbelief is fully achieved with spectacular special effects, aggressive camera angles and a highly-driven yet remarkably diverse soundtrack.

With all the elements of its established winning formula in place, and a few extra, the movie is a sure summer blockbuster. And if you feel you haven't gotten enough of the Fast & Furious, fret not. Midway through the credits, a new car chase unfolds introducing a pissed Jason Statham vowing revenge; which can only mean the seventh *Fast & Furious* movie is coming soon.

★★★★★

Fast & Furious 6

Directed by Justin Lin

**Starring Vin Diesel, Paul Walker,
Dwayne Johnson, Jordana
Brewster, and Michelle Rodriguez**



GILES KEYTE

Dwayne Johnson as Hobbs in *Fast & Furious 6*.

CONCERT REVIEW

Evoking the Arab Spring through music

MITWE, MIT Video Productions, and Jamsheid Sharifi '83 partner for PBS documentary

By Grace Young

ARTS EDITOR

The MIT Wind Ensemble (MITWE) scored a coup last Friday when PBS aired the television world premiere of MIT-produced documentary *Awakening: Evoking the Arab Spring Through Music*. The documentary featured MITWE's performance of *Awakening*, composed by MIT alumnus Jamsheid Sharifi '83. The piece is intended to encourage listeners to contemplate the movement that swept Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, and other Arab countries. MITWE director Dr. Frederick Harris commissioned the piece from Sharifi, a renowned New York-based composer, who felt personally connected to the Arab Spring because of his Middle Eastern heritage.

"Something in the Middle East has undeniably changed. And I tried to honor that shift in this piece," said Sharifi, who utilized Arabic maqam, a melody unique to traditional Arabic music.

"The first movement gives us a sense of place ... and continues in a somewhat programmatic fashion, touching on the tragic event that ignited the protests, and continuing into the propagation of the revolutions," said Sharifi. "The second movement is a respite, a change to contemplate what has happened. And the third hopes to energize and inspire the work that is to come."

The 30-minute documentary was the first work MIT Video Productions produced specifically for broadcast television. It includes not only interviews and the story behind *Awakening*, but also the performance of the piece itself, first performed by MITWE in March 2012.

“We welcomed the opportunity to collaborate with Fred, Jamsheid, and the remarkable MITWE student musicians, and for the additional opportunity to apply the collective talents of MIT Video Productions in crafting a performance documentary for WGBH,” said Larry Gallagher, producer of the documentary and director of MIT Video Productions. “It captures in musical form the great optimism and the great uncertainty unleashed by the Arab Spring,” reflected MIT Associate Provost and Professor of History, Philip S. Khoury.

The piece was a career highlight for Sharifi, who worked on the composition as an artist in residence at MIT in March of 2012. “Working with Fred Harris and the MIT Wind Ensemble on *Awakening* was one of the most rewarding artistic experiences of my life,” said Sharifi. “Fred and the musicians in the group were committed, passionate, and unfailingly musical in bringing the piece to life.”

Sharifi graduated from MIT with a degree in 21E (Humanities and Engineering), and completed his graduate studies at



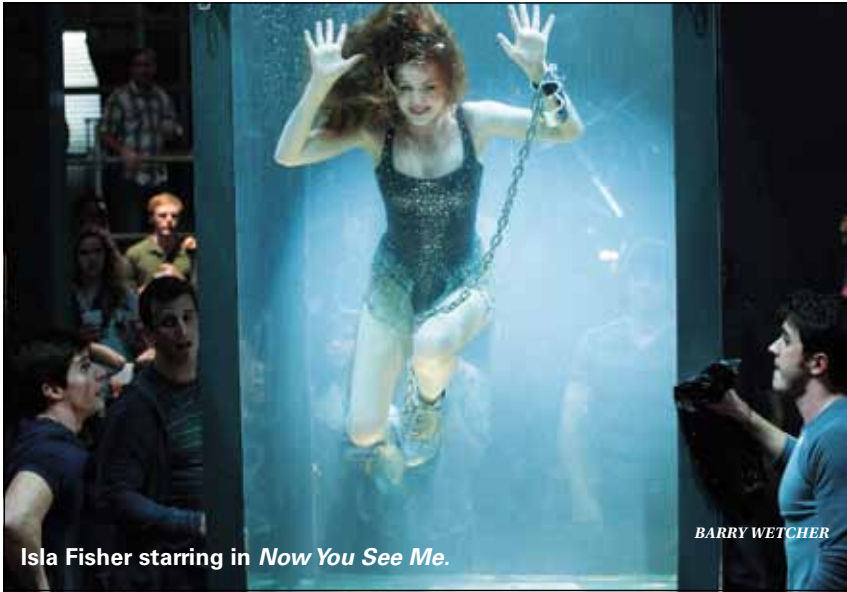
SINA MOHAMMADI

MIT Wind Ensemble Director Dr. Fredrick Harris and flutist Emily L. Jackson '12 congratulate composer Jamsheid Sharifi '83 after a performance of *Awakening*.

Berklee College of Music, earning a degree in Jazz Composition and Arranging.

Emmy Award-winning director Bob Comiskey helped create the documentary; he called the composition “beautiful,” “at times delicate, meditative, and then immensely powerful,” seasoned by “a Middle Eastern flavor.”

Since 2001, MITWE has commissioned 35 original works by MIT faculty and internationally renowned composers. *Awakening* marks the first time PBS has broadcast an MIT music documentary. A fixture at MIT and the greater Boston's arts community, the ensemble performs four concerts on campus annually.



MOVIE REVIEW

Fool me please

Not quite highbrow magic

By Roberto Perez-Franco
STAFF WRITER

STAFF WRITER

Now You See Me is the story of four small-caliber magicians that pop out of nowhere to form a magic troupe called “The Four Horsemen” and pull off a jaw-dropping magic trick: robbing millions of euros from the vault of a Parisian bank without ever leaving their stage in Las Vegas. The heist gets them the attention of the media, the public, and — since they promises even bigger acts in the near future — even the FBI and Interpol.

If you have seen the trailer for *Now You See Me*, you may be tempted to give it a try. I know I was. It appealed to me on three fronts: first, it looked like a tempting intellectual puzzle; second, it featured some of my favorite actors; and third, it just looked like a lot of fun. So I went to see it with great expectations. Not surprisingly, they were only partially fulfilled.

The film was good fun, no doubt about that. It is a nice flick to kill two hours if you want to be entertained with shiny objects and sleights of the hand. The cast includes many recognizable names, such as Jesse Eisenberg, Mark Ruffalo, Woody Harrelson, and (get this) both Morgan Freeman and Michael Caine, as well as others you wish you knew, including a cute-as-a-button Isla Fisher and an even-cuter Mélanie Laurent, last seen burning down a theater containing Hitler, in Tarantino's *Inglorious Basterds*.

But *Now You See Me* was not the brainteaser I was hoping it would be, namely a kind of modern take on magic from the same shelf as *The Prestige* or *The Illusionist*. I would say, unless you are fif-

★★★★★

Now You See Me

Directed by Louis Leterrier

Starring Jesse Eisenberg, Mark Ruffalo, and Woody Harrelson

teen, sport a double-digit IQ, or have a particular fetish for the 'magic of magic,' I would recommend you to significantly lower your expectations before entering the theater, and to remember throughout the movie that big names don't necessarily mean great performances (or even interesting characters) and that for magic to work you must suspend disbelief, put up with the pompous posturing and — despite what Jesse says — not look too close.

As with any magic act, for this film to work you have to willingly go through the motions: you know you want to be fooled, and when you are you like it; then you want to be shown how you were fooled, at which point you will like it even more; and finally, you want to be fooled one last time before being sent home wondering how they pulled that final trick off. That's how it is supposed to work in this movie, and that's how it works at least in the first two accounts. Yet when it comes to the final trick, its lack of plausibility or coherence with the previous narrative will have you leaving the theater with a feeling that, you were fooled alright, but not in the way you wanted.

VIDEO GAME REVIEW

Movie or game?

Great graphics, terrible gameplay

By Keith Yost
STAFF WRITER

STAFF WRITER

A couple weeks ago, Nintendo declared that it was going to enforce its copyright over third-party made “Let’s Play” videos, and began demanding ad revenue from the YouTube videos of gamers playing Nintendo games.

The copyright claim sounded excessive to me. I could understand if Paramount Pictures or Warner Brothers took issue with replications of their movies on YouTube, since virtually all of the value derived from such clips would be due to the movie itself, not the person playing it. But games are an interactive medium, and the value of a “Let’s Play” depends quite a bit on how a player chooses to manipulate that medium. At the extreme, sometimes all of the value of watching a game being played is created by the players themselves — no one credits the ancient inventors of chess when two grandmasters produce brilliance on the board.

However, the experience of playing *Tomb Raider* makes me question the distinction I draw between movies and video games, because at its core, *Tomb Raider* is really not much more than a long and boring movie, interrupted at times by what amount to annoying DVD menus. A "Let's Play" of *Tomb Raider*

★★★★★

Tomb Raider

Crystal Dynamics

Square Enix

Released March 2013

**For PC, PlayStation 3,
Xbox 360**

would be superior in every way to playing the game itself; Crystal Dynamics and Square Enix should get their lawyers on the phone quickly before someone with a copy of the game and frame capture software makes their intellectual property obsolete.

To its credit, *Tomb Raider* gets one thing right: the graphics are amazing. With the settings cranked up to 11, the game delivers Crysis-quality visuals, and even on low settings yields something reasonably impressive. Of course, given that most of what you look at in the game is the body of a young Lara Croft, the quality of graphics makes one wonder if the game is a merely a thinly-veiled exercise



COURTESY OF CRYSTAL DYNAMICS

A scene from *Tomb Raider*, a new game by Crystal Dynamics.

in ephebophilia, to which I think the rational response is: obviously. The game might be swimming in a pool of insipid mediocrity, but no one should accuse the developers of not understanding their target audience.

Everything else about the game rates between average and bad. The gameplay consists of almost nothing but obnoxious quick-time events and a disjointed string of various bland game mechanics, suddenly introduced and then just as quickly dropped. It is ostensibly an RPG, but the only things you can level up are related to the grab-bag of game mechanics, meaning that most of the time you're just randomly assigning your points to things like "Improved Underwater Basket Weaving,"

and hoping that the next section is the water level where Lara has to please an audience of basket critics. At first glance, the game feels like an open world, but it doesn't take long to realize you're just traveling on rails for ten hours through a couple dozen levels.

The plot, voice acting, and writing are an improvement over the gameplay, but not by any great stretch. I guessed about 90% of the game's plot within the first thirty minutes, with most of the rest becoming obvious in the next few hours. The script and acting are fine, but don't really stand out. It's hard to connect to Lara as a character, and the game doesn't present anyone else to get attached to. Sometimes a game gets carried by its gameplay, sometimes it gets carried by its plot — *Tomb Raider* has the sort of plot that could get carried if it were a fun game, and the sort of gameplay that couldn't get carried if its life depended on it.

There comes a point in in the spectrum between video games and visual media where it's hard to distinguish between the two. I don't think this is a bad thing, but games like *Tomb Raider* that occupy this point have to contend with competition from movies and TV series that should give them pause. How does the 10-hour *Tomb Raider* movie compare with, say, the *The Hobbit* trilogy? How does it compare with the latest season of *Game of Thrones*? And given this comparison, can you really ask \$60 for the game while Mr. Peter Jackson is undercutting you? Does it make sense to spend \$100 million dollars to make the game, when HBO can produce a GoT season for \$60 million?

Don't buy *Tomb Raider*. If you really feel the need to experience it, go watch someone play it on YouTube. But don't be shocked if Square Enix ads play between acts — this is one of the unfortunate instances in which copyright claims would have substance to them.



COURTESY OF SQUARE ENIX

A scene from the action-adventure game *Tomb Raider*.

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MIT visiting scientist died in traffic accident

Kanako Miura, 36, died on May 19 around 3:30 p.m. after being struck by a truck while biking through Kenmore Square. Miura was a visiting scientist in Professor Russ Tedrake's Robot Locomotion Group in CSAIL.

MIT President L. Rafael Reif broke the news to the MIT community that same evening in an email to all of campus. "Our hearts go out to her friends and colleagues at MIT, and especially to the Miura family, who must absorb this terrible news from so far away," wrote Reif.

The Boston Globe reported that the driver probably did not see Miura. They also reported that Miura, who was wearing a helmet, suffered from critical injuries after being thrown from her bike and passed away at the scene.

David Watson, executive director of the

Massachusetts Bicycle Coalition, expressed the importance of awareness and safety in an interview with the *Globe*.

"Everybody at this point should know we need to share the roads," he said. "Everybody bears responsibility for the safety of the people around them."

Miura had been at MIT since October, conducting research in the Robot Locomotion Group and specializing in bipedal locomotion. She had two PhDs, one in Information Science from Tohoku University in Japan and another in Electronics and Automation from Université Louis-Pasteur France. As a senior researcher at Japan's National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, she worked on the HR-4C Future Dream robot, which had advanced locomotion capabilities such as

being able to turn quickly and more accurately mimic human walking than other robots, according to an article in *Akihabara News*.

"She was not just a visitor in our group. She became a close friend and a member of our family," said Tedrake in an article on her passing in CSAIL's news website. "The energy she brought to her work was contagious, and her enthusiasm was easy to see. She loved giving tours and showing off the lab, and she had an unfailing optimism in the future and importance of humanoid robots."

A memorial fund in her name has been established to fund CSAIL Robotics. Donations can be made through <http://giving.mit.edu>.

—Bruno B. F. Faviero



LINKEDIN

MIT visiting scientist Kanako Miura died in a bicycle accident on May 19. Miura arrived at MIT last fall, and had been working in CSAIL's Robot Locomotion Group.

Eastgate evacuated after fire started in penthouse kitchen

Minor property damage on 28th floor of building

Eastgate, from Page 1

inspectors were called in to fix the electrical system and elevators, which were affected by the water. According to code, residents cannot be let into the building unless there is at least one elevator in working condition. MIT staff were also in place to retrieve emergency medications from apartments for residents who needed them.

About 25 MIT staff came in to help with transporting residents from Eastgate to Sidney Pacific and providing food and childcare. MIT police were also in place at Eastgate to update residents who were away

from the building during the fire.

The kitchen where the fire began is being worked on now and will take "several weeks" to finish, according to Senior Associate Dean for Residential Life and Dining Henry J. Humphreys.

The kitchen where the fire began is being worked on and will take 'several weeks' to finish.

There is some minor property damage on the 28th floor. According

to Humphreys, it is still to be decided who will pay for it.

The total cost of the cleanup and repair following the fire has not yet been tabulated yet.

Humphreys said that the emergency system did what it was designed to do. "The sprinklers went off and suppressed the fire, and the fire department put down the rest. It did what sprinkler systems are supposed to do," Humphreys said.

According to Dennis Collins (director of residential life for capital renewal, renovation, and repair), the last fire with similar consequences was in 2006 in Westgate, when residents were evacuated for 12 hours.

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EdX releases open source code, demographic data

Students are 26% female, 22% located in the US, 14% in India, and average 30-years-old

EdX, from Page 1

come from eight countries and four continents. The first higher learning institutions from Asia include China’s Peking and Tsinghua Universities, South Korea’s Seoul National University, Japan’s Kyoto University, and Hong Kong’s University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong University of Science & Technology. The University of Queensland in Australia pledged as well, representing only the second university from Australia to join.

The 15 additional school who have now partnered with edX come from eight countries and four continents.

In addition, three European schools, Karolinska Institutet in Sweden, Université catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve in Belgium, and Technische Universität München in Germany have signed up. Rounding out the continents is North America, with the Berklee College of Music, Boston University, Cornell University, Davidson College, and the University of Washington now onboard. Each of them has been dubbed with an “X” at the end, marking their induction into the edX online learning community.

Although these schools do not plan on offering courses until later this year or next year, edX announced the launch of more than 20 new courses from schools that had joined earlier. These courses run the gamut from WellesleyX’s “Introduction to Evolution” to HarvardX’s “Science & Cooking.” MIT added eight of those courses, which include 24.00x (“Introduction to Philosophy”) and 2.01x

(“Elements of Structure”). According to edX’s press release, these courses are designed to incorporate “active learning, game-like experiences, instant feedback, and cutting-edge virtual laboratories” into their classes.

Course Enrollment Data and Demographics

According to Anant Agarwal, President of edX, total course enrollment passed one million in March. However, because some people enroll in more than one class, the total number of unique students has not yet hit one million. Agarwal expects that edX will achieve that milestone within the next two weeks.

Females constituted 23.9 percent of those enrolled in MITx courses, and 26.4 percent of those who were active.

In data given to *The Tech* by MIT’s Associate Director of Digital Learning Isaac Chuang, 6.00x (“Introduction to Computer Science and Programming”) claimed the highest enrollment this spring amongst MITx courses, although 7.00x (“Introduction to Biology — The Secret of Life”) held the highest active percentage, with 13.7 percent. Here, being active implies “having attempted a significant portion of the last major examination.” 6.002x (Circuits and Electronics), MIT’s very first course released last year, only claimed a 2.1 percent active percentage this semester.

In addition, the percentage of female active students varied widely depending on the course. Only 12.2 percent of active stu-

dents in 6.002x this spring were female, but the percentage jumped to 44.9 percent for 7.00x and 53.1 percent for 14.73x (The Challenges of Global Poverty). Compare this to the percentage of Course 6 and Course 7 majors who are female. At MIT this year, 72.9 percent of Course 7 undergraduate students are female, while only 33.6 percent of Course 6 undergraduate students are. Overall, females constituted 23.9 percent of those who enrolled in MITx courses, and 26.4 percent of those who were active. However, Chuang noted that age and gender are self-reported, and that not all students report their demographic information.

The average enrolled student age was 29.2 years old, while the average active student age was 30.9 years old, slightly under two years older. As for the countries MITx students come from, India was the second most popular country after the United States, both for enrolled and active students. About a fifth (22.1 percent) of active students came from the US, while roughly an eighth (13.5 percent) came from India.

Entire source code released

On June 1, edX released its entire learning platform as open source. The source code can be accessed at <http://code.edx.org>.

“We believe in pursuing non-profit, open-source opportunities for expanding online education around the world,” the page states. “We believe it’s important to support these efforts in visible and substantive ways, and that’s why we are opening up our platform and inviting the world to help us make it better.”

Prior to this release, edX had begun to release part of its source code in March, starting with XBlock architecture, a software development kit that allows developers to work with course

components.

Stanford, UC Berkeley, and the University of Queensland have already contributed to MIT and Harvard’s open source platform. Notably, Stanford, who is a partner with edX competitor Coursera, has agreed to continue collaborating with edX to develop the platform. Stanford ceased development on its own Class2Go system, features of which will be integrated into edX. Recent contributions that Stanford has made include the capabilities of real-time chat and bulk email. UC Berkeley contributed a fully integrated forum software, which was created by a team led by a Stanford graduate student.

Automatic Grading

One of the most important questions currently facing edX is how to improve its automatic essay scoring system, which uses machine learning to grade student-submitted essays. Machine learning systems look for specific features in essays (such as the use of transition words) that can be used to help determine a grade.

One of the most important questions for edX is how to improve its automatic essay scoring system.

On Hacker News, social news site popular within the technology community, LightSIDE Labs founder Eljah Mayfield expressed disapproval upon seeing the code edX uses for automatic grading. Like edX, LightSIDE Labs has developed a tool which uses machine learning to assess written text.

“Looking through this code-base, it’s roughly the level of machine learning work that I’d expect

from a first-year graduate student,” Mayfield posted. “It gets the job done but is really only tailored to the very narrow task of essay grading and doesn’t offer much extensibility. My guess is that for that narrow task, it does a pretty good job, but in my experience teachers are rarely satisfied with just getting a machine learning-generated score and nothing else.”

‘This is machine learning, and there is a long way to go, but it’s good enough and the upside is huge.’
—Anant Agarwal
EDX PRESIDENT

In contrast, Agarwal told *The New York Times* in April, “This is machine learning and there is a long way to go, but it’s good enough and the upside is huge. We found that the quality of the grading is similar to the variation you find from instructor to instructor.”

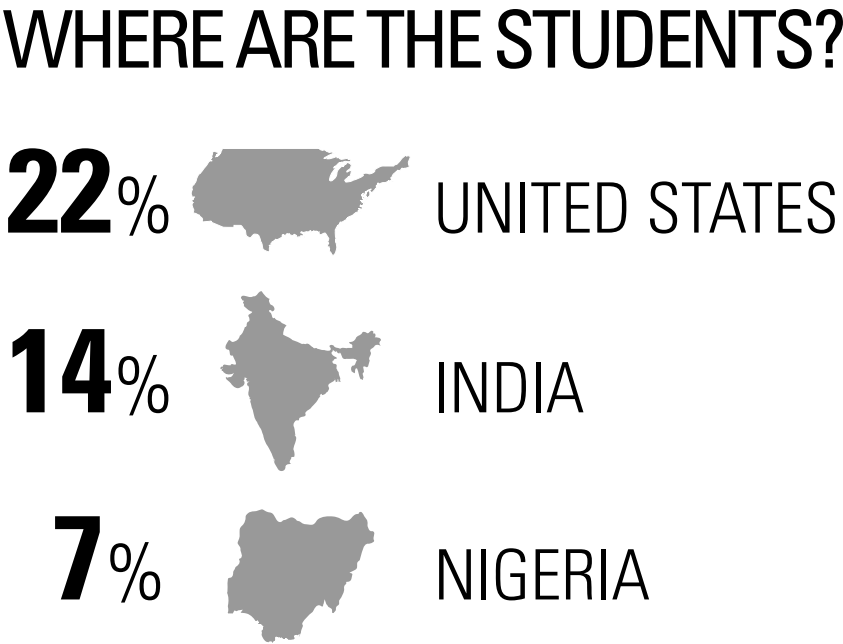
Nevertheless, in an edX blog post on Monday, the president gave a belated celebration of the enterprise’s first anniversary last month.

“The year has gone by so fast I find it hard to believe it has been an entire year until I sit back and consider all that we’ve accomplished together. ... As we celebrate our first anniversary, I would like to thank all of the professors and their staff who have put so much effort toward making the edX experiment a success,” Agarwal wrote in his blog post. “I would also like to congratulate the many students around the world who have contributed their unique perspective to our edX courses and expanded their own worlds along the way.”

edX is

GLOBAL

In Fall 2012, two Cambridge, MA universities launched edX. Today, the platform hosts content from universities of eleven different nations, and serves students from all over the world.



Congratulations to *The Tech's* Class of 2013

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Russell Spivak

Elise Stave

Vanessa Trevino

Paul Woods

Jenny Xie



David Cameron stops at Media Lab on US tour

British PM speaks with researchers, meets with students to discuss entrepreneurship

By Kath Xu
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Last month, British Prime Minister David Cameron paid a visit to the MIT Media Lab as a part of his week-long tour of the U.S. to promote the United Kingdom with Prince Harry. Cameron was welcomed by Media Lab director Joichi Ito and MIT president L. Rafael Reif. Policemen stood guard outside the Media Lab throughout Cameron's visit, with at least one sniper on the roof of Senior House.

Breazeal demonstrated to Cameron her group's human-interacting robots, while Herr presented his own advanced prosthetics he wears as a double amputee.

In his tour of the Media Lab, Cameron met with Media Lab faculty members and researchers. Cynthia L. Breazeal ScD '00, director of the Media Lab's Personal Robots group, had a chance to demonstrate her group's human-interacting robots, while Hugh M. Herr, who leads the Media Lab's Biomechatronics research group, gave Cameron a demonstration of his own advanced prosthetics that he wears as a double amputee.

Because Cameron's visit was kept low-key for security reasons, only a few students were invited. No student knew until the morning of his visit who the VIP would be, although some guessed that it would be David Cameron based upon the news reports of the two British digni-

taries' U.S. tour. The students present included a few MIT tour guides given the chance to help out on the ground floor, and a group of seven student entrepreneurs, composed mostly of graduate students, who were invited to speak with David Cameron. "We were invited by Professor Fiona Murray and were recommended to her by the Martin Trust Center for MIT Entrepreneurship," said Akshar Wunnavu '13, one of the entrepreneurs. Murray, the Faculty Director of the Trust Center for MIT Entrepreneurship, led the student entrepreneurs' discussion with Cameron. "I thought that at MIT we had some important lessons for the U.K. and for his particular entrepreneurship project in London (TechCity) about being part of an effective entrepreneurial ecosystem," explained Murray. Tech City, similar to Silicon Valley, is a region in East London in which many technology companies and universities are located.

Bridget A. Akinc G added that "the discussion was about our own entrepreneurial ventures, and lessons we had learned about creating a collaborative space for entrepreneurial companies at MIT, as the Prime Minister considers how the U.K. might replicate the entrepreneurial ecosystem of London."

'You could tell that [entrepreneurship] was a topic that he really cares about.'
—*Danielle Zurovcik PhD '12*

The student entrepreneurs were invited the Saturday before Cameron's Tuesday visit, as "I think Cameron wanted to meet with MIT students who were involved with fos-

tering entrepreneurship on campus, and were pursuing their own entrepreneurial interests," said Wunnavu. Danielle Zurovcik PhD '12, who pursued mechanical engineering at MIT and is also an entrepreneur, spoke fondly of Cameron after the visit. "He was very organic and genuine. You can tell that [entrepreneurship] was a topic that he really cares about," said Zurovcik. Cameron also asked one student about supporting herself while working on a startup. "I thought that it was very interesting that he recognized that many of us do not take salaries and have to make ends meet however we can," said Zurovcik. "Most people do not recognize that sacrifice (at least at the beginning stages) and see entrepreneurship as this glamorous thing. It shows that he understands the passion, ecosystem, and support that are needed to drive/sustain young entrepreneurs."

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Accord for a global trove of genetic data

70 organizations agree to share genetic and clinical information

By Gina Kolata
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Seventy medical, research and advocacy organizations active in 41 countries and including the National Institutes of Health announced Wednesday that they have agreed to create an organized way to share genetic and clinical information. Their aim is to put the vast and growing trove of data on genetic variations and health into databases — with the consent of the study subjects — that would be open to researchers and doctors all over the world, not just to those who created them. Millions more people are expected to get their genes decoded in coming years, and the fear is that this avalanche of genetic and clinical data about people and how they respond to treatments will be hopelessly fragmented and impede the advance of medical science. This ambitious effort hopes to standardize the data and make them widely available. "We are strong supporters of this global alliance," said Dr. Francis Collins, director of the National Institutes of Health. "There is lots of momentum now, and we really do want to move quickly."

In just the past few years, the price of determining the sequence of genetic letters that make up human DNA has dropped a millionfold, said Dr. David Altshuler, deputy director and chief academic officer at the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT. As a result, instead of having access to just a few human genomes — the complete genetic material of a person, including genes and regions that control genes — researchers can now study tens of thousands of them, along with clinical data on peoples' health and how they fared on various treatments. In the next few years, Altshuler said, researchers expect that millions of people will have their genomes sequenced. "The question is whether and how we make it possible to learn from these data as they grow, in a manner that respects the autonomy and privacy choices of each participant," Altshuler said. No one wants to put DNA sequences and clinical data on the Internet without the permission of patients, he said, so it also is important to allow people to decide if they want their data — with no names or obvious identifiers attached — to be available to researchers. But there are no agreed-upon

standards for representing genetic data or sharing them, experts say. And there are no common procedures for assuring that patients consent to sharing their information. "Each institution has its own approach," Altshuler said. Medical researchers say the best way forward is to have shared databases. Do patients with a particular genetic aberration tend to do well with a particular therapy? Do patients with another mutation have greater odds of developing cancer? Collins noted that cancers are so genetically complex that, most of the time, a mutation seen in a cancer patient will be uncommon. To figure out its significance, data from hundreds of thousands of patients — the world's collected data — on that mutation are needed. Brad Margus, an advocate for children with rare diseases, enthusiastically supports the idea of data sharing. As the father of two sons with a rare disease, ataxia telangiectasia, or A-T, and founder and volunteer president of the A-T Children's Project, he says he learned how progress is made. "There is this perception that the key to the next breakthrough is from someone finding a gene that is sitting somewhere and someone having a eureka moment," Margus said. "What I learned is that it does not usually happen that way." Often what is needed are huge genetic data sets, he added, "so people can be proactive when they have an idea."

Pooled data are also needed to understand the genesis of big killers like heart disease, researchers said. Recently, for example, Dr. Sekar Kathiresan, director of preventive cardiology at Massachusetts General Hospital and a geneticist at the Broad Institute, sought to find out whether high density lipoprotein, or HDL, the so-called good cholesterol, actually protected people against heart disease. Did people who happened to have genetic changes that resulted in lifelong high levels of HDL have a lower risk, he asked? They did not, he concluded, but his study required genetic data from more than 100,000 people collected in 20 studies by researchers from around the world. It took three years to gather the data, put them in a form that allowed investigators to analyze them, and to do the analysis. "We need standard formats so we don't have to spend two years figuring out how to merge data together," Collins said.

Swartz parties come to agreement on evidence

Identifying information, network vulnerabilities will be redacted from case documents

Swartz, from Page 1

Swartz's suicide on Jan. 11. After Swartz's suicide, media attention and interest in the case heightened, particularly the question of whether the prosecution overstepped in their role. The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform began an investigation into the case in January. Various media organizations, activists, and Congress requested certain documents that were under the protective order.

Swartz's lawyers filed a motion on March 15 requesting that the documents under protective order, including many MIT documents, be made publicly accessible. In particular, they requested that the court release the documents

without redacting the names and official titles of all law enforcement personnel and employees of MIT and JSTOR that appear in the

the public. Swartz's lawyers also said that there was a compelling public interest in the unredacted documents being made public.

The 88-day process began this week, and at the end, the documents that have been hidden from the public during this case will be available, but redacted, to the public.

evidence. Swartz's lawyers pointed out that many of the names and titles were already publicly known and that redacting the names and titles would make the documents difficult to comprehend. Also, both MIT and JSTOR had produced some of the documents for the case when there was no protective order keeping them from

Both MIT and JSTOR agreed that parts of the documents should be made public, but with some redactions to protect employees involved. MIT had been the target of several threats in response to Swartz's death. In February, a false report of a gunman on campus targeting MIT president L. Rafael Reif in retaliation for Swartz's death shut down MIT for

several hours. MIT's network was also hacked on three separate occasions. In a letter in *The Tech* on March 20, Reif said that some of the documents contain information about vulnerabilities in MIT's network and that he had the responsibility to "protect the privacy and safety of those members of the community who have become involved in this matter in the course of doing their jobs for MIT, and to ensure a safe environment for all of us who call MIT home."

In the letter, Reif said that the MIT-related documents would be released, with names and titles and network vulnerabilities redacted, at the same time as releasing the Abelson report. MIT computer science professor Hal Abelson was tasked by

Reif to investigate MIT's role in the Swartz case after Swartz's suicide in January. In a letter from Abelson to *The Tech* on May 14, Abelson said that the plan was to give the report to Reif "this summer."

On May 13, Judge Gorton sided with MIT and JSTOR, saying that documents could be released with some identifying information redacted and ordered all parties (MIT, JSTOR, and the government) to submit an agreement as to the release of the documents. The parties submitted the plan on Friday, and was signed into action by the judge on Monday. The 88-day process began this week, and at the end, the documents that have been hidden from the public during this case will be available, with parts redacted, to the public.

Solution to Crossword

from page 7

SCAM	SYNC	THAWS
NOGO	HEAR	AESOP
LOOT	ALSO	CLARA
TELLAWHOPPER		
SCROLL	DAM	
OHO	WOLF	DAPPLE
WALLAWALLA	HOOF	
INLAY	SAY	SETOF
NEER	STILLAWAKE	
GYRATE	REEL	TEC
HAM ESCORT		
SQUIRRELAWAY		
OUNCE	MAMA	NAIL
BIDES	OVER	IDLE
SKOSH	SAND	COLT

Solution to Techdoku

from page 7

2	3	5	1	4	6
5	6	2	4	1	3
6	1	3	5	2	4
4	5	1	3	6	2
3	4	6	2	5	1
1	2	4	6	3	5

Solution to Sudoku

from page 7

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

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MIT president top earner second year in a row

Hockfield, making over \$1 mil., leads familiar list of top salaries at the Institute in 2011

By Anthony Yu
STAFF REPORTER

MIT has released the salaries of its highest compensated employees for the calendar year 2011, which are required to be publicly disclosed as part of its tax returns for the fiscal year 2012 (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012). During her last full year as president, Susan Hockfield was MIT’s highest compensated employee, receiving \$1,199,877 in total benefits. This year is only the second time that a MIT president received total compensation exceeding one million dollars, with Hockfield receiving over a million in 2010.

Of her total compensation of \$1,199,877, former MIT president Susan Hockfield received \$1,042,110 in total paid compensation, with retirement and other nontaxable benefits making up the difference. Since the president is technically required to live on campus, MIT includes \$70,000, counted as nontaxable benefits, for the housekeeping of the MIT-owned residence Gray

House. Overall, Hockfield’s total compensation increased 19 percent (not including inflation), up from \$1,006,969 the previous year.

Among collegiate presidents, Hockfield’s income is by no means the largest. According to the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Graham B. Spanier, president of Penn State University, was the highest paid public college president, receiving over \$2.9 million. Last year, the salaries of Yale, Columbia, UPenn, and Dartmouth presidents eclipsed Hockfield’s.

Both Hockfield’s paid and total compensation remain well above that of Drew Faust.

However, both Hockfield’s paid and total compensation remain well above that of Harvard University President Drew G. Faust, who received \$899,734 in total compensation. The large difference can be attributed to Hockfield’s “other re-

portable compensation.” Compared to Hockfield, Faust received \$8,665 in addition to her higher base salary of \$720,441. As part of Hockfield’s other reportable compensation of \$346,056, MIT paid \$125,000 into an account for the benefit of the president in the calendar year of 2011. The president is not able to access that account unless he or she has served a decade, or is no longer serving as president. Hockfield, who announced her resignation last February, stepped down as president last fall. Current MIT president L. Rafael Reif received \$658,285 in total compensation during 2011 as the provost.

While MIT lists Hockfield as its highest compensated employee in 2011, Seth Alexander, president of the MIT Investment Management Company, was not far behind with a total compensation \$1,175,941. Compared to the year before, his total compensation dropped \$140,522, down 10.7 percent, from \$1,316,463. However, unlike Hockfield, the plurality of Alexander’s salary came from bonus compensation, totaling \$556,449, down from \$709,001 the year before. According to MIT’s

Form 990, which discloses select financial information of an organization to the public, the size of incentive compensation is dependent on the performance of MIT’s endowment “relative to peer and market benchmarks.” The MIT News Office reported that the Institute’s endowment grew 17.9 percent and 8.0 percent in the fiscal year 2011 and 2012, respectively. Steve Marsh, who manages MIT’s real estate also made the list, receiving \$734,181 in total compensation.

MIT also reports that Alexander and Marsh received an additional \$145,000 and \$62,946 of incentive compensation in January 2011. These amounts were not included in the schedule that listed the top salaries of the Institute because “these amounts can increase or decrease depending on the performance of the endowment and contingent on continued employment by MIT.” In fact, considering this additional compensation, Alexander may still be MIT’s highest paid employee. Daniel Steele, managing director of private equity, who made the highest compensated list two years in

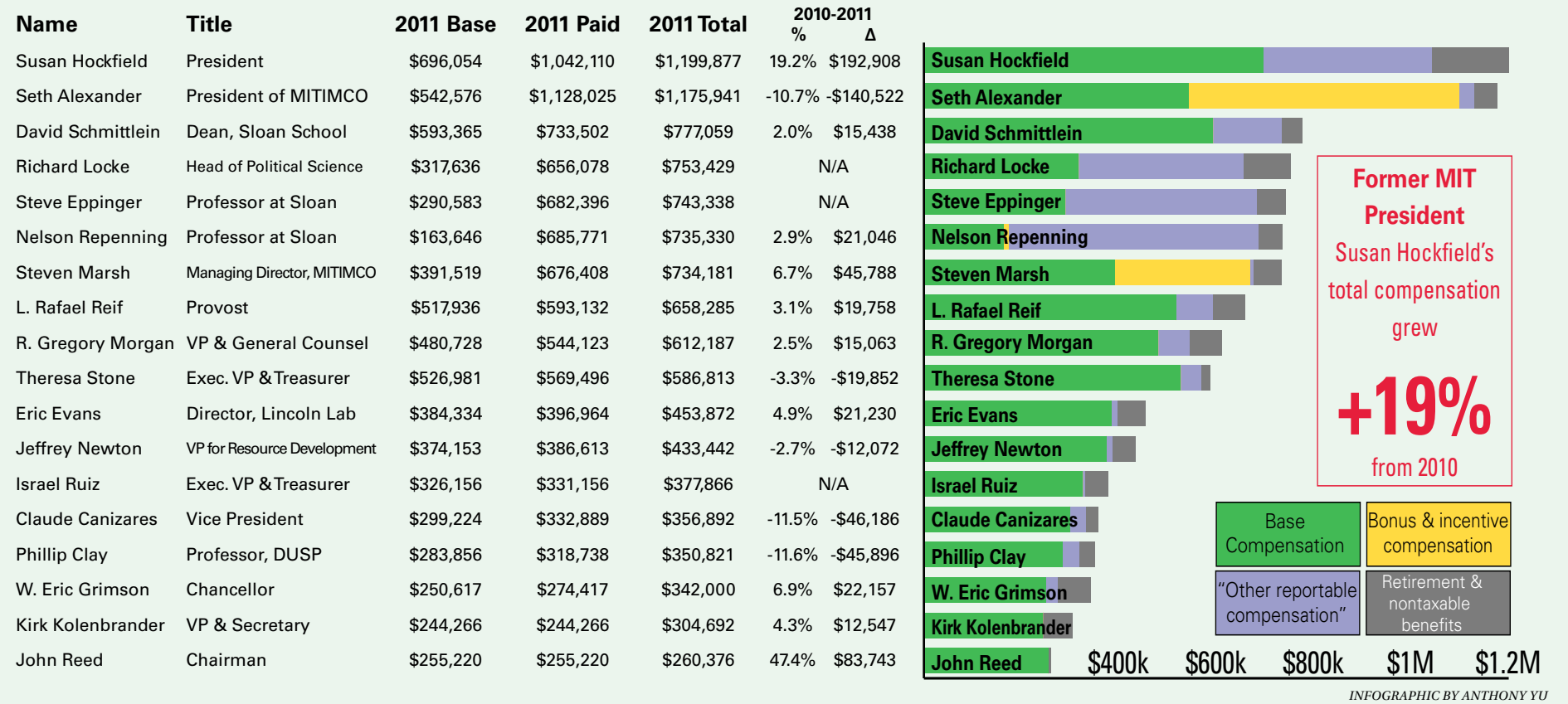
2009 and 2010, failed to make an appearance for 2011.

Several faculty members of the Sloan School of Management are also among MIT’s highest compensated employees. Dean of the Sloan School David Schmittlein, Professor Richard Locke, outgoing Head of Political Science, Professor Nelson Repenning, and Professor Steve Eppinger all received in excess of \$700,000 in total compensation for the fiscal year of 2012.

For Professors Locke, Repenning, and Eppinger, much of the additional compensation comes through Sloan’s Executive Education Program. The Executive Education program offers professional development and new education opportunities for seasoned business professionals. Any income derived by professors from the Executive Education program is reported as “other reportable compensation.”

Some of MIT’s highest paid employees are also executives who receiving income from sitting on the boards of various companies. Those amounts are not reported in MIT’s released numbers.

MIT’s highest compensated employees of 2011



These data are for calendar year 2011, from Jan. 1, 2011 through Dec. 31, 2011, and comes from MIT’s IRS Form 990, the tax return for non-profits, which was filed May 15, 2013 for tax year 2012.

“2011 Base” stands for “Base compensation,” which are “nondiscretionary payments to a person agreed upon in advance, contingent only on the payee’s performance of agreed-upon services (such as salary or fees),” from column B(ii) of Schedule J Part II of the form.

“2011 Paid” or “Paid compensation” is the “reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)” column from Part VII Section A of the 990 OR the sum of the column B(i), B(ii), and B(iii) of Schedule J Part II of the form. “2011 Total” or “Total compensation” includes that as well as “retirement and other deferred compensation” and “nontaxable benefits” from column E of Schedule J Part II of the form.

The percentage changes (% columns) and the differenc-

es (Δ) are based on total compensation.

MIT Investment Management Company (MITIMCo) employees compensations do not include incentive compensation which “could have increased or decreased depending on the performance of the endowment” and are contingent on continued employment by MIT.

Professors Locke, Repenning, and Eppinger appear because of their participation in the Sloan School of Management’s Executive Education program.



HO YIN AU—THE TECH

MIT students, faculty, and staff participated in the second performance of *UP: The Umbrella Project* on Sunday, May 19. Each umbrella was outfitted with red, green, and blue LED lights that participants could control. The project is a collaboration between MIT’s CSAIL and dance company Pilobolus.

NBA finals: San Antonio Spurs vs. Miami Heat

With Popovich coaching, point guard and power forward advantage for Spurs

By Austin Osborne
SPORTS STAFF

Who will take this year's NBA finals? *The Tech's* Austin Osborne evaluates the positional matchups between the Miami Heat and the San Antonio Spurs.

Point Guard

Spurs point guard Tony Parker has had an outstanding season, having led San Antonio to a Western Conference Finals sweep over the Memphis Grizzlies last week. Averaging 23 points and over 7 assists in the postseason, he is the most dynamic player on the Spurs roster. The Heat has struggled to defend point guards in the playoffs this year, and Parker will be no exception. Unless LeBron is matched up against him, (which could happen, if the Heat employ the same strategy that they used against Derrick Rose in 2011) Parker could have a huge series. On the flip side, Mario Chalmers has been a fairly consistent presence as point guard for the Heat. Chalmers isn't going to win the series for them, but they need him to play well if they want to repeat as NBA Champions. That means that he must make open threes that are given to him, and he must distribute the ball to the Big 3.

Advantage: Spurs

Shooting Guard

Danny Green is a sharpshooter. Although he wasn't particularly effective in Games 3 and 4 against Memphis, Green can definitely get hot in the three-point range quickly. He is averaging 10.5 points per game in the playoffs so far, and the Spurs would appreciate it if he could continue that production against Miami. Dwyane Wade played like he had something to prove in the pivotal Game 7 against Indiana and it showed in the box score. After a very lackluster first 6 games, Wade had 21 points and 9 rebounds in the series clincher, showing that he is still a superstar in this league. Although he has been hampered by a nagging knee injury, he is still the number two player on Miami's roster, and the Spurs must take him into account at all times. If he is allowed to get 20 points every game, San Antonio could be in trouble.

Advantage: Heat

Small Forward

This matchup isn't really fair to Kawhi Leonard, a good player in his own right, but when the greatest player in the world is on the other side of the court, you're bound to be overshadowed. There was much talk during the Indiana series about LeBron James reverting back to his days in Cleveland where he took almost all the shots and was forced to singlehandedly lead his team to success. As great as he is, that won't work against the Spurs. He will definitely score points, but that won't directly translate into team success. James must play as he has all season and how he played in Game 7 against the Pacers. Kawhi Leonard is obviously going to have trouble guarding him, but I expect him to get help throughout the series. Leonard is a valuable player for the Spurs going forward, as he is only 21 years old. He has been shooting the 3 very well this postseason, and San Antonio will need him to maintain that production in the Finals.

Advantage: Heat

Power Forward

Tim Duncan has found the fountain of youth. After experiencing a decline in performance after 2009, Duncan re-established himself as a dominant post pres-

ence again this season, averaging almost 18 points and 10 rebounds per game. He will be the key to this series, and will need to dominate in the same way that Roy Hibbert did in the Eastern Conference Finals. Duncan must attack Miami's front-court at all times and avoid getting into foul trouble. Miami struggles with physical post players, so Duncan should be able to have his way in this series. Udonis Haslem should get the starting spot for



the Spurs play big, similar to Indiana. Shane Battier has no chance to defend Duncan, so the Heat will need to play someone with size. Haslem is a serviceable player, but he will be in the game for his defense mostly.

Advantage: Spurs

Center

Chris Bosh apologized to Miami during the Pacers series for not playing up to his potential, and while he still only scored 9 points in Game 7, he appeared to be more interested in grabbing rebounds than he was in previous games, getting 8 total. Simply put, the Heat needs Bosh in this series. They can't win if he continues to produce like a role player. They need him to rebound like someone who is 6'11 should and they need him to play physically, rather than drifting to the 3-point line so much.

The Spurs are going to attack exactly the same way that Indiana did, and Bosh must hold his ground for the Heat to win. Tiago Splitter is another big man who doesn't really rebound, but he fills his role well in San Antonio. He is incredibly efficient, scoring on a low number of attempts and he does a decent job defending opposing big men.

Advantage: Heat

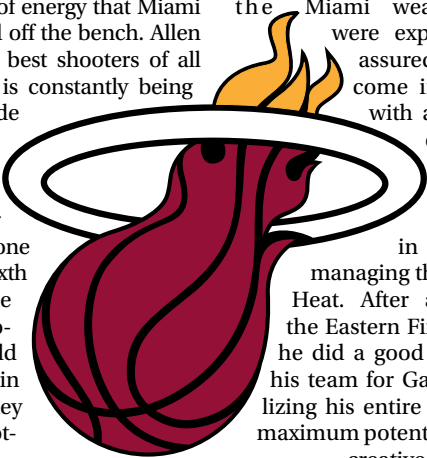
Bench

Both teams are deep, with Miami's bench headlined by Ray Allen, Norris Cole and Chris Andersen. Andersen has been outstanding this postseason, and he adds a spark of energy that Miami sorely needed off the bench. Allen is one of the best shooters of all time and he is constantly being set up for wide open threes by LeBron. The Spurs, on the other hand, have one of the best sixth men of all time in Manu Ginobili who should wreak havoc in this series. They have shooters of their own on the bench, in Gary Neal and Matt Bonner. Overall, the two second units are about even.

Advantage: Even

Coach

Gregg Popovich is one of the



best coaches of all time and he has had an extra week to prepare his team, while the Pacers and Heat battled for the Eastern spot in the Finals. He has surely been watching the series and has seen the Miami weaknesses that were exposed, so rest assured that he will come into the series with a gameplan to exploit them. Erik Spoelstra has done a great job in his own right managing the talent of the Heat. After almost letting the Eastern Finals slip away, he did a good job preparing his team for Game 7 and utilizing his entire roster to their maximum potential. He also got creative with his line-ups in order to combat the physical play by Indiana, which is a credit to his ability to adapt. This will be key in the Finals, as they are playing a Spurs team that can throw many different styles and strategies at their opponents.

Advantage: Spurs

Prediction: Spurs in 7

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