

New Vassar floor plans, dining, and rooming details released

Lobby will contain welcome desk, security desk, mail room, art installation, and gathering space

By Edwin Song

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Tech toured New Vassar's (NV) in-construction ground, mezzanine, and second floors Feb. 27. The residence will open in August.

As of the tour, the inner walls of those floors appear to be up, along with some piping and electrical wires.

According to floor plans and the tour, the ground floor of NV will contain a dining hall, an Athena cluster, vending machines, a yoga studio

with no exercise equipment, a fitness room with exercise equipment, a game room, a makerspace, and public restrooms.

A rendering of the game room sent by Zachary Tsetsos, communications manager in housing and residential services, advertises that the "flex game room" will contain a pool table, ping-pong table, modular seating, meeting rooms, and lounge space. In addition, the ground floor will also contain a country kitchen with six cooking stations.

NV's lobby will contain a welcome desk, security desk, mail room, art installation, and gathering space, according to a rendering sent by email to The Tech by Tsetsos.

None of the first floor rooms have been furnished as of Feb. 27. Team members are looking at other makerspaces on campus, including that of Next House, in order to determine what equipment to obtain.

New Vassar, Page 2



MAXWELL YUN — THE TECH

The New Vassar dorm under construction, scheduled to open to residents Fall 2020.

BC discusses transition in community meeting

Residents express concerns about meal plan, housing, and culture preservation

By Kristina Chen

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Members of the Burton Conner transition team held a community meeting March 4 to discuss the housing timeline for residents, as well as concerns about subscribing to the meal plan and preserving groups of BC residents in new spaces.

David Friedrich, senior associate dean for housing and residential services, and Judy Robinson, senior associate dean for residential education, BC heads of house, and BC president Sarah Aaronson '23 were at the meeting, along with other members of the BC transition team.

BC is scheduled to be closed for renewal June 2020 and to reopen

August 2022, according to the transition FAQ.

Friedrich guided discussion at the meeting, which focused on the housing lottery and potential switches to the meal plan. After statements by Aaronson, Friedrich, and Director of Campus Dining Mark Hayes, BC residents posed questions about transition.

Hayes presented changes in the meal plan that could become relevant to residents moving to dining hall dorms during the transition. Because BC is a cook-for-yourself residence hall, residents expressed concern about being required to pay for the meal plan if they chose to move to a dining dorm.

Burton Conner, Page 2

Meal plan forum held on March 2

Students raise questions about meal swipe minimums, BC transition, and addition of New Vassar dining hall

By Evan Denmark

STAFF REPORTER

The Meal Plan Working Group held a forum to discuss recently-announced changes to the meal plan March 2. The changes include raising the meal plan minimums for incoming classes and making dining dollars optional.

About 40 students and administrators attended the forum.

Mark Hayes, director of campus dining, said at the forum that the

updates address the overall dissatisfaction with the quality and variety of food options across campus and MIT Dining's high operational costs.

MIT Dining operates at a cost of \$11 million, but only receives \$9.4 million in revenue each year, Hayes said. The New Vassar (NV) dining hall will increase the dining deficit from \$1.6 million to \$2.2 million due to its operating costs.

Hayes said the meal plan changes will allow MIT Dining to operate at or near cost by the year 2024.

When a student raised the concern that increasing meal swipe minimums decreases student flexibility, Hayes said that MIT inherently has flexible dining options by making dining dollars optional and allowing students to choose their dining plan. Hayes noted that other peer institutions require all students to be on the same meal plan.

According to Harvard's Dining Services website, "Harvard Col-

Meal Plan, Page 2

Several classes switch away from Piazza site

Lecturers Hartz and Dourmashkin name student privacy concerns as main cause

By Whitney Zhang

EDITOR

This semester, 6.0001/2 (Introduction to Computer Science Programming in Python and Introduction to Computational Thinking and Data Science), 6.009 (Fundamentals of Programming), and 8.02 (Physics II) have switched away from Piazza, a free third-party discussion platform, for their class Q&A forums.

6.0001/2 switched to Ed Discussion, an alternate third-party platform. 6.009 switched to "the forum," a site instructor Adam Hartz '11 built using the platform Discourse, an open-source software. 8.02 switched to a MITx discussion forum hosted on the MITx Residential platform.

All three platforms allow students and instructors to discuss questions and allow anonymity between students and their classmates. Unlike Piazza, the platforms do not categorize posts into "student," "instructor," and "follow-up discussion" spaces, instead simply

displaying the post, author, and author's position.

Ed is similar to Piazza in look and use, with questions on the left-hand side that can be clicked on to bring up a question and comments that follow it. Unlike Piazza, instructors can also prefill the question box to make it more form-like and easily download all usernames and posts to examine class data. Additionally, code can be run within the platform itself for easier debugging.

The 6.009 forum is more message-board-like. Students can sort by latest and top posts, as well as by categories, such as "Labs," "Lectures," and "Announcements." Unlike Piazza and Ed, the forum is a single panel interface: students cannot see both the list of all questions and the thread corresponding to a single question at once.

8.02's MITx discussion forum is built into its MITx site and categorizes forum posts by problem set and

Piazza, Page 8

IN SHORT

The last day to **add a full-term subject** is March 6.

The last day to **drop half-term subjects** offered in the first half of term is March 6.

Fall 2020 housing forms open March 9, including fall housing intention, fall housing switch lottery, ninth/tenth term housing requests, and undergraduate return from study abroad housing requests.

Graduate PE registration opens March 10, **undergraduate PE registration** closes March 11.

The **MIT Excellence Awards and Collier Medal Ceremony** will take place March 12 from 3 p.m.-4 p.m. in Kresge.

The deadline to submit a nomination for the **2020 MIT Awards** is March 20.

Interested in **joining The Tech**? Stop by for dinner Sunday at 6 p.m. or email join@tech.mit.edu.

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



STEPHANIE FU

Chamber Players (from left to right) Sasha Callahan (violin), Leo Eguchi (cello), and Alexander Vavilov (viola) perform Bach's Goldberg Variations.

BODY TEXT

Art in the digital age.
ARTS, p. 7

DOCTOR WHO SERIES 12

An enjoyable blend of old and new.
ARTS, p. 7



BURDEN

A reformed Klansman?
ARTS, p. 6

EARTH

Floating in a tin can.
CAMPUS LIFE, p. 5

SECTIONS

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Campus Life 5
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Sports 12

Burton Conner residents to receive priority during spring housing lottery

Burton Conner, from Page 1

Robinson said that the Division of Student Life would work with Student Support Services and Student Financial Services to address financial concerns on an individual basis.

Alex Quach '23, BC treasurer, wrote in an email to *The Tech* that he “and many other residents are actively avoiding dorms with dining halls” so that they do not have to be “coerced into the larger meal plan.” He wrote that the mandatory meal plan might prevent BC residents from moving to dorms whose cultures they fit well with.

In an interview with *The Tech*, Aaronson said that BC residents were concerned about the meal plan requirements. She added that “people tend to stay in cook-for-yourself dorms longer, so there probably won’t be all the spaces that we need, especially with New Vassar being a dining dorm. The numbers don’t work out.”

The housing switch lottery will be open March 9 to March 23. The results of the lottery will be sent to students April 6. BC residents will have priority in the housing lottery over students switching from other dorms and first years in the Class of 2024.

Friedrich said that BC residents will be allowed to request moves in groups of up to eight people, compared to the typical group of four. In addition, two groups of eight people can indicate connection, so that housing assignment staff can work to move that larger group to the same residence.

Aaronson told *The Tech* that because BC culture is closely tied to its nine floors, “some are worried about losing physical access to people they’ve built strong ties to and are comfortable with” through the renewal.

Once BC residents are placed in new residence halls, room assignments will be determined according to internal house processes. Students who are switched to New Vassar will be able to self-select their rooms from April 13 to April 16.

Aaronson said that internal room assignment processes have

been discussed with leadership of other dorms during DormCon meetings. She added that dorm presidents should have the specific plans for moving into their residences available at the March 5 DormCon meeting.

Friedrich said that BC residents moving off campus during the transition would “be absolutely guaranteed to return” after the renovations.

Both Aaronson and Quach identified preservation of community as an important goal during the renewal. Aaronson said to *The Tech* that she is “really interested in having a continuity of community during and after transition” and hopes to establish spaces and funding for BC community events even while the building is under construction.

Quach wrote that he is “concerned about the amount of funding BC will have during its transition.”

“Having the funding to be able to hold Burton Conner and campus-wide events... is important to preserve our culture and a worthy investment for MIT to provide during the transition process,” Quach wrote.

Aaronson said during the meeting that two resident-led committees were being created for the transition process, one to help document existing BC murals and another to manage the storage of community items. Three types of storage will be available: summer storage, short-term storage that can be accessed during the renewal period, and long-term storage to be stored until the reopening of BC.

These committees will be determined March 18. The mural preservation selections are due in early May and storage will be finalized in late May, according to a transition calendar passed out at the community meeting.

Members of the New Vassar founders’ group were also present at the community meeting so that BC residents could ask about moving into the new residence hall.

Residents with questions or concerns about the transition process can email burtonconner-renewal@mit.edu.

New Vassar expects a ‘40-30-20-10’ split of first years, sophomores, juniors, and seniors

New Vassar, from Page 1

The mezzanine floor sits halfway between the ground floor and second floor. Most of the space will be a large lounge with couches, TVs, and chairs. Two music rooms split off from the lounge. The mezzanine will be open to the ground floor lobby and separated by a pane of glass from the dorm’s laundry room on the second floor.

The second through fifth floors comprise the residential area of the dorm. There will be three GRA areas per floor, each with their own lounge, study, and kitchenette. Kitchenettes will have two large refrigerators, cabinets, sinks, a microwave, and a kitchen island. The studies, described in renderings as “p-set friendly,” will have a quiet space, white boards, and group seating.

NV will contain ten cooking pods, called “Tim’s Kitchens.” The pods will offer cooking classes and smoothie stations.

There will be two communal restrooms for each GRA area, each with four toilets, three showers, and three sinks. Residents will be free to keep them as mens’ and womens’ or to designate them as gender-neutral. There will also be two private full bathrooms for each floor.

Rooms at New Vassar will be entirely singles and doubles. Singles will be about 90 square feet and doubles 180. Rooms will be furnished with a desk, chair, dresser, short bookshelf, bed, and wardrobe for each person.

NV will also contain a grocery market, called “Tim’s Market.” Founders’ group member Tingyi Lu ’23 said at a NV info social March 1 that because the NV dining hall will serve only brunch and dinner, the store will serve as a “breakfast marketplace” similar to the pick-a-lunch program in Walker Memorial.

NV head of house Steven Hall ScD ’85 said during the info social March 1 that “certain rooms” will be “designated as first-year rooms” and students “won’t be able to squat those rooms.” Rooms reserved for first years are “completely spread out” throughout the dorm, Hall said.

Hall explained that NV expects a “40-30-20-10” split between first years, sophomores, juniors, and seniors, respectively.

Naomi Carton, the NV associate head of house, said during the info social that “first-year assignments” were “blocked off” first. As for the split between years, she

said that the heads of house and founders’ group looked at Maseeh and Simmons historical housing data as a basis for their estimates. Carton explained that Maseeh had about 40% first years when it opened.

There will be two elevators at the east and west ends of the building. Three stairwells also run the entire vertical height of the building.

Outside the dorm, there will be an enclosed social courtyard with a patio and an overhang deck. Bike storage will run along the entire length of the north side of the building.

Lu said that the founder’s group was not able to influence the physical design of the building, as the group was not formed until Fall 2019. However, the founder’s group Interim Report says that “the founders’ group was able to provide input on fabric selections for furniture in the common space on the second floor of the residence hall.”

Lu said that the founder’s group consisted of three first years, two sophomores, and one junior who met every other week.

Another NV info social will be held at the Coffeehouse Lounge in the Student Center from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 6.

New Vassar dining hours aimed toward reducing lunchtime crowding at Maseeh

Meal Plan, from Page 1

lege requires all undergraduates living on campus to have an unlimited meal plan.”

Addressing the financial deficit, Graduate Student Council Vice President Alex Joerger G said that “the only way to make this work is to increase the number of [meal] swipes sold.” Joerger said that either students with a meal plan will have to pay more or students not on a meal plan will be forced to purchase one.

When asked if the working group had considered requiring all students to be on the meal plan, Peter Cummings, executive director for administration at the Division of Student Life (DSL), said that “there’s a healthy respect for cook-for-yourself communities” and that with “more people on the plan, it is less expensive for everyone... but that isn’t MIT.”

Hayes said that minimizing the deficit will allow MIT Dining to “strategically update equipment.”

According to the working group plan, no current MIT undergraduates will be affected by the changes in meal plan minimums.

Burton Conner residents raised the concern that, due to the tem-

porary closing of BC, residents may be forced onto a meal plan when they do not want one. The concerns arose amid speculation that there will be insufficient room in non-dining hall dorms and surplus room in NV for displaced BC residents.

Senior Associate Dean for Residential Education Judy Robinson responded that the DSL “won’t know how many beds will be available until there is movement,” which will be determined by the housing switch lottery.

A student asked if BC residents who move to NV would get be exempted from the meal plan. Cummings responded that the New Vassar community wouldn’t “get off to a good start” if some students were exempt. In response to a student’s concern about cost, Cummings said that he could take the idea of a temporary meal plan subsidy to other administrators.

McCormick Head of House Raul Radovitzky said that dining halls can act as a “glue” for the community, recalling a time when McCormick did not have a dining plan to be “pretty sad.”

The conversation also addressed NV and its role in the meal plan up-

dates. Specifically, students wondered why the new dorm was decided to be a dining dorm.

NV Head of House Steve Hall ScD ’85 said that due to the building size requirements, the new 450-bed dorm could not fit multiple kitchens to support a cook-for-yourself community.

Naomi Carton, NV associate head of house, wrote in an email to *The Tech* that the energy required for multiple cook-for-yourself kitchens throughout the building presents “significant challenges to fulfilling MIT’s sustainability goals.”

Hayes also said that opening NV for lunch will reduce overcrowding in Maseeh.

Other students expressed dissatisfaction with the food quality at dining halls.

“A bad experience day after day shouldn’t happen,” Hall said. Both Hall and Hayes recommended that students email foodstuff@mit.edu to report poor food quality.

Hayes added that students will be sent a comprehensive dining survey next week so that “we will know by house... where we need to focus.”

Rujul Gandhi contributed reporting.



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Solution to Super

from page 9

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

Solution to Fifth Week

from page 9

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

Solution to Beat It

from page 9

APR	GASP	SLOB
HULAS	ONTO	TOGO
GRUMP	ETAS	EURO
TAMBOURINE	EDEN	
SPOON	KARL	
	FILL	SIDES
COAX	TEAM	GRAPE
BONY	SAYAH	USES
SPELL	DELI	MEDS
SWOOP	RENT	
	PLOD	DEPTH
BATH	PERCUSSION	
OREO	PLEA	TAMPA
LEAN	EVEN	SLEEP
DARE	DEFT	MRS

Solution to March

from page 10

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

Solution to Mardi Gras

from page 10

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

Solution to Daylight

from page 11

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

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Tuesday, March 3, 2

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Group
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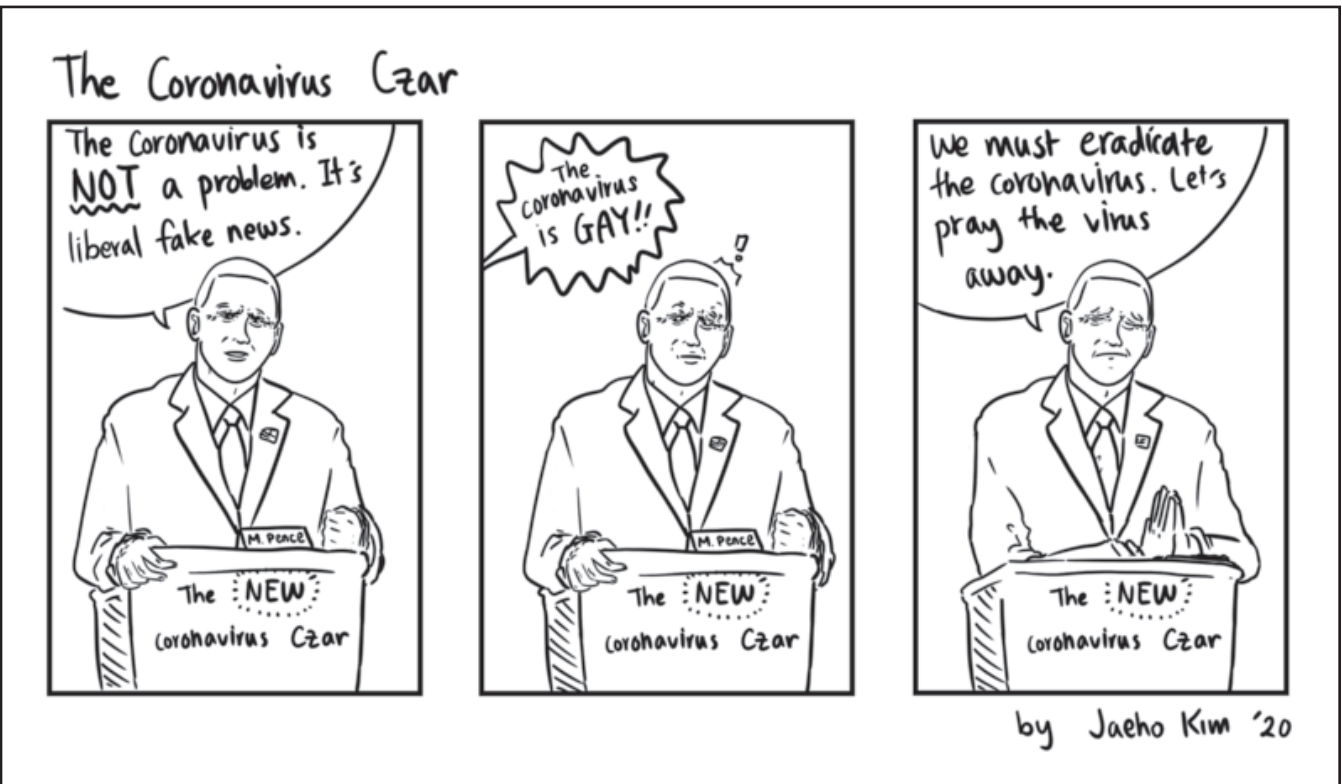
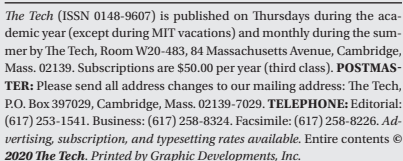


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***Burden* takes on the weight of a story too heavy for one film**

☆☆☆☆☆

Burden

Directed by Andrew Heckler

Screenplay by Andrew Heckler

Starring Garrett Hedlund, Forest Whitaker, Andrea Riseborough, Usher

Rated R

Now playing in select theaters

Director Andrew Heckler and I spoke through the phone to unpack the film's complex themes of reconciliation, understanding, and race. Although the story may seem like a response to current racial ten-

Being realistic was important to Heckler, especially considering the true story behind the film. The actors in the film were able to meet and interact with the real Mike Burden and Reverend Kennedy, as well as other people in the story. The detailed performances by the main cast prove the significance of the opportunity they had “to breathe [the real people] in, to sort of get these guys under their skin and pick up nu-

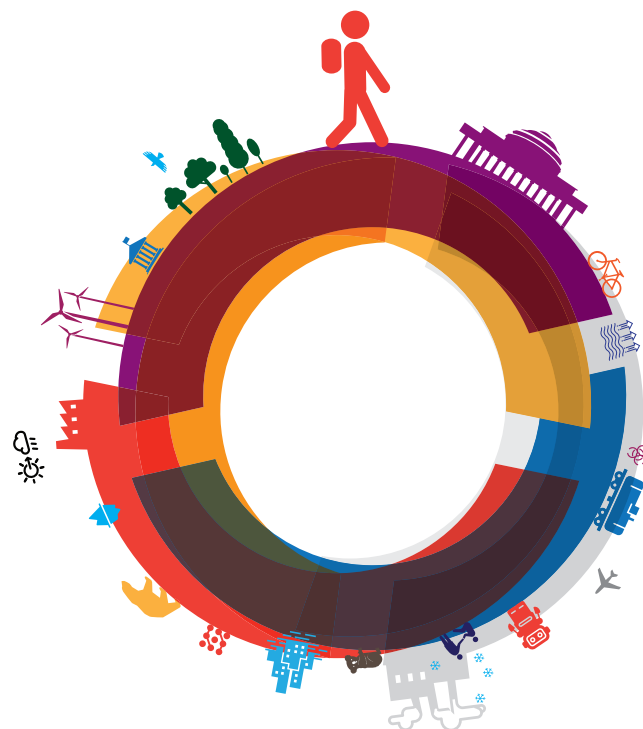
The strain that Kennedy's relationship with Mike puts on his family creates charged moments that present the taxing, emotional challenges behind the glossy visage of acceptance and forgiveness. Heckler is ambitious to tackle many themes in the film, but unfortunately, the pain of the black community and the anger of the black youth with the Reverend's message of love even in the face of hate, remain largely unresolved and unexplored. Giving more attention to the conflict within the black community about how to respond to Mike and the Reverend's actions could have been an opportunity for *Burden*

Burden's themes of racism, reconciliation, and love are undoubtedly fascinating, especially considering that the events of the film occurred in real life, but in its focus to get these ideas across, the film loses some finesse. However, the idea that "if we're all willing to look at each other, we can maybe effect some change" rings loudly and passes on the necessary burden of continuing and improving this discussion.



Tom Griffin (Tom Wilkinson) and Reverend David Kennedy (Forest Whitaker) face off in Andrew Heckler's film *Burden*.

registrar.mit.edu/macvicarday



Bell: Piazza student-facing user interface ‘cluttered’ with advertisements

Piazza, from Page 1

weekly course material. The platform does not support private posts.

Hartz and 8.02 lecturer Peter Dourmashkin ’76 both said in interviews with *The Tech* that student privacy was the main cause of switching away from Piazza.

Hartz said, “First and foremost, the biggest concern I have, not only with Piazza but any kind of third-party cloud-based system, is who are we sharing our student data with and what are they doing with those data?” Hartz was especially concerned because students on Piazza not only ask questions about class material, but also often post privately about personal concerns or medical issues.

Dourmashkin echoed these concerns, adding that even if Piazza’s current terms of service protected student privacy, if Piazza were acquired, student data then be owned by a different company that could be less protective. As an example, Dourmashkin pointed to Gradescope, a commonly used grading software at MIT that was acquired by Turnitin in 2018.

Several years ago, MIT “added language to central Procurement’s vendor and independent contractor forms to protect any disclosure of information” to “ensure that third party developers have appropriate safeguards in place and adhere to Section 11 of the MIT Policies and Procedures and with any applicable federal and state law,” Vice Chancellor Ian Waitz wrote in a statement emailed to *The Tech*.

However, Vice President and General Counsel Mark DiVincenzo wrote in an email to *The Tech*, this only applies when MIT engages “at an institutional level” with vendors. “There is no required approval process for class administrators when choosing third-party learning systems.”

Furthermore, the Office of Open Learning only supports in-house systems like the Residential MITx platform and has “no role in deal-

ing with third party platforms like Piazza,” wrote Krishna Rajagopal, dean of digital learning, and Sheryl Barnes, director of digital learning in residential education, in a statement emailed to *The Tech*.

In 2014, Piazza announced its new corporate recruiting service based on selling student data, Piazza Careers. In 2016, a blog post on educational publication site e-Literate noted that although Piazza claimed that the Piazza Careers was opt-in, the sign-up page to Piazza included a pre-checked box for signing up for the program. Companies could then see student profile information and their performance in courses.

Additionally, several universities, including UC Berkeley, UC Davis, and the University of Toronto, voiced their concerns.

Piazza responded by stating that they “made a mistake by not engaging and responding to a way befitting of the trust placed in us” and reiterated that Piazza Q&A is FERPA compliant. Piazza also entered formal agreements with several universities.

MIT does not have a contract with Piazza, DiVincenzo wrote. DiVincenzo also wrote that the Office of the General Counsel is “not aware of any recent complaints regarding third-party learning providers.”

Piazza’s current privacy policy states that it collects a variety of data, including account registration information, course information such as announcements and syllabi, user profile information, posts and messages, user service requests, IP addresses, general location information, clicks, and internet service provider.

Piazza uses this data for notifications, user communication, and service provision. Piazza also anonymizes and aggregates such data for research and marketing purposes. Additionally, Piazza states that in the case of a business transfer, it may disclose information to another company.

Hartz said that he had been thinking for years about the student

privacy issue, but until now had not had the time to set up a new system where students would only have to share data with the instructors. He selected Discourse because he was familiar with the platform, understood that it had the necessary features, and knew that it was relatively easy to set up. After speaking with fellow 6.009 instructors, Hartz set up Discourse on an MIT server.

In addition to addressing privacy concerns, Discourse can be easily modified, making it possible to integrate CAT-SOOP in the future, Hartz said. CAT-SOOP is a “programmable learning management system” originally developed for 6.01(Introduction to EECS via Robotics) and used by many Course 6 classes.

Hartz also appreciates the more forum-like user experience of the new system, as it promotes more discussion and problem guidance, rather than simply providing answers. Lastly, Discourse allows Hartz more control over who can see certain posts. With Piazza, classes could differentiate between instructors and students; with Discourse, Hartz can distinguish between instructors, LAs, and students, such that some private notes will only be seen by instructors.

Tomasik wrote that privacy came to instructors’ attention around 2017, and instructors talked with a few vendors for discussion platforms “before deciding that the safest way to protect student data was to just use the MITx in-house one.”

Dourmashkin said that he recognized that MITx, compared to a private company, is much slower at adding features, and the discussion software is much less sophisticated than Piazza’s.

Dourmashkin said it was beneficial that moving discussions from Piazza to MITx reduced the number of websites that students needed to access for the class, as students must already use both Stellar and MITx.

Ed, like Piazza, is another third party platform. 6.0001/2 instructor

Ana Bell said that “a while ago” she became aware of how “cluttered” Piazza’s student-facing user interface was, with its front page ads for job searches. Then, this semester Ed reached out to her, pitching a “Piazza-like” but more customizable platform. Harvard’s CS50 class had also used Ed with success.

Bell said that student privacy briefly arose in her choice to select Ed, as she realized from the Ed salesperson that Piazza was profiting in more ways than just showing ads. She is also an instructor in 6.009, which discussed student privacy and Piazza in instructor meetings.

Ed’s privacy policy states that it collects a variety of data, such as student posts and IP addresses, and is FERPA compliant. Ed states that it only uses such data for notifications, service maintenance and improvement, and customer service and does not sell the information to third parties. However, it states that if its business assets are acquired, user information may also be transferred to the acquiring company.

Hartz said he was originally concerned about students being less likely to ask questions, as the platform was less familiar than Piazza. In actuality, the number of weekly posts this semester has been higher than in the fall.

Emma Wang ’23 said in an interview with *The Tech* that she found the forum and Piazza to be equally functional, although the forum is prettier.

Dourmashkin said students have posted less on MITx than they did on Piazza. Tomasik wrote that 8.02 “had never promoted the discussion platform in class when we used Piazza, so we didn’t expect that when we switched we would have to do so much more promotion.”

“As a response to the poor use last semester, we are making more of an effort this semester to alert students to the existence of the discussion section and promote its use,” Tomasik wrote.

Niki Kim ’23 wrote in an email to *The Tech* that MITx questions seem mostly to be about technical aspects of MITx, such as when a submit button is broken, rather than about course content. Kim wrote that she has not posted on MITx and does not feel inclined to, as there is little activity on the discussion forum, especially compared to Piazza.

Shan Shan Huang ’22 said that she finds Ed and Piazza to be functionally the same and has no preference between the two. She said, however, that she would prefer classes to require fewer websites.

None of the students were concerned about student privacy. Huang and Wang said that they had not given much thought to the issue. Kim wrote that she is not “particularly concerned with third parties like Piazza having my student data,” as “students don’t utilize Piazza enough for them to do any harm with the information of us that they have.” In addition, Kim wrote that she believes “all the harm that can be done ... has already been done,” pointing, as an example, to the scam emails she already receives.

Hartz plans to continue using Discourse for his classes; in addition to 6.009, he has taught both 6.01 and 6.003 (Signals and Systems). While he plans to continue discussing student privacy concerns and alternatives to Piazza with other instructors, he said he does not plan to be an “evangelist” for Discourse.

Bell plans to try Ed for the EdX version of 6.0001/2. She hopes that it will be better, “especially for community TAs,” students in the EdX class who elect to help fellow students, “since they have many issues with EdX forums as they are now.” She pointed out that private posts are not allowed in the EdX forums, which makes it difficult for community TAs to debug, as students cannot paste their code into questions without all students seeing their code.

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Fifth Week Flag

Solution, page 3

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

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.

Super Tuesday

Solution, page 3

12x		21+		60x	
	5x			4	
120x			16x		
	3x			1-	
	14+			6x	
6x		4		1-	

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.

Beat It by Brad Wilber

Solution, page 3

ACROSS

- 1 "Fool's Day" mo.
4 Make a sound of shock
8 Untidy person
12 Hawaiian dances
14 Latch ___ (grasp)
15 How take-out orders are placed
16 Grouchy one
17 When trains are due: Abbr.
18 Coin in Spain or Italy
19 Shaken instrument that jingles
21 Adam and Eve's paradise
22 Utensil for oatmeal
23 Political thinker Marx
25 ___-in-the-blank
28 Opposite aspects of an issue
31 Try to persuade
35 Either baseball game squad
37 Purple jelly flavor
39 Overly skinny
40 Doctor's "Open wide" request
42 Finds a purpose for

- 43 Witch's hex
45 Local sandwich shop
46 Prescriptions, for short
47 Plunge suddenly, as a hawk
49 Payment to a landlord
51 Walk wearily
53 Distance below the surface
57 Session in the tub
60 Orchestra section for 19
Across, plus 8 and 34
Down
64 Sandwich cookie brand
65 Urgent request
66 Florida city near St. Pete
67 Low in fat, as meat
68 ___ so (nevertheless)
69 Take a snooze
70 Taunter's challenge
71 Nimble-fingered
72 Title for some wives

DOWN

- 1 Mysterious glows
2 Well-padded, as a turkey
3 Stallone's commando character

- 4 "Attendee" suffix for movie
5 Prefix for freeze
6 Offended the nose
7 Pretend to be
8 Metal calypso instrument
9 Noisy
10 Fairy tale villain
11 Unexpected benefit
12 Mtn.'s elevation
13 Good-natured parody
20 ___ of measure (miles and hours)
24 Oil-drilling structure
26 Act as a guide
27 Birthday cake's horizontal part
29 Ill-at-___ (nervous)
30 Went very fast
31 Network with an eye logo
32 "How clumsy of me!"
33 From square one
34 Marching-band instrument hit with small mallets
36 Rooster or bull
38 Double-curve letter
41 Typical pious person of India
44 Text message "Very funny"

	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			
70					71						72		

- 48 Exploded, as a bubble
50 Exams
52 Investigate in detail
54 Old Testament song
55 Oven countdown device
56 Optimistic feelings
57 Typeface like this
58 Vicinity
59 ___ apart (rip up)
61 Lagoon's coral barrier
62 Isn't able to
63 Brief snooze

miscellany #15: long weekend blues



Mxy 10/15/19

Daylight Savings

Solution, page 3

17+				22+				7
15x			1-	84x		144x		
26+				5-			112x	
	224x		1-		35x			1-
		21x		216x		4÷		
5-	2		10+		1	22+		6
	3÷			40x		3		5x
8		60x		1-	63x		4	
63x					21+			

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.

Blursed Riddles #2

What is like pizza but gives you intellectual sustenance?

Piazza



[1199] Silence



All music is just performances of 4'33" in studios where another band happened to be playing at the time.

Engineers defeat Babson College 78–72 in semifinal but lose to Smith College in final

MIT Women's Basketball played the semifinal and final of the NEWMAC Championship over the past week. The team successfully defeated Babson College 78-72 in the semifinal, played at the Staake Gymnasium in Babson Park on Friday, Feb. 28, advancing to the final. The final was played Sunday, March 1 at the Ainsworth Gymnasium in Northampton against Smith College. The final featured a 70-56 defeat for MIT. Over the two games, Christina Antonakakis '22 and Jocelyn Luizzi '21 displayed excellent performances.

The game against Babson College began with MIT in the driver's seat as they started the game with a 15-4 run and ended the first quarter with a 22-12 lead. In the second quarter, MIT kept up their defensive walls and maintained their lead, ending the first half with a score of 38-31.

The Beavers featured a comeback in the third quarter, which they began with an 18-6 run,

claiming a 49-44 lead with 4:15 remaining in the third quarter. The Engineers did not fall back, thanks to a three-pointer by Annika Sougstad '22 and a back-and-forth scoring spree, bringing MIT to a 56-55 lead by the end of the quarter.

The same competitive back-and-forth scoring continued between the two teams in the fourth quarter, with five ties and four lead changes. Towards the end of the quarter, the Engineers eventually sparked a 6 point scoring spree to get them a 72-68 lead with 1:04 remaining. Babson College attempted a comeback in the final minute, but excellent free throw shooting under pressure by Antonakakis, who shot 6-6 free throws, sealed the win for MIT. Antonakakis was the best performer for the Engineers, as she tied the program record for points by scoring a stellar 33 points. Winning this game, MIT Women's Basketball reached the NEWMAC finals for the third consecutive year.

The match against Smith College started on the wrong foot

for MIT as the Pioneers began the game with eight unanswered points. Their momentum continued as they began a scoring spree to end the quarter with a 21-4 lead. MIT tried to cut the deficit in the second quarter, but could only reduce the lead to 14 points to end the quarter at 34-20. MIT continued to chip away in the third quarter, putting together an 11-3 run, credit to a six-point rally by Kylie Gallagher '21 to end the quarter at 47-38. Smith brought back its first quarter momentum to the fourth quarter as they embarked on a 6-1 run to start the final frame. With 6:15 to play, MIT tried to spark another comeback with two consecutive three-pointers within a minute. Despite these, MIT could not get back into the game as the Pioneers responded with an 8-3 run to get back to double digits. Smith College kept this double-digit lead to end the match at 70-56. Luizzi, with her 16 points and career high fifteen rebounds, was the best performer for Engineers.

This game ended an excellent season for MIT as they were declared NEWMAC runners-up.



ROBERT KRAWITZ

MIT Women's Basketball player Christina Antonakakis '22 dribbles around a defender in Sunday's NEWMAC Championship game against Smith College.

Men's Volleyball
vs. SUNY New Paltz
Friday, March 6
7:00 p.m.

Rifle
MAC Championship
Saturday, March 7
1:00 p.m.

Men's Volleyball
vs. Bard
Saturday, March 7
12:00 p.m.

Men's Tennis
vs. Colby
Saturday, March 7
1:00 p.m.

Men's Volleyball
vs. Milwaukee School of
Engineering
Saturday, March 7
2:00 p.m.

Rifle
MAC Championship
Sunday, March 8
9:30 a.m.

Men's Lacrosse
vs. Curry
Tuesday, March 10
2:00 p.m.

Women's Lacrosse
vs. Endicott
Wednesday, March 11
4:00 p.m.

- **Women's Basketball (15-12)** competed in the NEW-MAC Tournament, earning a 67-53 win against Wellesley College in the first round and a 78-72 win against Babson College in the semifinal before falling to Smith College in a 70-56 championship game Sunday.

- **Men's Volleyball (15-3)** earned five wins this week, defeating Lasell University twice in 3-0 matches, along with Vassar College (3-2), Sage Colleges (3-1), and Rivier University (3-1).

- **Women's Lacrosse (1-2)** opened their season last Wednesday with a loss against Roger Williams University, but earned a 17-12 win against Johnson &

Wales University Saturday. On Wednesday, their game against Tufts University ended in a 19-9 loss.

- **Men's Lacrosse (2-1)** claimed a 15-5 victory in their season opener against Lasell University last Wednesday. They lost against Rensselaer Polytechnic University in a 14-6 game and fought for a double overtime 8-7 victory against UMass Dartmouth Wednesday.

- **Women's Tennis (3-2)** traveled to Kentucky this week for the ITA Division III National Women's Team Indoor Championship, losing 7-2 to Pomona-Pitzer in the opener, winning 9-0 against Brandeis University on day two, and losing 5-1 to University of Chicago Sunday.

- **Men's Tennis (2-1)** won against Holy Cross with a final score of 5-2 in their match last wednesday. This Wednesday, they claimed victory over Colby-Sawyer College in a 9-0 match.

- **Sailing** opened their spring season with two invitationals Sunday, placing fifth at the Women's Team Race Regatta at Boston University and sixth at Brown University's Sharpe Trophy.

- **Squash** faced three losses this week, with a close 5-4 match against Dartmouth College on Friday, a 6-3 loss against Franklin and Marshall on Saturday, and a 6-3 loss against George Washington University Sunday.

- **Women's Track and Field** traveled to Vermont for the New England Division

III Indoor Championship, defeating three nationally-ranked programs with three event wins for an overall second place finish.

- **Men's Track and Field** competed in the New England Division III Indoor Championship this weekend, claiming overall victory with seven event wins.

- **Women's Swimming and Diving (8-2)** divers Blake Zhou '20 and Deborah Wen '21 competed in the NCAA Division III Diving Regionals this weekend, earning top-four finishes on the 3-meter board the final day.

- **Men's Swimming and Diving (9-1)** diver Jay Lang '22 earned the runner-up position in the 1-meter board in the NCAA Division III Diving Regionals this weekend.



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