



KATE LU—THE TECH

Graduates of the Class of 2022 and alumni from the Classes of 1970, 1971, and 1971 attended the OneMIT ceremony May 27.

MIT commencement weekend celebrates achievements of the Class of 2020, 2021, and 2022

Okonjo-Iweala reminds graduates of the importance of education, science, policy, and problem-solving

By Srinidhi Narayanan
NEWS EDITOR

Commencement ceremonies for the Classes of 2022, 2021, and 2020 took place Friday, May 27 and Saturday, May 28. The proceedings differed from past years, with all graduates attending a 90-minute OneMIT ceremony on Killian Court, after which Class of 2022 undergraduates received their diplomas on Briggs Field; the Classes of 2021 and 2020 received congratulatory scrolls in recognition of completed Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral degrees in a special ceremony held May 28.

The Class of 2022 Commencement ceremony celebrated 1,099

undergraduate and 2,590 graduate students' receiving their diplomas.

The OneMIT ceremony began with words from Institute Chaplain Thea Keith-Lucas, as well as a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims of the Uvalde school shooting. Keith-Lucas was followed by a rendition of the national anthem by the Chorallaries of MIT.

Next, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala MCP '78, PhD '81, director of the World Trade Organization — first woman and African to do so — and former head of the World Bank, addressed the graduates as their commencement speaker.

Okonjo-Iweala opened her speech with a salute to President L. Rafael Reif, noting that this would be

his last commencement as president; she pointed to a number of former MIT professors and staff, now in senior positions at other institutions, as a testament to Reif's contributions.

Okonjo-Iweala discussed her own educational journey, recalling that MIT had been extremely supportive of international students like herself, that the International Students' Office promised to help her find the means to pay tuition, and that "not every Cambridge-based institution was as welcoming at the time." She connected the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic to a three-year disruption in her schooling during the civil war in Nigeria,

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Construction at Met Warehouse scheduled to commence in June

Building to house School of Architecture and Planning, new design Academy

By Srinidhi Narayanan
NEWS EDITOR

Construction activities are scheduled to begin for the redevelopment of the Metropolitan (Met) Warehouse (Building W41) in June.

The revamped Warehouse is intended to serve as a home for the School of Architecture and Planning (SA+P), and will house "classrooms, design studios, research spaces, faculty offices, and areas for meetings and collaborative activities" according to Laurie Verner, Communications Coordinator for the MIT Department of Facilities.

The space will also contain the new MIT Morningside Academy for Design — supported by a \$100 million founding gift — and "create a location for the largest commu-

nity-wide maker space on campus managed by Project Manus." The projected completion time for the project is Summer 2025.

The Met Warehouse was originally constructed in 1895, and is listed on the State Register of Historic Places; it has been determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, according to the website detailing the project. The building is visible from Vassar street, and is an iconic feature of the Central square area.

The renovation of the Warehouse will "endeavor to preserve the building's historic character while leveraging and valorizing its existing spaces and infrastructure to serve the needs of current and

Met Warehouse, Page 2

IN SHORT

The **summer registration deadline** is June 10.

The **penalty-free cancellation deadline for Fall 2022 on-campus housing assignments** is June 15 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

The **deadline to initiate fall pre-registration** and to select fall CI-H/HW subjects for continuing students is June 16.

Juneteenth, an Institute holiday, will be observed June 20.

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MIT to restrict PCR testing to community members experiencing COVID symptoms, effective July 1

Effective July 1, MIT will no longer offer PCR testing to community members who are not experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, according to a COVID-19 update email sent to the MIT community June 7.

Additionally, beginning June 17, MIT will no longer offer observed PCR testing at the MIT Medical Trailer.

Vice President for Human Resources Ramona Allen, Provost Cynthia Barnhart PhD '88, Vice Chancellor and Dean for Student

Life Suzy Nelson, Chancellor Melissa Nobles, Executive Vice President and Treasurer Glen Shor, MIT Medical Director Cecilia Stuopis '90, Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate and Graduate Education Ian Waitz, and Vice President for Research Maria Zuber wrote in the email that MIT would no longer be offering these tests to any community members because community members can now receive at-home rapid antigen tests at pharmacies, from the federal government, and

through MIT insurance plans.

After July 1, community members who do experience COVID-19 symptoms must attest and report their symptoms on COVID Pass in order to be able to scan a self-testing kit. These kits will be available for pick-up and drop-off at MIT Medical.

The email writes that a new test kit will be required, "as MIT's current test kits will no longer be accepted as of July 1."

Initially, MIT community members were required to sub-

mit two tests weekly in order to access campus. This requirement was relaxed to once-a-week testing Feb. 21 and completely removed March 14, though optional testing was made available to all community members prior to July 1.

The email adds that MIT will continue to monitor the pandemic and adjust policies "in accordance with our understanding of the science and the Institute's operational needs."

—Kristina Chen

WEATHER

Summer storms thunder through

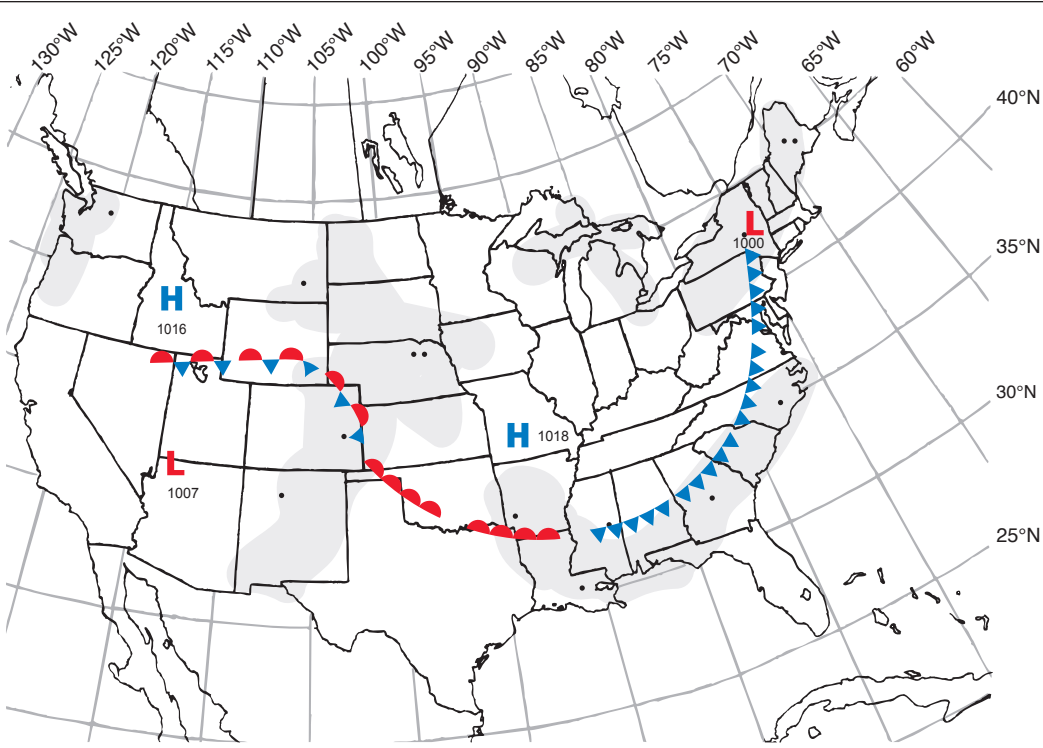
By Phoebe Lin
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

As Florida recovers from Tropical Storm Alex, Boston is bracing for some heavy rain to wrap up the week. Up to an inch or two on Thursday is expected, complete with a possibility of thunderstorms and higher dewpoints. Summer storm weather is here! If your lawn has been looking a little dry

lately, fear not, for moisture is making its way towards the East. Elsewhere, warmer temperatures are hitting much of the northwest without much moisture, as California and much of the West and South are expecting triple-digit temperatures next week to worsen drought conditions. Wherever you are, please stay safe, cool, and hydrated!

Extended Forecast

Today: Heavy rain, with chance thunderstorms. High around 75°F (24°C). East winds around 7–12 mph.
Tonight: Mostly clear. Low around 57°F (14°C). West winds 7–12 mph.
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny. High around 79°F (26°C) and low around 55°F (13°C). West winds around 12–17 mph.
Saturday: Chance showers. High around 74°F (23°C) and low around 56°F (13°C). South winds 10–12 mph.
Sunday: Partly cloudy. High around 71°F (22°C) and low around 59°F (15°C). Southeast winds 5–10 mph.



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, June 9, 2022

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	T Trough	Snow: * Rain: ∇	Fog: ☁
L Low Pressure	Warm Front: red line with semicircles	Light: * Moderate: ** Heavy: ***	Thunderstorm: ⚡
§ Hurricane	Cold Front: blue line with triangles		Haze: ☁
	Stationary Front: alternating red and blue lines		

Special ceremony for Classes of 2020, 2021 featured Poet Laureate Kealoha

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and emphasized that “education is a privilege, and with that privilege comes responsibility — the responsibility to use it for others, not just for yourself.” She then spoke about combining science, social science, and public policy to meet the challenges of our future, pointing out that too often, solutions in one of these realms fail to address the others. “When we look at the COVID-19 response, we see we had good science, but not so good politics and public policy,” she said. She noted that “at the national and international levels, we hadn’t made the necessary health system investments, nor had we put in place the governance arrangements and early warning systems needed to identify

and contain potentially dangerous new pathogens. In other words, policy-wise, pandemic preparedness was on a global level totally missing,” though a vaccine was developed quickly. She quoted the WHO Director General, describing rich countries’ collecting the vaccine supply en masse, while the rest of the world “scrambled for scraps,” and pointed out that “as with live-saving HIV/AIDS drugs 20 years ago, people in poor countries, especially in Africa, found themselves at the back of the queue for COVID-19 vaccines.” She said that “since we all know no one is safe until everyone is safe, the risk of more dangerous variants and pathogens remains real because of this public policy lapse and the lack of timely international cooperation.” She then gave some examples of

her own leadership, stating that her training at MIT gave her “the framework needed to pursue the career path” she followed in international development. She spoke about working in agriculture, bringing improved seeds and new technology to farmers in Africa and the Middle East to improve their incomes and household welfare “at a pace they could not have imagined possible.” She also discussed implementing budgetary policy that put mobile phones in the hands of two million women farmers so that they may directly receive government vouchers, empowering them to improve agricultural yield. She explained that “the problem solving approach I’ve taken in my career, my quest to bridge gaps between science, innovation, and public policy, to take a bit of risk, to

try new approaches has paid off in a rewarding career whose satisfaction is the ability to serve others.” She concluded with words from Nelson Mandela, telling the graduates that “you have made what seemed impossible, possible. Embrace the opportunities to serve.” Following Okonjo-Iweala’s speech, Adam Joseph Miller G, president of the Graduate Student Council, and Temiloluwa Omitogun ’22, president of the Class of 2022, addressed the audience. Reif then delivered the traditional charge to the graduates, and asked the graduates, as he has at previous commencements, to hack the world — until you make the world a little more like MIT.” The OneMIT ceremony concluded with a performance of “Arise All Ye of MIT,” the school song, led

by the Chorallaries. The undergraduate degree conferral on Briggs Field followed; it began with an address by Chancellor Melissa Nobles, which was followed by a performance by physics and mathematics major Quinn Brodsky ’22. Brodsky made history in 2018 as the first female member of the (previously all-male) MIT Logarithms acapella group. The Class of 2022 undergraduates then received their diplomas. A special ceremony for the Classes of 2021 and 2020 was held the following day on Killian Court, and included an address by Reif, speeches by presidents of the classes of 2020 and 2021, a speech by Kealoha ’99 — the first Poet Laureate from Hawaii — and congratulatory scroll conferral on all graduates from 2020 and 2021.

Morningside Academy for Design to ‘engage with broader community’

Met Warehouse, from Page 1

future programming,” according to the website. The building will feature new floor platforms to provide high-bay program space and allow natural light to penetrate core building areas. A recurrent theme in the renovations is the “strategic integration of old and new.” The Morningside Academy for Design, first announced by President L. Rafael Reif in March, was established through a gift from the philanthropic arm of the T.H. Chan family. It aims to administer academic research programs

across MIT, particularly between SA+P and the School of Engineering. The academy will “strengthen MIT’s ongoing efforts to tackle pressing issues of global importance, such as climate adaptation, public health, transportation, and civic engagement,” according to MIT News.

Given its broad-ranging goals, the Morningside Academy will include funding for graduate and postdoctoral fellowships, faculty chairs, opportunities for undergraduate students, and new awards for entrepreneurship competitions. The academy will also aim to engage with a broader community, offering an array of public events like symposia, lectures, and exhibitions. Details about the construction of the Warehouse can be found on the Capital Projects website, which features plan details, maps, and periodic news and video updates of progress.

Solution to Summer
from page 8

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Solution to Break
from page 8

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Solution to Rest Assured
from page 8

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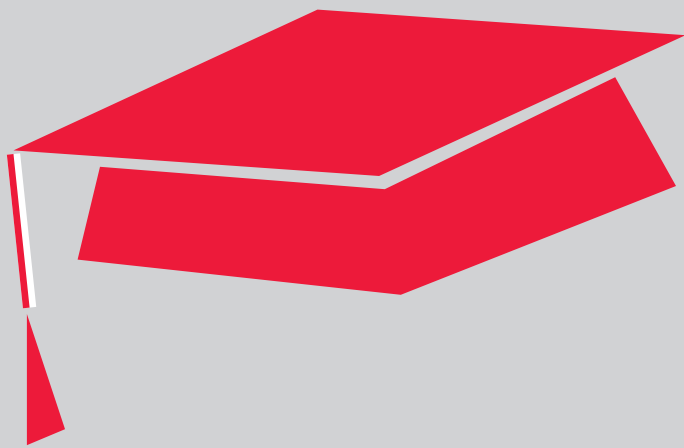
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KATE LU—THE TECH
OneMIT Commencement Ceremony takes place Friday 27th May 2022. 50th, 51st, and 52nd reunion classes march in a procession.



KATE LU—THE TECH
Guest speaker **Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala** MCP '78 PhD '81 delivers her commencement speech.



MIT Commencement Ceremony 2022

OneMIT Commencement Ceremony takes place morning of Friday 27th May 2022. The event—comprising speeches, turning of the Brass Rat, and singing of the School Song—was for graduates of all degree programs in all Schools and the College. MIT welcomed Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala MCP '78 PhD '81, Director-General of the World Trade Organization, as the guest speaker.



KATE LU—THE TECH
Commencement 2022 Undergraduate Ceremony takes place afternoon of Friday 27th May 2022. Names of all graduates receiving a Bachelor's degree were read and graduates crossed the stage at this ceremony.



Expanding our horizons through nuclear energy and space exploration

Technologically, we already have the resources and ability to colonize space

I'm an MIT AeroAstro student, and I look at the sky daily. This is relaxing, bringing optimism and motivation: I know that I can predict various phenomena in the universe and put the forces of nature to humanity's use, to the best of my ability. I like to observe the physical interactions in our surrounding environment, because careful consideration of the processes within it allows one to clearly foresee world states and trajectories and make higher-value decisions in most situations.

Our world has many interesting and observable patterns and tendencies. Among them I consider the evolution of life-forms and their habitats to be of paramount importance, especially in the context of global warming. One essential aspect that apparently eludes the reasoning of many is the physical space that the biosphere exists in: this is the main constraint dictating the resources available for life to persist, evolve, and expand, of which matter composition, thermodynamic conditions, and energy fluctuations are the most important.

When addressing global warming, in recent years, many decision-makers have tended to focus only on “bandaging the Earth.” While the development of new technologies that would allow us to pollute less is definitely economically feasible and beneficial for the planet, instead, politicians often support anti-industrial social movements, allowing these movements to gain momentum and popularity. Think of the anti-nuclear energy movement in Germany, or movements to reduce industrial production or extractive industry activity in the U.S. (hurting businesses and workers). Think of public opinion on space exploration and colonization, that they are too expensive and too far in the realm of “science fiction” to be even remotely feasible. These are naive perspectives not supported by scientific fact and are usually promoted by those with a narrow vision of the world.

Obviously I consider the idea of reducing our industrial activities overall without starting new ones to be absurd. Considering economical aspects, even social tension phenomena would be generated through taking uncalculated decisions. From my perspective, the global development of fission and fusion plants in addition to research in the field of nuclear energy are essential to our sustainable evolution as a highly technological civilization. High energy levels and rates are requirements for traveling throughout the solar system, processing matter, and ultimately either terraforming celestial objects or creating purely antropic environments (artificial bodies).

These energy levels and rates are attainable with the strong nuclear force.

At the level of the social conscience, by following lines of thought without making use of reason, we are physically limiting not only our horizons, but that of other living beings. We also have to take care of a biosphere often neglected by most members of the human species. The reality is that we are the highest on the trophic chain and have the most developed conscience. Science gathers knowledge much faster than humanity gains wisdom.

Polluting an entire planet, causing a mass extinction, and not taking serious action towards finding a new home in space don't seem reasonable. Actions are being taken in many highly developed countries to protect the planet through technological modernization of industry. However, in order to maintain an equilibrium between the development of our different fields of knowledge as a species, we must also take action in other scientific fields including, but not limited to, space exploration, human habitat extension onto the moon and Mars, and genetic engineering for accelerated evolution and disease prevention.

Moreover, without guidance at a high level of society, there is plenty of room after the pandemic for the youth to find escape through libertinage, hedonism, political violence, and many other things. Values in each nation are projected by prominent individuals, so when the dominant classes are not setting reasonable ideals for society, the social organism may end up evolving slowly, chaotically, or even backwards.

If you are a true leader, you must provide a sense of purpose and meaning to others. Otherwise, you are just a demagogue using cheap rhetoric and immoral acts for the purpose of maintaining your position of power.

I prefer societal lines of evolution in which we are looking at and reaching for the sky with the purpose of expanding our habitat and that of Earth's biosphere while understanding what in the past would have been deemed "secrets of the universe." This idea is well-documented at a hypothetical level in science fiction books such as those by Issac Asimov or Frank Herbert.

Wasn't it always our dream to fly? If you look into the past, the gods from our mythologies were navigating the seas of the skies and heavens. Whether you're religious or atheist, looking at the sun, moon, stars, and beyond gives you a sense of power and intimacy with nature itself. This was felt even by our prehistoric ancestors who used the sun's position relative to stars to calculate agricultural cycles. We should especially feel this intimacy today as humans prepare to occupy the near solar system. Only

nations capable of highly organized and scientifically founded planning of their collective efforts will be true leaders at global level: they will become the most influential at the interplanetary level, silently leaving others somewhere behind in history.

Preparation for space exploration is motivating for some individuals, including myself. We are lucky: technologically, we already have the resources and ability to colonize space. We have the technology to transport materials for colonies on the moon and to bring equipment to Mars for a self-sustaining city, with enough people eager to be pioneers and explore these new frontiers. We have the materials, the software and hardware. It is mostly a lack of will that separates us from the vision described by Elon Musk as comparable to the fleet of one thousand ships sent to the shores of Ilium, under the leadership of Agamemnon. If no action is taken to fix the lack of willpower, especially from political leaders, we will likely enter a stagnant phase in our evolution as a civilization. Insufficient resources on an overpopulated planet will lead to economic tension and conflicts.

We are not confined to a single planet. We are the generation of the space age, and we have great chances to make life multiplanetary.

What I and others ask our leaders to do is to support high-caliber projects that will mobilize all of humanity in a collaborative effort. We think of individuals like President John F. Kennedy, who started the most demanding space program on the planet and said clearly that we “choose to go to the Moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard, because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one which we intend to win, and the others, too.” Sadly enough, these visionary leaders often have fates similar to that of Prometheus. Regardless, we must look into the future with hope and be determined in using our strength to win.

We already have gifted people across the planet willing to help scatter humanity across the universe, we have much of the technology developed, and we definitely have the economic basis to support this endeavor. It will be just a matter of ratios of various means and forces across the planet whether we achieve a higher level of social conscience and global collaboration. Knowledge and reason are the foundation of our strength.

Codrin Paul Oneci '21 is a first-year Master of Science student in AeroAstro.

In an arts article in the May 26 issue of *The Tech*, a musical piece titled “Lost and Found” was mistakenly attributed to Sean Jones; the actual composer of the piece is Braxton Cook.

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Abundant resources exist but are underutilized

My big regret

By Vivian Hir
STAFF WRITER

It was Thursday, two weeks before the end of the semester, and I had barely made any progress on my 18.03 (Differential Equations) problem set that was due Friday night. For the past few months or so, my approach had been to attend all the 18.03 office hours on Friday afternoon. Even though completing a problem set the day it's due is not ideal, this method had worked for me so far. This week, however, was a different case.

As a member of Next Sing, I had a rehearsal and concert that took up a large portion of the Friday afternoon. Going to Friday office hours was no longer an option. I don't remember exactly what my train of thought was at the time, but it was probably desperation that drove me to go to the Math Learning Center (MLC) for the first time. The timing was just right: Thursday from 7:30–9:30 p.m.

What I expected was very different from reality. I imagined the MLC would resemble what I typically saw in 18.03 office hours: a busy room with students scribbling anything written on the board while not understanding what was happening. Instead, besides two undergraduate tutors, no one else was in the room.

The sight made me wonder how much better my life would have been if I had been devoting my Monday and Thursday nights to MLC tutoring sessions. In hindsight, if I have one regret from this spring semester, it would be not taking advantage of the academic resources that MIT offered sooner.

At the MLC, I had a brief conversation with one of the tutors. I asked him whether the session I came to was unusual in regards to attendance. To my surprise, he said that what I saw was normal. "It's nice; I get paid for two hours while I get to work on my assignments," he joked. I then mentioned that I had expected a lot more students at this session, considering that Course 18 classes can be challenging. "I didn't know the MLC existed until I was trying to find a

part-time job,” he responded. Hearing this was disturbing and made me realize that a large number of students aren’t aware of the academic resources offered at MIT. Either that, or they know these resources exist, but they don’t *use* them.

Although I have heard mixed things about the MLC from my peers, I found the first session to be helpful. I did not get as much direct help the second time I went, but I had the opportunity to ask more questions that further solidified my conceptual understanding, and the hints I got from the tutor were sufficient for me to make a good attempt at the problem.

The tutoring sessions at the MLC were different from my experience in office hours. There is the possibility that there just happen to be more students at the office hours I went to given that they are closer to the deadline. But still, at the MLC I got to learn at a pace that was tailored to me. I wasn't done with my pset after the tutoring session, but I was able to make substantial progress in the two hours I was there.

As I walked back to New House, I had many swirling thoughts. I was glad that my work during the MLC session was much more efficient than haphazardly attempting to solve the problem set alone in my dorm room. The classroom's quiet environment was enough for me to get motivated and start on the assignment. But anger started to build up inside of me. Why did I spend a large portion of the semester resigning myself to the false assumption that I had to struggle through 18.03 alone? I didn't need to do this to myself when there were people passionate about helping individuals like me.

I knew that dwelling on what I could have done in the past was fruitless, but I couldn't stop my mind from veering in that direction. When I scrolled down on the 18.03 Canvas homepage, I was surprised to find a description of the MLC. It had been there the whole time, yet my eyes had somehow always slid past that paragraph. I was rubbing salt into the wound. While

processing the mistake I made this semester, a dark thought entered my mind. Had I also made this mistake in the fall without knowing about it?

I later decided to read more about TSR² (Talented Scholars Resource Room), another resource mentioned on the 18.03 Canvas homepage. As I read about TSR², I wasn't expecting to find pset nights for so many classes beyond GIRs, for classes like 7.03, 5.07, 5.13, etc. Learning about this made my heart sink even further. Even though the main focus of TSR² is GIRs, attending a problem set night couldn't hurt.

Eventually I stopped dwelling on things I couldn't change and decided to think about what I could do differently in the future. I knew that my courses will only get harder in the upcoming semesters. I realized that I *wanted* to change my existing approach to learning, as it is not sustainable. Some of these changes require having better time management and taking more initiative to learn the content independently. Another important change is being more resourceful and knowing that it is okay to ask for help.

On a greater scale, I thought about how other academic resources like the Writing and Communication Center (WCC) are not well-known. Although the classes MIT students worry most about are their technical ones with difficult problem sets and midterms, complaints of writing a difficult paper for a HASS class are common. I wanted to tell them that writing a paper didn't have to be that painful. I wondered whether they had ever considered arranging one-on-one appointments with writing consultants in the WCC, something that I am glad I did last semester for my memoir class.

I know I am not the only one who feels this way. The frustrations I have of being unaware of MIT's resources are shared by many of my peers. In the filming for *It's Intuitively Obvious*, a video series about underrepresented groups at MIT, I discussed this frustration with people in my group. They agreed with me, saying that a lot of academic help they get isn't from MIT's

formal resources, but rather from their peers. That is not to say that peer collaboration is lesser. I am glad that MIT fosters this environment when it comes to working on problem sets or projects, and I have benefitted from this in some classes. The issue is when students think that they can only depend on each other when other resources exist.

It isn't just academic resources at MIT that are underutilized. There are numerous non-academic resources people don't know about that we'll lose access to once we graduate. Whether it is the Boston Symphony Orchestra college card (\$5 for the entire season!) or discounted tickets to the Boston Ballet, the opportunities here are plentiful.

When we leave this institution, the response to the question of “What is your biggest regret?” will vary from person to person. One common regret I hear among seniors and alumni is not taking advantage of the resources offered at MIT, from its proximity to Boston to its strong UROP program. I did some online searching and found similar responses of “not making the best of MIT’s resources” on Quora and Reddit.

I know that I have expressed similar sentiments in a previous article, but I would like to reiterate them in this one. When the academic grind starts taking a toll on our mental health midway through the semester, sometimes we forget that we have the privilege of attending one of the best universities in the world. Yes, MIT can be hell, but it can also be a paradise. We are surrounded by world-renowned researchers in science and engineering. We only get one chance to experience college as an undergraduate, and I plan to make the most of it. I want to listen to a famous scientist at a seminar talk passionately about their research. Take free sailing lessons along the Charles River. Participate in the Global Teaching Lab and explore a new country. Through these small actions, I hope that my undergraduate years will ultimately be more colorful and vibrant.

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Break

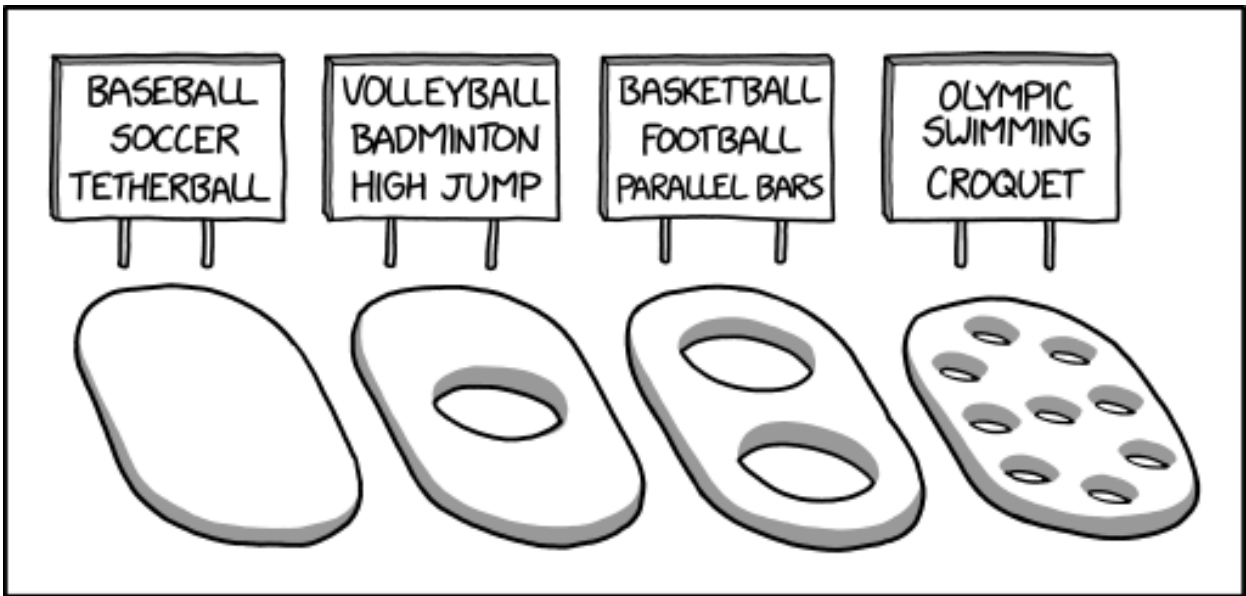
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30x	72x			4	
		2		4-	

Rest Assured by Fred Piscop

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			

[2625] Field Topology



The combination croquet set/10-lane pool can also be used for some varieties of foosball and Skee-Ball.