FOCUS

DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

The first leaf has yet to fall, but the signs of a new season have already begun at MIT. Students are arriving on campus for orientation, and we know that many of you are busy planning your club or group’s fall program schedule. If you haven’t already taken the time to hold an assessment/planning meeting, we encourage you to do so. The time spent analyzing your club’s operations, communications, programming, and volunteer staffing from this past year will help you to set goals and make choices for this upcoming year. Be sure to use your Alumni Affairs Officer as a resource. We’ll be happy to provide you with data to assist with your analysis.

I’d like to offer a warm welcome to all new volunteers! I hope that you find your participation to be a rewarding and enriching experience. Keep in mind that the experience for new volunteers will be greatly enhanced by providing adequate training and support to them from the beginning. Here is a list of some materials that we suggest you provide them to help orient them to your group:

• Organizational chart of your group
• Schedule of board/officer meetings for the upcoming year
• Comprehensive list of officer positions and job descriptions
• Club operations manual (with event planning procedures, membership campaign schedule and procedures, list of potential area event sites, etc.)
• Link to the Clubs and Regional Programs online Club Leader Toolkit:
• Name, phone number and email address of the Alumni Affairs Officer who services your group.

Fall is a time of change, and we do have a change to announce within the Clubs and Regional Programs Group. Krista McCabe has left her position of Associate Director in the Clubs group to assume a new position within the MIT Alumni Association in the Annual Fund Leadership Programs group. We will certainly miss her dedication and enthusiasm but are pleased that she will continue to work with MIT alumni in a different capacity. We have already started a search for Krista’s replacement and hope to have a new person on board by late September or early October. In the meantime, I will serve as the direct contact for all West Coast and Midwest club volunteers as well as volunteers for LAMIT and MITAA. Kathryn Liede, Deputy Director of Alumni Relations, will be the temporary contact for AMITA.

The entire Clubs and Regional Programs team is excited to work with each of you in the upcoming year to create and strengthen MIT connections worldwide. Thanks for your involvement!

Warm regards,

Melissa Marquardt
Director, Clubs and Regional Programs

Volunteer Honor Roll

The 2007 Club volunteers who were placed on the MIT Alumni Association’s Volunteer Honor Roll of Service:

• Jeffrey A. Arenberg ’86 – MIT Club Southern California
• Marilyn Taggi Cisar ’76 – MIT Club of South Texas
• Ralf Deltrap CM ’00 - MIT Club of Atlanta
• Rolf J. Gaertner SM ’82 – MIT Club of Germany
• Karen W. Ho ’94 - MIT Club of New York
• Norman C. Kennedy ’45 and Janet Kennedy – MIT Club of Southern Nevada
• Siriram Krishnan SM ’01 – MIT Club of Boston
• Dirk Loebermann, Post Doc ’93 – MIT Club of Germany
• Vincenzo Losito SM ’97 – MIT Club of Italy
• Jennifer L. Maxwell ’01 - MIT Club of Southern California
• Laura Palmer CM ’99 - MIT Club of Phoenix
• Dennis Rivera ’99 - MIT Club of New York
• Benjamin M. Skolnick ’04 - MIT Club of Northern California
• Eric Sit ’99 – MIT Club of Boston
• David R. Spencer ’62 and Pamela J. Spencer - MIT Club of Long Island
• Andrew Merrill Terry SM ’00 - MIT Club of San Diego
• Saujun Yi ’01 - MIT Club of Southern California
• Charles Zhou ScD ’91 – MIT Club of Northern California

Do you know of a club volunteer who went above and beyond the call of duty for an event or program this year? By submitting your nominations, you help the MIT Alumni Association give recognition for extraordinary individual performance by a volunteer at the local level in the current year. Alumni, parents, widows, spouses, faculty and students are eligible. For more information, visit our Web site at:

http://alum.mit.edu/gv/volunteer/recognition/honor-roll.html and nominate a volunteer today!

ALUMNI LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

It’s not too late to consider attending the 2007 Alumni Leadership Conference, September 28-29. Registrations will be taken onsite and there’s always room for more around the leadership table of ALC.

This year’s conference includes a Friday workshop specifically designed for Club and Affinity Group Officers. It will provide an opportunity to dive into targeted issues of great importance to clubs and to give in depth content that will stimulate idea-sharing among club and affinity group officers. This year’s focus is identifying opportunities for regional collaboration, and the session will include an overview of significant regional MIT-based activity that all volunteers should be aware of. In addition, there will be round table discussions that focus on strategic planning for membership programs.

Saturday features updates from members of the Institute’s leadership, a networking luncheon where officers from same size clubs will have an opportunity to dine together and discuss issues and ideas, and a number of workshops designed to cover a broad range of topics to augment the skill sets of volunteer leaders regardless of their roles.

Over these two days of volunteer-led workshops and meetings, club volunteers will have the opportunity to exchange experiences with other club leaders, discuss shared concerns, and find solutions to common challenges, as well as interact with students, hear from MIT administrators and faculty, and celebrate the achievements of outstanding volunteers.

Be sure to have your club represented and be part of the network of club officers who come from around the world for a weekend of idea sharing and brainstorming. Whether your club is large, medium, or small, strong or struggling, ALC 2007 offers something for all of you. Come interact with and learn from an extraordinary gathering of your peers - uniquely talented Club and Affinity Group Officers. More information on ALC can be found online at http://alum.mit.edu/ne/alc/
To hold its first event as an MIT alumni group on Thursday, September 27, 2007 at the Broad Institute on campus. Designed to provide an opportunity to strengthen the connections between MIT alumni and students of South Asian origin, the event will begin with a reception from 6:00 - 7:00 PM followed by an alumni panel discussion from 7:00 - 8:00 PM then wrapped up by an hour of networking. Featured alumni speakers include General Capital Partners Managing Director, Hemant Taneja SB/SM/MNG ’99, and Tufts University Professor, Adil Najam SM ’95, PhD ’01.

On Wednesday, October 24, we present “Energy Security and the Ethanol Economy,” special keynote address delivered by former CIA Director James Woolsey. This broadcast focuses on the issues surrounding foreign oil dependence and the challenges facing alternative energy resources. Special keynote address delivered by former CIA Director James Woolsey. For more information, please contact Greg Wymer at 617-253-0015 or mitef@mit.edu and plan ahead for our future broadcast dates – January 24, 2008 and June 4, 2008.

Become a viewing site for an MIT Enterprise Forum Global Broadcast this fall. On Thursday, September 27th, the MIT Enterprise Forum partners with Technology Review’s Emerging Technology Conference to present “Entrepreneurship – Success, Failure, Greatness: A Fireside Chat with Ann Winblad and Jason Pontin.” This special day-time broadcast (11:25 am – 12:25 pm Eastern) provides an insight into Ann Winblad, a leading thinker, entrepreneur, and investor, and her thoughts on what makes for a successful start-up and entrepreneurial greatness.

Order your 2007-2008 Club Directory Today!
Have you ordered your 2007-2008 Club Officer and Affinity Group Directory? If not, there is still time to place your order. The Directory is a wonderful way to stay in contact with volunteers from other clubs and alumni groups in your area and around the world.

To order a directory contact, Russell Boulais at: rboulais@mit.edu.

Happy 100th Birthday to…
The MIT Club of Northern California
The MIT Club of Southeast Michigan
The MIT Club of Southern California
The MIT Club of Oregon and Southwest Washington
The MIT Club of Puget Sound

Save the Date!
We are actively recruiting regional viewing sites for the November 15 broadcast on nano/small technologies. This is a great opportunity to receive intellectual content from MIT and network with local alumni. Contact your regional program staff member for more information.

List of Clubs and Regional Programs staff:
Melissa Marquardt, Director (Boston, International Clubs)
Moana Bentin, Associate Director (East Coast Clubs, MITSAAA, BAMIT, CAMIT, BGALA)
Russell Boulais, Staff Assistant (data requests, website management)
Tony Tavares, Staff Assistant (print production, campus room reservations)
Marilyn Finlay, Staff Assistant (email listserv management)

Programs staff:
Marilyn Finlay, Associate Director (national programs and events)
Molly West, Associate Director (East Coast Clubs, MITSAAA, BAMIT, CAMIT, BGALA)
Russell Boulais, Staff Assistant (data requests, website management)

Each year during the months of July and August, Summer Send Off events are held throughout the world to welcome the incoming freshman class to MIT. Summer Send Offs are hosted regionally by MIT alumni clubs, Parent Connectors (regional parent volunteers), or Educational Counselors. This year over 58 events were held worldwide to welcome the incoming class of 2011. Thank you to all of the Clubs and volunteers who hosted events in their local areas! If you have pictures please e-mail them to Alycen Ashburn at lashburn@mit.edu.

This summer we upgraded the mail list application and migrated all lists to Mailman. How does this impact your club?

- Old address: nameoflist@listserv.mit.edu
  New address: nameoflist@ alumlist .mit .edu
  *old address format will be forwarded to new address through 11/07
- List owners/editors receive email notification of posts ready for review/approval online = less direct spam in your inbox
- Use the SmarTrans™ dues renewal reminder feature to encourage lapsed members to renew their membership. This feature allows you to email all previous members of your group who haven’t paid dues for the current term but still live in your area or are considered part of your constituency. A default message is provided (which you can edit). For help/questions, contact smartranshelp@mit.edu.

Affinity Group News
The newest Affinity Group, MIT South Asian Alumni Association (MITSAAA), is planning to hold its first event as an MIT alumni group on Thursday September 27, 2007 at the Broad Institute on campus. Designed to provide an opportunity to strengthen the connections between MIT alumni and students of South Asian origin, the event will begin with a reception from 6:00 - 7:00 PM followed by an alumni panel discussion from 7:00 - 8:00 PM then wrapped up by an hour of networking. Featured alumni speakers include General Capital Partners Managing Director, Hemant Taneja SM/MNG ’99, and Tufts University Professor, Adil Najam SM ’96, PhD ’01.

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Beaver Badge of Excellence: This edition’s Beaver Badge goes to BAMIT New England for their 3rd Annual BBQ on Saturday June 30, 2007. Approximately 80 black alumni, students and guests turned up to honor Dean Ike Colbert HM at the home of Darcy ’91 and Kristala ’94 Prather in Milton. Alumni from as far away as Silver Spring Maryland, Pawtucket RI, and Fairfield, CT traveled in for the occasion. The event allowed alumni to meet some of the current students and it generated enthusiasm for BAMIT’s 30th anniversary in 2009. Congratulations to BAMIT New England for a well organized event!

MIT Club of Puget Sound
Southwest Washington
The MIT Club of Oregon and Southwest Washington
The MIT Club of Southern California
The MIT Club of Northern California

MIT Alumni Association
Cambridge, MA 02139-4307
77 Massachusetts Avenue, W59-200

MIT Clubs, Affinity Groups & Regional Programs

MIT Alumni Association
Cambridge, MA 02139-4307
77 Massachusetts Avenue, W59-200

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Looks like the Italians had fun at their first send off!