THE KATHARINE DEXTER McCormick SOCIETY

Your Society News for Fall 2011
Features of the Electronic Edition include:

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The Katharine Dexter McCormick Society
600 Memorial Drive, W98-500, Cambridge, MA 02139
Autumn 2011 at MIT was a time of both celebration and somber reflection. On September 11, we took time to remember the members of the MIT Community who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. To the members of the Katharine Dexter McCormick Society who lost loved ones on that date, our heart goes out to you. Several of these victims, Linda Gronlund, Judith Larocque, Daniel Lewin, and Heather Smith, have had endowment funds established at MIT in their memories. These funds will exist in perpetuity as a remembrance to their heroic lives.

To follow up with questions or requests for additional information, contact: Bonny Kellermann ’72, P: 617-253-9722 E-MAIL: bonnyk@mit.edu

The Katharine Dexter McCormick (1904) Society was founded in 1994 to recognize those donors who provided for MIT’s future through legacy gifts—gifts through estates or life income funds, to be utilized after the donor’s lifetime. MIT is extraordinarily grateful to members of the McCormick Society for providing for MIT’s future excellence.

A Personal Message
From Bonny Kellermann ’72
Director
MIT Katharine Dexter McCormick Society

Season’s Greetings
On behalf of MIT I wish you and your loved ones a happy and healthy holiday season, and thank you for all that you do to support MIT.
The **Class of 2015** arrived on campus with the distinction of being the most selective class in MIT’s history. Of 17,909 applicants, only 9.7% were offered admission. Over 60% of these students received need-based financial aid from MIT. To those of you who have provided support for scholarships, thank you for the resources that enable these outstanding young women and men attend MIT. Forty-five percent of the Class of 2015 are women and 55% are men. The class is ethnically diverse, with 9% identifying themselves as African-American, 28% as Asian-American, 37% Caucasian, 15% Hispanic, 1% Native American, 10% International Citizens, and 1% with no response or another response.

MIT celebrated the opening of **Maseeh Hall**, as a new undergraduate dormitory. With 462 new undergraduate beds, Maseeh Hall enabled MIT to increase its undergraduate enrollment, an important gain in a world that urgently needs more well-educated leaders who are well-versed in science and engineering. The student community known as The Phoenix Group had anxiously awaited the opening of Maseeh Hall for four years, and its debut was met with great excitement. The Howard Dining Hall provides an unprecedented community dining experience. Along with this new dining hall came a new meal plan. Although many students had expressed concerns about the cost of the new plan (due to the number of meals for which payment was required), the new dining opportunities have been positively embraced on campus.
Israel Ruiz SM ’01 was elected as MIT’s Executive Vice President and Treasurer (EVP/T) at the MIT Corporation meeting on October 14, 2011. Ruiz, a 2001 alum of MIT’s Sloan School of Management, has served as MIT’s Vice President for Finance since 2007. In announcing this nomination last June, President Susan Hockfield said:

“Israel is a strategic thinker whose commitment to excellence aligns particularly well with the Institute’s values. He has a record of advancing innovative solutions to complex challenges, earning broad support along the way. His leadership and compelling vision have transformed many of our financial processes to serve and support the MIT community.”

View the full story about this transition, including information about former EVP/T Terry Stone’s new role as a senior advisor to President Hockfield, at:

The MIT150 Exhibition will continue to be on display at the MIT Museum until December 31, 2011. Admission to the Museum is free to members of the MIT Community. If you are unable to visit the exhibit in person, you can take a virtual tour at the following website:
http://museum.mit.edu/150/about. Click on the various objects to learn about the 150 artifacts that were selected for the exhibition. You can also listen to and/or read the transcripts of over 100 oral histories that were created as the MIT150 Infinite History project. Find these fascinating stories of people who have shaped MIT at:
MITEI 5th Anniversary

It has been five years since the MIT Energy Initiative (MITEI) launched. During this time, nearly 300 MIT faculty and staff have been engaged in shaping US policy on key energy issues. MIT has been a leader in implementing energy efficiencies across the campus. In this fifth anniversary year, MITEI will sponsor a series of forums to help define the most important issues that need to be addressed in sustainable energy technology and policy. See the MITEI web site at: http://web.mit.edu/mitei/ for information about MITEI activities and events.

Koch Institute with/in/sight Lecture Series

The Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research (KI) has launched the with/in/sight seminar event series. Each event features short lectures on the convergence of science and engineering from MIT faculty and their medical collaborators. Members of the Katharine Dexter McCormick Society are invited to learn first hand how these interdisciplinary teams are working to bring cancer solutions within sight.

See Upcoming Events on page 9 for a list of some programs that are planned. Please contact Bonny Kellermann if you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive more information about this series.

Designing a new future for American manufacturing

Members of the MIT community are joining together around another serious challenge: the future of US manufacturing. In a recent letter to the MIT Community, President Susan Hockfield stated the following:

“Although many people reflexively believe that “Nothing is ‘Made in America’ anymore,” the truth is that manufacturing still accounts for close to 12% of US GDP and 12 million American jobs (which in turn generate 30 million jobs in manufacturing-dependent sectors). Unfortunately, the trends are worrying: 10 years ago, for example,
the US had a trade surplus in advanced technology manufactured goods; today we run an $81 billion annual trade deficit in these goods, and often we buy back technologies that Americans invented. A further concern is that outsourcing manufacturing to lower-wage countries may be eroding the innovative capacity of US firms by interrupting the two-way flow of ideas between the factory floor and the drawing board.

Last year, following two campus roundtables on manufacturing, a cross-disciplinary team of MIT faculty came together to carry out a study called Production in the Innovation Economy (PIE), led by Professors Suzanne Berger, Phil Sharp and Oli de Weck. And this past summer, the White House recognized MIT’s longstanding expertise in manufacturing by asking me to join Dow Chemical CEO Andrew Liveris in co-chairing the Advanced Manufacturing Partnership, or AMP.

To determine how the US can seize the opportunities of advanced manufacturing, AMP is calling on leading manufacturers, top research universities and key federal agencies to work together to determine how to build US strength in advanced manufacturing. AMP’s early discussions include the creation of shared facilities to develop new manufacturing technologies and designing curricula to build a ready workforce. Associate Provost and Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Marty Schmidt (an entrepreneur and manufacturer himself), will lead MIT’s AMP efforts.”

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The Charter Society

The Act of Incorporation that created the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1861 contained a challenging provision: within one year, the Institute had to prove its viability by amassing at least $100,000 (the equivalent of $2.5 million today). Otherwise, MIT would lose its charter. With a single stroke, this founding document made philanthropy an integral part of the Institute’s history and culture. Philanthropy has continued to play a vital role in enabling
MIT to carry out its mission. As part of the MIT150 celebration, MIT established the Charter Society to recognize those who have made gifts to the Institute of $1 million or more. The inaugural gathering of the Charter Society was held on April 9, 2010, on the eve of MIT’s 150th anniversary of the signing of MIT’s founding charter, in recognition of the fact that philanthropy has been a foundational element of the Institute’s success since the earliest days of its history. Inaugural members of the MIT Charter Society total more than 300, of whom over seventy are members of the Katharine Dexter McCormick Society.

UPOP Celebrates 10th Anniversary

MIT’s Undergraduate Practice Opportunities Program (UPOP) is a full year of introduction to “firm skills”: the knowledge, tools and mindsets MIT students need to translate their “hard” science, math and engineering talent and training into thriving careers of their own design. UPOP brings dozens of MIT alums to campus each year as mentor-instructors, who help deliver the UPOP curriculum by sharing their accumulated wisdom with the students.

UPOP is currently celebrating its 10th season with a series of birthday parties in key cities. Celebrations have already taken place in Austin, Cambridge, San Francisco and New York City and similar events are planned for Minneapolis, Chicago, Washington DC and Southern California over the next year. If you would like to receive information about planned UPOP events in your area or if you would like to learn more about how you can be involved either as an employer of a UPOP student or as a volunteer Mentor-Instructor, contact Bonny Kellermann. To learn more about 10th anniversary events see: http://upop.mit.edu/news and for information about the UPOP program see: http://upop.mit.edu/about or email Susann Luperfoy, Executive Director of UPOP, at luperfoy@mit.edu.
MIT Endowment Performance; Planned Gifts
The Massachusetts Institute of Technology Investment Management Company (MITIMCo) announced that MIT’s endowment generated a market return of 17.9 percent during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. MITIMCo’s investment policy is focused on the primary goal of generating high real rates of return without exceptional volatility. The portfolio is primarily invested in equities and heavily weighted toward markets such as private equity, real estate and marketable alternatives.

Those who are age 70 1/2 or older are also reminded that the Tax Relief Act of 2010 allows tax-free IRA distributions directly to charities through December 31, 2011. As this newsletter goes to print, it is not known whether or not this provision will be extended into 2012.

For information about gifts to MIT for charitable remainder unitrusts invested in MIT’s endowment or other planned gift options (such as gift annuities, deferred gift annuities or tax-free IRA distributions), contact Judy Sager, MIT Director of Gift Planning, 617.253.6463, gift_planning@mit.edu, or see information on the website at: 
http://giving.mit.edu/ways/planning/.

For more information about tax free IRA distributions, see http://giving.mit.edu/ways/noncash/#ira or contact Judy Sager.
Upcoming Events

Modeling Metastasis and Cancer Stem Cells  Wednesday, January 25, 2012
2012 Koch Institute Image Awards  Monday, March 5, 2012
Keep in Mind: KDMS Event in Los Angeles  Spring 2012
Engineering the Immune System  Thursday, June 7, 2012

Below, please find information about some upcoming MIT events that may be of interest to KDMS members. Contact Bonny Kellermann for more information about any of these events.

Koch Institute with/in/sight Lecture Series
Wednesday, January 25, 2012
Modeling Metastasis and Cancer Stem Cells
Featuring Tyler Jacks, Director, Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, and other expert speakers from the biomedical community.

Monday, March 5, 2012
2012 Koch Institute Image Awards
Speakers will include winners of the 2012 Koch Institute Image Awards.

Thursday, June 7, 2012
Engineering the Immune System
Featuring Darrell Irvine, Associate Professor of Biological Engineering and Materials Science, and other expert speakers from the biomedical community.

KDMS Event in Los Angeles, CA
Spring 2012
An event for KDMS members is being planned in Los Angeles next spring. Information will be sent at a later time to KDMS members with addresses in Southern CA. If anyone else would like to receive information, contact Bonny Kellermann <kdms@mit.edu> or call 627-253-9722.
The MIT150 celebration was brought off in typical MIT style: an unending sequence of symposia, lectures, concerts, parties, displays, and a grand academic convocation on Charter Day. Even the Boston Globe got into the act with a Sunday supplement, “…150 (MIT) ideas, inventions, and innovators that helped shape the world.”

Now in a ranking of 150 great accomplishments, one can always quibble about omissions and order. But in this instance there are two egregious oversights. Were it not for Claude Shannon and Norbert Wiener, both professors at MIT, Sir Tim Berners-Lee could not have given us his great accomplishment, the World Wide Web, and earned the Globe’s number one ranking. These men, along with JCR Liddiler (who was recognized), were the pioneers who made it all possible. Yet their names are nowhere to be found.

Claude Shannon is universally recognized as the father of information theory. He graduated from MIT in 1940 with an SM in electrical engineering and a PhD in mathematics. His work on Boolean algebra and electronic circuitry paved the way for electronic digital computation without which there would be no internet.

Norbert Wiener invented the field of cybernetics. In the foreword of his 1948 book of that name, which deals with the interdisciplinary study of regulatory systems, Wiener says “I shall call the field cybernetics from the Greek word kybernetēs or steersman.” So every time we use the word, cyber, we acknowledge Norbert Wiener—not so much for the word itself, but for the fact that his work revolutionized the way that today’s scientists and engineers think about and design their systems.
A separate quibble is with the entry for Professor Philip Sharp. Recognized as number five in the Globe’s list for his fundamental research in cancer, there is no mention of his 1993 Nobel Prize. A remarkable 76 MIT alumni and faculty have received that recognition.

One prominent feature of the celebration remains until the end of this calendar year—the MIT 150 exhibit at the MIT Museum. Curated by Dr. Deborah Douglas, the exhibit traces MIT’s history through 150 items suggested by alumni. Housed in the specially renovated Thomas Peterson ’57 Gallery—a most generous gift of Thomas F. Peterson ’57—the exhibit was opened by President Hockfield at a reception on January 7th, the official start of the 150 day celebration. At the end of the reception, Dr. John Durant, the Museum’s director, read the names of those who had contributed financially to the exhibit. Mine was the last. I was nonplussed. I’d made no gift to the exhibit; what had I done? And then it came to me.

I am a Life Member of the Museum Advisory Board and have served as chair of the Museum’s collections committee for the past dozen years or so. Early in my tenure, I asked Joan Whitlow, the Collections Manager and Registrar, if we had a line-item in the budget to buy artifacts. She told me that we hadn’t. Recognizing that the Museum cannot rely solely on donations to build its collections, I decided to endow a fund for that purpose. The 150 Exhibit benefited from that.

It follows then that in my bequest to MIT, my Museum Collections Fund is among the beneficiaries—on the principle that if I supported it in my lifetime, I should ensure its support in the years to follow.
A lively talk about the MIT Age Lab and its themes of “100 years of quality living” and “making aging cool” plus reflections on the current generation of MIT students were among the topics presented on September 18, 2011 at the fourth annual appreciation day event for members of the Katharine Dexter McCormick Society (KDMS) and special guests from MIT’s Corporation Development Committee (CDC).

MIT Chancellor Eric Grimson reflected on the current generation of MIT students, who are focused on making a positive impact on the world. Different from Generation X or Generation Y, they are “Generation Why Not,” he said. Today’s students think globally, are wired, and want to tackle “big” problems. Further, public service matters: last year, 500 students participated in international service projects.

Grimson noted that to support the evolving needs of its students and the world, MIT now offers more flexible degrees that cross disciplines. A recent example of this is a new dual degree in molecular and computational biology. “We took two-thirds molecular biology and two-thirds computer science to equal one new degree. Clearly, this isn’t a math degree,” Grimson said to laughter from the audience.
KDMS chair Claude Brenner ’47 welcomed attendees and introduced next year’s KDMS chair, Sherwin Greenblatt ’62. As his three-year term as chair comes to an end, Brenner remembered coming to MIT in 1944. In that time, before email, he wrote weekly letters to his parents. He signed the back of every letter with the phrase “Tech is Hell,” prompting his mother to ask if he was unhappy at MIT. Brenner replied, “I love this place, and I’m proud to deal with the hell.” Brenner is still “MIT proud,” and proud of the Institute’s role as a world leader. He noted that it’s important for the community to support MIT both “while we’re here and…when we’re gone.”

Brenner read a letter from President Susan Hockfield, in which she reflected upon the extraordinary opportunity the MIT150 celebration provided for MIT to tell its story to the world, and to recommit itself to MIT’s distinctive mission and motto. In the process, MIT strengthened the foundations of community needed to tackle the challenges ahead in service to the nation and the world. Hockfield commented on the Institute’s responsibility to aid in solving world problems such as clean energy and climate change, poverty and famine, the health of our oceans, and the future of our cities. She noted that MIT must strengthen its international network of collaborators to amplify its impact. At a time when the world urgently needs more people who understand science and engineering, MIT is committed to working to extend the power of hands-on, problem-based learning around the globe, and to stay hungry for exploration.

(continued on next page)
Hockfield observed that “As the people of MIT strive to reach these goals, the members of the Katharine Dexter McCormick Society provide invaluable support. Gifts of those who have gone before you provide resources that are helping MIT achieve its mission now. Your own future support—as well as support that you give in your lifetime—will give MIT the strength to face the work ahead with nimbleness and confidence. I am profoundly thankful to you for your role in helping MIT to make the world a better place.”

Comments from KDMS Director Bonny Kellermann and Director of Gift Planning, Judy Sager, emphasized the importance of legacy gifts in furthering MIT’s mission. Kellermann noted that over 20 percent of MIT’s endowment comes from legacy support. Sager observed that, in spite of the state of the US economy, last year’s fundraising efforts were record-breaking. The Institute recognized $27M in bequests this past fiscal year. Of last year’s gifts, 56 percent were made by repeat donors. Clearly, Sager said, during difficult times MIT alums step up their support to MIT. KDMS members deserve great thanks for their role in this success.

Brunch attendees also engaged in a lively conversation with Joseph Coughlin, Director of the MIT AgeLab. Coughlin told the group that over the last century the average life expectancy for people living in industrialized nations has increased nearly three-plus decades. The new challenge of old age is not just to live longer—but to live better, longer.

The MIT AgeLab seeks to develop new ideas and technologies to improve the lives of older people and those who care for them. Today, approximately one half of all babies born are expected to live to 100. Further, the largest growing sector of the population is the 85+ group. All this points to the need to improve the quality of living for this growing segment.
Research in the MIT AgeLab focuses on transportation, finance and healthcare. Driving, for example, represents freedom and independence, and with 70 percent of Americans over 50 living in areas without public transportation it’s vital to develop systems that allow people to drive longer, and safely. Because less physical flexibility and greater levels of pain tend to be the biggest problems with the aging, Coughlin’s lab has a fleet of experimental vehicles with aids such as voice controls to make driving easier.

The healthcare industry also needs to adapt to effectively serve this aging population, Coughlin said. At the most basic level, this means retraining medical professionals so they are better attuned to the needs of their older patients. It also means providing practical tools to help individuals maintain their health. “Health conditions kill, not age,” Coughlin pointed out. The majority of women 65+ live alone, and approximately 45 percent of those over 65 don’t take their medication as prescribed or make healthy nutrition choices. The Age Lab is working on a number of novel solutions to these issues, ranging from toy-like “pill pets” to implantable glucose monitors.

To the delight of attendees, Coughlin introduced Paro, a robot seal that responds to human interaction. Many people took the opportunity to interact with the tail-wagging stuffed animal in person after his presentation.

Additional information about the work of the MIT AgeLab can be found on their website at: http://agelab.mit.edu/about-agelab.

After Coughlin’s remarks, guests mingled with current MIT students at a poster session. Students talked about a variety of topics, including the MIT Energy Club, UROPs, and a variety of experiences participating in public service projects around the world.