

# MIT Parents News

A publication of the MIT Parents Association

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## Experience Required

A new trend is visible in the business section of many recent publications. A number of articles state that, while students with no experience are welcome to apply for entry-level jobs, when competition is fierce—and it usually is—a full resume wins out.

*The Times* of London quoted Julia Dowd, of the Learning and Skills Council, who declared work experience “crucial in today’s competitive job market.”

The following sentiment, exclaimed by many recent graduates, appeared in the publication *24 Hours*: “You can’t find a job because you don’t have experience, and you can’t acquire experience because you don’t have a job!”

As one might expect, career coaches and advisors are echoing the importance of this new global requirement. Peter Vogt, Career Coach for MonsterTRAK, stresses that experience is not optional in his online



Above: Externship sponsor Leticia Soto-Barcenas '91 appears with Tina Ro at the Chicago Tribune, where Ro held an externship this winter. Left: Students Yin Ren and Caroline Jordan learned much from their externship at Massachusetts General Hospital.

article “The New Reality for Entry-Level Jobs,” and goes on to deliver the solution to the “old and often-cited dilemma: How do you get experience if you need experience to land a job in the first place? Answer: Through internship or co-op programs, even unpaid.” (Visit <http://content.monstertrak.monster.com/resources/archive/jobhunt/newentrylevel/> for the full article.)

[monstertrak.monster.com/resources/archive/jobhunt/newentrylevel/](http://content.monstertrak.monster.com/resources/archive/jobhunt/newentrylevel/) for the full article.)

Internships do more than pad a resume. The first internship becomes a foundation for your student’s career and the first building block for the two, three, or more

*(continued on page 2)*

## Team Effort Makes Expeditions Happen

Each year, the Public Service Center funds projects that provide the opportunity for MIT students to use their education, skills, and talents to address the needs of underserved communities around the world.

In one week, fifteen percent of current underclassmen made a donation to support Expedition Grants awarded by the Public Service Center and raised a total of \$2,290, which will fund three full expedition grants.

To find out what motivates an underclassman donor, we turned to Zsuzsa Megyery '09, a donor and volunteer for this initiative. He quoted John F. Kennedy, Jr., “To whom much is given, much is expected,” and proceeded to enlighten us with the following:

*“MIT has taught me the significant impact of...even a five dollar contribution toward public service...to habitualize giving back and appreciating the many gifts you are given.”*



For more details, visit <http://giving.mit.edu/underclassmen-campaign/index.html>.

internships to follow before graduation. If a student has a particularly positive experience with an internship, he or she may be able to continue interning with the same company and possibly secure a job offer from that company by graduation. In other situations, internships help students eliminate jobs or environments they once considered for their career.

Students can begin looking for an internship at any time. However, if an internship coincides with the academic year, it must be local for the student to continue taking classes. This makes summer one of the two best times (the other being MIT's Independent Activities Period in the winter) to explore the myriad of options available off campus.

**Oh, no.** The spring semester is half over, and sometime between working on psets (MIT slang for problem sets) and attending study sessions, securing a summer internship has slipped your student's mind. Is it too late to make arrangements? Certainly not.

### Step One: Make an Appointment

The first thing your student should do is schedule an appointment with the MIT Careers Office or take advantage of their walk-in hours: Monday through Friday 11:00 am–12:40 pm and on Wednesday evenings 5:00 pm–6:40 pm. The personalized guidance from an advisor can help students target the kind of opportunity that genuinely excites them. Before the meeting, the MIT Careers Office advisors recommend considering the following:

- Skills: Which ones should be developed during the internship? Which ones can be highlighted to get the internship?
- Industries of interest
- Geographic locations desired
- Optimal working conditions and environment

Once the advisor has determined what your student is looking to gain from an internship, he or she can also assist with drafting a resume and narrowing the scope of the search to companies whose



## On-Campus Recruiting

Over 125 different companies will be on campus recruiting MIT students for full-time positions and summer internships until April 26. To get in on the action, students can submit their resumes through [MonsterTrak.com](http://MonsterTrak.com).

requirements he or she would meet. The MIT Careers Office is like a “clearinghouse for employers,” says the assistant director of the Freshman/Alumni Summer Internship Program, Heather Bois Bruskin. There are sometimes limitations set regarding who may apply for an opportunity, she cautions. For example, some entities offering summer positions are willing to train younger students while others seek older students with more experience, and international opportunities usually have a language requirement.

**“The vast majority of jobs are secured through networking.”**

*Joel Garfinkle, an executive coach and founder of DreamJobCoaching.com*

### Step Two: Survey Your Resources

If your student has no time to stop in for an appointment, guidance from the Careers Office can be found in other locations. In the Careers Office waiting room, informative summaries and tip sheets are available to take home, including a one page tutorial on the basics of networking, the Career Development Timeline, and the Career Development Workbook for the current academic year—something *every* undergraduate should have. The Web site for the Careers Office is also a valuable tool, and many of the handouts in the office waiting room are available online: <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/>. Here, students can also view announcements for upcoming opportunities, such as the internship workshops held by the Careers Office, Freshman-Sophomore Career Week, and On-campus Recruiting. In addition, the site

lists resources to explore for opportunities both on campus and outside of MIT.

### Step Three: Network

Whether your student is working in tandem with a Careers Office advisor or on his or her own, one of the most effective ways to find an internship is through networking. This is especially true at this point in the year when a number of deadlines have already passed for existing summer offerings.

“Networking is not cheating,” Bois Bruskin reminds internship-seekers during appointments. Your student may be contacting you soon to see if you or anyone of your contacts know someone who can to provide a connection to an ideal internship. Time your student spends at home on a mini-break may be used to network with friends, relatives, and even the pharmacist, dentist or other professionals. Your student

## Parents Poll ✓

What is your student doing this summer?

- STAYING HOME
- TRAVELING
- INTERNING
- WORKING

Take less than a minute to answer this and related questions online. The results will be posted on our Web site next month and reported in the upcoming quarterly Parents e-Newsletter. Visit <http://alum.mit.edu/parents> and click on the survey link!

may also reconnect with the Educational Counselor who conducted his or her admittance interview, network online with the Institute Career Assistance Network (ICAN), and talk to members of the MIT faculty who may know of internships or be willing to take on students interested in their research.

Alternatively, your student may wish to call a company of interest and propose an internship. One option is to select a company recruiting for full-time positions on campus that has yet to consider taking on interns over the summer. Setting up an interview with a company representative should be fairly easy; the representative will frequent campus during the recruiting period.

### Step Four: Get Ready for Next Year

Those who begin their search for an internship in the fall or winter will have a greater variety of options. Additionally, students seeking international internships or who plan to study abroad should begin preparations six months to a year beforehand.

The Alumni Association's Student/Alumni Externship Program provides opportunities similar to internships and takes place during MIT's Independent Activity Period (IAP) each January. Externships give students the opportunity to explore a career and offers alumni a chance to connect with current MIT students. Externships are offered by alumni sponsors working for companies primarily in the Boston, Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Washington, DC areas and last from a week to the entire length of IAP, depending on the desires of the sponsor. Please note that student applications are accepted in October.

### What Can You Do?

Would your company be interested in offering an internship to an MIT student?

For internship information, visit <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/employers/>. Contact the Careers Office to get things rolling at 617-253-4733 or [mitco@mit.edu](mailto:mitco@mit.edu).

## Washington Parents Receive Basketball Award for Going the Extra Mile (and Over 2,000 More)



*Michael Huhs '05, a member of the MIT Men's Varsity Basketball Team from 2002–2005, accepts the award from Tish Callanan P'06, Associate Director of the MIT Parents Association, on behalf of his parents, Al and Mary Ann Huhs.*

During half time of the men's Alumni Varsity Basketball Game on February 17, 2007, the MIT Basketball Parent Appreciation Award was presented to Al and Mary Ann Huhs from Mercer Island, Washington, in recognition of their outstanding support of the team. This was part of a full day of activities, where alumni from 1959–2005 gathered to watch MIT play Clark University.

The award recipients, the Huhs, rarely missed a game during the four years that their son was on the team and flew in from the west coast to attend. Of their own initiative, they developed and maintained a parent email list and organized alumni and parent events at basketball tournaments around the country. In addition, they demonstrated their commitment to the team and to MIT by making generous gifts in support of the program.

### Campus Safety Report

- The Safety, Security, and Crime Prevention Handbook is available online: <http://web.mit.edu/cp/www/publications.htm>
- To view the MIT Police log, visit <http://web.mit.edu/cp/www/crimlog.htm>

SAFETY TIP: Students are encouraged to program 617-253-1212 into their cell phones for campus emergencies.

### Did you know

that the Parents Association sends out a quarterly e-newsletter with up-to-the-minute information on topics such as student insurance waiver deadlines, upcoming events for parents, volunteer opportunities, and Family Weekend?

If this information is new to you, we may not have your current email address in our records.

To ensure that the Parents Association is able to deliver the information you need to know when you need it, please update your information online: <http://alum.mit.edu/parents/information-update.html>.

## Get Involved: Volunteer!

The MIT Parent Connectors are our dedicated volunteers who serve as a resource for both MIT parents and parents of prospective students.

If you are interested in becoming a Parent Connector or participating in one of the upcoming events listed, please call us at 617-253-8183 or submit an interest form online: <http://alum.mit.edu/parents/connectors/npc.html>.

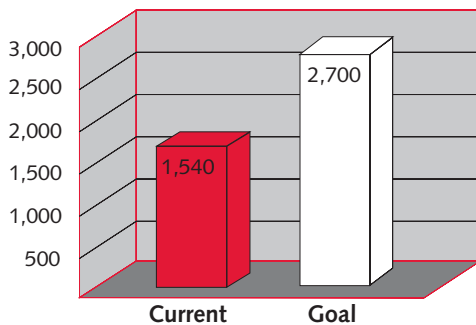
### Upcoming Events

- Campus Preview Weekend  
*April 12–15, 2007*
- Summer Send-Off Events  
*July–August 2007*
- 2011 Parent Orientation  
*August 24–27*
- 2011 Welcome Calls  
*August–September 2007*
- Family Weekend  
*October 12–14, 2007*

## The Power of Participation

The collective impact of gifts from you and fellow parents helps our students and faculty change the world. Whether finding a cure for cancer, creating new energy sources, or excelling in research, studies, and sports, your support helps our community make it all happen.

One gift can make a difference, and participating in the MIT Parents Fund is a wonderful way to designate your gift to the exact program you wish to support. Visit the giving Web site at <http://giving.mit.edu/parents> to make your contribution.



**2006–2007 MIT Parent Participation**  
*(Donors as of March 5, 2007)*

*Above: The Parents Fund is currently fifty-seven percent of the way to our goal of 2,700 donors. Make your gift today, and help put us over the top!*

## HONOR *with* BOOKS



*Ana Albir '04 and family at the HONOR with BOOKS annual reception.*

Create a lasting legacy for your student and enhance the libraries' resources by participating in HONOR *with* BOOKS.

Each \$100 donation will allow the MIT Libraries to purchase a book for their collection. A bookplate bearing the name of your student will be placed inside, and those who see it will know the book was purchased in honor of someone special, whose own quest for knowledge brought him or her to this extraordinary place.

For an online donation form, visit: <http://alum.mit.edu/parents/honor-with-books/>.

## Thank You to the 2007 Parents Fund Committee!

### Executive Committee

#### National Committee Co-Chairs:

Ellen and Bob Caplin P'07

#### Parents of Alumni Chair:

Soraya Rafat P'06

#### Class of 2008 Chair:

Laishan Lam P'08

#### Class of 2009 Co-Chairs:

Timothy and Cindy Poon P'05, '09

### 2007 Committee Members

Thomas & Nancy Abrams P'09

Winnie Chan P'08

Deborah Edelin P'07

Bill & Joy Fotsch P'08

John & Cathryn Gandolfo P'08

Shubhra & Prabhat Garg P'09

Praveen Gupta P'09

Anthony Hay P'07

Charles & Carol Herder P'09

Russell Jaffe P'07

Sophia Kao Lo P'06, '08

Drs. Urmila & Jayant Khettry P'08

Susan & Kenneth Kunkel P'09

Larry & Janie Lai P'08

John & Angela Lisy P'07

Malvindek & Parveen Makhni P'05, '07

Angela Galloway & Joe Marshall P'09

Brannock & Joanne Rudd P'08

Susan & Jeffrey Stritar P'07

Dolores A. Wakeman P'08

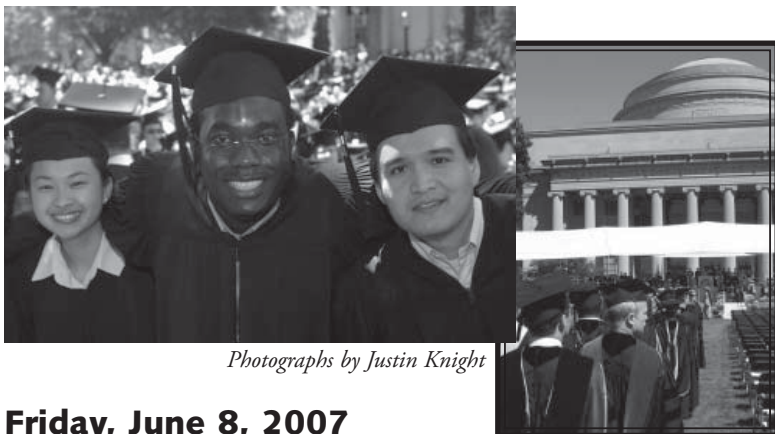
Grace Yen P'06, '09

James Yuan P'08

Dianne & Dale Zeskind '76, P'01, P'03

If you are interested in serving on the Parents Fund Committee for 2007–2008, please contact James Brogioli at 617-452-3686.

# Class of 2007



Photographs by Justin Knight

## Friday, June 8, 2007 COMMENCEMENT

Congratulations to graduating seniors and their families! Commencement is fast approaching, and the Parents Association knows you must be busy making arrangements for travel, accommodations, and post-ceremony celebrations.

With so much to do, it's easy to overlook something. To counter this, we've summarized a few key issues below. In addition, please visit our Web site for parents of seniors to access the Graduation Checklist, the official Commencement Web site, information on diploma frames, and more. <http://alum.mit.edu/parents/senior-parents.html>

### SCHEDULE & TICKETS

Killian Court will open at 7:30 am for guests to begin seating. Please note that doors will close from 9:45 am–10:15 am for the Procession. One ticket per guest is required for admission, including children three years of age and older. Each graduate is allotted four tickets.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS & REGALIA

The MIT Coop at Kendall Square offers personalized cards to announce your student's graduation and manages the rental of regalia to graduating students. Orders for regalia will be taken in April, and orders for announcements may be placed at the store in the spring. For more information, contact the MIT Coop in Kendall Square at 617-499-3200.

Do you have questions about Commencement? Please email them to [commencement2007@mit.edu](mailto:commencement2007@mit.edu), or call 617-253-4795.

Senior Week is a time for celebration. Events held June 1–7, 2007, are planned by a committee of seniors and are sponsored in part by the MIT Alumni Association. Family and guests are invited to register for events taking place on June 6–7, 2007. Student-only event tickets can also be purchased by family members as gifts for their graduating senior.

Please note: tickets purchased by seniors and by guests or family members of a senior will be sent to the senior's mailing address.

## SENIOR WEEK EVENTS

**Friday, June 1** SENIORS ONLY  
**Wine Tasting (21+)** **SOLD OUT**  
8:00 pm–10:00 pm, MIT Faculty Club

**Saturday, June 2** SENIORS ONLY  
**Dinner Train thru the Cape** **SOLD OUT**  
3:45 pm–10:30 pm (Transportation included.)

**Sunday, June 3** SENIORS ONLY  
**Movies 'Til Midnight**  
8:30 pm–12 Midnight, Kresge Lawn  
FREE

**Monday, June 4** SENIORS ONLY  
**Six Flags New England Day Trip** **SOLD OUT**  
10 am–10 pm (Transportation included.)

**Tuesday, June 5** SENIORS ONLY  
**Move-Out Cookout**  
12 Noon–2 pm, Kresge Oval  
FREE  
  
**Senior Field Day**  
2 pm–6 pm, Barry Astroturf Field  
FREE

**Wednesday, June 6**  
**Lunch Cruise on the Harbor**  
OPEN EVENT - PARENTS WELCOME  
12 Noon–2:00 pm (11:30 am boarding.)

**Downtown Faneuil Hall Pub Crawl (21+)**  
SENIORS ONLY  
Time and locations TBD.

**Thursday, June 7** OPEN EVENTS - PARENTS WELCOME  
**Boston Duck Tour**  
1:00 pm–2:30 pm (Ducks leave from MIT campus.)

**Tech Night at the Pops**  
8:00 pm–10:00 pm, Symphony Hall  
(Complimentary bus leaves campus @ 6:30 pm.)  
Join alumni for our MIT-only performance.  
**Please note:**  
Only students may purchase Tech Night tickets.  
6 ticket limit; available mid-May.  
First come, first served.

For more information and to order tickets securely online, visit <http://web.mit.edu/seniorweek>, call 617-252-1143, or email [srweek-request@mit.edu](mailto:srweek-request@mit.edu).



MIT Parents Association  
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SPRING 2007

March

26-30 Spring Vacation

April

16, 17 Patriots Day (no classes)

12-15 Campus Preview Weekend

May

17 Last Day of Classes

21-25 Final Exams

June

1-7 Senior Week

8 Commencement

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POINT OF PRIDE:

MIT Scientists  
 Make Cancer  
 Breakthrough

For the full story, visit:  
<http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2007/jacks.html>



# Family Weekend

Friday, October 12–Sunday, October 14

2007

<http://alum.mit.edu/parents/family-weekend>

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