

# Reif apologizes to Epstein victims in letter to community

*MIT received about \$800,000  
from Epstein or his foundations*

By Amy Shim

President L. Rafael Reif apologized to the nearly two dozen women accusing the late financier Jeffrey Epstein of sex trafficking in an email to the MIT community Aug. 23. Over a 20 year span, MIT received about \$800,000 from Epstein or foundations controlled by Epstein, Reif wrote.

Additionally, Provost Martin Schmidt PhD '88 will convene a working group to examine institutional procedures regarding funding sources.

The Tech reported Aug. 15 that Epstein Interests, one of Epstein's foundations, donated \$50,000 to MIT in 2012.

"With hindsight, we recognize with shame and distress that we allowed MIT to contribute to the elevation of his reputation, which in turn served to distract from his horrifying acts. No apology can undo that," Reif wrote.

All funds went to either the MIT Media Lab or Seth Lloyd, professor of mechanical engineering.

Reif promised to commit equivalent funds to a charity that benefits Epstein's victims and other victims of sexual abuse. Joi Ito, director of the MIT Media Lab, and Lloyd also apologized to Epstein's victims and promised to direct money to survivors of sexual abuse and trafficking in public statements.

Lloyd first met Epstein at a dinner for scientists and their supporters in 2004. Lloyd wrote that he was "deeply disturbed" when he learned of Epstein's arrest and subsequent conviction.

Lloyd then visited Epstein during Epstein's prison term. "Mr. Epstein expressed remorse for his actions and assured me that he would not re-offend," Lloyd wrote. "I continued to acknowledge Mr. Epstein's support in my scientific papers, and after his release, I resumed attending the discussions that Mr. Epstein convened with other scientists."

Lloyd accepted a grant from Epstein in 2012, and another in 2017. He described his acceptances as "professional as well as moral failings."

In a statement to *The Tech*, Schmidt wrote, "We understand these gifts were accepted utilizing MIT's normal, internal processes of acceptance and processing of gifts, so we need to look at those processes and consider whether there are lessons to be learned."

Schmidt has not yet decided who will comprise the working group or how long the review will take.

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KEVIN LY—THE TECH

Rising tensions between west campus dorms and East Campus precipitated this year's Water War.

## David H. Koch '62 dies at age 79

*Koch gave \$100 million for MIT cancer research institute*

By Rujul Gandhi

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

David H. Koch '62 died Aug. 23 at the age of 79. Koch, an industrialist, philanthropist, and political activist, donated \$100 million for the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research and \$20 million for the David H. Koch Childcare Center.

Koch was also extremely politically influential. Koch donated to conservative and libertarian organizations like the Freedom Partners Fund, Americans for Prosperity Action, and Senate Leadership Fund.

Koch graduated from MIT with bachelor's and master's degrees in chemical engineering, and then joined his family's business, Koch Industries (KI). According to the KI website, they are involved in ethanol production, glass, electronic components, flooring, ranching, and construction materials, among others. From 1983 to his retirement

in 2018, Koch was the co-owner and executive vice president of KI.

Koch was also a life member emeritus of the MIT Corporation.

Throughout his career, Koch donated to various causes, including medical research (notably cancer research), science and arts organizations, educational institutions, and political organizations, including climate change denial efforts.

The Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research was established following Koch's gift in Oct. 2007. According to an obituary by the Koch Institute, Koch was motivated by his own experience with prostate cancer, which started in 1992, to become a supporter of the cause. The Koch Institute wrote that Koch's gift enabled the creation of a location where "scientists and engineers work together under one roof in pursuit of powerful, new ways to diagnose, treat, and ultimately prevent cancer."

In October 2013, MIT dedicated the David H. Koch Childcare Center on Vassar Street. Koch was the lead donor. According to a 2013 MIT News release, the childcare center added 126 spaces to MIT's Technology Childcare Centers. The release said that Koch learned in 2011 that "MIT needed more child care in order to meet the needs of faculty members, postdocs, and graduate students — and in order for MIT to be able to attract and retain talent generally."

According to an obituary published by MIT News, MIT has professorships in the fields of biology, biological engineering, chemical engineering, and materials science and engineering that are endowed by Koch and bear his name. Koch also endowed the position of lead coach for the MIT men's basketball team and had a relationship with the team since his undergraduate years.

## SHASS introduces interdisciplinary Computing & Society concentration

*Students can choose from 34 classes spanning nine departments*

By Whitney Zhang

NEWS EDITOR

Undergraduate advisors were informed Aug. 23 of the new interdisciplinary Computing and Society concentration. In order to fulfill the concentration, students must take four of 34 possible classes, which span nine departments.

"The goal of the concentration is to help students gain a greater understanding of how changes in computational power have refashioned fundamental questions about community, identity, democracy, and knowledge itself," Karen Gardner, academic administrator of Science, Technology, and Society (STS), wrote to advisors.

In a phone interview with *The Tech*, concentration advisor and STS professor William Deringer explained that the concentration focuses on breadth, allowing students to survey various methodologies in different departments that tackle questions central to computing and society.

Additionally, Deringer said, the concentration's flexibility allows students who are unsure of their concentration to easily change. For example, a student who selects a CMS class to begin their Computing and Society

Concentration, Page 2



KEVIN LY—THE TECH

Daniel Gonzalez '20, Pooja Reddy '20, and Tanner Bonner '22 give their perspective on the new academic policies implemented for the Class of 2023 at Kresge Auditorium Tuesday afternoon.

## Students now required to order books from Coop online

Last semester, the MIT Coop moved to a smaller location at 80 Broadway in Kendall Square. As a result, it will no longer carry a large physical inventory of books.

According to an email sent by Mary Murphy of the Office of

the Vice Chancellor to academic administrators Aug. 21, students will "order online and have the books delivered or pick the books up in the Kendall store." The change will take effect beginning this September.

Online orders for textbooks

can be placed at <https://book-store.mbsdirect.net/mitcoop.htm>. The Coop will continue to carry apparel, accessories, gifts, and some books at its physical location, according to a letter from the Coop in Murphy's email.

—Rujul Gandhi

### GOOD GIVERS

Why David Koch may not be the "model philanthropist" we think he was. **OPINION, p. 4**

### JOI ITO, RESIGN

A Media Lab grad student's open letter. **OPINION, p. 5**



### CULTS AND KID-NAPPED CHILDREN

Solve the mystery with the Blackout Club. **ARTS, p. 6**

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WEATHER

Cold fronts make it feel like fall

By Sarah Weidman  
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

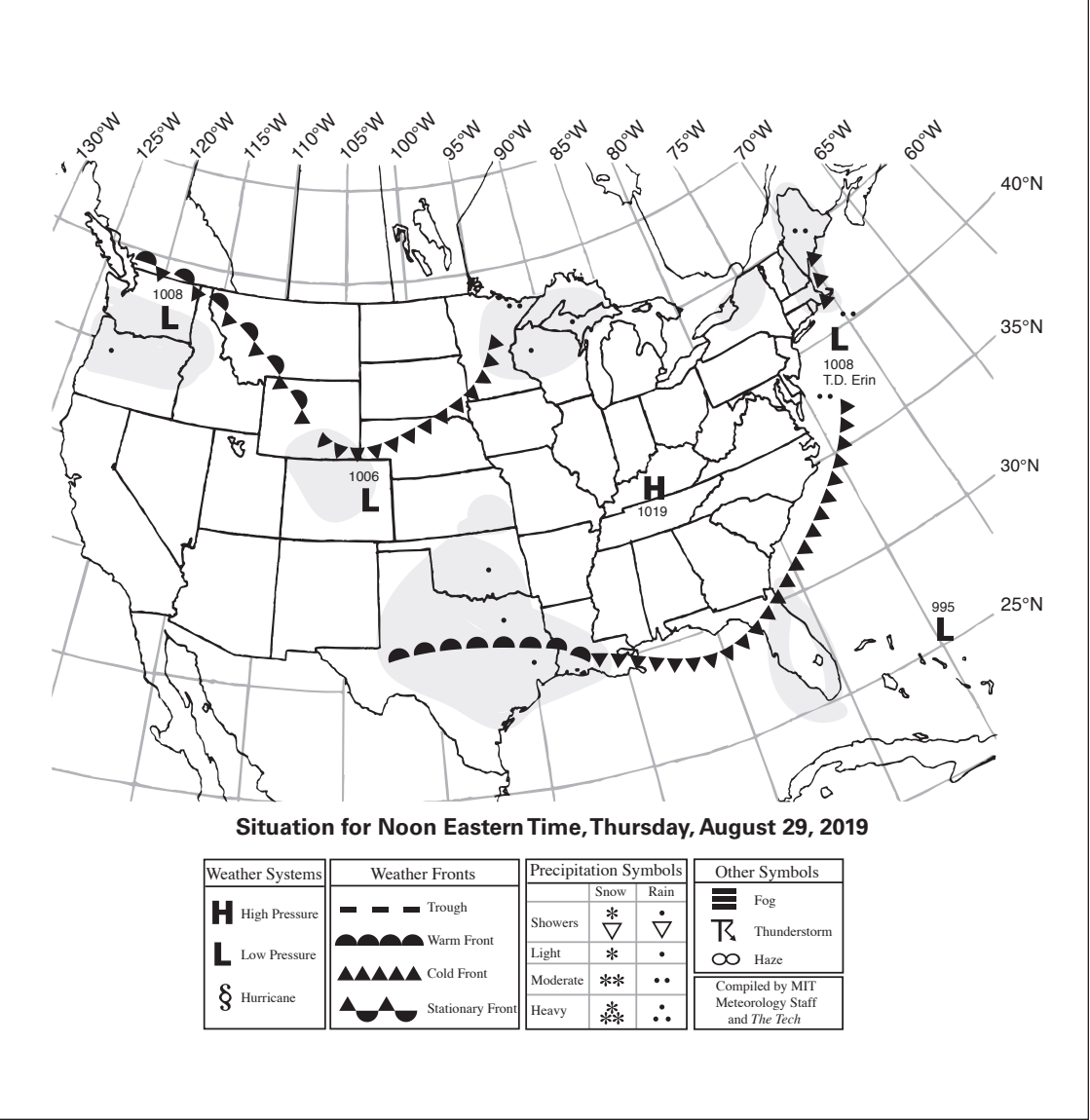
The grimy heat of the summer dissipated slightly this past week to make room for a beautiful orientation week! This past weekend was delightfully cool after a cold front moved through the northeast, and another front will bring more cool weather later this weekend. The rain we had yesterday and last night is a hallmark of this type of front. However, the rest of the weekend looks to be bright and sunny, so enjoy it while you can!

Elsewhere in the country, hurricane season is in full blast. Tropical Depression Erin is currently moving up the northeast coast. Tropical depressions are low pressure weather systems

that are slightly less powerful than tropical storms, but still can have strong winds and precipitation. T.D. Erin is far enough out to sea that most of its effects in Massachusetts were felt with the rain last night, but it is expected to hit landfall near Maine and Canada. Farther south, Hurricane Dorian is strengthening in the Caribbean. It strengthened into a hurricane near the U.S. Virgin Islands yesterday, and seems to be heading for Florida’s Atlantic coast. Puerto Rico was in a state of emergency earlier in the storm’s evolution, but it looks like Dorian will pass by the island this time. However, Florida is preparing itself for another strong hurricane making landfall, just as it does almost every hurricane season.

Extended Forecast

**Today:** Mostly sunny. High around 80°F (27°C). Northwest winds around 5–10 mph.  
**Tonight:** Mostly clear. Low around 64°F (18°C). West winds around 5–10 mph.  
**Tomorrow:** Sunny. High around 81°F (27°C) and low around 64°F (18°C). Southwest winds around 7–12 mph.  
**Saturday:** Sunny. High around 75°F (24°C) and low around 60°F (16°C).  
**Sunday:** Partly cloudy. High around 72°F (22°C).



Concentration advisor recommends STS.005J, 21A.504J as intro classes

Concentration, from Page 1

concentration can then easily switch to concentrating in CMS.

Although students can select any four classes from the available options, Deringer recommended STS.005J (Data and Society) and 21A.504J (Cultures of Computing) as introductory classes.

The concentration grew out of the Computational Cultures Initiative, which began spring 2018 and “seeks to incubate vital exchanges between cutting-edge technologists and distinguished historians, philosophers, anthropologists, political scientists, and others who study the human impacts of technological change,” Deringer said.

There had already been a “long-term interest among faculty on computing and society” before the introduction of the Schwarzman College of Computing (SCoC), Deringer said.

School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (SHASS) Dean Melissa Nobles and head faculty in STS, anthropology, and history had many conversations on bringing together “a lot of the expertise that existed across SHASS around questions about computing, the historical and social drivers of new computing innovations, and the consequences of those innovations for social, political, and cultural life,” Deringer said.

Jennifer Light, STS department head, and Graham Jones, anthro-

pology professor, spearheaded the effort to develop the concentration as a way to “bring together a great variety of courses around SHASS,” Deringer said. Light and Jones recognized that already “each of the departments in SHASS had faculty that were deeply concerned about these questions of the interrelationship between computing and society.”

Additionally, there were many existing centers and programs on computing and society in other institutes, such as the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society at Harvard, the Data and Society Research Institute, and the Oxford Internet Institute, Deringer said.

Light and Jones selected classes by examining relevant existing

courses. They also discussed both existing and planned future classes with representatives from other SHASS departments, Deringer said.

Although the majority of classes had existed prior to the development of this concentration, there are some new courses, including STS.083 (Computers and Social Change) and STS.005J (Data and Society), Deringer said.

More classes are expected to be developed over time, especially as the SCoC grows and there are more joint and bridge faculty between the SCoC and SHASS, Deringer said. SHASS is also considering developing an introductory class for the concentration, which may

be required for all concentrating students.

Although the SCoC will help the concentration grow, it will remain in SHASS, Deringer said.

SHASS does not have estimates for how many students will select the concentration. Deringer does not expect classes to become oversubscribed as a result of the new concentration.

Deringer said he has not yet received much feedback on the new concentration, but there has been “a lot of excitement” among SHASS departments and he is “very excited” to hear from students. The concentration was represented at the Academic Expo and will be represented at Tour de SHASS.

Prof. Seth Lloyd apologizes for receiving Epstein funds

Epstein, from Page 1

The MIT community has had mixed responses to the repercussions of Epstein’s ties to MIT.

In a comment on Lloyd’s apology statement on Medium, Emanuel Goldman PhD ’72 wrote, “I don’t think Lloyd has anything to apologize for. ... That the donor may have been a sexual predator does not taint the money. The donation doesn’t rehabilitate Epstein from his crimes.”

“Epstein may have been a sexual predator, but that doesn’t alter that he may have had some good in him as well, reflected by his support of research,” Goldman continued.

In contrast, Ethan Zuckerman, director of the Center for Civic Media, and J. Nathan Matias PhD ’17, a visiting scholar in the Center for Civic Media, have decided to leave the Media Lab due to its ties with Epstein.

Lloyd declined *The Tech*’s request for comment.

# The Tech’s MLI

By The Tech Sports staff

ain the MLB Postseason. In the Americ  
ivision Series against Minnesota with e  
eir opponents, the Texas Rangers, reco  
ne 5 against the Tampa Bay.  
League, the Philadelphia Phillies swept  
ncluding a ho-hitter by Roy Halladay. TI  
ries against Atlanta in which every gam  
ns will claim their league pennant and  
staff weigh in with department braggin

Can you find the typo? (Answer is below)

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“ho-hitter” in the second line of the second paragraph should be “no-hitter”



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### Solution to Crossword

from page 8			
S	R	T	A
T	E	A	R
P	E	P	P
H	E	L	E
D	R	Y	
A	M	N	E
S	P	E	L
U	G	L	Y
S	H	R	I
P	O	I	S
S	E	D	A
A	T	S	T
S	A	U	C
M	U	S	S
E	R	I	E
N	E	S	
T	R	A	P
K	A	L	E
P	I	Z	Z
		S	N
	A	M	N
	S	P	E
	S	N	A
	E	E	R
	S	C	A
	C	A	S
	D	R	E
	A	T	S
	E	D	I
	S	M	A
	L	I	O
	S	P	O
	M	E	S

### Solution to Midway

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

### Solution to Reg Day

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





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After multibillionaire and MIT Corporation lifetime member David H. Koch '62 passed away last week, media outlets exploded with reports on this passing of the 11th richest person in the world, who according to Forbes had a net worth of \$50.5 billion in March 2019. Many of these accounts emphasized the numerous contributions Koch made to different causes which, according to the Koch Family Foundation's website, amount to \$1.2 billion dollars. MIT News quoted Robert Millard, chairman of the MIT Corporation, who stated, "David Koch was a model philanthropist who funded initiatives across a swath of cultural, scientific, and medical institutions."

**I am troubled by how we choose to bestow titles like “model philanthropist” and the impact this labeling has on the way our generation and future generations choose to help others.**

I am troubled by how we choose to bestow titles like “model philanthropist” and the impact this labeling has on the way our generation and future generations choose to help others. While Koch’s donations were large in absolute terms, they made up a small proportion of his total wealth. If we assume the Forbes and Koch Family Foundation numbers are correct, then at his passing, Koch had donated about 2.3 percent of his total wealth. This is slightly

lower than 2.6 percent, which is the average amount of income households in the US give. While this comparison is not perfect (since unrealized capital gains are included in wealth but not in income), it suggests that Koch was around average in his generosity relative to other American households.

Many better examples exist. Mark Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan have committed to giving away 99 percent of their Facebook shares. Bill and Melinda Gates have committed practically their entire net worth of \$90 billion to humanitarian causes. In fact, there are over 200 billionaires who have committed to giving a majority of their wealth away, often to causes that lift up society's most vulnerable populations. Why should mediocre be our model?

Philanthropy, literally “love of humanity,” should also be based on the intention behind and the impact of a donation. Donating to causes that would benefit people more different than oneself, like donations from North America going to research on neglected tropical diseases, which the Gates Foundation supported, might indicate a wider sense of empathy (and therefore a love of all humanity) than if one primarily donated to their alma mater and to political ideologies they agreed with.

In addition, a model philanthropist would want to ensure *all* of their actions support a better world. For example, the benefit of funding a cancer research institute, like Koch did at MIT, might be offset by sitting on the board of the Cato Institute, which Koch also did, as it advocated for weakening regulations of airborne particulate matter, which the World Health Organization estimates causes 29 percent of lung cancer deaths worldwide. Despite his intentions of helping understand and cure cancer, his other actions may have inadvertently created more of it. A more effective donor would be willing to change their

job, investments, and lifestyle to better align with the initiatives that they support.

**At MIT, we should encourage people to give money to benefit society, but also hold these potential donors to high standards.**

At MIT, we should encourage people to give money to benefit society, but also hold these potential donors to high standards. When we decide to publicize a donor, we should stipulate exceptional generosity. For example, MIT could make a policy that to get a named building, one must show they consistently donate to beneficial programs at least 12 percent of their annual income, which is the average donation amount from American households that earn less than \$25,000/year. We should expect even more from these donors, given they have a larger fraction of disposable income than those living below the poverty line.

To ensure upstanding moral characteristics of donors, MIT needs a working review process for would-be donors, which can be done in two parts. First, MIT should reduce conflicts of interest, increase transparency, and eliminate overlap between review stages when evaluating high-risk foreign engagements, as highlighted by an editorial in the Faculty Newsletter. MIT could then expand or adapt this effective review process for donations or grants above a certain threshold. By setting high expectations for donors, MIT can tell the world that with great monetary power comes an even greater obligation to help others.

## CORRECTIONS

The Daily Confusion in last week's issue incorrectly stated the time of the Academic Expo. It started at 3 p.m., not 1 p.m.

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# Why Joi Ito needs to resign

*We need to set a standard that ensures a safe future for women where money will never be seen as more valuable than their lives*

**By Arwa Mboya**

The first and only time that I had a meeting with Joi Ito, director of the MIT Media Lab where I am a student, was early this year in the spring of 2019. Ito is a very busy man and it's difficult to get time with him. Meetings are only fifteen minutes long.

The content of our meeting doesn't matter; it's how the meeting transpired that stuck with me. Two men and I, a woman, sat in Ito's conference room across from him at a round table. Ito barely looked me in the eye, his eyes firmly on his phone or laptop as he typed away. My colleagues and I exchanged glances with each other, unsure if he was paying attention. As much as it seemed he wasn't, he responded to our questions and our thoughts. He's an extremely competent multi-tasker. That said, what stared me in the face was the clock on a screen that faced us. It was a countdown timer that told us both how much of his time we had left and served as a reminder of how importantly he viewed his time.

**We have a bad history of forgiving talented men who wield power.**

Now, at a time of immense urgency, when students and faculty alike are calling for answers, Ito seems to be casually ignoring the timer. His response to a student advocacy group demanding answers was to meet sometime in the fall to see how to best move forward. A part of me wonders if this is a time-wasting strategy — the keen knowledge that if he wastes enough time, this too shall pass. I'm here to say that we will not let it pass. I am calling for the immediate resignation of MIT Media Lab Director Joi Ito because of his deep connections with Epstein, his lack of leadership explaining his involvement, and the lack of transparency about the extent of his interactions with Epstein. Not only is this issue personal to me, but it is personal to women everywhere.

This is not an MIT issue, and this is not a Joi Ito issue. This is an international issue where a global network of powerful individuals have used their influence to secure their privilege at the expense of women's bodies and lives. The MIT Media Lab was nicknamed "The Future Factory" on CBS's 60 Minutes. We are supposed to reflect the future, not just of technology but of society. When I call for Ito's resignation, I'm fighting for the future of women.

Let me take a step back.

Who is to blame for the fact that Epstein got away with pedophilia and sexual slavery

of underaged girls? He is entirely to blame for his actions. But the people who surrounded him are also to blame for allowing his actions to continue for so long.

Recently, students of the Media Lab received a watery apology from Ito where he apologized for engaging with Epstein and taking money from him on behalf of the Media Lab. The apology came as a shock to most people who were unaware of Epstein's association with the lab. In fact, in 2015, the Media Lab offered a public statement saying that claims that the Media Lab had taken donations from Epstein were "completely incorrect." The apology is thus a disturbing confession and one that smells like a man who is sorry for getting caught; not one with remorse for wittingly choosing to include a sexual predator in the Media Lab (and in his own personal ventures) because of good money and an even better network. The relationship between Epstein and the Media Lab dates back to Marvin Minsky, a founder of the Media Lab accused of obtaining sexual services from an underage girl.

I am a master's student in the Center for Civic Media, led by Ethan Zuckerman. Our group's tagline is "Creating Technology for Social Change." Zuckerman recently released a statement on his stance regarding the Ito/Epstein case. To put it succinctly, Ito asked Zuckerman if he would like to meet with Epstein in 2014. Zuckerman declined and urged Ito not to meet with him either because of his heinous actions. Ito consistently did so nonetheless over the years, unbeknownst to Zuckerman, and for that and other complications with the Media Lab, Zuckerman has stated that he and his research group will not be a part of the Media Lab after this year. I stand by my advisor's bold decision to leave the Media Lab.

That said, it is a shame that the Media Lab will lose a group which has been dedicated to championing social justice now that Zuckerman has made his decision. At the end of the day, he is a white man with the privilege to leave the lab with his career intact. That's not the case for me and other students taking a stand like this. If the Media Lab cares and wants to be the progressive lab of the future, it has to start with people before technology. The Media Lab needs to lose Joi Ito.

I'm writing about Ito, not because I think he ever participated in the heinous acts Epstein was accused of, but because his willful ignorance of Epstein's record contributed to the harm of the victims. A well-written *New Yorker* article by Amy Davidson Sorkin details how much of Epstein's power lay in his powerful network of men, many of whom were in academia. Another article, by

Philip Weiss in 2007, says that when asked about his child prostitution charges, Epstein responded, “Have you managed to talk to many of my friends? ... Do you understand what an extraordinary group of people they are, what they have accomplished in their fields?”

Epstein is now dead. What retribution do the victims get for his crimes that went unpunished for decades? Almost none, certainly, given that the list of powerful names associated with Epstein will likely ensure that this case disappears.

In the case of Ito and the MIT Media Lab, there exist several layers of hypocrisy. Ito has made a name for himself as an ethicist in his field. Further, the Media Lab is responsible for the Disobedience Award, which this year, honored the women who started the #MeToo and #MeTooSTEM movements. In an email to the Media Lab, a student wrote that she was forced to send a Disobedience Award goblet to Epstein against her wishes.

It's not a terrible person—he is not Epstein. Yet, we have a bad history of forgiving talented men who wield power. In response to Ito's email, I asked questions about his ignorance of the nine cases facing Epstein since 2008 and demanded answers about the Disobedience Award. As of now, I've received no response. If there is no accountability for the people who bolster men like Epstein, sexual violence against powerless people will continue. Several people, students and faculty alike, have reached out, asking me to remain calm and acknowledge that he apologized. In one email, a student wrote, "Still, this is at least minimally positive behavior, and I wanted some part of our collective email record to acknowledge that." The student was concerned that my emails demanding answers would result in the ousting of Ito and said that it was unfair not to acknowledge his apology.

**Taking money from Epstein once is a mistake. Taking it over many years is not.**

Why should we be okay with “minimally positive behavior”? Why are we so ready to forgive and accept an apology that does not take true responsibility for the role played in the harm of these young women? Why is there no accountability for men with power? Why should I be concerned about Ito keeping his job when he was not concerned about the people that Epstein was hurting? This is how powerful men continue to exert their power on us, by making us pity them

when they are not even truly sorry for what they did.

As a self-proclaimed ethicist, Ito should step down in his role as director of the Media Lab. I am not concerned with his job when dozens of girls have been raped and taken advantage of. They will exist with a lifelong trauma because of Epstein, his comrades, and a society that chooses to ignore and forgive the men who empower him.

MIT's president, L. Rafael Reif, recently released an apology for the Institution's ties to Epstein. I'm happy that the Institution acknowledges its role in the scandal. However, I find it ironic that the Institution took money that hurt these women, and their response is to throw money back. Money to non-profits is useful, but what will truly make change is a change of leadership and a strict precedent set for this to never happen again. Taking money from Epstein once is a mistake. Taking it over many years is not.

The truth is, I'm only a student. I come from Kenya. I'm a young black woman (running the risk of being called "angry" or "crazy" for speaking up). On the ladder of power, I am on a very low rung. That said, I am educated, I am smart, and I have a voice. As the Media Lab decides how to handle Ito's involvement, I at least have the power to advocate for the girls and women who couldn't speak out when they were raped and abused. I have the power to say no to a director who chose not only to ignore the accusations but to lie about his involvement as well. I can say that I am part of the #MeTooSTEM movement and will not be silent.

We, as a community of researchers at MIT, progressives, and inventors need to ask ourselves the question that Civic Media has been asking this year: “Who gets to invent the future?” We must set an example of leadership that is truly ethical, inclusive, equitable, and focused on creating a standard that puts human rights at the center. Always.

Proclaiming oneself to be an ethicist is meaningless without backing it up with moral actions. Ito's actions cannot be excused simply because he is talented or because he claims to be sorry for bad judgement. The only way to make change is to enforce it and by that I mean, Joi Ito needs to go.

I don't expect MIT to fire Ito. I understand that he is a talented man with a powerful network and important initiatives. I'm calling for my director to step down, take full responsibility, and be an example for future leadership.

Step down, Joi Ito, and do what is right by the victims whose pain you actively contributed to and invest in the future of women.

*Arwa Mboya is a graduate student in the MIT Media Lab.*

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VIDEO GAME REVIEW

# Beware of the Shape

*The Blackout Club* is an interesting addition to the horror genre



*The Blackout Club* features a variety of items to help you complete missions.

By Nathan Liang  
EDITOR

To instill a sense of foreboding eeriness, *The Blackout Club* begins with a tutorial mission that quickly introduces you to the game's mechanics and lore. You initially play as Bells, a teenage girl seeking evidence to explain the mysterious blackouts afflicting her small town home of Redacre which cause the

adults to sleepwalk at night and children to disappear. Located within the National Radio Quiet Zone (NRQZ), the town is essentially isolated from the world so the children of the town must band together to solve this mystery once Bells also disappears. This group dubs itself the Blackout Club.

*The Blackout Club* adds a co-op spin to the realm of horror gaming, much like Gun Media's *Friday the 13th: The Game*. After the

prologue mission, the gameplay relies heavily on players banding together to carry out missions issued by the Blackout Club. Players are matched together online and have the option to communicate through a chat room or via microphone. The use of a microphone also enables additional gameplay features, known as the Enhanced Horror System in-game.

The missions involved vary wildly and allow players to explore the different sections of the map, from sneaking into people's houses to creeping through the underground tunnels winding deep below. The missions lead players on adventures to discover more about the mysterious force dictating the adults' cult-like antics, save fellow children who were previously kidnapped, or sabotage the technology of the sleepwalking adults.

The more you play the game, the more lore you are exposed to. When players level up, they discover new areas and pick up journal entries from lost kids as they progress through the game. This mechanic often provides an incentive to keep playing the game so that you can discover more about the story of the game.

As with any stealth-based game, one downside of *The Blackout Club* is how much more difficult the game gets once you've been discovered. There is a helpful mechanic in place that lets players know if nearby enemies are aware of their presence or if they're

★★★★☆

*The Blackout Club*

Developed by Question

Published by Question

Available on PS4, Xbox One, and Windows

visible to the Lucid mobs — the only enemies in-game that can see — but a small trigger such as getting chased or grappled is a really easy way to turn a mission on its head. To make matters worse, these triggers can exponentially compound the “sins” players collect by breaking the rules, which can lead to the Shape coming forth and knocking them out of the game. Once the Shape sets its sights on taking you out, it's hard to outrun it and you can't defend yourself against it. In cases like this, the enemies in *The Blackout Club* can seem really overpowered. Luckily, other players can bring you back once the Shape has knocked you out of the game.

Overall, *The Blackout Club* is a fun game. The nature of the missions and co-op can seem repetitive, but getting into the lore of the game can really help to keep players engaged.

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## Reg Day

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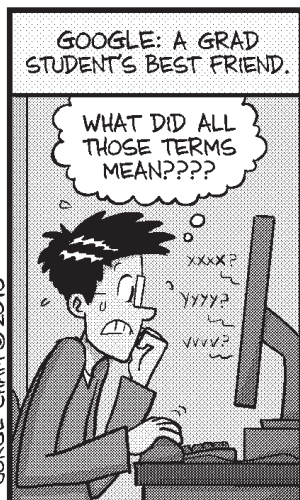
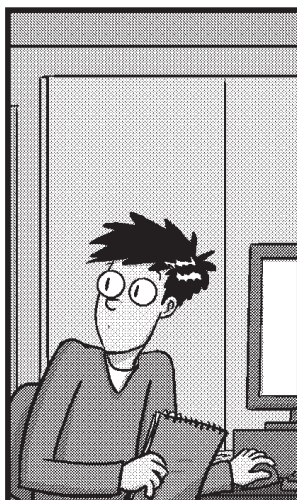
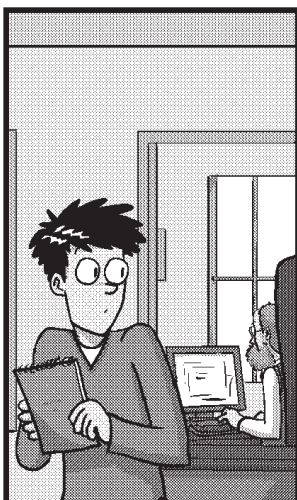
# Trattoria Treats by Sally R. Stein

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A cartoon illustration featuring four students at the bottom, looking up towards a large, stylized 'PHD' logo at the top. The logo is rendered in a bold, blocky font with a thick outline. Below the logo, the text 'PILED HIGHER AND DEEPER' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. The students are drawn in a simple, expressive style. From left to right: a boy with glasses and a hand on his head, a girl with her arms crossed, a boy with a hand on his chin, and a girl with a determined expression and a raised fist. The background is plain white.

I WANT YOU TO XXXXX THE YYYYYY DATA USING THE ZZZZZ FORMULA FOR WWWWW INTEGRAL AND VVVVV CODING.

YES, OF COURSE, PROF. SMITH.



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# Labor Day

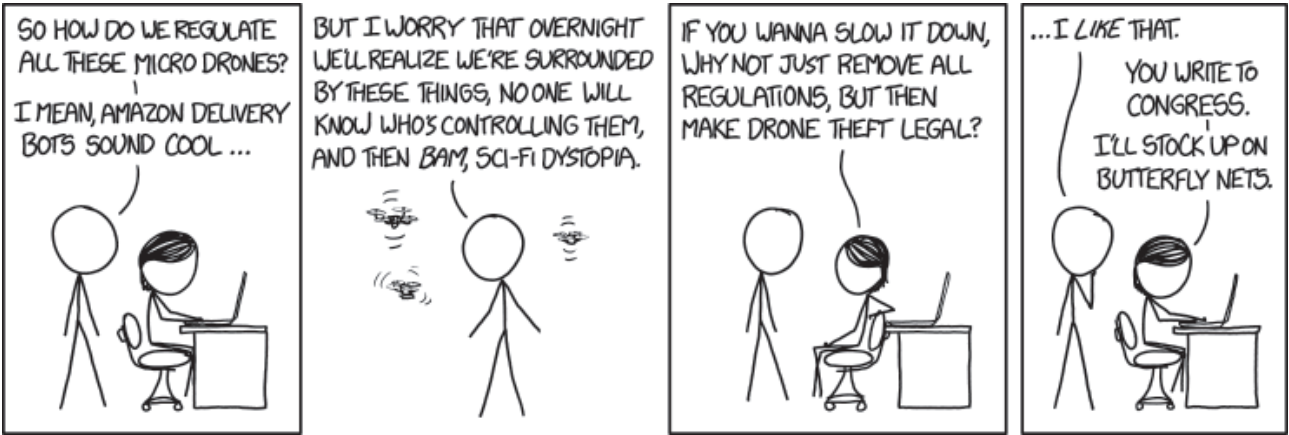
Solution, page 3

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



## [1523] Microdrones



Oh, weird, Amazon is out of butterfly nets.



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