MIT's Oldest and Largest Newspaper

tech.mit.edu



WEATHER, p. 2

FRI: 70°F | 58°F Mostly overcast

SAT: 78°F | 60°F Mostly sunny



Volume 134, Number 27 Friday, June 6, 2014



Jean H. Chang, PhD Candidate in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, received her doctoral hood from Chancellor Cynthia Barnhart PhD '88 and department head David E. Hardt PhD '78 in Johnson Athletic Center Thursday afternoon.

# Prayer expunged from graduation after op-ed

Yet 'silence is not inclusion,' chaplain says

By Austin Hess EDITOR IN CHIEF

Religious prayer, a part of the commencement invocation in previous years, will no longer be included in the ceremony, according to a message from members of MIT's Commencement Committee sent to undergraduates in May.

Instead, the email said there would be an 'inclusive, secular invocation."

The change came in the wake of a Tech op-ed by Aaron L. Scheinberg G opposing the prayer and a survey administered to undergraduates by the Undergraduate Association soliciting feedback on the prayer.

Scheinberg's op-ed objected to the religious prayer delivered by MIT chaplain

Robert M. Randolph, suggesting the tradition was exclusionary to the sizeable portion of MIT students who do not believe in the "God of Abraham, Jesus and Mohammed" invoked in his 2013 rendition.

When asked whether he was personally in favor of the change, Randolph said: "I think there is more conversation to be had. We are a very diverse community and silence is not inclusion nor does it lead to education."

Scheinberg said that students had brought up the religious invocation at a meeting of the Secular Society of MIT, a student group. "People felt personally upset in a way that I wasn't," he said.

Invocation, Page 18

# In 2013-2014:

# MIT Awards:

1,060 Bachelor's Degrees 1,811 Master's Degrees

14 Engineer Degrees 594 Doctoral Degrees

# Attending Commencement:

990 Undergrad Students

**7** Graduate Students Total

INFROGRAPHIC BY WILL CONWAY

# IN SHORT

MIT Summer Session begins Monday,

The deadline to begin Fall pre-regis**tration** and to indicate preference for CI-H and CI-HW classes is Monday, June 16. There is a \$50 late fee if students miss the pre-registration deadline.

LaVerde's Market in W20 is open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. during the summer.

For detailed information on Com**mencement,** visit http://web.mit.edu/ commencement/2014/.

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

# Hockfield compensated \$1,721,597 in 2012

# MIT's highest-compensated employee was outgoing President Hockfield

**By Alexandra Delmore** 

highest-compensated employee in 2012 was outgoing President Susan J. Hockfield, who received a total compensation of \$1,721,597, according to MIT's most recent tax filings. This is an increase from \$1,199,877 in 2011.

Current President L. Rafael Reif, who succeeded Hockfield midway through 2012, received a total compensation package of \$703,759, ranking as MIT's eighth highest compensated employee.

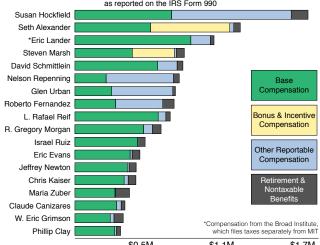
Harvard University President Drew G. Faust received a total compensation of \$1,040,637 in

Of Hockfield's 2012 compensation, \$713,106 was from her base compensation while \$884.039 was from other reportable compensation, and the rest was made up of retirement and nontaxable benefits. That year, Reif's base compensation was \$614,665 with other reportable compensation at \$56,438, and he also received benefits.

Seth Alexander, president of the MIT Investment Management Company, was once again MIT's second-highest-compensated employee. Alexander received a total compensation of \$1,221,350, which is an increase from his \$1,175,941 total compensation in 2011.

Compensation, Page 7

# MIT Employee Compensation 2012



# State police turn back packed Next House boat



A state police boat escorted members of Next House back to the Sailing Pavilion during the MIT Sailing Challenge on Friday, May 16. The goal of the challenge was to transport as many people across the Charles in a Tech dinghy as possible, with cheating heavily encouraged. The 36 people the Next Sail team managed to fit on a highly modified tech dinghy (breaking their previous record by between 0.5 and 1 people) was enough to attract the attention of the Massachusetts State Police, who offloaded some crew members and escorted the vessel back to the dock without incident. No warnings

# **MIT surveys** graduates on goals, plans

Over half to work this fall

By Tiffany Chen

STAFF REPORTER

MIT students are on average well-off and tolerant, but not so service-oriented, suggests a survey administered to this year's graduating class. Seven in ten graduating seniors participated in the survey, which is administered by MIT once every two years.

The survey revealed that the estimated median income of parents who helped pay for MIT students' undergraduate education was \$125,000. The U.S. Census Bureau found that the 2012 U.S. median household income was \$51.371

The highest-rated category in a section

Survey, Page 16

### **GIVING BLOOD TO** THE TREE

Discover the joy of the Senior Haus tire swing. CAMPUS LIFE, p. 8

# **GOVERNMENT'S DARK CORNERS**

We review Glenn Greenwald's backstory of the NSA leaks. ARTS p. 14

# LIGHTING UP THE STAGE

Interview with Magic Man before Boston Calling. ARTS, p. 12



# **BOSTON CALLING**

Our take on performances by Bastille, Modest Mouse, Death Cab for Cutie, and others. **p. 10-11** 

### **BORED DURING COMMENCEMENT?**

Check out our crossword and number puzzles. FUN, p. 6

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2 THE TECH FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2014



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# RLD&NATIONWORLI

# Germany begins inquiry in **US surveillance case**

By Alison Smale THE NEW YORK TIMES

BERLIN - Germany's federal prosecutor announced Wednesday that he had begun a formal investigation of what he called "unknown" members of U.S. intelligence agencies on suspicion that they had eavesdropped on one of Chancellor Angela Merkel's cellphones.

Anger at the National Security Agency and the British intelligence services has simmered and occasionally erupted full force since the magazine Der Spiegel and other Western news media outlets published material last June from Edward J. Snowden, the former NSA contractor, suggesting that millions of Germans' data and phone calls had been monitored.

By October, Der Spiegel uncovered evidence that Merkel's cellphone was among those tapped. The German government, stung by the behavior of its most powerful ally, angrily demanded an explanation. The White House swiftly assured the chancellor that she is not and will not be under that kind of surveillance, but omitted saving anything about the past.

Public anger and political pressure have only increased since. U.S. and German officials have failed to find a way to reconcile their need to combat terrorism with the Berlin government's demand that secret services observe German law which is strict on privacy matters when operating in Germany.

The federal prosecutor, Harald Range, had been investigating the issue for months and came under strong pressure from members of Parliament and news media commentators in recent days after Sueddeutsche Zeitung, a respected newspaper, and one of Germany's state broadcasters reported that he would not formally investigate the eavesdropping on Merkel's phone.

Asked about this at a news conference at his Rarlsruhe headquarters, Range said, "I don't know who made these predictions," emphasizing that he took the official inquiry seriously but not commenting further.

In announcing his formal inquiry into the matter, Range's office stated that "extensive preliminary investigations have established sufficient factual evidence of possible surveillance of a mobile telephone of Chancellor Angela Merkel by unknown members of the U.S. secret services." The next step will be to question witnesses and examine documents, the statement said.

There was no immediate comment on the new inquiry from the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, which is said to have been the base for listening to Merkel's phone.

Ben Rhodes, deputy national security adviser, told reporters traveling with President Barack Obama in Europe that "the best way to address the concerns that Germany has had about NSA's activities is through a direct dialogue with us."

# Victory in Syrian election is show of Assad's control

BEIRUT — President Bashar Assad of Syria on Wednesday celebrated his overwhelming victory in a deeply disputed election, asserting his confidence and defiance in the Syrian conflict as supporters savored his success in thwarting the United

Syrian officials announced that Assad had been re-elected with 88.7 percent of the vote and reported turnout of 73.4 percent of eligible voters. Those numbers could be questioned on many levels, but that did not matter much, as the election was primarily a display of Assad's continued control of important Syrian cities, the loyalty of his core supporters and the failures of his opposition and its backers.

For U.S. officials, it was a less triumphant day. Assad's supporters celebrated with gunfire in Damascus and even in neighboring Lebanon, where Secretary of State John Kerry paid a visit

But the Americans were confronted with a sense that their policy on Syria and in the region was adrift.

The night before, Robert S. Ford, the career diplomat and Arabic speaker who was until recently the nominal ambassador to Syria and the main executor of U.S. policy there, declared on "PBS NewsHour" that he quit his post in February because the policy had failed and he "could no longer defend" it in public. He said that with the United States unwilling to seriously aid potential allies in the Syrian opposition, Russia and Iran had been "driving" the war's dynamics by hugely increasing their support for Assad.

At the United Nations on Wednesday, the top official overseeing the destruction of Syria's chemical weapons, Sigrid Kaag, confirmed that Assad's government would miss the June 30 deadline set by the Security Council for the arsenal's destruction.

—Anne Barnard, The New York Times

# U.S. Supreme Court rebuffs call to end same-sex marriages in Oregon

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court on Wednesday rejected a request to halt same-sex marriages in Oregon. The court's one-line order gave no reasons for declining to issue a

Many gay and lesbian couples have gotten married in Oregon since a May 19 decision from Judge Michael J. McShane of the U.S. District Court in Eugene, Oregon, struck down the state's ban on such marriages.

"With marriages continuing in Oregon, we have 44 percent of the country living in a freedom-to-marry state," said James Esseks, a lawyer with the American Civil Liberties Union, which represented some of the plaintiffs in the Oregon case.

Same-sex marriages are permitted in 19 states and the District of Columbia.

State officials had declined to appeal McShane's decision. Oregon's attorney general, Ellen F. Rosenblum, told the court that "there is no rational basis on which to defend the state's same-sex marriage ban."

The request to the Supreme Court that the decision be stayed came instead from the National Organization for Marriage, which opposes same-sex marriage.

The organization's brief reminded the justices that they had issued a stay in January of a federal trial judge's ruling allowing same-sex marriages in Utah. But that request had come from state officials.

Decisions from federal appeals courts in some of those cases are expected shortly, and the question of whether there is a constitutional right to same-sex marriage could return to the Supreme Court in its next term, which starts in October.

–Adam Liptak, The New York Times

# White House on defensive over prisoner swap

By Charlie Savage and David E. Sanger

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The White House argued on Tuesday that the "unique circumstances" presented by the opportunity to return Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl gave President Barack Obama the authority to lawfully bypass a federal statute requiring the Pentagon to notify Congress a month before he transferred the five Taliban detainees necessary to complete the deal.

But the White House was forced by turns to defend its decision not to notify Congress and send important aides to Obama to try to apologize to angry lawmakers who said they were left out of the decision.

A timeline of the negotiations with the Taliban, provided by the White House, made clear that it knew an imminent transfer was possible by mid-May, roughly two weeks before it took place. And officials familiar with the sequence of

events said it was a desire to keep the talks secret for fear that it would scuttle the negotiations - and perhaps a reluctance to re-engage with Democratic and Republican members of Congress who were critical of the proposed swap in 2011 and early 2012 - that motivated the White House decision.

Arriving in Warsaw, Poland, on Tuesday on the first leg of a fourday European trip, Obama also found himself on the defensive over whether Bergdahl deserved special efforts to bring him home. "The United States has always had a pretty sacred rule, and that is, we don't leave our men or women in uniform behind." Denis McDonough, the White House chief of staff, traveled to Capitol Hill on Tuesday to calm Democrats at their weekly caucus lunch a day after, saying that "we didn't have 30 days" to inform Congress about the negotiations with the Taliban. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, the chairwoman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, said she had received a call from Antony Blinken, the deputy national security adviser, on Monday night apologizing for the failure to notify Congress. The ranking Republican, Sen. Saxby Chambliss of Georgia, said he had received a similar apology Monday

The White House's problem has its roots in a federal statute that requires the secretary of defense, before transferring a detainee from the prison at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, to notify Congress 30 days beforehand. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel provided that notice only as the transfer was already tak-

Republican lawmakers have accused Obama of violating that law.

On Tuesday, speaking in Poland, Obama cited exigent circumstances that made a month delay impractical and argued that the previous consultations with Congress, which spanned from November 2011 to January 2012, constituted the necessary consultation.

# Mostly dry weekend for commencement and reunions

By Kathryn Materna and Will Conway

TECH STAFF

As MIT welcomes the families of students and alumni for commencement and class reunions, the Boston "weather machine" is showing its notorious variability. A strong low-pressure system moved through the area yesterday, bringing heavy rain. During commencement this morning, the tail end of this

system is pushing through the region. Conditions will be mostly cloudy. Showers are possible, with the weather models predicting about a 20 percent chance of rain. The likelihood of rain diminishes later in the day Friday and into Saturday.

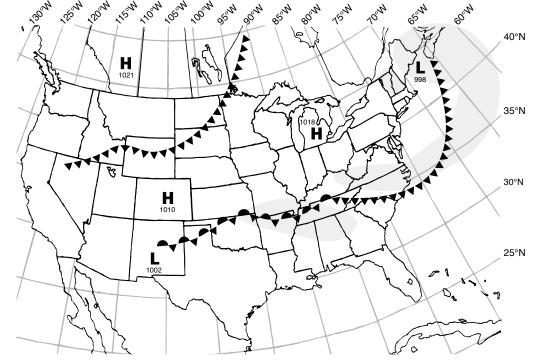
After this system moves over the Atlantic, we will experience more dry and seasonably warm conditions. The weekend will be mostly sunny with highs in the upper 70s.

# **Extended Forecast**

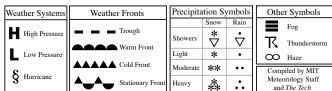
Today: Mostly overcast with a high of about 70°F (21°C). Winds from the northwest at 5–8 miles per hour.

**Tonight**: Partly cloudy with a low of 58°F (14°C). Tomorrow: Mostly sunny with a high of 78°F (26°C). Slight chance of showers in the afternoon.

Sunday: Sunny with a high near 81°F (27°C). Monday: Partly sunny with a high near 76°F (24°C).



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Friday, June 6, 2014





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# **GUEST COLUMN**

# **Blocking attrition**

# The administration's efforts to find group housing for former Bexley residents have been inadequate

By Dennis Wilson

Last May, students living in Bexley Hall were informed that their beloved dorm would be closed and they would have to find new housing. A year later, these students, and the rest of the MIT community, have a great deal on which to reflect.

Although The Tech has given excellent coverage of the Bexley process, I'd like to provide more context. This process started last spring and went public at a May 7, 2013, meeting with Dean Chris Colombo. On May 10, Bexley residents publicly announced our desires, both for the community and for the building. On May 13, Chancellor Eric Grimson PhD '80 and Dean Colombo responded, speaking of "mutual cooperation" and promising progress on a number of tasks, including "identifying housing options for the large group of Bexley residents," a process that was intended to take "a few weeks." Around that time, Undergraduate Association members proposed a temporary blocking plan: Bexley students would live in groups in dorms around campus. The most accommodating to that plan were Burton Conner and Senior House, and, in the last two weeks of the semester, the students of Bexley decided whether they would live in one of those blocks, somewhere else on campus without their peers, or off campus.

Over the summer, the Bexley Advisory Group was formed and met twice. The possibility of a "modular dorm" was brought up, to the tune of \$6 million. No alternative solution was found, so the blocking plan was enacted for the fall. The recommendation for demolition was made without an Advisory Group meeting, and, on Oct. 18, it went public. For the rest of the fall, the administration and Advisory Group met three more times, two of those at the request of Bexley Advisory Group member Kristjan Eerik Kaseniit '14, and one at the request of the administration. Little was accomplished, and a miscommunication between Chancellor Grimson, who thought Advisory Group meetings would be advisory in nature, and Dean Colombo, who thought they would be solely informative, became

# The tendency toward living in blocks is apparent, but it doesn't appear sustainable on campus.

This semester, the administration has not been adequately involved in the process of finding long-term housing options for these former Bexley residents. The search has continued, led by the former residents themselves. They applied to Fenway House as a large group and were denied. They tried to rent out the former Delta Upsilon house and were denied while trying to jump the administrative hurdles of forming a new independent living group. While the students should be commended for these attempts, and neither Fenway or DU are to blame for their failure, their ineffectiveness may be a direct result of the lack of the "mutual cooperation" with the administration that Chancellor Grimson applauded last spring.

ments have served as more than just living spaces but also as Bexley social spaces for the past two semesters.

Friction between host dorms and Bexiles is also apparent, but is difficult to quantify. Those in the Senior House blocks and the Burton Conner block have reported instances of friction between the local "Bexley contingency" and the other residents. While I thank the leaders of Senior House and Burton Conner for offering spaces in their homes, I think they would agree that there have been issues between

# Fifty-two members of the Bexley family will be living without a real home for two more years at MIT, and no one in the administration appears to care.

With this context in mind, I would like to review the blocking system. We asked for an analysis to be completed this year concerning the blocking system and, as that request was never met, have tried to do so ourselves. It is difficult to quantify the effect of the Bexley residents, now "Bexiles," on their current residences, so instead I'll focus on the housing situation of the Bexiles themselves. I'll define Bexiles here to be those who were slotted for housing in Bexley in Fall 2013: 88 students, by my count.

Starting last fall, 19 percent of Bexiles lived off campus independently, not in a fraternity, sorority, or independent living group. These 17 students lived in eight different locations, with 11 of them in two different blocks, which I've considered as any space with four or more Bexiles. The 71 students living on campus or in FSILGs lived in 29 different locations, with 33 living in three blocks, two in Senior House and one in Burton Conner. That's 64 percent of off-campus students in blocks, and 46 percent of those who lived on campus or in FSILGs. Bexiles who moved off campus wanted to keep living together, and were willing to enter the Cambridge housing market to do so.

Between the fall and spring semesters, a number of Bexiles moved off campus, totaling 26 (30 percent). They lived in 10 different locations, and 19 of them lived in three blocks. The remaining 70 percent lived in 24 different on-campus or FSILG locations, and 33 of them lived in four blocks, a new block forming in Senior House, by this definition, with the movement of one student. Both on campus and off, more Bexiles lived in blocks in the spring than didn't: 73 percent of those off campus and 53 percent of those on campus or in FSILGs. The tendency toward living in blocks is apparent, but it doesn't appear sustainable on campus. Instead, Bexiles have found apartments that house as many of them as possible, enabling them to live in mini-Bexleys scattered around Cambridge. These apartthe communities, and that the blocks have been detrimental to the Bexiles and to the dorms hosting them.

With 19 students creating blocks off campus, and many more current residents of on-campus blocks promising to do the same this coming fall, it is not a reasonable argument that the blocks on campus are still a solution. They were never intended as a long-term solution, and they should not be treated as such. The absence of a concerted effort on the part of the administration to help these students find better options indicates that they accept blocking as a viable solution.

This spring, 36 of us Bexiles will be graduating, leaving only 52. The administration can continue to do nothing, which, according to a cost-benefit analysis, would be their best option by far. More Bexiles will move off campus, squeezing into whatever apartment situations allow them to keep living together. They will do it at their own cost, at their own risk, and without any assistance from the administration. This is a clear case of abandonment, and while I might hope for the best from the new faces in the administration, things fall through the cracks with such transitions, and the Bexiles have already been forgotten.

I'll note, in closing, that I didn't focus on the building that sits at 50 Mass. Ave. in this letter. While I lived in Bexley for three years and still consider it my home, I accept its flaws, as do most Bexlians. We're the least surprised that the building is structurally unsound. And while I would love to fight for its renovation, or the preservation of the art inside, or the future of a dorm in its place, there is a more pressing issue at hand. Fifty-two members of the Bexley family will be living without a real home for two more years at MIT, and there is no one in the administration who appears to care.

Dennis Wilson is a member of the Class of 2014. Wilson lived in Bexley for three years and has represented the community in various ways, but writes on their own behalf.

# CORRECTIONS

An article on the Graduate Student Council's divestment resolution in the May 13 issue of *The Tech* quoted a sentence that GSC representatives had previously struck from the resolution. The sentence: "It is unconscionable to finance our education with investments that materially support a path to catastrophic climate change."

# **OPINION POLICY**

**Editorials** are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the Editorial Board, which consists of Chairman Annia Pan, Editor in Chief Austin Hess, Managing Editor Judy Hsiang, and Opinion Editor Jacob London.

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

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FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2014

THE TECH 5

Q.E.D.

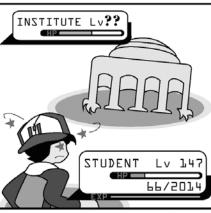


BY ERIKA TRENT

WHAT IT IS ...

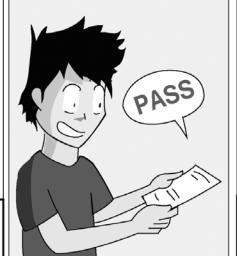


WHAT IT FEELS LIKE

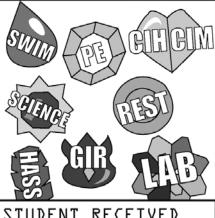


INSTITUTE USED
"FINAL EXAM CURVEBALL"
STUDENT IS CONFUSED!

# WHAT IT IS ...



WHAT IT FEELS LIKE



STUDENT RECEIVED
THE LAST REQUIREMENT BADGE!

# WHAT IT IS ...

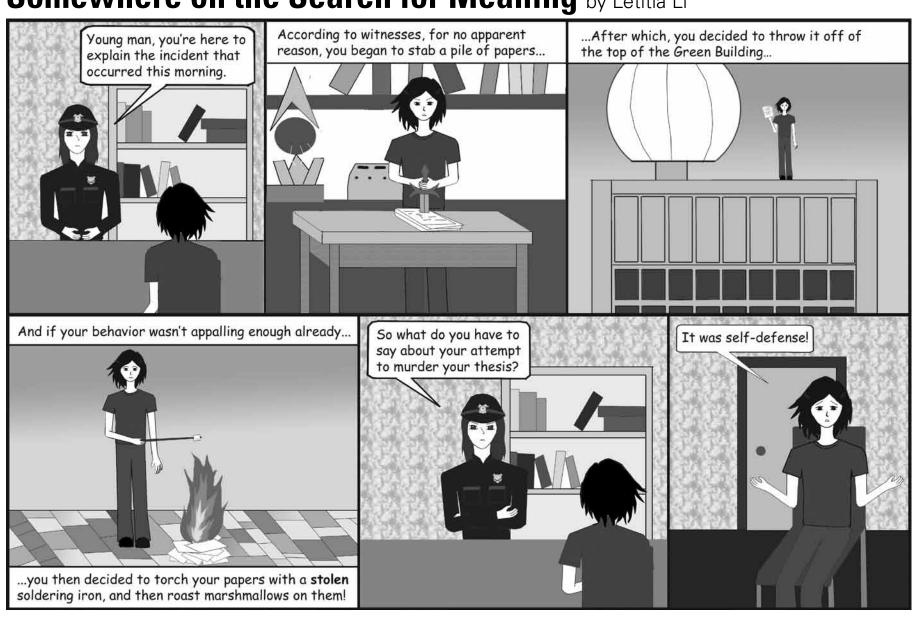


# WHAT IT TOTALLY IS



CONGRATS, CLASS OF 2014!

# Somewhere on the Search for Meaning by Letitia Li

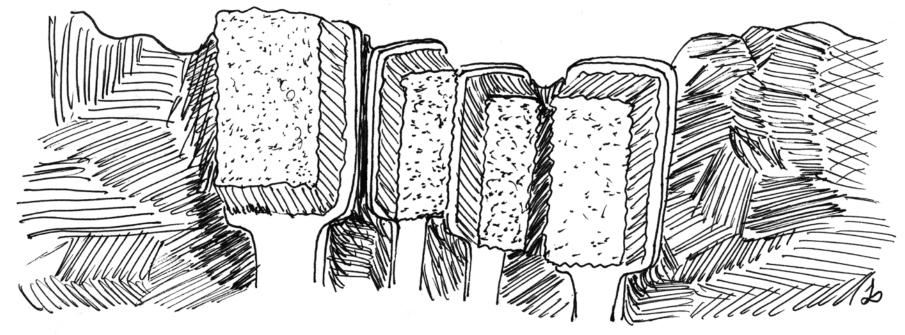


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# FUNFUNFUNFUNFUNFU

# Strangers to Fiction by Deena Wang



# MOUNT BRUSHMORE

# Sudoku

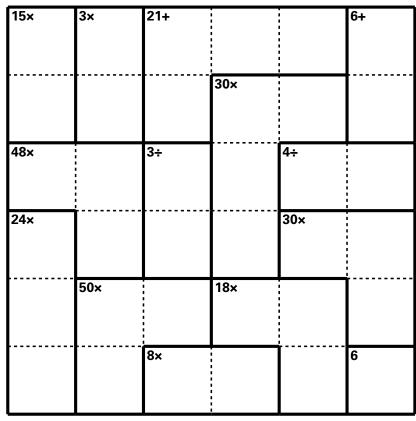
Solution, page 16

6			5		7	2	1	
	7			6				
		1			8			
	9	6	4				3	2
1								<b>2</b> 8
7	2				5	4	9	
			3			8		
				2			6	
	4	7	8		6			3

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9

# **Techdoku**

Solution, page 16



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.

# Handy Fare by Lonnie Burton

# **ACROSS**

- 1 Family dogs, for short
- 5 Cantina offering
- 10 Stoke, as a furnace
- 14 Not home
- 15 Polishing mineral
- 16 Language of Pakistan 17 Possible salad ingredients
- 19 Square beside Marvin
- Gardens 20 Casino honcho
- 21 Winding
- 23 Hunch over
- 24 Buying binge
- 27 Place to graze
- 29 Ponder
- 34 Actor Mineo
- 37 Plow team
- 39 Ancient artifact
- 40 Fist, so to speak
- 44 Pretty silly
- 45 "It wasn't me"
- 46 Ref's call
- 47 Hawaiian observatory site 49 Mac alternatives

- 52 Toy truck maker
- 54 47 Across outflow
- 58 With great care
- 62 World's tallest tree 64 River through Wheeling
- 65 Hors d'oeuvres, for instance
- 68 In-vour-face
- 69 Horrendous 70 Key in the sea
- 71 "Amscray!"
- 72 Sock flaws
- 73 Sock flaw

# **DOWN**

- 1 Scandinavian nomads
- 2 Look forward to
- 3 Md.'s largest city
- 4 Emblem
- 5 Casual wear
- 6 Accumulate
- 7 According to
- 8 Finesse
- 9 Methodical way
- 10 Kodak rival 11 Long stretches

- 12 Make more readable,
- mavbe
- 13 As authorized 18 Optimistic outlook
- 22 Outlandish
- 25 Laundry step
- 26 Come after
- 28 Huffington Post owner
- 30 Freshly made 31 Landed
- 32 Check mark
- 33 Repeat
- 34 Turn pages quickly
- 35 Heroine for Eugene or Leo 36 Party with poi
- 38 Gas in some headlights
- 41 Crossfire airer
- 42 "Ode to Psyche" poet
- 43 Just beat 48 Natural sponge
- 50 USCG officer
- 51 Felt best
- 53 Contend verbally
- 55 Christmas carol bird 56 Dinero
- 20 23 30 |31 |32 |33 34 | 35 40 41 42 43 44 46 47 49 55 56 57 62 63 58 | 59 | 60 | 61 65 66 67 64 68 69 70 72 71
- 57 Venomous snake
- 58 Biopic starring Kutcher
- 59 Cry after a spill 60 Corn Belt tower
- 61 Ruckus
- 63 Marine predators
- 66 \_\_ Jima 67 ESPN media partner

THE TECH 7 FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2014

# Sloan faculty make MIT's highest compensated list

Outgoing president Hockfield and current MITIMCO president Alexander lead table

Seth Alexander

Steven Marsh

Jeffrey Newton

Chris Kaiser

Maria Zuber

Phillip Clay

Compensation, from Page 1

Some MIT-affiliated organizations pay comparable amounts to their leaders, those organizations' tax disclosures show. Professor Eric S. Lander, who is the founding director of the Broad Institute, received a total compensation of \$1,027,400. Professor Anant Agarwal, CEO of the online learning initiative edX, received a total compensation of \$494,313.

Several faculty from the Sloan School of Management are among the highest-paid employees at MIT. While the base pay of these Sloan professors ranged from \$200,000 to \$300,000, their "other reportable compensation" was much higher in comparison to professors in other departments, ranging from \$300,000 to \$500,000.

According to a 2012 Tech article, some of this additional compensation comes from the

Sloan Executive Education Program, which offers classes to management executives in major corporations. Sloan faculty Name are paid by MIT for participating Susan Hockfield in this program, so the income appears on MIT's tax return.

On the other hand, David Schmittlein, Dean of the Sloan School of Management, does David Schmittlein not participate in the Execu- Nelson Repenning tive Education Program; he re- Glen Urban ceived a base pay of \$611,076 Roberto Fernandez and \$143,327 in "other report- L. Rafael Reif able compensation." Schmit- R. Gregory Morgan tlein is the only dean to make Israel Ruiz MIT's list of highest compensated employees, which continues a trend from previous years.

Some of MIT's highestcompensated employees also receive income from being on Claude Canizares the executive boards of various W. Eric Grimson companies.

The tax records from the Kirk Kolenbrande Broad Institute and edX were John Reed previously reported on by John A. Hawkinson.

# MIT's highest compensated employees of 2012

	Title	2012 Base	Bonus & incentive compensation	"Other reportable compensation"	Retirement & non- taxable benefits	Total	
	President (outgoing)	\$713,106	\$0	\$884,039	\$124,452	\$1,721,597	
	President of MITIMCO	\$558,355	\$583,546	\$30,600	\$48,849	\$1,221,350	
	Director, President, and CEO; Broad Institute	\$855,792	\$0	\$143,902	\$27,706	\$1,027,400	
	Managing Director - MITIMCO	\$423,666	\$310,008	\$15,500	\$59,007	\$808,181	
	Dean, Sloan School of Management	\$611,076	\$0	\$143,327	\$43,221	\$797,624	
ı	Professor, Sloan School of Management	\$229,988	\$0	\$497,776	\$43,095	\$770,859	
	Professor, Sloan School of Management	\$271,846	\$0	\$450,813	\$19,790	\$742,449	
z	Professor, Sloan School of Management	\$299,754	\$0	\$348,240	\$84,692	\$732,686	
	President (incoming)	\$614,665	\$0	\$56,438	\$32,656	\$703,759	
n	VP & General Counsel	\$506,893	\$0	\$64,960	\$64,688	\$636,541	
	Executive VP & Treasurer	\$462,382	\$0	\$8,837	\$47,542	\$518,761	
	Director of Licoln Laboratory	\$407,372	\$0	\$14,695	\$57,901	\$479,968	
	VP of Resource Development	\$386,609	\$0	\$13,015	\$52,184	\$451,808	
	Provost	\$363,498	\$0	\$29,490	\$57,480	\$450,468	
	VP for Research (incoming)	\$295,324	\$0	\$6,212	\$101,620	\$403,156	
	VP for Research (outgoing)	\$306,032	\$0	\$35,354	\$28,178	\$369,564	
	Chancellor	\$260,733	\$0	\$27,078	\$68,749	\$356,560	
	Professor	\$293,415	\$0	\$11,667	\$32,291	\$337,373	
	VP & Secretary of the Corporation	\$263,432	\$0	\$840	\$60,777	\$325,049	
	Chairman of the Corporation	\$265,290	\$0	\$1,125	\$4,069	\$270,484	

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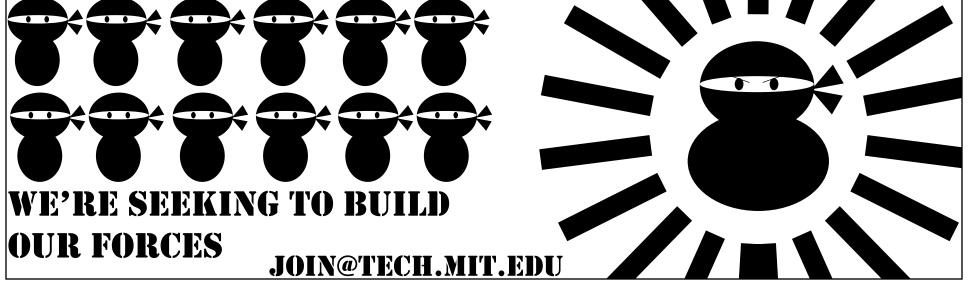


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By Deena Wang

ASSOCIATE CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

You can buy the Sport Death shirt, and the Roast shirt, and even the Lambda Sigma Delta jersey (complete with purity score!). But there is a special rite of passage for those who want to be a true Senior Haus resident. I am speaking, of course, of learning how to tire swing.

The Senior Haus courtyard tire swing may be the only centrifugal tire swing in the world. Most tire swings hang a couple of feet off the ground so that you can seat yourself in the hole and swing freely. Not the Haus tire swing. The rope is long enough for the tire to drag on the ground, so getting air time requires the special technique of standing up in the tire hole, running sideways in a circle with the rope taut, and then kicking off the tree. If this technique sounds difficult and dangerous, it is. The motto "give blood to the tree" is not arbitrary.

Because of the high probability of injury, I had put off learning how to tire swing in my freshman, sophomore, and junior years. I could only watch as the other residents and alums pirouetted in the air. With skill comes confidence and tricks, such as leaning backwards to brush the ground with your hands, riding on top of the tire instead of in it, riding with two people, or picking up objects and throwing them at people with accuracy.

Finally, in my second semester of senior year, when I had well and truly lost all my cares, I decided to finally defeat the tree that had been looming over me since I was a prefrosh. It was a lovely Patriot's Day weekend that I chose for the task. The air was cold enough that I could wear a windbreaker as extra protection for when flesh

On the first day of my quest, I checked and double-checked that the rope was unwound. I grabbed the tire, took a deep breath, and started running in an awkward sideways shuffle. When I had run about 180 degrees around the tree, my body was lifted off the ground by the rope. My feet impacted tree. So far, so good.

Then I had to kick off at the correct angle so the tire swing would stay off the ground and swing in a circle rather than a

skidding parabola. Failure at this stage is less painful because the tire takes the impact of your body on the ground. The tire merely skids on the brick tiles until friction stops the motion. Hopefully, this happens before you hit the trunk of the tree.

The next step to master is landing with your legs on the trunk, instead of backplanting. The amount of spin you have is controlled by how you kick off and how much you lean back. But it's awfully difficult to concentrate on these things when you're speeding through the air and can't see where you're going.

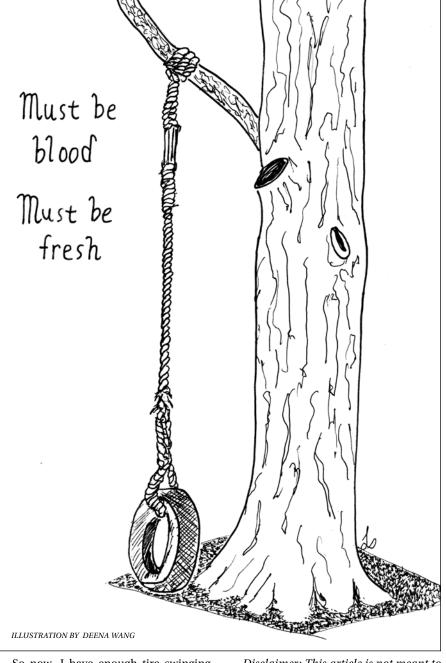
If you land incorrectly, all the weight of the swing will be transferred to your elbows, or your back. It's difficult to judge when you're safe, and when you should try to abort the swing, because sometimes traveling backwards will magically allow your legs to hit the tree. You just have to trust the untrustworthy tree.

I was hyperventilating with adrenaline and pain after that first day. My elbows looked like I had been moshing with a biker gang. But I could not stop then. After the third day, I messed up my knee, and I was walking with a limp for a while. But still I persevered.

The secret to successful tire swinging is to do it without fear. The faster you run, the higher you land on the tree when you leave the ground, and the better you can kick off. You have to retain a cool head to control your spin, and you have to have enough reaction time in case things turn

In the end, what did I get from learning how to tire swing? An achievement in my trophy box, a notch on my belt, a lost purity point, a sheet of paper. Learning to tire swing is a peculiar type of education. It teaches a mind-over-matter philosophy: to wipe out and smash your elbows against the tree, stagger woozily and rub the pain from them, and then ask for another.

I'm glad to have had the opportunity to stare pain in the face, and learn how to deal with it. There are no guide rails, safety padding, or "you must be this tall to enter" signs, because life doesn't have those either. The injury is real, but there are safeguards in place that prevent things from going too far. After all, MIT Medical is only a couple steps away.



So now, I have enough tire swinging chops to not injure myself. Others can transform the act into a thing of beauty, but I'm okay with knowing enough to not be dangerous.

Disclaimer: This article is not meant to imply that people are forced to tire swing as a hazing ritual. All incidences of tire swinging that the author knows of are voluntary.

# **COMMUNITY PROFILE**

# Mary Rowe retiring from role as ombudsman

41 years of conflict resolution and mentorship

**By Kristen Sunter** 

STAFF WRITER

The MIT Ombuds Office, according to its mission statement, "helps people express concerns, resolve disputes, manage conflicts, and learn more productive ways of communicating" and serves as a neutral resource to the MIT community. Last year, MIT's two ombudemen received about 800 visitors, who collectively raised 3800 different issues, including academic concerns, interpersonal problems, and requests for referrals. Mary Rowe, MIT's ombudsman, is retiring from her position at the head of that office this year.

Rowe first came to MIT in 1973 as one of two Special Assistants, serving in a role that later became the model for the ombudsman position. She was asked by Jerome B. Wiesner, then president of the Institute, to serve as an independent, neutral, confidential, and informal resource for conflict management and communication.

Wiesner and then-Chancellor Paul Gray first created the position in response to concerns raised by a women's group on campus in 1972. The group, composed of faculty, students, and staff, had asked Wiesner and Gray to establish a senior administrator to look after the interests of women.

Rowe said that Wiesner, an electrical engineer, approached his role as president of MIT with a systems perspective. She recalled, "He began with the idea of finding faults in the system that affected people." Rowe and Clarence Williams were hired as the two Special Assistants to provide quick feedback to the upper management. Rowe had the title of Special Assistant for Women and Work, but both she and Williams saw anyone who came to them with impartiality and confidentiality.

When she first arrived on campus, a student reporter asked her what she'd actually be doing. Rowe responded, "I don't know yet, so if anyone has any ideas about how to improve the quality of life at MIT, please an appointment and come se Trained as a research economist, Rowe started by gathering data for six months to compile a list of concerns.

# After about five years on the job, Rowe made a list of 600 policies that had addressed issues she'd learned of.

When she presented the list to Wiesner, it took the president over an hour to read through the concerns. When he finished, he folded his hands and looked down at the floor. When he finally spoke, he said, "Mary, did MIT have any of these problems before you came?" and laughed. On the way out the door, he told her that she should help each person who came to her as well as she could and added, "Don't let any problem happen twice," a charge Rowe still sees as an integral aspect of her role.

According to Rowe, there were other ombudsmen in the late 1960s, but they focused on conducting investigations into individual conflicts. In contrast, Wiesner and Gray were

concerned about creating an institution that "made human beings visible," so that the work of science and innovation could happen happily.

When asked if part of her role was watching for trends, she replied, "The word now that everybody uses is 'trends,' but Wiesner wasn't at all interested in trends. He in fact said to me at some point in the '70s, 'If it's a trend, every manager you talk to jolly well ought to know it. You pick up new problems."

After about five years on the job, Rowe made a list of at least 600 policies that had addressed issues that had come to her attention. Some were big, such as equal pensions for men and women serving similar roles, and others were smaller, like putting signs on the handicap ramps to keep them clear

The current problems that Rowe sees? "Exhaustion, hands down. I'd put exhaustion first on the list, and perceived mean behavior second. In the last fifteen months, grief has been high on the list - and all its effects. Pace and pressure I'd say has been more of an issue every year for 42 years in my office."

In 1980, Rowe fell in with a small group of the original university ombudsmen, though they were mainly working on grade disputes and individual complaints. But she found people in roles similar to hers at Bell Laboratories, DEQ, Southland, and Anheuser Busch, and, in 1984, they founded the Corporate Ombudsman Association, later renamed The Ombudsman Association, of which she was a president. TOA eventually joined with other college and university ombudsman associations to form the International Ombuds Association, which is now the umbrella worldwide for all organizational ombudsmen.

Rowe also started the first listserv for ombudsmen to share knowledge in the 1980s. She said, "Every ombudsman occasionally gets a kind of issue that comes once or twice in the career of that person, but if you have a hundred ombudsmen, then maybe someone has seen that issue" In addition, many of the conflict management techniques she uses were developed by talking with other ombudsmen about problems to which there seemed to be no solution.

Rowe herself was faced with such a problem with reports of sexual harassment in the 1970s, long before the federal government's Equal Employment Opportunity Commission guidelines were established in 1980. "Very early on I met lots of people who would generally tell me that they don't want to rock any boats, they don't want anyone to lose face, but they do think that some kind of behavior should stop. They wanted complete privacy. The legal situation would be comparable to what now is true of bullying."

In response to these complaints, she invented a technique called Drafting a Letter, where a woman might write a letter to a supervisor laying out what happened factually, how she feels about the matter, and a proposed remedy. Was this technique successful? Rowe said, "In terms of just getting the individual alleged problem stopped, [the success rate] was well over 80 percent, approaching 99 percent for certain kinds of harassment."

Ombudsman, Page 9

Friday, June 6, 2014

The Tech 9

# When there's no one else to talk to

An open and discerning ear

Ombudsman, from Page 8

Rowe is also an adjunct professor at the Sloan School, where she taught for over 20 years. She and Professor Robert B. McKersie, who was one of the two cofounders of the field of negotiation, developed courses in negotiation and conflict management in the 1980s that were among the first of their kind. Negotiation has since become the most popular elective course at Sloan, according to Professor Thomas A. Kochan, who co-taught Negotiation and Workplace Conflict Management with Rowe.

Kochan said: "Mary is a magician in class; she can ask students questions that get the discussion going like no one I've ever seen. She has a knack for building up suspense around a conflict or negotiation and asking, 'Has that ever happened to you?' And it just brings the class alive." Rowe credits the popularity of the course to the integration of things she learned from her students.

Rowe's professional contact with her students sometimes extends well into their careers. Kochan said, "They call her when they have a problem, and she's a lifelong resource." Many Negotiations students have gone on to occupy high-ranking positions in various organizations, including Kathleen O'Toole, the Seattle Chief of Police; Elaine Hill, the former Deputy Commissioner of the MA Department of Mental Health; and Jack Potter, the U.S. Postmaster General. Former Secretary of the Air Force and Institute Professor Sheila E. Widnall took a seminar of Rowe's in the 1970s called Androgyny, which dealt with gender and gender roles.

At least six of her students became ombudsmen themselves, including Linda Wilcox, who became the ombudsman for Harvard Medical School. She recalled her first day in Rowe's negotiation course, when Rowe introduced herself as the ombudsman at MIT. Later that evening, Wilcox told her husband, "I don't know what that is, but I'm going to be it," citing the sense of fairness, integrity, and justice that she sensed in Rowe.

Thomas C. Mills '77, who took Rowe's freshman seminar in 1973 and stayed in touch with her, later serving as a teaching assistant, said that Rowe was a personal influence. "Mary had me focus on what I wanted to do after MIT in a way I really hadn't thought about. I would wander into her office once or twice a month just to say hi, and she always made time for me."

Linda Wilcox mentioned Rowe's perseverance, recalling a case that they had worked on together. Rowe had told her, "You don't drop because you get tired. You need to follow through and get the data"

For Professor McKersie, Rowe was a resource not only for students but also for him as a deputy dean at Sloan when he needed someone to talk through problems. "You'd go to her, and there'd be instant connection, readiness to help think through what's an approach to solving that problem. She doesn't give you specific examples, but helps people think how they are going to resolve problems."

Next year, Rowe will continue in her role as adjunct professor at Sloan. She'll be writing papers about several different topics, including the origin of the Ombuds Office, giving ad hoc lectures on the role of bystanders in cases of bullying and harassment, and revising her course on OpenCourseWare to make it more accessible.



Two vibrant rainbows appeared spanning the Charles River after the rain last Friday.

The Tech is looking for interactive graphic designers to join its online media team.

Hockfield announces that she will step down from being MIT's president.

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CAMPUS LIFE CAMPUS LIFE

# **Boston Calling**

Back for round 3

### By Brianna Berrios

Only one year after its inception, Boston Calling is already making a name for itself as a top music festival for rock-lovers all along the East Coast. Fans of all ages, from enthusiastic high schoolers to parents, came together Memorial Day weekend to listen to some of their favorite artists

while downing Sam Adams and dancing the night away.

The lineup this spring included big names — alternative rock band Death Cab for Cutie and smooth rocker Jack John-

evening. Even though only one stage was in use and only three acts performed, the City Hall Plaza was packed as people squished toward the main stage. Up first was Cass Mcsmooth acoustics. The evening chill that eventually settled in did little to dampen the crowd's enthusiasm.

played at a time, so no one had to miss their favorite act. Notable acts included The Neighborhood — who played their popular "Sweater Weather" with more recent songs from their new mixtape #000000 & #FFFFFF (HTML color codes for black and white) — as well as Jenny Lewis and The Head
& The Heart.

The long anticipated "mystery band" in the original line
The long anticipated "mystery band" in the original line
The long anticipated "mystery band" in the original line
The long anticipated "mystery band" in the original line
The long anticipated "mystery band" in the original line
The long anticipated "mystery band" in the original line
The long anticipated "mystery band" in the original line-

heavy downpour. Nearly the entire audience waited to listen to Cab for Cutie — the most anticipated act of the night.

lineup of the entire weekend, evidenced by the crowds exbostoncalling.com.

tending almost to the food stands bordering the plaza. Most of the better-known acts played near the end of the day, and the weekend concluded with an astounding performance by **Modest Mouse.** 

Built to Spill, often credited as one of Modest Mouse's biggest musical inspirations, played a very boisterous yet still enjoyable set in the afternoon. Next was Phosphorescent with a rock sound laced with psychedelic themes, followed by two of the more pop-like acts, Tegan & Sara and Bastille.

These two were in stark contrast to the band Brand New, son, to name a couple — as well as more local bands like Magic Man and Tigerman Woah!, both of whose styles fit in though it might have been too loud for some (like me), it with their better-known counterparts.

A new addition this year was a kickoff concert on Friday

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A new addition this year was a kickoff concert on Friday

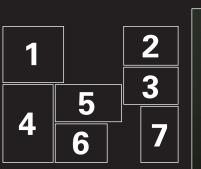
Because their last tour was almost four years ago, as soon as Modest Mouse hit the stage, the audience went Combs, his attractive melodies punctuated by spectacular guitar solos. Next was the spiritual and spectacular Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros, followed by Jack Johnson's which multiple crowd surfers could be seen having the time crazy. They played a wide variety of their songs including crowd-pleasing "Float On" and "The World at Large," during Though there were ten acts on Saturday, only one band a to miss their first same back for a three-song encore, playing "Cowboy Dan," "Shit In Your Cut," and "Satin In A Coffin." of their lives. They even came back for a three-song encore,

Overall, the show was a great success and perhaps an improvement over last year. This year's festival was completely sold out, with total attendance rising to 60,000. Additionally,

The long anticipated "mystery band" in the original line-up, The Decemberists, was well worth the hour-long wait in a of Boston Calling. Although fewer rock musicians will be present, this September's edition will include artists such as Lorde, Childish Gambino, and Neutral Milk Hotel. Fans can The Sunday schedule was, for some, the most anticipated buy tickets for September's Boston Calling online at http://











- PHOTOS BY JESSICA L. WASS—THE TECH 1. Bastille frontman Dan Smith thrilled the crowd Sunday evening.
- 3. Jonathan Russell of The Head and the Heart showed
- why they have a reputation as such a great live band.

  4. Modest Mouse closed the final day of the festival.
- 5. Death Cab for Cutie was the Saturday closer after the
- brief showers cleared.
  6. Jesse Lacey of Brand New gave an energy-filled performance to a receptive crowd.

  7. Jenny Lewis played earlier Saturday afternoon.









Magic Man performed at NAGA for Gilt City's Better Than Backstage Boston Calling kick-off party.

OFIR NACHUM—THE TECH

### **MUSIC REVIEW**

# Summer sparks are in the air

# Magic Man charms the crowd before Boston Calling

By Kali Xu and Ofir Nachum

After finishing a tour with alt rockers New Politics and playing at a variety of music festivals this spring, Magic Man was ready to jump straight into their first performance at Boston Calling. The synth rock and pop band calls Boston home, having spent part of their college years performing at house parties and local live music venues. Joey, Magic Man's drummer, even reminisces about visiting MIT for Bexley's Beast Roast party during his time at Berklee.

Although the band is at home in Boston, founding members Alex and Sam actually wrote Magic Man's first songs in France while working on organic farms their freshman summer. One of the farms they worked at hosted a circus festival where they befriended a young French magician who called himself "the magic man." He inspired the band's name and was the first person to hear the music that was to become the band's first album.

We caught up with Magic Man members Alex (vocals), Sam (guitar), Joey (drums), and Gabe (bass) before they took the stage at Gilt City's Better Than Backstage Boston Calling kickoff party.

*The Tech:* What is your favorite song to perform?

Sam: We used to do a cover of "Ignition,"

remixed, by R. Kelly. That was always fun. Of our songs, I really like "Texas," because it has a lot of energy, it's faster paced, and we go a little crazy at the end.

TT: What is your favorite song at the

Sam: "Scott & Zelda," by our friends Tiny Victories. It just came out three days ago. It's a cut from their album, which is coming out in June.

Alex: My favorite song is by a new band called Photocomfort. They just released their first single called "Dawn Sequence." It also features two members of Magic Man, Gabe and Justin.

Gabe: Spoiler alert.

Joey: The song that's playing right now, I really love it [smooth jazz]. But Chromeo's "Frequent Flyer" is my new favorite right

*Sam:* My favorite song that I listen to while running is "Old 45's."

# 'We want one billionaire fan who just supports us.'

— Alex Caplow LEAD SINGER, MAGIC MAN

TT: Do you want Magic Man to keep an indie vibe? Is that intentional?

*Sam:* We want no one to know about us, but to be incredibly wealthy.

t to be incredibly wealthy.

Alex: We want one billionaire fan who

just supports us.

Sam: I would say that indie sound you're talking about is definitely closer to the music we want to be making than straight up what you imagine pop stars' music to sound like, though now the line is getting very blurry. Our dream is that we can be popular and have our songs on the radio, still making the type of music we're making now.

TT: What can we expect from Magic Man in the future?

Alex: We're gonna play a show tonight, here. We've got an album coming July 8. We've got our first headline tour also starting July 8 on the West Coast. We're gonna be touring all summer long with Panic! At The Disco and Walk The Moon.

*Sam:* Pretty much once the album comes out, we're hoping to stay on the road as much as possible, playing as many shows as we can, traveling to as many new places, meeting new people, falling off more stages.

Joey: I don't wanna put any spoilers out there, but look for Magic Man with the reincarnation of Michael Jackson coming next fall

Sam: Alex has been practicing his back flip all spring.

Alex: It's still pretty bad, but we're gonna put it out there. And Sam has been practicing his vocal solo.

Sam: They won't give me a mic, but it's really good.

The band members kept up their cheerfulness throughout the night as they performed at the kickoff party, which took place at NAGA, a trendy restaurant, bar, and nightclub near Central Square. But while the decor says "hip and modern," its sound system says "mom's old car radio." This was first noticeable during the opening act by DJ Big Phyll, whose early 2000s hip hop sounded like pirated 128 kbps MP3 files through NAGA's deplorable speakers.

The poor quality of the sound system was further confirmed when the band started playing, and nearly all sounds were overpowered by Gabe's bass guitar and Joey's drumset. Alex soon realized this while talking to the crowd in the packed club, but led the band in powering through with energetic dancing that was matched by the crowd's enthusiasm

Ending with Magic Man's most popular song, "Paris," Alex ran into the audience and encouraged everyone to sing along. It was clear that the audience was filled with Magic Man fans when a chorus of voices joined in for a triumphant finish.

Magic Man is gaining fans fast and will likely soon be topping charts. Look out for their new album, *Before The Waves*, in July, and check out their dreamy EDM-style remixes.

Editor's note: This interview has been condensed and edited for clarity.

# **MOVIE REVIEW**

# Bringing the X-Men back to life

# X-Men: Days of Future Past works like a charm, as long as you don't overthink it

By Roberto Perez-Franco

STAFF WRITE

X-Men: Days of Future Past is one of the most satisfying fantasy action movies I've seen in years. Director Bryan Singer has managed to build upon the storylines of many previous X-Men movies and generally maintain narrative consistency (except where it would limit his artistic freedom) in order to create what many critics consider the best entry so far in the successful X-Men franchise.

The premise of this film is a variation on

a common theme: humans discover there are superpowered mutants living among them, and distrust grows between the two groups. Faced with the threat of human repression, mutants must choose between destruction and cooperation. The novelty comes in the urgency of the threat, which in this movie rises to apocalyptic levels: on the verge of extinction, mutants have to send a message back in time in a desperate attempt to change the course of history.

Though the series spans several movies with a rotating cast of characters, familiarity with previous movies in the series is not

ALAN MARKFIELD

a requirement. Ignorance may actually be bliss, since it will spare you the imminent confusion of seeing Professor X and Magneto, two of the most important characters in the X-Men universe who had died and lost all ferromagnetic powers, respectively, in a previous movie. Professor X is resurrected and Magneto has regained powers without any clear explanation.

To those of us who are familiar with the rest of the series, this new film will bring the relief of seeing the franchise rescued from the hole into which it had dug itself after killing some very important characters in *X-Men 3* (2006). It also serves to connect the cast of *X-Men* (2000) and its two sequels with the younger cast of *X-Men: First Class* (2011). It is very entertaining to see the old and new versions of the characters sharing space and time on screen, playing some of the same characters in different stages of their evolution and maturity.

Singer makes careful and creative use of 3D technology. As opposed to many recent action movies, which use 3D because it is the flavor of the month, *Days of Future Past* relies on 3D to add (the pun is unavoidable) a whole new dimension to the film-watching experience. Many scenes, including a flying stadium and gigantic spears piercing mutants through portals in space, would not be as memorable without the use of polarized glasses.

Keeping track of the time jumps in the story is fairly simple. The story doesn't take itself too seriously, which is always good when the material requires such a suspen-



X-Men: Days of Future Past

**Directed by Bryan Singer** 

Starring Jennifer Lawrence, Ian McKellen, Patrick Stewart, Hugh Jackman, Ellen Page, Michael Fassbender, and Halle Berry

Rated PG-13

Now Playing

sion of disbelief. A few references to JFK were — in my opinion — in bad taste, but the giggles around the theater make me think I'm in the minority in this regard.

Despite the obvious implausibility of the underlying premise, *X-Men: Days of Future Past* manages to pose some rather serious questions about human nature, free will, the roots of antagonism, and the consequences of our choices. And, in case you are not in the mood for philosophical disquisitions, there's always the eye-candy of the impossibly ripped Wolverine (Hugh Jackman) and the fetching femme fatale Mystique (Jennifer Lawrence).

I highly recommend this movie to X-Men fans and newcomers alike.

**Hugh Jackman as Logan/Wolverine** in X-Men: Days of Future Past.

**MOVIE REVIEW** 

# Godzilla is great eye candy, but not much of a story

Latest remake is a visual tour de force with a rather shallow storyline



COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. PICTURES

A scene from Warner Bros. Pictures and Legendary Pictures's action-adventure movie Godzilla.

# By Roberto Perez-Franco

Feel free to call *Godzilla* (2014) — by far and without contention — the best Godzilla movie ever made after the 1950s. The reference to the 1950s should spare you the thorny task of comparing this new work with the first *Gojira* (1954), and its American remake, *Godzilla, King of Monsters!* (1956), which are now well-established classics. So, if you are a Godzilla groupie, this is a five-star movie for you.

Yet this accolade says little: few franchises have spawned as many bad movies as Godzilla. It would be equally true to say that the most recent film is the least bad of all the Godzilla movies. Such are the perils of reviewing a movie as part of a subgenre. But I would like to consider whether this film, irrespective of how it compares to Roland Emmerich's widely derided *Godzilla* (1998), is a good film on its own right.

In pragmatic terms, should you cough up the \$30 to see it with your boyfriend this summer? That would, of course, depend on what you and your boyfriend are into. "People who like this sort of thing," said Lincoln, "will find this the sort of thing they like." If you like movies heavy on mayhem and light on plot, then *Godzilla* is absolutely worth the money. It is sure to provide you an enjoyable evening with plenty

of action, scares and jaw-dropping special effects.

If you are in this demographic, there's no need for me to describe the story, since you've already seen it before many times, and it's not like you will watch it for the depth of the plot.

The visual and audio special effects are just amazing. *Godzilla* is very well designed and rendered. The bad monsters are particularly scary-looking, and at times downright terrifying. And there is a very

and Juliette Binoche (*The English Patient*) in the cast. Yet these heavyweight stars are reduced to impotent, spectator-like roles in the movie, and in hindsight can only be called supporting actors at best.

I'm a fan of Cranston, Watanabe, and Binoche, and harbored the secret hope that they would join forces to make a movie with some gravitas and drama. I was thoroughly disappointed with how little director Gareth Edwards and writers Max Borenstein and Dave Callaham did with the

# This retelling of the old story has no depth to it. Humanity is exonerated of any responsibility in creating the monster.

high production standard overall: the cinematography is top-notch, with panoramic shots of the victimized city that really convey the scale of the monsters relative to the puny humans. So if eye-candy is your priority, go and see it: for you it is a four-star film

Finally, if you are not necessarily into this kind of movie but have seen a few familiar faces in the trailers, you may be hoping this one may be a sort of a hidden gem, with the likes of Bryan Cranston (of cult stature after his magnificent role in Breaking Bad), Ken Watanabe (Inception, The Last Samurai, Letters from Iwo Jima)

premium raw material they had access to. If you were going to see this movie for the actors that appear in the trailers, don't. You won't get your time's worth: it's a three-star movie at best.

The biggest beef I have with *Godzilla* (just don't tell him: he's one big scary monster) is that this retelling of the old story has no depth to it. Humanity is summarily exonerated of any responsibility in creating the monster. In this version, we just awakened it with our nuclear bombs.

As a species we are bystanders, like the frogs in Aesop's fable about the fighting bulls, simply watching the big boys duking

\*\*\*

Godzilla

**Directed by Gareth Edwards** 

Starring Aaron Taylor-Johnson and Elizabeth Olsen

Rated PG-13

**Now Playing** 

it out above us while we hope they don't accidentally step on us in the process. Both *Godzilla* and its antagonists are, in this new version, the result of Nature, not human action. And Nature, we are told, will find a way to restore the balance. The best thing we can do is step aside.

Such a message, in this day and age, smells of cowardice. A braver stance, a return to Godzilla's origin as the consequence of human meddling, and more work on the human side of the story could have made *Godzilla* a good movie in the larger scheme of things. But the absence of these renders it merely the best in a largely mediocre franchise.

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# **BALLET REVIEW**

# **Be brilliant**

# Boston Ballet bedazzles in George Balanchine's Jewels

By Angelique Nehmzow STAFF WRITER

As if opening a treasure chest to discover a trove of precious stones, the audience oohed and aahed every time the curtains were raised to reveal dancers in glittering costumes, poised in front of sparkling backdrops of enormous gems. Boston Ballet's 50th season concluded this year with George Balanchine's Jewels.

It was a fitting tribute to the famed neoclassical choreographer on whose recommendation the Ford Foundation helped establish the Boston Ballet company in 1963. Premiered at the New York City Ballet in 1967, *Jewels* was inspired by the jewelry of Claude Arpels of Van Cleef & Arpels, and it is divided into three parts: *Emeralds, Rubies*, and *Diamonds*.

Set to music by Gabriel Fauré, Emeralds references the origins of ballet in 19th-century France and evokes the luxury and romance of that time. The female dancers wore long pale-green tulle skirts with bejeweled necklines and headpieces, and the male dancers wore dark-green velvet waistcoats.

The dancing was graceful, calming, and utterly absorbing — a wonderful prescription for stress relief. Following

Balanchine's skillful and creative choreography, two couples and a trio interwove their bodies in complex routines. The act's ending was emotionally intense, as three male dancers lunged low to the ground, heads thrown back with one arm reaching to the sky.

Rubies, set to the dramatic Capriccio for Piano and Orchestra by Balanchine's close collaborator Igor Stravinsky, provides a sharp contrast. The female dancers wore red leotards with decorated flaps like miniskirts, which created "click clack" noises when they skipped playfully or did the occasional balletic booty shake

The male dancers were "in for the chase," running comically across the stage. At one point four of them fawned over a long-legged female dancer, holding each of her arms and legs and becoming extensions of them. The main couple performed an enthralling and flirtatious dance exchange, with an intimate pause in which they stood one in front of the other, her right arm hooked over his, and his left arm crooked under hers, as she slowly curled back the fingers of her bent left arm to touch his open palm.

The final piece, Diamonds, displays

*Jewels*Boston Ballet

Boston Opera House

May 22 – June 1

the splendor of classical ballet in the Russian Imperial style and is set to Tchai-kovsky's Symphony No. 3 in D Major, Op. 29. The dancers wore shimmering flouncy white tutus, and their large number reinforced the feeling of grandeur.

Rows of dancers moving in opposite directions evoked reflections from a crystal. The main couple was stunning and imperious, and the male dancer exuded gallantry and chivalry. In one striking move he dynamically released his partner's hand such that she was propelled into a spinning arabesque, and at the end of their duet he knelt and kissed her hand.

Jewels is a showcase of the neoclassical style, an impressionistic history of ballet, and a Balanchine classic. Boston Ballet's production does it full justice—its dancers are, like perfect gems, bound to put a sparkle in your eyes.

# **BOOK REVIEW**

perform in Diamonds.

# Snowden's relevations: the backstory

Glenn Greenwald's guide to the NSA leaks and their portrayal in the press

By Yarden Katz

Leaking secrets in the public interest requires not only a ready and courageous whistleblower. It also demands an able and courageous deliverer to carry the precious message to the world. This year's graduation week marks the one-year anniversary of the unveiling of Edward Snowden's identity and the first wave of explosive NSA disclosures delivered by journalist Glenn Greenwald and filmmaker Laura Poitras.

In his informative new book, *No Place to Hide*, Greenwald recounts meeting Snowden, verifying his story, and getting the NSA documents published. The book reveals correspondence between Snowden and Greenwald, including Snowden's manifesto on privacy as a human right. Apart from explaining the significance and scope of the documents, Greenwald tackles head-on the question of what it means to be a journalist as he chronicles the systemic failures of the U.S. media in covering whistleblowers.

Greenwald's account reveals that journalists who work with whistleblowers face a web of roadblocks — roadblocks largely self-imposed by an obedient press. Prior to connecting with *The Guardian*, Snowden shared documents describing the PRISM surveillance program with Barton Gellman of *The Washington Post*. Worried about the legal implications of these disclosures, the *Post* consulted a team of lawyers — potentially compromising Snowden's identity — and ultimately refused to send Gellman to Hong Kong to meet Snowden.

By his own account, Greenwald too was devastatingly close to letting the most significant government leak in U.S. history pass him by — not for fearfulness, but for technical reasons. Snowden contacted Greenwald repeatedly using a pseudonym since late 2012, but was unable to share information due to Greenwald's lack of encryption software. Laura Poitras, in a way the unsung hero of the story, was able to securely communicate with Snowden and brought Greenwald into the loop.

Once some of the leaked documents were vetted, Greenwald and his colleagues faced the usual stalling at the press-government

interface. Lawyers warned *Guardian* editor Janine Gibson that the FBI might shut down the paper. To cover its legal bases, the paper chose to inform the government of their plans, resulting in more bullying of Gibson by officials. Greenwald describes delays and prolonged back-and-forths with editors that nearly caused him to quit *The Guardian* and release the materials independently.

# Speaking "middle-ofthe-road-ese": giving equal weight to both sides of a story, no matter how absurd.

While *The Guardian* was able to publish relatively quickly, this isn't always the case, and stalling has consequences. Bullying by the Bush administration in 2004 and fear on the part of *The New York Times* led to the story of warrantless NSA eavesdropping being suppressed for over a year. The administration managed to censor the *Times*, letting the Bush administration face the music only after the 2004 elections.

The paper gave in when *Times* reporter James Risen planned to break the story in a book, and following publication the government spied on Risen in an attempt to uncover his source. Regarding the press's unwritten protocol of consulting the government about leaks, as in the case of the *Times*, Greenwald writes: "The rules in place allow the government to control and neuter the news-gathering process and eliminate the adversarial relationship between press and government."

When described together in *No Place to Hide,* the documents unequivocally demonstrate the NSA's mission to "Know it all", "Collect it all", "Exploit it all" (the agency's phrases). Starting with the secret court order to Verizon to disclose metadata concerning millions of Americans' phone calls, through the PRISM, BOUNDLESS INFORMANT, and MUSCULAR programs, Greenwald shows that the NSA tracks users through either explicit alliances with internet providers or by

hacking into their networks.

Greenwald also demonstrates that the government spies for economic and strategic gains not even remotely connected to national defense. The NSA has a branch whose aim is to supply "unique intelligence on worldwide energy production and development in key countries that affect the world economy," and it lists the departments of Treasury and Agriculture as its "Customers." The agency targets energy companies in Latin America and energy conferences, exposing the lie of an NSA official who told *The Washington Post* that the agency does not engage in "economic espionage."

The book underscores the NSA's willingness to ignore international law. Team BLARNEY is devoted to "yield access to U.N. Secretary General talking points" so that the U.S. can game U.N. procedures in advance too. The NSA spied on eight members of U.N. Security council, and an internal memo boasted that spying "gave us an upper hand in negotiations."

Another memo states that Susan Rice, then U.S. Ambassador to the U.N., "reached out to the NSA" to request intelligence on countries "riding the fence" regarding a U.N. vote on sanctions against Iran. The memos debunk the notion that the NSA is a rogue group operating without the administration's backing. As a rule, the U.S. is guilty of virtually all accusations it made against other 'adversary' states like China and Russia. From spying for economic gain to installing surveillance "beacons" in Cisco routers, U.S. hypocrisy abounds.

# The government spies for economic gains not even remotely connected to national defense.

Throughout the book, Greenwald documents the press's method of speaking in "middle-of-the-road-ese": attempting to give equal weight to both sides of any story, no matter how absurd. The media is eager

# No Place to Hide By Glenn Greenwald

to dissect the legality of Snowden's actions, criminalizing investigative journalists as "co-conspirators" along the way. Meanwhile evidence of a mountain of government crimes — including government officials like James Clapper lying to Congress — sits in front of them.

In other instances, the press has been relentlessly yellowing and personalizing Snowden's leaks. This is exemplified by a recent New York Times review of Greenwald's book by Michael Kinsley, who complained that the book would be "more entertaining" if Greenwald wasn't such an "unpleasant" and "self-righteous sourpuss." Snowden, by any rational account a national hero, was described as having the "sweet, innocently conspiratorial worldview of a precocious teenager." Sadly, this is the intellectual discourse one has come to expect from the Times. Others in the media speculated on Snowden's psyche, labeling him a "narcissistic young man." When given a first TV interview with Snowden, Brian Williams asked, "Are you a patriot?" and focused on the baseless hypothetical that Snowden might leak secrets to Russia. The press's rehearsal of official doctrine, and their manufactured symmetry between the government's position and reality, simply diverts our attention from the magnitude and unnerving implications of the leaks. Snowden argued that privacy can be

snowden argued that privacy can be guaranteed "only if the technical community is willing to face the threat" and implement a system where "the only way the powerful may enjoy privacy is when it is the same kind shared by the ordinary: one enforced by the laws of nature, rather than the policies of man."

In a note that appears in *No Place to Hide*, Snowden wrote: "I have been to the darkest corners of government, and what they fear is light." A free press must provide the light, and a technical community like ours can build the infrastructure to support it.

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return linux, OSX, javascript, applescript, perl, python, PHP

if self.interest == True:
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Friday, June 6, 2014

The Tech 15

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# **NEWS BRIEFS**

### J. Meejin Yoon to head the Department of Architecture

J. Meejin Yoon, the newly appointed head of the Department of Architecture, will be the first woman to fill that position when she assumes the post July 1 according to MIT News.

Yoon, who has been a faculty member in the School of Architecture and Planning since 2001, has won many awards in her field and has been praised for her "multidisciplinary practice" working at the "intersection of architecture, interactive environments," and "public space," the article said.

Yoon told MIT News she believes her department is in a unique position to capitalize on its context within a worldrenowned institution of science and technology. She hopes to continue to build on the strengths of the department "for the next generation of our disciplines."

### Alan H. Guth '68 to share million-dollar prize in **Astrophysics**

Alan Guth will share the Kavli Prize in Astrophysics with Andrei D. Linde and Alexei A. Starobinsky, according to the Kavli Foundation's website. All three were recognized for their work on filling in theoretical gaps in the Big Bang theory.

Guth's contribution was his 1980 hypothesis "that the universe was initially trapped in a peculiar state from which it decayed, in the process expanding exponentially and liberating the energy present in our universe today," according to the prize announcement.

Guth's hypothesis, which is called the theory of cosmic inflation, received widespread attention in March when researchers found evidence in support of the hypothesis in the form of gravitational waves reportedly produced by the inflation, according to MIT News.

-William Navarre

# Most seniors were satisfied with MIT

# Almost half plan to stay in Mass.

Survey, from Page 1

on campus life was the climate for LGBTQ students on campus, with 94 percent of respondents indicating that they were either "very satisfied" or "generally satisfied" with the climate.

The most popular long-term goal of graduating seniors was raising a family, which 70 percent of students rated as "essential" or "very important." Ever practical, MIT graduates rated being well-off financially as the second most popular goal, with 69 percent of respondents reporting that it was "essential" or "very important" to them.

In contrast, volunteering was rated as essential by only 8.4 percent, and participating in politics or community affairs by an even lower 5.0 percent.

According to the survey, 89 percent of respondents were generally or very satisfied with their overall education at MIT, which is slightly higher than the percentage in 2012.

A little over half of the respondents indicated that they were planning to work for full-time pay this fall; 37 percent indicated that they were headed for a graduate or professional school (respondents could choose more than one option), slightly lower than the 39 percent in 2012.

Of the respondents who planned to work full-time, 61 percent had already accepted a position by late May, while 6.9 percent were still considering offers. And of those who had accepted a position, the most popular industries were computers/IT (20

percent), engineering/architecture/ design (16 percent), and finance (10 percent). Seventeen of respondents who have accepted a position will be working for a startup.

On the other hand, of those who are going back to school, about a third are pursuing a PhD, a third a Master's degree in engineering, and a fifth a Master of Science.

A sizeable fraction of the senior class is not moving too far: of the 85 percent of respondents who will be residing in the United States next fall, almost half are staying in Massachusetts, with California and New York the next most popular states.

Since the survey closed in May, post-graduation plans will be better captured by the ongoing Graduating Students Survey sponsored by the MIT Global Education & Career Development office.

Overall, feelings about the MIT undergraduate experience were generally positive; most respondents indicated they would "definitely" or "probably" recommend MIT to a high school senior in their position. Furthermore, MIT seniors were overwhelmingly satisfied with the quality of instruction across all subjects. Student government received the lowest satisfaction rate (56 percent) of any aspect of campus life, though the number is up from 2012.

Finally, students seem to have gotten slightly better at maintaining a balance between academic work and extracurriculars, with 81 percent of respondents "strongly agreeing" that they found a balance between the two, compared to 75 percent in 2012.

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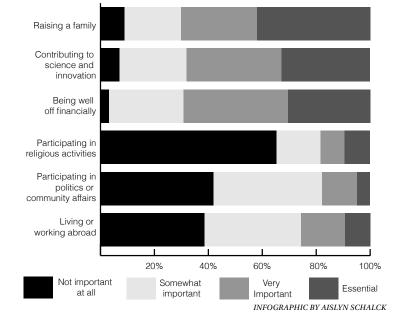
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from page 6

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# Solution to Sodoku

from page 6

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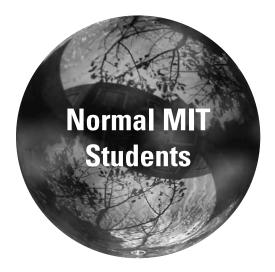
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# **Undergrads** differ on prayer question

# Grad student's op-ed starts talk

Invocation, from Page 1

After the text of the prayers of previous years was sent to the group's discussion list, however, first Cory D. Hernandez '14 and later other members of the Secular Society met with Randolph about the matter.

In these meetings, before the publication of Scheinberg's op-ed, Randolph said that he wanted to make the invocation as inclusive as possible by finding a compromise between different student requests.

Scheinberg said that after the oped was published he received a great deal of positive feedback.

"That kind of support maybe a week after the op-ed came out made me contact the administration," he said. "I sent an email to Grimson and President Reif summarizing the article and saying, 'Here's the feedback I received." (Capital campaign head Chancellor Eric Grimson PhD '80 is the chair of Commencement Committee.)

According to UA President Sidhanth P. Rao '14, Executive Officer for Commencement Gayle M. Gallagher contacted him and Class of 2014 President Anika Gupta '14 on April 24 to seek their personal input, as well as that of the undergraduate

In response, the UA, with the help of the Class of 2014, sent out a survey to undergraduates on April 27, citing Scheinberg's piece (but incorrectly identifying it as an editorial rather than an op-ed). Rao said that neither he nor Gupta had received comments from students about the invocation before the publication of Scheinberg's piece, and they only received one before the release of the

The survey received 617 responses, according to Rao, who said that while there was no certificate authentication process, there did not appear to be duplicate submissions to the form, which only allowed textbased comments.

Data provided by Rao showed that 566 of the responses were aggregated by sentiment into categories ranging from "[the invocation is] important to have" to "I won't attend if invocation remains." A plurality, 246 respondents (43 percent), were classified as saying they would "like to remove" the religious prayer, while 193 respondents (34 percent) said they would "like to have" it.

The proportions of responses saying the prayer was "important to have," "not a big deal," or "important to remove" were each less than 5 percent, while those classified as preferring a "moment of silence" made up 11 percent of the responses. Among those who provided a reason for preferring to keep the prayer, nearly three-quarters of those 63 responses cited tradition.

Scheinberg, UA Vice President Devin T. Cornish '14, Gupta, and Chandler R. Schlupf '14 met with the Commencement Committee to discuss the results of the survey. Randolph was not present at the meeting.

Scheinberg also felt that written suggestions for an invocation without a prayer that he prepared for the meeting were useful in explaining the objection to the religious aspect.

According to Gallagher, Grimson also consulted with other "senior officers" in MIT's administration about the decision. She said she had not received complaints from faculty or students in previous years and that to her knowledge no such change has been considered before.

Randolph told The Tech that he was involved with both the decision to remove the religious prayer and the determination of an alternative invocation.

"The important thing is that student voices were heard," Randolph said. "We all have things to learn and sometimes we learn best from one another."

Gupta said, "I was really happy with the process by which the decision was made. Student feedback was sought on a controversial topic, and a decision was made that clearly took this feedback into account."

Patricia Z. Dominguez contributed reporting.

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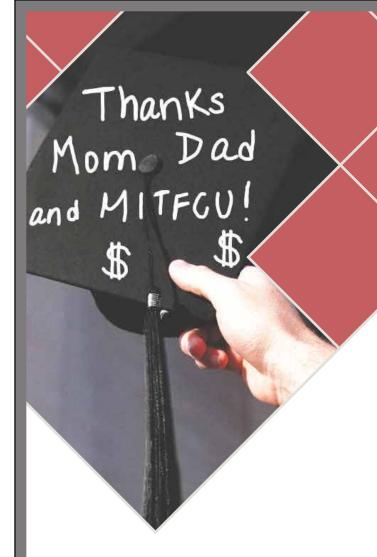
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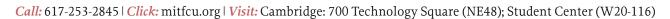
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# JEFFREY LIN

Receiving a Bachelor's in Mathematics and Biological Engineering will be joining SIG as an Assistant Trader.

# JENNIFER JANG

Receiving a Master's in Computer Science and Bachelor's in Mathematics and Computer Science will be joining SIG as an Assistant Trader.

# ELI ROSS

Receiving a Bachelor's in Mathematics will be joining SIG as an Assistant Trader.

# **KIEL JINDRA**

Receiving a Bachelor's in Mathematics and Management Science will be joining SIG as an Assistant Trader.

# HANWEN XU

Receiving a Bachelor's in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science will be joining SIG as an Assistant Trader.

SIG also welcomes the students joining our 2014 Summer Internship Program:

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