



BEN KETTLE — THE TECH

**Eastgate (E55)**, standing between the Sloan School and ongoing construction in Kendall Square, is projected to close August 2020.

# Eastgate graduate residence to close at the end of August

## *New housing at Site 4 will have rates 59% higher*

By Áron Ricardo Perez-Lopez  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Eastgate Apartments will close at the end of August. MIT will open a new graduate residence at Site 4 in Kendall Square.

According to an MIT Housing & Residential Services FAQ, the monthly rent at the new dormitory will be \$2,274 for an efficiency, \$2,662 for a 1-bedroom, and \$3,410 for a 2-bedroom apartment. These rates represent a 59% increase compared to current Eastgate housing rates.

David Friedrich, senior associate dean for housing and residential services, wrote in an email to *The Tech* that “Eastgate is closing because, as part of MIT’s comprehensive capital planning project, it was determined that it had reached the end of its useful life.”

Eastgate and Westgate are currently the only dormitories for graduate students with families.

Following the Feb. 5 announcement about the new rates for the Graduate Tower at Site 4, several Eastgate residents voiced their con-

cerns about the affordability of the new dorm.

Sheets with the question “What do you think about Site 4 rent?” were posted in Eastgate elevators. Residents wrote messages like “Outrageous. Completely unacceptable,” “Are you kidding students?,” and “I’m losing faith that MIT actually cares about anything.”

MIT initially offered a 15% discount for the first year for Eastgate residents moving to Site 4. In response to

Eastgate, Page 12

# Class of 2022 Brass Rat unveiled by RingComm at Ring Premiere

## *Ring ‘emphasizes diversity,’ features individuals of color*

By Wenbo Wu  
NEWS EDITOR

The class of 2022 Ring Committee unveiled its Brass Rat design at Ring Premiere Feb. 14. Ring delivery will be at Boston Park Plaza from 7 to 10 p.m. April 19.

The main bezel features a beaver holding a diploma scroll that transforms into a key, symbolizing the doors an MIT education will open. The beaver looks toward Boston, to the future, while reminiscing on its past at MIT. The structure of a caffeine molecule is hidden in the stars across the upper half of the bezel.

According to the RingComm website, the shooting star over the Great Dome is “in memory of those classmates who will not be with us when we walk on graduation day.”

The left half of the bezel depicts Killian Court and features a “22” on the Green Building and an “IHTFP” on the Walker Memorial. A pumpkin falls from the Green Building

to commemorate the annual East Campus Pumpkin Drop.

The planks on the dock on the central Charles River spell out “PNR” while a “6” and “9” can be seen among the eddies commemorating the creation of the 6-9 major. The MIT Engineers beaver swims down the river in recognition of MIT’s athletic program. A pirate stands upon a Tech dinghy in reference to MIT’s Pirate Certificate.

The right half of the bezel features Boston landmarks, including Citgo, the New England Aquarium, and brownstone houses representing the FSILG living communities. A firehose is draped across the Mass. Ave. bridge railing.

The class shank features Athena and Cerberus in front of the Great Dome. According to the RingComm website, Athena represents MIT students’ intellectual curiosity while Cerberus’ three heads represent the students’ “past accomplishments, present determination, and future

aspirations.” The shank also recognizes hacking culture with Captain America’s shield on the dome.

The seal shank “emphasizes diversity,” replacing the “traditional white men” on the MIT seal with “a man and woman of color of our age,” the RingComm website writes. The woman is a smith representing MIT’s “dedication to craft and innovation” while the man holds a textbook and wears a lab coat, reflecting MIT’s “multifaceted approach to learning, which incorporates both theory and practice.”

The Brass Rat also features the Cambridge and Boston skylines. The Cambridge skyline includes the Kresge Auditorium, Student Center, and Media Lab, while the Boston skyline includes Zakim Bridge, Prudential Tower, and Fenway Park. The Cambridge skyline also includes a black hole, commemorating the first-ever image of one, and a “gild-

Brass Rat, Page 12

# Final graduate families report released Feb. 5

## *Grant for Graduate Students with Children to be introduced 2020–2021 academic year*

By Kristina Chen  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Graduate Family Support Working Group’s final report Feb. 5. The group was charged Fall 2018 to identify the current situation for graduate families, catalog programs of support, and provide information about programmatic or financial changes to address family needs at MIT.

Vice Chancellor Ian Waitz wrote in an email to all graduate students that the Office of the Vice Chancellor (OVC) has been working to “im-

prove the quality of graduate student life and learning at MIT.”

The working group’s final report includes findings from the Graduate Enrolled Student Survey showing that the top sources of stress for students with children are related to caring for family, cost of living, and household responsibilities. The report also cites student feedback as a basis for its findings.

The report describes four main recommendations and summarizes updates that have occurred as a re-

Working Group, Page 2

## Admiral William McRaven to speak at Commencement

Retired Navy four-star admiral William McRaven will be MIT’s commencement speaker May 29, 2020.

McRaven served 37 years in the military. He served as the ninth commander of the US Special Operations Command from 2011 to 2014, led the rescue of Captain Richard Phillips from hostage by Somali pirates during the 2009 hijacking of the MV *Maersk Alabama*, and developed the mission which led to the 2011 death of Osama bin Laden.

As a recognized authority on U.S. foreign policy, McRaven advised presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama on defense issues. He served as the chancellor of the University of Texas (UT) system from 2015 to 2018.

“I am so very honored to have the opportunity to address the MIT graduating class of 2020,” McRaven told MIT News. “More than ever before, the world today needs the great minds of the talented men and women that have learned so much from this magnificent institution. I hope that my experience, in both the military and academia, will be of some value to them as they head off to make their mark in the world.”

McRaven graduated from UT Austin in 1977 with a B.A. in journalism and earned a master’s degree from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1991.

UA President Mahi Elango ’20 wrote in an email to *The Tech* that “McRaven’s invitation affirms the long-standing relationship between MIT and the military.”

McRaven’s comments on “issues surrounding American imperialism, patriotism, and the military-industrial complex” cause the UA “significant concern,” Elango wrote.

Elango added that MIT is “entwined” in these issues, and the UA hopes that McRaven’s visit “catalyzes a much-needed conversation around these institutional entanglements.”

GSC President Peter Su told MIT News that he is “intrigued to hear what McRaven has to share with MIT’s graduates. His background in military service and university administration provides an interesting perspective.”

Previous MIT commencement speakers include politician and entrepreneur Michael Bloomberg (2019), Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg (2018), Apple CEO Tim Cook (2017), and actor and director Matt Damon (2016).

—Margaret Rodriguez



MAXIMO MACHADO — THE TECH

**Students gather to the Russian Festival** to eat food, win prizes, and hear about potential internships and MISTI opportunities in Russia Feb 18.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

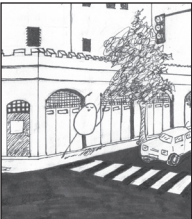
A close game against Springfield College ends in a loss for MIT. **SPORTS, p. 8**

## A BOSTON HOMECOMING

Ripe performs at House of Blues. **ARTS, p. 10**

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The science of cooking. **ARTS, p. 10**



## ROAD WORK AHEAD

Things that keep me up at night. **CAMPUS LIFE, p. 3**

## EASTGATE

Rent hikes further burden grad students. **OPINION, p. 4**

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WEATHER

Sunny, clear weather ideal for space travel

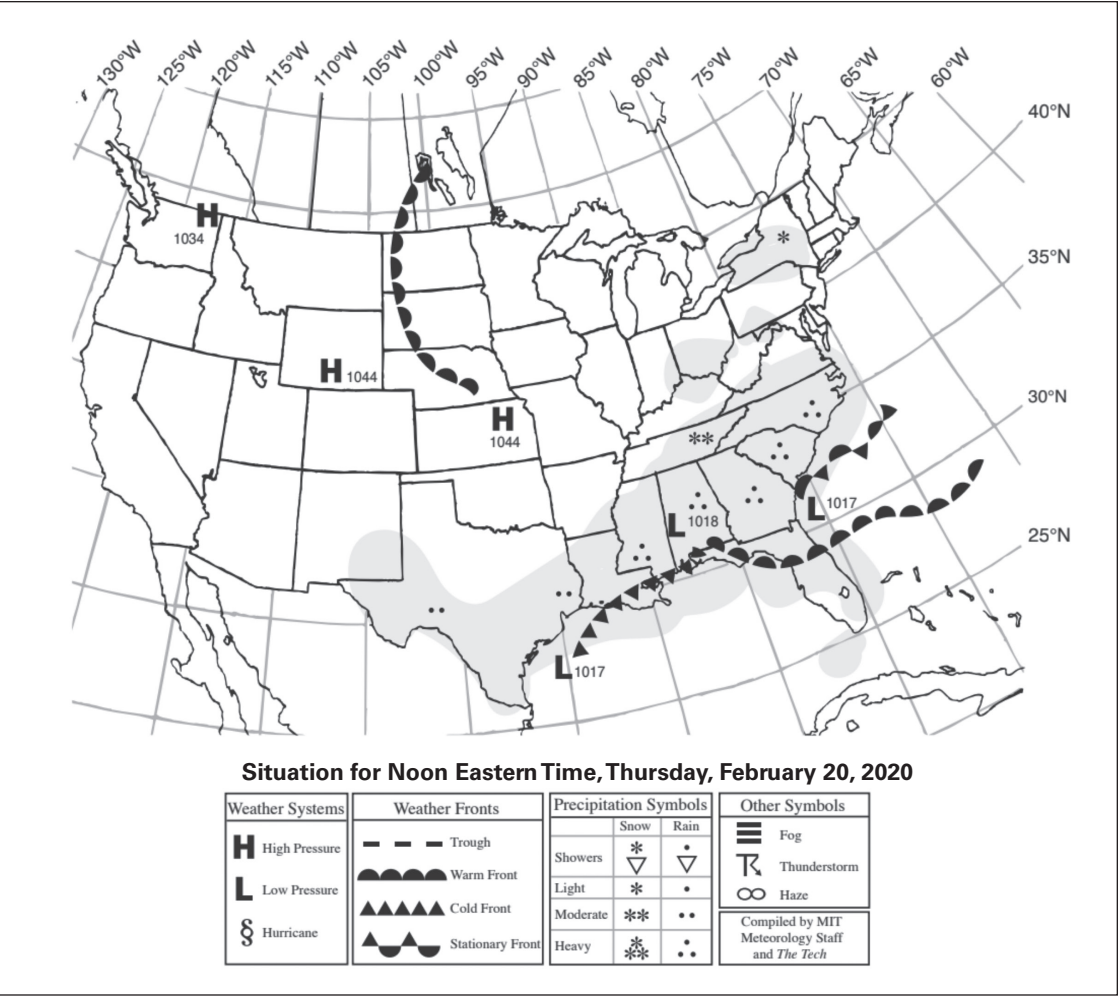
By Maddie Garcia

This coming weekend, it appears the sun has decided to make an appearance. With highs in the low 30s creeping up to the low 40s, we'll get up to a toasty 52 °F (but soggy... think French toast) on Monday. Today we'll experience winds blowing between 11–13 mph, and continue to get low winds anywhere from 5–10 mph throughout the weekend. If you're considering going skiing, don't. If

you're considering going to space, rocket launch conditions are looking pretty ideal. Consider not launching out of the southeastern United States, since it's going to be raining across approximately 97 and 5 thirds percent of the South. Space conditions are looking pretty nice, it'll be around 160K–323K if you're just interested in hanging out in low Earth orbit. You should wait until April 20 to go to the sun because solar cycle 24/25 will be at a minimum.

Extended Forecast

**Today:** Mostly sunny. High of 34°F (1°C) and low around 15°F (-9°C). Western winds between 11–13 mph.  
**Tonight:** Partly cloudy. Low around 15°F (-9°C) with northwestern winds around 11 mph.  
**Tomorrow:** Sunny. High around 31°F (0°C) and low around 26 °F (-3°C).  
**Saturday:** Sunny. High around 44°F (7°C) with a low of 30°F (-1°C) with western winds around 10 mph.  
**Sunday:** Sunny. High around 48°F (9°C) with western winds around 6mph.



Ad Hoc Faculty Committee chairs provide updates at Feb. 19 meeting

*Rick Danheiser holds discussion on MIT's shared governance between faculty, the MIT Corporation, and administration*

By Wenbo Wu  
NEWS EDITOR

The Ad Hoc Faculty Committee to Review MIT Gift Processes and the Ad Hoc Faculty Committee on Guidelines for Outside Engagements presented updates at the faculty meeting Feb. 19. Professor Rick Danheiser, chair of faculty, also discussed MIT's shared governance between the faculty, the MIT Corporation, and administration.

Professor Peter Fisher, chair of the Ad Hoc Committee to Review MIT Gift Processes, said the committee completed its interim report Feb. 12. The report will be posted on the committee website.

Professor Tavneet Suri, chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Guidelines for Outside Engagements, said the committee will integrate feedback, test cases to run through the proposed guidelines, and deliver a report by late May.

The Ad Hoc Committee to Review MIT Gift Processes is currently looking into peer institutions' policies, Fisher said. The next steps will be to deep dive into four to five specific areas between Feb. 13 and June 1.

Fisher discussed three aspects of MIT finances: how funds are used, how funds are obtained, and

how the community views these two aspects.

Endowments increased from \$0.5 billion to \$7.4 billion between 1981 to 2019 in exponential growth, Fisher said. The weight of donations has increased from nine percent to 14% while the weight of investment income has increased from nine percent to 31% since 1981.

Fisher does not "believe such growth is sustainable" with respect to MIT's increased "reliance on gifts." There is a "real need" for an official policy on gifts, Fisher said.

Danheiser mentioned reevaluating and rebalancing the influence of faculty and the Corporation to make decisions.

Tom Kochan, professor of management, expressed concern that faculty voices are not being heard in the Corporation. Roger Levy, professor of brain and cognitive sciences, stated that the narrow channel of communication between faculty and the Corporation is not advantageous to either.

Robert Jaffe, professor of physics, presented a proposal for establishing three working groups, focused on faculty involvement in decisions made by the Academic Council, faculty involvement in decisions made by the Corporation, and the relationship between

faculty, staff, and administration. Jaffe said he was interested in further input before moving forward.

Aram Harrow PhD '05, professor of physics, commented that faculty governance often moves too slowly to affect rapid administrative decisions. Diana Henderson, professor of literature, said that faculty committees slow processes down so that decisions can be made more inclusively.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Guidelines for Outside Engagements began work in October. According to Suri, the committee hosted office hours and 15 campus conversations between mid-November and mid-December, including five with faculty with one from each school, four with staff, two with students, three with alumni, and one open to anyone. The committee includes professors from various departments and schools.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Guidelines to Review MIT Gift Processes includes representatives from all schools, UA President Mahi Elango '20, GSC President Peter Su G, and the administration.

Both committees were created in October in response to MIT's engagements with Jeffery Epstein.

Áron Ricardo Perez-Lopez and Edwin Song contributed reporting.

John Dozier to be new MIT ICEO March 15

*Dozier will serve on Academic Council*

By Rujul Gandhi  
STAFF REPORTER

John H. Dozier has been appointed MIT's next Institute Community and Equity Officer (ICEO). Dozier is currently the inaugural chief diversity officer and senior associate provost for inclusion at the University of South Carolina (USC) and will officially begin his role at MIT March 15.

President L. Rafael Reif announced Dozier's appointment in an email to the MIT community Feb. 12.

Reif wrote that the ICEO is a "thought leader on the subjects of community, equity, inclusion and diversity, and a focal point for organizing MIT's related activities and conversations." As ICEO, Dozier will report to Provost Martin Schmidt PhD '88 and serve on the Academic Council.

Dozier has been at USC since 2013. Prior to this, he held multiple leadership positions in the Chicago community college system, which included chief information officer for the entire system and president of Kennedy-King College.

Dozier said in an interview with *The Tech* that his efforts at USC included leading a campaign to better engage the larger local community in the "difficult conversation on race." This included the installation of markers on the USC campus to acknowledge the contributions

of enslaved people in its construction and the organization of a youth summit.

Dozier told *The Tech* that he would establish goals for his work at MIT after taking some time to understand the community. He said his goals would include "development of a strategic plan, to focus the institute's resources and efforts to make sure that we are achieving measurable outcome," and that this will involve "engaging with the institute community in a way that we are able to understand the challenges involved."

"MIT is a special place, and I want to make sure I'm doing what I can to understand what the concerns are, broadly, so that we can make sure to be developing approaches ... to uphold a community of belonging," Dozier told *The Tech*.

Reif wrote that Dozier "brings to this role an outstanding record of leadership, great personal warmth and a sense of curiosity, enthusiasm and experimentation that feel very MIT."

"To be in an environment with the application of technology and the way in which this community works to solve problems is, to me, invigorating," Dozier said to *The Tech*. "I am looking forward to engaging with the students, faculty, and staff to do meaningful things that will create a sense of community."

Grant to alleviate some of the financial pressures graduate families face

Working Group, from Page 1

sult of the working group's earlier discoveries. The updates include launching a graduate families mailing list, opening Westgate events to both on and off-campus families, and providing a summer orientation webinar for incoming students with children.

Waitz wrote that the OVC has "the administration's commit-

ment and School Deans' support to implement three of the working group's major recommendations."

The three recommendations are to hire a designated staff member to coordinate communication, outreach, and programs to assist graduate students with children, to collect data on graduate students with children "administratively and centrally," rather than rely on survey data, and to offer a

need-blind grant called the MIT Grant for Graduate Students with Children.

PhD and Master's students in eligible programs will be offered grants of \$2,000 to \$4,000, depending on the number of children living with the student, beginning in the 2020-2021 academic year. The grant can be "used flexibly to cover expenses such as child and health care and housing," Waitz wrote.

Waitz also wrote that the goal of the grant is to "alleviate some of the financial pressures MIT graduate student parents face."

The fourth recommendation made by the report, which was not addressed in Waitz's email, is to identify family-friendly spaces on campus and hold more family-friendly events. The report wrote that this recommendation would "consider a combination

of a family resource center, a family resource office or a designated space with family friendly set up for events."

Waitz wrote that students who have questions, suggestions, or ideas for how the OVC can continue its efforts to improve graduate student life can directly contact him or staff in the Office of Graduate Education or the Division of Student Life.

```
from new_skills import *

def learnMarketableJobSkills():
    return linux, OSX, javascript, applescript, perl, python, PHP

if self.interest == True:
    print "E-mail join@tech.mit.edu"
```



WENBO'S WALKS

# Goodbye grief, hello H Mart

Grocery shopping on Mass. Ave. was more than I bargained for

By Wenbo Wu  
NEWS EDITOR

Massachusetts Avenue is more than a divide between East and West Campus. It's more than a street that leads to Harvard Square where all the food's at, and above all, it's more than the road work that created and continues to incessantly maintain it.

What is the illustrious Mass. Ave. truly? This question keeps me up at night (as does the road work). Lately, I've stumbled upon a revelation — or more accurately, tripped over one. Brace yourself for word-vomit.

Massachusetts Avenue is a place to wander without purpose, a prairie where my wildest thoughts can roam free, and above all, a flower of hopeful memories blossoming in my nutritious heart.

*Nutritious.* I meant to reference fertilizer to extend the metaphor, but I'll admit the word sounds a bit off on paper. But frankly, don't let my umami choice of adjectives distract you from the fact that Massachusetts Avenue is my life.

Why go skydiving or spelunking when all it costs to experience Mass. Ave. is nothing but my time, mind, and calories spent struggling to maintain a sane body temperature during the winter months? Never mind. Feel free to unread all that.

Yet, this is precisely why I'm putting all my eggs in this one basket of a biweekly column where I compose a stream-of-consciousness as I walk Mass. Ave. (and, unfortunately, other streets too). I want to take all of you along with me on this intellectual dumpster fi — I mean — adventure.

By the way, did I mention how beautiful eggs are? They are, whether scrambled, hard-boiled, sunny side up, poached, or in whatever way you prefer them. Actually, scratch that: hard-boiled eggs taste horrible.

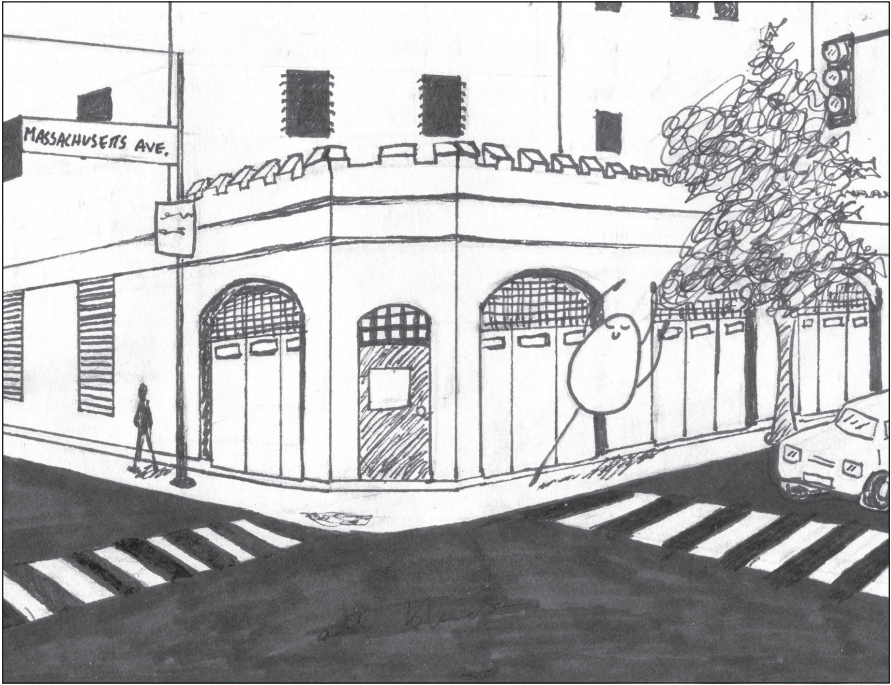
Which came first, poaching the egg or poaching the illegal activity? Was one sense of the word inspired by the other, whichever came later? Are they related at all? I suppose that's a real chicken-or-the-egg kind of question. Oh man, I'm really hungry. I should buy eggs.

A warm breeze greets me as an automatic sliding door opens before me, inviting me into the enclosure within. The familiar smell of bread, of curry, of ramen, and of the meaning of life wafts into my mind and lingers like the numb aftertaste of a packet of Samyang 2X Spicy Ramen. I came to get eggs. But why?

And such is the dilemma of life. Why would I get eggs at this H Mart when they cost factors less at Target? Why am I looking for them in the *produce* aisle? Or perhaps

the most important question of them all: are eggs just social constructs to hide the inequities of life? I leave you this week with

that #deep question. Tune in in (I'm sorry, English is weird) two weeks to see what she-nanigans I'll be up to then.



CAMILLE ULDRY LAVERGNE — THE TECH

An egg dancing away its egg-conomic problems.

CAMPUS LIFE CAMPUS LIFE CAMPUS LIFE

**Solution to LORGE BOI**  
from page 9

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

**Solution to smol boi**  
from page 9

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

**Solution to I'm Number**  
from page 9

S	T	A	F	F	I	F	S	O	V	A	S	T
E	E	R	I	E	S	O	P	A	S	T	O	
C	H	E	R	R	Y	T	R	E	E	L	I	A
T	E	N	M	A	S	D	N	A	L	A	B	S
S	E	A	M	E	N	P	E	A	S	E		
			O	N	K	E	Y	R	H	E	T	H
G	A	M	U	T	C	R	A	M	F	R	E	E
I	M	I	N	T	H	A	W	S	O	U	R	S
F	O	N	T	R	O	M	E	P	R	E	S	S
T	R	I	V	I	A	I	D	T	A	G		
			E	N	D	E	A	T	E	A	S	E
S	H	I	R	K	E	R	A	X	E	S	H	E
L	I	O	N	W	A	S	H	I	N	G	T	O
A	L	T	O	A	S	N	O	T	O	R	O	S
P	L	A	N	R	E	L	Y	S	O	O	T	Y

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# 24<sup>th</sup> MIT European Career Fair

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Johnson Track, MIT

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Open to all students and young professionals  
interested in European companies and research

Organized by the MIT European Club

Contact: [ecf2020@mit.edu](mailto:ecf2020@mit.edu)

...and more than 70 other organizations!



# Does merit matter in America?

*Why I don't want my grandchild to go to Duke or Stanford*

It is the quintessential American way to expect that merit matters, in few places more so than the admission systems at our universities. So I was as happy as anyone to see last year's unravelling of pay-for-play criminal college admissions. The scandal had propelled unspectacular candidates into elite universities and has now resulted in the criminal conviction of numerous offending parties.

**Legacy students will either openly embrace their entitlement or, if they have an iota of self-awareness and fairness, be plagued with self-doubt over their worthiness as an admitted student.**

How pervasive is the injustice? Pretty pervasive, if one assesses data from The New York Times from a 1991 cohort (approximately the class of 2013) that compared the percentage of students from the top one percent income bracket to the entire bottom 60% income bracket. The

At most “top ten” schools, more students are drawn from the top one percent of the income scale than from the bottom 60%. In fact, the ratio of those admitted students from those disparate groups, greater than one at most Ivy League schools versus approximately 0.25 at MIT and Caltech, highlight just how advantageous it is to be the child of an alumnus at a legacy admission school, since surveys show that graduates from each of these schools earn similar salaries and would therefore be expected to contribute in similar proportion to the one percent. Even worse, preferential access becomes a self-perpetuating pyramid scheme as long as alumni have children — the Harvard Kennedys being one example of the effect of preferential access across multiple generations.

School	Percent of students from top 1% income bracket (\$630k+)	Percent of students from bottom 60% income bracket (<\$65k)	Ratio of students from top 1% to bottom 60%
Brown University	19.5	18.2	>1
Dartmouth College	20.7	14.4	>1
Cornell University	10.5	19.6	0.53
University of Pennsylvania	18.7	16.5	>1
Princeton University	17.0	13.6	>1
Yale University	18.7	16.3	>1
Harvard University	15.1	20.4	0.74
Duke University	19.2	16.5	>1
Stanford University	17.5	18.6	0.94
Massachusetts Institute of Technology*	5.7	23.4	0.24
California Institute of Technology*	3.0	10.6	0.28

\*school without legacy admissions

Source: *The New York Times*, "Some Colleges Have More Students From the Top 1 Percent Than the Bottom 60," Jan. 18, 2017

**Ratio of students from top 1% income bracket** to students from bottom 60% income bracket at "top ten" schools.

A news article last week wrote that a planned merger between MISTI and study abroad had been in development for two years. In reality, a team had re-evaluated MIT's interna-

An arts article in the Feb. 6 issue of *The Tech* misspelled actress Megan Pachecano's last name.

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# MIT: world renowned research institute or luxury developer?

### *Rent and housing changes to worsen stress for graduate population*

**By Ethan Baker, Oceane Boulais,  
and Will Kimball**

Cost of living is a major source of stress for MIT graduate students and a barrier to our academic success. By the administration's own estimate, a typical graduate student pays more than half of their income in rent, qualifying graduate students as severely rent burdened by federal standards. For the particularly vulnerable, rent is a daily source of anxiety and hardship. Graduate Students for a Healthy MIT, a student group fighting for graduate student well-being, is concerned and frustrated by the administration's investments in luxury instead of affordable housing, its rent hikes for those displaced by the planned demolition of Eastgate, its plan to raise housing rates across campus, and its continued neglect of off-campus students. We are troubled by the lack of transparency in this process and the mindset these acts represent. MIT's leadership has avowedly chosen to listen to developers over graduate students and prioritize commercial development over our well-being. To account for the needs of graduate students, this calculus must shift.

This is unconscionable. International students and families already struggle more finding housing, depend disproportionately on MIT housing, and face some of the most dire financial circumstances among graduate students. The administration justifies these exorbitant rents with improved amenities, despite findings from the Graduate Student Housing Working Group demonstrating that graduate students prioritize proximity and price. And more than luxury amenities, international students and families living on campus have said the communities there are essential to their well-being, particularly in their first months at MIT.

Eastgate could be renovated, rather than demolished, but the administration has chosen to replace it with commercial development, forcing out graduate students for the likes of Boeing and Bayer. Recently, a group of senior faculty expressed concern over the administration's "tacit agenda" to convert Kendall Square into its own Silicon Valley while leaving behind its core academic mission. It seems that graduate students are also being left behind. Closing Eastgate is symptomatic of an administration that would rather be in the real estate business than "advance knowledge and educate students."

And so it is perhaps no surprise that the administration has chosen a “market aware” approach, contracting private brokers to assess what a comparable market rate unit would cost. The logic of MIT, as a tax-exempt educational institution, competing on the market is certainly shaky. And the impact of this strategy is that these rates are affordable only to the independently wealthy, those with high-income partners, or those pursuing traditionally high-paying careers, thereby segregating our community. Catering to the privileged erects financial barriers to higher education which disproportionately affect already disadvantaged groups. For example, Black and Latinx students, often systematically deprived of the cushion of familywealth, are underrepresented in graduate schools. At MIT they are just seven percent of graduate students.

New family and hardship grants — introduced just prior to these new rents — will help moderate the financial squeeze for some. But these family grants fall short when compared to our peers: their upper limits are less than half of Stanford's, a third of Princeton's, and a quarter of UMich's. Furthermore, childcare is one of the major costs parents face, yet graduate students are

denied the childcare scholarships provided to Institute employees. Even with the transitional discount and maximum family grant, the move to Site 4 could still cost Eastgate families \$3,500—5,000 per year in extra rent. Given reports of parents in Eastgate struggling to feed their children, this is outrageous. And enforcing arduous applications for the hardship grants is unduly burdensome, and potentially a source of stigma, for those who struggle the most.

**Given reports of parents in Eastgate struggling to feed their children, this is outrageous.**

Beyond Site 4, the administration has proposed an average rent increase of 3.7%, with some units going up by 5.5%. This is despite MIT's own data showing 75% of graduate students report cost of living as a source of stress and 71% see it as an obstacle to academic progress. Rather than address these concerns, MIT is increasing rents to recoup losses from poor preventative maintenance of its properties. The administration acknowledges that to justify increased rents "stipends would need to be increased commensurately." At the time of writing, next year's stipend increases had not been announced, and we are hopeful they will exceed 3.7% to compensate for rent increases. But even without the rate hikes, graduate students face a rent crisis. We estimate more than 80% of MIT's current housing options result in unreasonable rent burdens on graduate students, based on the recommended TA stipend.

Cynically, one of the administration's rationales for these hikes is "equity" to those off campus. We reject this as rationalizing a race to the bottom. Living off campus is riddled with challenges for graduate students: short credit histories, astronomical upfront fees, and the threat of discrimination in a city with an ongoing history of racism. If MIT is committed to helping those forced off campus by its decades of documented failure to build sufficient affordable housing, we recommend providing graduate students the same transport subsidies as staff, partnering directly with landlords to eliminate brokerage fees, and subsidizing off-campus housing as Stanford does. After all, we already subsidize faculty housing, including \$100,000 annually for President Reif. MIT's

proposed rent hikes do nothing to relieve the rent burden of those living off campus, while actively worsening the lives of those on campus.

We implore the administration to rethink its austerity mindset and instead adopt policies that afford all students financial security and dignity. Rather than seeing housing as a service MIT begrudges its students, we propose a different vision. Affordable housing, coupled with adequate economic support, is an opportunity to build our community, right social injustices, recruit talent, invest in the next generation of scientists, and combat the mental health crisis.

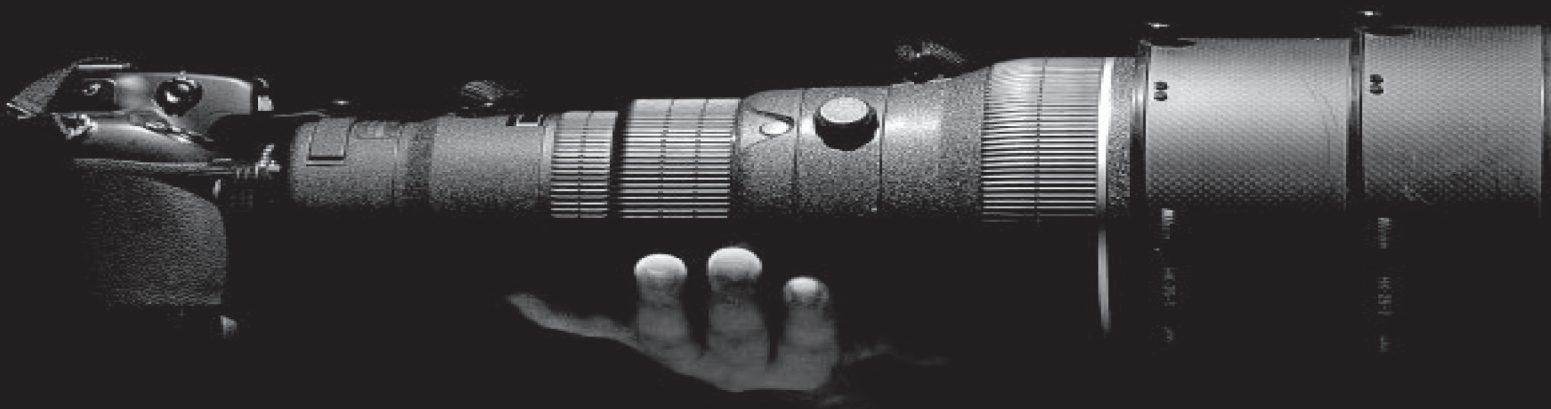
This approach is possible. MIT claims it feels pressure from peer institutions to charge “market rates,” but is well-aware that Stanford’s housing is governed by a policy of “Students First!” Stanford provides on-campus housing 30%+ below market rate and subsidizes off-campus housing to match. At MIT, one of the world’s richest universities, we therefore find it frustrating that graduate students are not similarly valued. When the administration is balancing its books, we ask them to stop leaving our welfare out of the equation.

**At MIT, one of the world's richest universities, we therefore find it frustrating that graduate students are not similarly valued.**

Help us fight for the interests of graduate students and the MIT community: Sign this petition written by Eastgate residents to demand MIT commit itself to providing graduate students affordable housing. And, call or email David Friedrich, Dean of Housing and Residential Services, at 617-252-1505 or [dfriedr@mit.edu](mailto:dfriedr@mit.edu), to let him know that you won't stand for this complete disregard for the needs of graduate students. To learn about how to get involved, visit the MIT housing crisis coalition website.

Ethan Baker is a graduate student at MIT and member of Graduate Students for a Healthy MIT. Oceane Boulais is a graduate student at MIT and the President of Eastgate. Will Kimball is a graduate student at MIT, parent, former member Graduate Student Housing Working Group, and former President of Eastgate.

# Say Hello



# To My Little Friend.

*photo@tech.mit.edu*





KEVIN LY — THE TECH



MAXWELL YUN — THE TECH



ETHAN SIT — THE TECH



ETHAN SIT — THE TECH

MIT Mocha Moves performed the 2020 show Cirque du Moleil. Dancers performed a variety of styles featuring urban hip-hop, contemporary, and modern. The show's hosts also shared their favorite MIT minigames featuring audience members. Former MIT Mocha Moves members included:



# ue du leil



is past weekend at their Spring  
nce performances spanned a va-  
p-hop and contemporary pieces.  
he spotlight through interactive  
embers, many of whom were for-  
Moves members.





# MIT Women's Basketball faces a loss at home

*MIT Women's Basketball was defeated 67-61 by Springfield College*

MIT Women's Basketball played their third last NEWMAC Regular Season game against Springfield College on Saturday, Feb. 15. The team faced an unfortunate 67-61 loss after playing exceptionally in the first three quarters of the game. Christina Antonakakis '22, Jocelyn Luizzi '21, Annika Sougstad '22, and Cindy Si '20 played remarkably for the Engineers.

The game started off as a back-and-forth affair until MIT picked up momentum and ended the first quarter with a 10-5 run, to lead the game 16-11 at the end of the quarter. The second quarter was also played closely, featuring two ties and four lead changes. The highly competitive first half ended at the score 28-26, MIT above by just two points.

The third quarter was dominated by MIT even after a favorable start to the quarter for Springfield College. The Engineers featured a 20-5 run ignited by a lay up from Alexis Groark '20. The quarter ended with a pair of buckets by Springfield's Sam Hourihan, which ended their scoring drought and cut the deficit to 9 points. The quarter ended with MIT leading 48-39.

Even though MIT seemed to be in the driver's seat to start the fourth quarter with a 9 point lead, Springfield College came out much stronger as they started reducing the deficit with a spree of baskets and defensive stops. The Pride eventually got the go ahead bucket with a three pointer by Stephanie Lyons at the 4:42 mark. Springfield College then added points to their total, gaining a 7 point lead in the last minute. With 15 seconds to go, Si scored

a trey, trying to get back into the game, but this effort was a bit too late as time ran out, ending the game at 67-61.

Throughout the match, MIT shot 35.5% from the floor, 36.8% from three-point range, and an exceptional 83.3% from the free throw line. Antonakakis led the Engineers in points and assists as she scored 18 points and dished seven assists, while Luizzi

scored 14 points and registered eight boards. Si scored ten points and four steals, Sougstad scored seven points and notched three steals while Groark collected eight boards.

MIT will next host Wellesley College on Wednesday, Feb. 19 followed by playing an away game against Wheaton College on Saturday, Feb. 22 to end the NEW-MAC regular season.



**MIT Women's Basketball's Paula Pieper '22** looks for a pass in Saturday's game against Springfield College.

**Men's Volleyball (10-3)** won two games against Emmanuel College, both 3-0, and a third against Eastern Nazarene College on Saturday. Earlier in the week, they defeated Elmira College 3-0.

**Women's Tennis (1-0)** shut out Brandeis University 9-0 in their season opener on Saturday.

**Men's Basketball (10-13)** faced two defeats against U.S. Coast Guard Academy (108-93) and Springfield College (66-62) this week.

**Women's Basketball (11-11)** won against Emerson College 80-49 on Wednesday and lost to Springfield College 67-61 Saturday.

**Men's Track and Field** participated in the Gordon Kelly Invitational at MIT and the David Hemery Valentine Invitational at Boston University. The team earned five event wins and a school record at the Gordon Kelly meet.

**Women's Track and Field** also participated in the Gordon Kelly and the David Hemery Valentine Invitational. The distance medley relay team placed seventh at the BU meet and is now ranked second nationally.

**Men's Fencing (15-15)** finished the regular season at the Beanpot at Boston College this week, losing to Harvard University 23-4 and Brandeis University 15-12 but earning a 15-12 victory against Boston College.

**Women's Fencing (13-19)** wrapped up their regular season at the Beanpot this week, facing losses against Boston College (16-11), Harvard University (22-5), and Brandeis University (15-12).

## Upcoming Sports Events

**Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving**  
*NEWMAC Championship*  
Thursday, February 20th  
7:00 p.m.

**Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving**  
*NEWMAC Championship*  
Friday, February 21st  
10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

**Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving**  
*NEWMAC Championship*  
Saturday, February 22nd  
10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

**Men's Tennis**  
*vs. Boston University*  
Saturday, February 22nd  
1:00 p.m.

**Men's Basketball (Senior Day)**  
*vs. WPI*  
Saturday, February 22nd  
2:00 p.m.

**Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving**  
*NEWMAC Championship*  
Sunday, February 23rd  
10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

**Men's Volleyball**  
*vs. Lasell*  
Tuesday, February 25th  
7:00 p.m.

**Men's and Women's Basketball**  
*NEWMAC Tournament First Round*  
 Wednesday, February 26th  
 TBD

**Women's Lacrosse**  
*vs. Roger Williams*  
Wednesday, February 26th  
4:00 p.m.

**Men's Tennis**  
*vs. Holy Cross*  
Wednesday, February 26th  
4:00 p.m.

**Men's Lacrosse**  
*vs. Lasell*  
Wednesday, February 26th  
4:30 p.m.



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LORGE BOI

Solution, page 3

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

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.

smol boi

Solution, page 3

30x	6	2x		240x	
	4x		3		5
1		12x			3÷
5+	80x		180x		
	3				3x
120x			2x		

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.

I’m Number One by Billie Truitt

Solution, page 3

ACROSS

- 1 Company’s personnel  
6 “In that case . . .”  
10 Huge in area  
14 Spooky  
15 “Chicken noodle” course  
16 Regarding, in a memo  
17 What 61 Across didn’t really chop down  
19 Actor Neeson  
20 Number of years in a decade  
21 Spouses of pas  
22 Crime evidence analysis rooms  
24 Navy enlistees  
26 “\_\_ porridge hot . . .”  
27 Tonally accurate  
29 Musical beat  
33 Run the \_\_ (cover the full range)  
36 Study hard  
38 At no cost  
39 “Sign me up!”  
40 Starts to melt  
41 Yours and mine  
42 Typeface selection

- 43 Italy’s capital  
44 Flatten with a steam iron  
45 Fun facts  
47 Luggage attachment with your name  
49 Concluded  
51 Army “Relax!” command  
55 One avoiding one’s duty  
58 Lumberjack’s chopper  
59 “He said, \_\_ said”  
60 Zoo beast that roars  
61 Our first President  
64 Female singing voice  
65 “It will come \_\_ surprise . . .”  
66 Matadors’ bulls  
67 Prepare carefully  
68 Depend (on)  
69 Black, as a chimney flue

DOWN

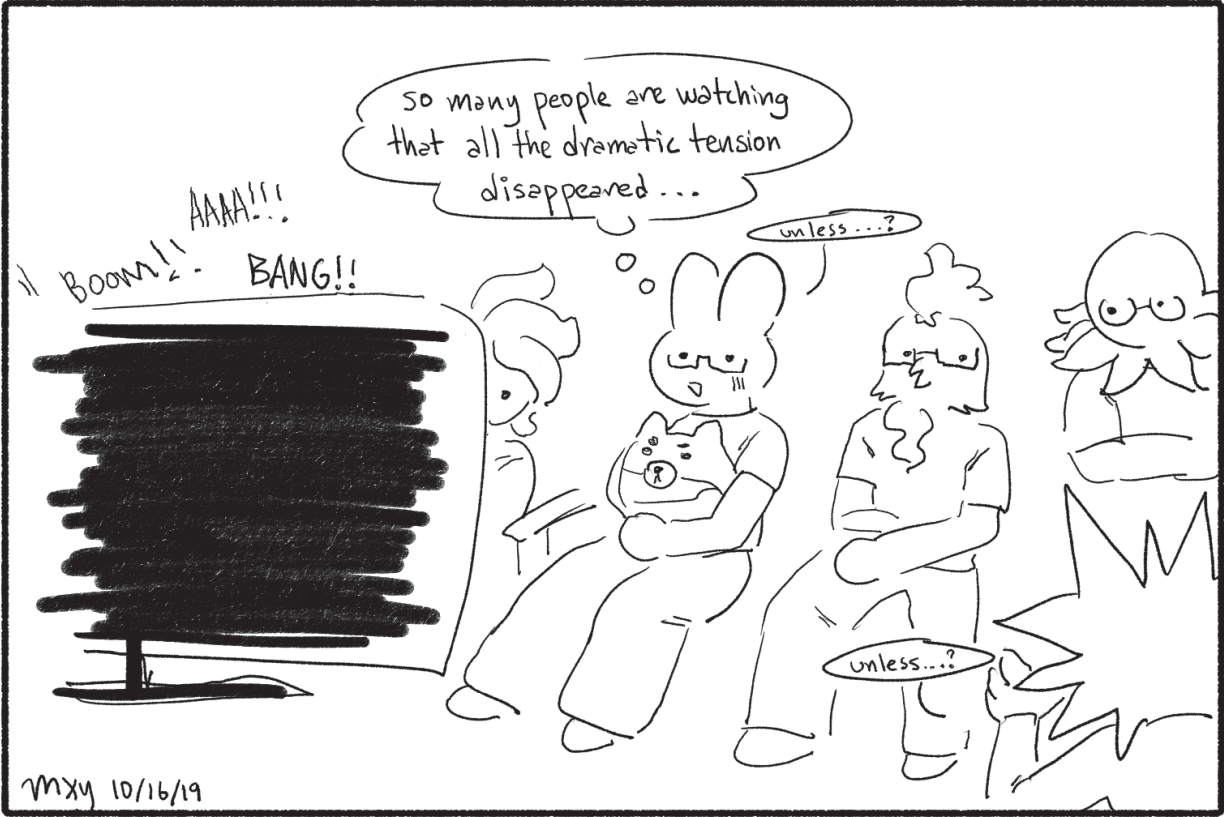
- 1 Splinter groups  
2 Sound of a giggle  
3 Sports venue  
4 Tree with cones  
5 Begin to turn into wine  
6 Suffix meaning “adherents”

- 7 “\_\_ what it’s worth . . .”  
8 Soft shoe leather  
9 Symbolic welcoming gesture  
10 Pennsylvania encampment for 61 Across and his troops  
11 Largest continent  
12 Wild guess  
13 Male turkeys  
18 Tug sharply  
23 Bonfire remnant  
25 61 Across’ Virginia home  
26 Ancient Egyptian monument  
28 Sound in a cavern  
30 Factual  
31 His-and-\_\_ bracelets  
32 Untidy place  
33 Birthday present, for example  
34 Love, in Spanish  
35 Short skirt  
37 Extremely amazed  
40 Economic conflict  
44 Inventors’ protections  
46 Ballpoint filler

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20					21			22		23				
24				25				26						
				27			28		29			30	31	32
33	34	35				36		37			38			
39						40					41			
42						43				44				
45				46			47		48					
				49			50		51			52	53	54
55	56	57					58					59		
60						61	62				63			
64						65				66				
67						68				69				

- 48 Car with a meter  
50 Clear a blackboard  
52 Houston ballplayer  
53 Take a photo of  
54 \_\_-weensy (tiny)  
55 Strike with an open palm  
56 Sledding spot  
57 Smidgen  
58 Sailor’s greeting  
62 NBC weekend comedy series  
63 Sticky substance

miscellany #14: netflix w friends













# MIT offers 15% discount for Eastgate residents moving into Site 4 graduate housing

Eastgate, from Page 1

feedback received at an information session Feb. 7, the discount will be extended to students “as long as they remain a regular MIT graduate student and reside in Site 4.”

Additionally, the Eastgate Resident Transition Subsidy was announced to mitigate concerns regarding the affordability of Site 4 for current Eastgate residents.

The subsidy will be evaluated by staff at Students Financial Services on an individual basis. It will consider financial circumstances such

as stipend levels and assets, spouses’ employment, number of dependents, and healthcare costs.

Friedrich and Vice President and Dean for Student Life Suzy Nelson wrote in an email to Eastgate residents that they recognized that “some students may have initially selected Eastgate as a living community due to the published rates for housing.” They wrote that although Site 4 rates are “not affordable for all members of the current Eastgate community,” they “reflect the new building’s condition and location” and are below market prices.

# Sales began Feb. 15 but rings can still be purchased Feb. 20 and Feb. 21, sizing available

Brass Rat, from Page 1

ed” Infinite Corridor in recognition of MITHenge.

The Hacker’s Map lies on the inverse of the bezel. In addition to the MIT tunnel system map in past years’ rings, the class of 2022 map contains a new Nano Extension and a  $\pi$  beneath the dome. The symbol represents the March 14 anniversary of admissions decisions and the official class reunion date in Las Vegas exactly 3.14 years after graduation.

At Ring Premiere, before revealing the official bezel, the committee presented a joke bezel featuring angel Iron Man, a WashLava sun, MIT Confessions clouds, and a beaver with long eyelashes emerging from an Anna’s Taqueria burrito wrapper and swimming into a river of tapioca pearls.

Ring sales began 10 a.m. Feb. 15. Students can purchase the ring 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 20 at the Stud Chimneys or 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 21 in Lobby 13. Ring sizing will be available.

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