2010 Total Solar Eclipse: 
Easter Island

Featuring MIT Lecturer Phillip Zukin
July 4-14, 2010
Join MIT on a lifetime travel experience to enigmatic Easter Island to witness a total solar eclipse on Sunday, July 11, 2010. Remarkably, the path of moon’s shadow will pass directly over this small island located 2,600 miles west of Santiago in the South Pacific Ocean. The total eclipse of the Sun is visible from within a narrow corridor that traverses Earth’s southern Hemisphere. The path of the moon’s umbral shadow will cross the South Pacific Ocean where it makes no landfall except for Mangaia (Cook Islands) and Easter Island (Isla de Pascua). The total duration of the eclipse on Easter Island will be nearly 5 minutes, which is impressive, making it very well positioned to enjoy this remarkable natural event from the island. We invite you to join MIT lecturer Phillip Zukin in experiencing one of nature’s most rare spectacles!

MIT Lecturer
Phillip Zukin is currently a fourth year graduate student at MIT, working with MIT Professor Edmund Bertschinger on a variety of topics, ranging from dark energy and deviations to general relativity to dark matter and the structure of galaxies. Phillip grew up in Los Angeles, California. He attended Caltech for undergraduate school and switched coasts for graduate school. He loves Boston but has to admit that he's still loyal to the Lakers -- he hopes that won't deter people from talking with him.

Easter Island
Triangular in shape with a volcano in each corner, Easter Island was colonized by Polynesians around 800 AD. This mysterious island has a visual impact few places in the world can equal, including pitch-dark starry skies that allow for some amazing stargazing. The island’s history is as intriguing as its natural beauty; for here is a remarkable barely-understood outdoor museum that has gripped the world’s imagination for centuries. Hundreds of moais, tight-lipped basalt statues unique in the whole of Oceania, are scattered throughout the island, some almost 33 feet in height. We will have plenty of time to fully explore the island (about 45 square miles) with your guide. Together learn about the island’s culture and traditions and the theories as to how the giant statues were built and what they represent. We’ll also gain an understanding of the Rapa Nui culture and the many theories of how they settled in this remote island and how they erected these massive moais.

Weather conditions on Easter Island can be unpredictable. Ideal weather conditions for viewing the eclipse are not guaranteed. Please refer to the NASA site for eclipse statistics: Here’s a site that shows cloud statistics for Easter Island: http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/SEmono/TSE2010/TSE2010iau/TSE2010-fig07.GIF

People who are interested in this program will need to register and place a deposit for the trip before April 1st, which is the cut-off date for our block of 20 airline seats. Final payment is due May 3, 2010 and must be paid by check. Once reservations are made, trip payments are nonrefundable due to the premiums placed on hotel space on the island during the eclipse.
Daily Itinerary

Sunday, July 4
USA/SANTIAGO
Depart on an overnight flight from the USA to Santiago, the capital of Chile. *Overnight flight* (meals aloft)

Monday, July 5
SANTIAGO
Arrive this morning in Santiago and transfer to our hotel. An afternoon city tour will introduce us to this city at the foot of the Andes. This evening we’ll gather for an orientation and welcome dinner. *Hotel Plaza del Bosque (D)*

Tuesday, July 6
SANTIAGO / EASTER ISLAND
Transfer to the airport this morning for a flight to Easter Island. Lan Airlines flight #841 is scheduled to depart Santiago at 8:20am, arriving in Easter Island at 12:00pm. Transfer to the hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure. During our time on the island, daily touring will be offered along with time devoted to lectures (lecture schedule to be determined), informal discussions, and free time. *Hotel Iorana (B, L, D)*

Wednesday, July 7
EASTER ISLAND
Today visit the archaeological area of Ahu Vinapu with its incredible stone walls similar to those built by the ancient Incas. Visit Ahu Akahuanaga, a large ahu (platform on which islanders built the large moai statues) with four enormous fallen statues and where, according to legends, the tomb of the first king of the island is located. Thereafter, drive to Ahu Tongariki, formerly the biggest platform on the island, destroyed by a tidal wave in 1960, and now reconstructed. Continue along the north coast, passing by La Perouse Bay, to visit Ahu Te Pito Kura, home of to the largest moai ever built on an ahu before continuing to the beautiful archaeological zone of Anakena. Enjoy a picnic lunch before taking the inland road through Vaitea back to the hotel. *Hotel Iorana (B, L, D)*

Thursday, July 8
EASTER ISLAND
Enjoy the morning at leisure on the island. After lunch, visit the archaeological area of Ahu Tahai and Orongo ceremonial village and the Rano Raraku quarry, a classic symbol of the island and original factory of the moai located at Rano Kau, the southernmost volcano on the island. Return to the hotel in the late afternoon. Dinner at the hotel. *Hotel Iorana (B, L, D)*
Friday, July 9  
**EASTER ISLAND**  
After breakfast, enjoy the morning at leisure. This afternoon tour Ana Kai Tangata, the local museum, church, and artisan market. *Hotel Iorana* (B, L, D)

Saturday, July 10  
**EASTER ISLAND**  
Enjoy the morning at leisure. After lunch, continue our exploration of the island with visits to Akivi, Ahu Riata, Ahu Vinapu, Puna Pau and Ahu Akivi. Return to the hotel in the late afternoon. *Hotel Iorana* (B, L, D)

Sunday, July 11  
**EASTER ISLAND – Day of the Eclipse**  
Enjoy the day at leisure before our transfer to the observation point for the Eclipse viewing. *Hotel Iorana* (B, L, D)

Monday, July 12  
**EASTER ISLAND / SANTIAGO**  
Enjoy a final day on the island before transferring to the airport for an evening flight back to Santiago. Lan Airlines flight #1328 is scheduled to depart Easter Island at 7:00pm, arriving Santiago at 1:45am. *Hotel Plaza del Bosque* (B, L)

Tuesday, July 13  
**SANTIAGO / USA**  
After a morning at leisure, travel to the nearby Central Valley, the fertile home of many of Chile’s finest wineries and to the historical Viña Santa Rita, established by Spaniards in the 18th century. Today, their wines are exported all over the world. Enjoy a delightful farewell lunch in the classical colonial mansion at the winery, surrounded by ornamental gardens and centuries-old trees. Later that evening transfer to the international airport for flights back to the U.S. *Overnight flight* (B, L)

Wednesday, July 14  
**USA / HOME**  
Arrive in the US this morning and connect to flights homeward.
Hotel Plaza el Bosque

Hotel Plaza el Bosque’s philosophy is aimed at personalized high quality service. Located in El Bosque Norte Avenue, one of the most exclusive and strategic districts of Santiago, Hotel Plaza el Bosque is surrounded by shops, restaurants, and only a few steps from the new financial and business centre of this city. The 17 story property offers 179 luxury rooms and suites that reflect modern design and warm color schemes. All rooms are equipped with air conditioning, cable TV, mini bar, Internet access and hairdryer. Recreational amenities include an indoor pool, a health club, and a sauna. Other amenities include a full-service health spa, a restaurant, and spa services.

Iorana Hotel

The Iorana Hotel is situated just outside the town of Hanga Roa with a cliff top setting that offers captivating views of the sea from virtually every room. The hotel has 52 rooms equipped for your comfort and with views to different Rapa Nui Landscapes. Rooms have telephone, security box and private bathrooms. The Superior rooms offer two beds or a double bed, with a view to the landscapes that surround the hotel, in front of the sea and the wonderful cliffs of the west coast. Suite rooms are the hotel’s largest rooms with a cozy living room and a private bathroom with jacuzzi.

The restaurant at the hotel has enormous glass windows overlooking the ocean and offers delicious traditional and European food. From the bar you can stroll out to the garden and barbeque area around the hotel's fresh water swimming pool, a great place to enjoy a cocktail and take in the magical island sunsets. The lounge has a color TV and video and there is plenty of space for groups and conferences.
COSTS AND CONDITIONS

LAND PROGRAM COST: (Per person based on double occupancy. The price quoted is based on a minimum of 10 passengers participating on the program.)

Superior Double or Twin Room…………………………………………………… $9,145
Suite………………………………………………………………………………... $9,345
Triple room rate available upon request

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: …… ……. $3,345 for Superior Double or $3,695 for Suite
(Extremely limited availability, on a first-come, first-served basis.)
*Should you request to share a twin room, we will attempt to find a roommate for you. However, if at the time of final payment no roommate is available, a single supplement fee will be charged.

SAMPLE COACH AIRFARE FROM BOSTON: ………………………………………..$1,130*
*(As of March 2010 and subject to change.)

For those interested in continuing their journey, an optional extension to the Atacama is available. Please inquire for more details.

PROGRAM COST INCLUDES: Internal flights in Chile (Santiago/Easter Island/Santiago) at a cost of $1,100; accommodations and meals as specified in the trip itinerary; participation of MIT lecturer; services of an experienced tour director plus professional English speaking Chilean guides; all land transportation during the tour; entrance fees; airport transfers for those using or meeting group flights; baggage handling; basic gratuities to guides and drivers; leadership; coordination; and administration.

PROGRAM COST DOES NOT INCLUDE: International and U.S. domestic airfare; reciprocity entrance fee into Chile (approx. $131); meals not specified in the itinerary; optional tip to tour director; personal items such as laundry, e-mail, internet service, fax or telephone calls, liquor, dishes and beverages not part of included meals; room service; passport fees; excess baggage charges; individual transfers; medical expenses; travel insurance; optional extensions or deviations from the scheduled tour. Any increases in the in-tour airfare (included as part of the land program cost), airport taxes, security, or fuel surcharges imposed after initial pricing of this program are not included.

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS AND FINAL PAYMENT: To reserve a space on this tour, please mail or fax your deposit of $4,000 per person (payable to Royal Adventures) along with the completed reservation form, to: MIT Alumni Travel Program, 600 Memorial Drive, 2nd Floor, Cambridge, MA 02139-9906. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt. Royal Adventures handles all bookings, ticketing and invoicing. Final payment is due May 3, 2010 and must be paid by check. CST #2009579-40

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: Once reservations are made, deposits and trip payments are nonrefundable due to the premiums placed on in-tour flights to Easter Island and on hotel space on the island during the eclipse. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations or other trip features.
INSURANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY: The purchase of trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended. An application for travel insurance is mailed upon confirmation as well as with the final payment invoice. Neither Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) or the MIT Alumni Association and MIT Alumni Travel Program (MITAA) nor Royal Adventures accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable airline ticket or other expenses incurred by tour participants in preparing for the tour. A detailed statement of limitations and exclusions of liability of Royal Adventures, MIT and MITAA will be provided to passengers upon enrollment and is available to prospective travelers on request.

QUESTIONS: Please contact the MIT Alumni Travel Program at 800-992-6749 or e-mail: compass@mit.edu. You may also call Royal Adventures at (925) 820-6260 or 800-453-4754.

RESPONSIBILITY

Royal Adventures, its owners and employees acts only as an agent for the various independent suppliers and contractors providing transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services connected with this tour. Such travel and services are subject to the terms and conditions under which such accommodations, services and transportation are offered or provided, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the MIT Alumni Association (MITAA), the MIT Alumni Travel Program and Royal Adventures and their respective, employees, agents, representatives, and assigns, accept no liability therefor. MIT, MITAA, the MIT Alumni Travel Program and Royal Adventures, assume no liability for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle or the negligence or default of any company or person engaged in carrying out or performing any of the services involved. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. MIT, MITAA, the MIT Alumni Travel Program and Royal Adventures reserve the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience or safety of the tour participants. They reserve the right to withdraw this tour without penalty. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour, or to substitute another qualified leader or special guest. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. The price of the program is given in good faith based on current tariffs and rates, and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, or fuel increases will be passed onto participants. MIT, MITAA, the MIT Alumni Travel Program and Royal Adventures do not accept the liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline ticket. The air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. As part of the consideration and right to participate in this tour, each participant will be asked to sign a liability release.
MIT Alumni Travel Program
2010 Total Solar Eclipse, July 4-14, 2010

RESERVATION FORM

1) __________________________________________________________________________________
Name as on passport       MIT affiliation
____________________________________________________________________________________

2) __________________________________________________________________________________
Name as on passport       MIT affiliation
____________________________________________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________________________________
City _________________________ State _______ Zip __________________

Phones:  Home ( ) ___________________ Office ( ) ____________________
E-mail _______________________________ Fax ( ) ______________________

Enclosed is a check for _______________ ($4,000 per person) to hold ____ place(s) in the program 2010 Total Solar Eclipse, July 4-14, 2010. Please make checks payable to Royal Adventures or charge deposits to:

☐ American Express    ☐ MasterCard    ☐ Visa

Card #______________________________________________________Expiration Date _________
Name as it appears on the card _________________________________________________________

Final payment by check is due May 3, 2010

Room category: ☐ Superior    ☐ Suite (additional fee of $200 per person applies)

___ I wish for single accommodations. (I wish to pay the additional $3,345 for superior room or $3,695 suite single supplement. Extremely limited availability)

OR

___ If possible, please assign a roommate: ☐ Smoker    ☐ Non-smoker
[I understand if a roommate is not secured for me by final payment date, I will be charged (as applicable) the single supplement amount of $3,345 for superior room or $3,695 for a suite.]

___ I/We have interest in joining an optional post-trip extension to the Atacama Desert TBA.

Please make round-trip flight arrangements from: ☐ Boston    ☐ JFK    ☐ Miami    ☐ Other
If other, what airport? __________________________________

OR

_______ I/We will take care of our own international flight arrangements to Santiago, Chile and return.

I/We have read the Responsibility Clause and Costs and Conditions sections of this tour and agree to their terms.

Signature __________________________________________________________Date ________
Signature __________________________________________________________Date ________

Please return this form with check made payable to ROYAL ADVENTURES to:
MIT Alumni Travel Program, 600 Memorial Drive, 2nd Floor, Cambridge, MA 02139-9906 or fax: (617) 258-6211.