

# MIT CLUB OF SOUTH TEXAS



September 2006

<http://alumweb.mit.edu/clubs/s-texas>



**MIT Night at Houston Astros**  
**Take Me Out To The Ballgame**  
**Philadelphia Phillies**  
**Sunday, September 17, 2006**  
**1:05pm**  
**Minute Maid Field, Houston**

Please join us at Minute Maid Park as the Houston Astros take on the Philadelphia Phillies for one of the few remaining home games of the season. We have good Mezzanine seats at discounted prices available for this Sunday afternoon game.

\$ 15 for 2006 dues-paid club members and their guests  
\$ 16.50 for non-members and their guests

Please RSVP and pay via [SmarTrans™](#) by 11pm CDT, Friday, September 8, 2006. To access [SmarTrans™](#), see this event on our website <http://alumweb.mit.edu/clubs/s-texas>. Tickets will be sent via US Mail on Monday September 11. We have a limited number of tickets, so RSVP early !

- Sharon Israel  
- Yong Chen

**Come and See The Houston Dynamo**  
**Saturday, September 30, 2006**  
**7:30pm**  
**Robertson Stadium**  
<http://houston.mlsnet.com/MLS/hou/stadium/directions/>

On Saturday night September 30, 2006 two of the contenders for the MLS Cup (the championship for US professional soccer), our own Houston Dynamo, in their premier season in Houston, and DC United, will meet at Robertson Stadium. The Houston Dynamo, led by Brian Ching, have been first or second in the Western Conference all season. DC United, with Freddy Adu, leads the Eastern Conference.

This promises to be a good game with 90 minutes of non-stop action. It is a late season game and both clubs will be maneuvering for play-off position. With game time at 7:30pm, it will be cool and comfortable for an outdoor event. We've got good seats at a good price, so register by September 20 and we'll see you there! (Tickets will be sent to you by US Mail.)

Members and guests: \$20  
Non-members: \$23

(These prices are less than you would pay at Ticketmaster or the gate.)

If you have any questions, contact Alan Cisar  
[MITCSTReplies@prodigy.net](mailto:MITCSTReplies@prodigy.net)

Please RSVP and pay via [SmarTrans™](#) by 11pm CDT, September 20, or send a check with the coupon on page 5. To access [SmarTrans™](#), see this event on our website <http://alumweb.mit.edu/clubs/s-texas>

- Alan Cisar

**MIT Club of South Texas Golf Outing**  
**Saturday, October 21, 2006**  
**9:00am First Tee Time**

**Cypress Lakes Golf Club**  
**18700 Cypresswood Drive**  
**(off U.S. 290 just west of Fry Road/Cypress-Rosehill Road)**  
[www.CypressLakesgc.com](http://www.CypressLakesgc.com)  
**Play format will be individual scores**

The Club graciously acknowledges financial support from the following sponsors:

**Event Sponsor:**  
[Performance Saab / Performance Car Co](#)  
10505 Southwest Freeway (inside Beltway 8)  
713-981-4400

**Hole Sponsors:**  
[Stress Engineering Services, Inc.](#)  
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Our first (at least in recent memory) golf tournament! Enjoy golf and lunch with your fellow alums and friends at Cypress Lakes Golf Club. Note that the golf course requires play of a round in less than 4.5 hours. Prizes will be given for the low gross and net scores (alum and non-alum), and maybe for some other "achievements" on the golf course. Entry fee of \$90 includes golf and lunch and we have a space limitation of 32 players.

Please RSVP via [SmarTrans™](#) by 11pm CDT, October 1, 2006. To access [SmarTrans™](#), see this event on our our website <http://alumweb.mit.edu/clubs/s-texas>

Questions? Please contact Greg Turner  
[rgturner@alum.mit.edu](mailto:rgturner@alum.mit.edu)

- Greg Turner

## MIT Alum [Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper](#) Flying on Shuttle Mission STS-115

### [STS-115 Shuttle Mission](#)

**Launch Date: No Earlier Than August 27, 2006**

### [International Space Station Flight 12A](#)

**Check out the Club's website for the latest mission status.**

NASA's ready to get back to building the International Space Station, which means the shuttle program is coming up on some of the most challenging space missions ever. And it all starts with the launch of Atlantis on STS-115 in August.

Atlantis' six crew members will install a second set of solar arrays on the space station, doubling the station's ability to generate power from sunlight and adding 17.5 tons to its mass. It's a mission they've had four years to train for.

A member of the 1996 astronaut class, [Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper](#) is assigned to STS-115 as a mission specialist and will work with the solar arrays during two spacewalks. Atlantis' flight will deliver the station's first Solar Alpha Rotary Joint – a 10-foot wide, wagon-wheel-shaped joint that allows the arrays to turn toward the sun.

## 2006-2007 Board of Directors

The Club is pleased to announce the 2006-2007 Board of Directors:

**President** - Eric Chan

**President-Elect** – Ramón San Pedro

**Past-President** - Dave Johnston

**VP-Communications/Webmaster** - Stacey Nakamura

**VP-Membership** - Ramón San Pedro

**VP-Programs** – Anthony Thomas

**VP Young Alumni Relations** – Yong Chen

**VP Community Service** - Vacant

**Secretary/Historian** - Arno Bommer

**Treasurer** - Steve Murdoch

**Enterprise Forum Liaison** - Anwer Hussain

**Education Council Chair** - Ed Rinehart

**Directors** - Marilyn Taggi Cisar, Al Cisar, Alex Fernandez, Sharon Israel, Sundry Srinivasan, Greg Turner, Raul Valdez, Tarik Ward

**MIT Parents Association Liaison** - Solie Balogh

Anyone interested is welcome at the monthly board meetings, generally held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. For more information, please contact Eric Chan W: (713-231-6028)

## Dues Paid Members for 2006 (as of August 20, 2006)

The MIT Club of South Texas expresses its thanks for your continued support of the Club !

### Benefactor

Boylan, Mike  
Dorflinger, Glen  
Hussain, S. Anwer  
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Westby, Tim  
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### Sustaining

Ackerley, Robert  
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Marlow, William  
Marple, Stanley  
Mutchler, M. Lynne  
Nakamura, Stacey  
Nelson, David  
Plant, Tom  
Quintana, Mauricio  
San Pedro, Ramon  
Standley, Pamela  
Tang, Sunny  
Valdez, Raul  
Zuteck, Michael

### Regular

Adewuya, Adenike  
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Burson, John  
Cambon, Mike  
Ceyhan, Ismail  
Chamitoff, Greg  
Chan, Jennifer

Chilton, Robert  
Chrzanowski, Michael  
Clark, Virginia  
Corwin, John  
Cutler, Scott  
D'Angelo, John  
Dawson, Stephen  
Denard, Sam  
Farah, Ali M  
Fernandez, Alejandro  
Godbold, Gilbert S.  
Goepfert, George  
Goldsmith, Andrew  
Gorenstein, David  
Harnsberger, Don  
Heger, Wendy  
Hsu, Jean  
Idleburg, Carol  
Jarchow, Craig  
Jester III, Lewis  
Jurilla, M. Dee  
Knudsen, Chris  
Kowalishin, Roberta  
Koch, Stephen  
Lantner, Gary  
Lantner, Janet  
Little, Willard  
Liu, Roy  
Liu, Yvonne  
Major, Robert  
Marshall, Peter  
Medina, Chris  
Melroy, Pam  
Merz, Shane  
Meyers, M. Douglas  
Mkandawire, Suzie  
Moore, Samuel  
Myers, Jeff

Nakata, Ryuichi  
Nelson, Jocelyn  
Norvik, Johan  
Parrish, John  
Patten, Richard  
Payne, Houston  
Peaceman, Donald  
Policastro, Peter  
Powell, Robert  
Price, Cordelia  
Ricards, Harold  
Schweizer, Richard  
Sena, Arcangelo  
Singer, Arnold  
Smith, Michael  
Srinivasan, Sundry  
Starkschall, George  
Stover, Roger  
Sullivan, John  
Szara, Mark  
Taylor, Aisha  
Thaller, David  
Tesciuba, Michele  
Tomlinson, Peter  
Torres-MacDonald,  
MaryAlice  
Triebes, Carl  
Truong, Trang  
Tschupp, Ed  
Tubman, Kenneth  
Valencia, Jaime  
Vallejo, Ramon  
Vargas, Herman  
Victorio, Tom  
Vrolijk, Peter  
Wagner, Jeanette  
Wang, Dean  
White, R. Winslow

Williams, Harrison  
Wolpert, Michelle  
Zarcaro, John  
Zarin, Marni

### Recent Graduates

Baig, Irfan  
Fantozzi, Esme  
Fireman, Heather  
Fox, Matthew  
Franco, Katherine  
Hiers, Todd  
Jackson, Benjamin  
Jorgensen, James  
Kane, Jonathan  
Laguna-Aponte, David  
Le, Emily  
Liu, Song  
Maguire, Karla  
Malevich, Maya  
Metzger, Brianne  
Riddick, Dwan  
Thomas, Anthony  
Ward, Tarik

### Parents - Regular

Balogh, Tom and Solie  
Browne, Hamilton &  
Bobbie  
Fisher, Charles  
Herder, Charlie and  
Carol  
Ray, Doug and Jana  
Dang, Truong and  
Loann

## **MIT Club of South Texas Educational Outreach: Mentoring Programs - Recent Experiences of MIT Alums**

**Dateline: August 7, 2006**

In the spring of 2006, the MIT Alumni of South Texas began a partnership with Spring Branch ISD providing volunteers for the Gear Up mentoring program. One of our volunteers describe their experiences on this page.

NOTE: This article has been altered to protect the privacy of our student mentees.

The experience of mentoring can best be captured in five basic terms: living another life, the beauty of caring, having fun, sharpening skills, and making a difference.

Every Wednesday around midday I rush to the school to meet "My Student". The first protocol in the school is to sign in, and then find "My Student". Once we are together, we begin our discussion of some important issues: improving his grades and his behavior with the math teacher. We also talk about why he continues to fight with his youngest brother. But "My Student" is not only interested in solving these issues. He wants to make the soccer team and is interested in finding out more about career opportunities. In the company where I work, a young chemist is doing an internship. I invited him to my next mentor session so he could explain to "My Student" what a chemist does and what particular courses he should take in school. The intern decided to try an experiment to impress "My Student" with the brilliance of a chemist. A balloon, a bottle of water, and a package of Tums were his tools. The chemist started throwing tablet after tablet of Tums into the bottle of water. The balloon, which was attached to the bottle, did not inflate since Tums are calcium carbonate, not sodium bicarbonate. What a failure! "My Student" very humbly suggested, "Next time you should try it with Alka Seltzer." "My Student" asked a lot of questions about what a chemist does, and I feel he now has a good understanding of what is involved in being a chemist.

One day I called the school, gave them my name, and let them know that I was coming to meet with "My Student". It took quite awhile for them to confirm whether or not "My Student" was there. They told me I could come but that he was spending the whole day in detention. They did not say what, but said he had done something really bad. On my way to the school, I thought about how I was going to deal with this situation: First let him explain? Then, shall I be compassionate or strong and aggressive? The more I thought about it, the madder I became. How could he do something like this to me after my four sessions of coaching? I arrived at the school and asked for the location of the detention room. I found it, and the student, but his name was not "My Student". "My Student" was having lunch. I suddenly realized what mentoring "My Student" has meant to me. When traveling, I miss the opportunity of having those sessions with him, since I travel a week every month to South America or Europe. Each time I am going to be away, we discussed where I will be going—a kind of combined geography and history lesson. I am pleased to say "My Student" now has his priorities in order. He made the soccer team and got all A's in his classes.

Because I do not like missing any time with "My Student", I have proposed to the school that I do virtual sessions when I am away. This would involve installing software and a head phone set on a computer in the school library. I am working on my negotiation skills to convince the school of the benefits of my proposal, especially since it would be on a no-cost basis to the school. On the way to the airport the other day, I passed a truck with metal racks which were holding "Product A". The "Product A" might have been prepared by "My Student's" dad. And, I thought about "My Student's" future. I am sure if I continue to give one hour of my week to "My Student", he will become one of those engineers the United States will be demanding in the future. His family will be so proud of him and I will be full of joy knowing how a small investment of my time made a positive impact in someone's life.

Mine.

### **MIT Club of South Texas Educational Outreach: Mentoring Programs**

**Dateline: August 8, 2006 - Call for Second Wave of Mentor Volunteers  
Interested? Please Contact Anthony Thomas [atthomas@alum.mit.edu](mailto:atthomas@alum.mit.edu)**

*If you are interested in mentoring, but would have trouble getting out to Spring Oaks Middle School on a weekly basis, please let me know. The program is expanding to Alief ISD and Houston ISD, so there is the possibility of locating a school closer to your location.*

**Training Schedule (it is necessary to attend one info session and one training session)**

**Info sessions (dinner provided):**

**9-7-2006** 6:30pm - 8pm, Spring Branch Admin building, 955 Campbell Road Room 275

**Training sessions (lunch or dinner provided):**

**9-5-2006** 6:30pm - 8:30pm, North Brook Middle School, 3030 Rosefield Dr (w/ Notre Dame club)

**9-12-2006** Noon - 1:30pm, North Brook Middle School, 3030 Rosefield Dr (w/ Notre Dame club)

**9-20-2006** 6:30pm - 8:30pm, Spring Branch Admin building, 955 Campbell Road Room 275

# MIT Club of South Texas Educational Outreach: Partnership with Stratford Academy of Science and Engineering

**Dateline: August 7, 2006**

[Stratford Academy of Science and Engineering](#)

[Stratford High School](#)

[Spring Branch Independent School District](#)

The Stratford Academy of Science and Engineering will encourage all students in the area of science through exciting experiences in the high school science classroom and extended experiences through off-campus activities in the Houston scientific community. Supported by a partnership with the MIT Alumni Club of South Texas, the Stratford Science Department will enrich and enliven science classrooms with computer simulations – many developed at MIT – that reinforce basic scientific principles and encourage students to experiment and develop a deeper understanding of the course material. Technology and lab upgrades, combined with extensive teacher development, assure a state-of-the-art science education that encourages students toward careers in science and engineering. Partnerships with Houston area businesses and universities will bring science to life in ways heretofore unattainable for our students.

Students enrolled in the Academy will be required to complete a rigorous science and mathematics curriculum which includes AP-level courses. In addition, Academy Juniors will participate in a lab class designed to expose them to careers in science and engineering. Field trips to local business and university research labs will be followed by related research and lab work back at Stratford. Academy Seniors will be required to complete a Research and Design project. Small teams of students will work with community mentors on projects that can be relevant to the current research issues in both industry and academia. Academy students will also be expected to complete a minimum number of science-related service hours through tutoring, teacher assistance, or external volunteer work.

Several MIT graduates who are also Stratford High parents, including chemical engineer and business owner **Bob Temple '55**, **Dave Johnston '73**, **Mike Boylan '54** and **Ed Rinehart '64** played pivotal roles as part of a working committee to make the new science academy come alive.

The Academy will exist within the Stratford High School: It has its own Director and Assistant Directors (all teachers) and a Board of Directors (**Dave Johnston '73 is on the Board and represents the MIT Club of South Texas**).

Although the Academy won't officially start until the 2007-2008 school year, the Stratford science faculty will implement some of the teaching initiatives this year - including site visits to local technology companies and the use of simulation-based software. **As a result, the Academy has some immediate needs for financial support.**

## **How Can You Help?**

**Industry Laboratory Partners** agree to admit students into their labs, sponsor internships and/or foster relationships between their scientists, the students, and their teachers.

**Curriculum Design Partners** agree to provide expertise and advice in the development of engaging curriculum materials, software, and classroom lab activities.

**Resource Partners** agree to provide in-kind contributions of equipment, supplies, and resources to maintain state-of-the-art classrooms.

**Financial Partners** agree to provide financial support for the Academy either on a one-time or annual basis. Stratford High School has already committed over \$60,000 of its own funds in technology, teacher stipends, and training to launch the Academy.

For more information on this program please contact **Dave Johnston '73** [dhjohnston@alum.mit.edu](mailto:dhjohnston@alum.mit.edu)

# Come and See The Houston Dynamo

Saturday, September 30, 2006

RSVP via [SmarTrans™](#) before 11 pm CDT, Sept 20 or by US Mail before Sept 20

2006 Dues-Paid Members & Guests \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20.00 / person

Non-Member & Guests \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$23.00 / person

\_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to **MIT Club of South Texas**, and return to

**Alan Cisar**

**15603 Juniper Hollow Way**

**Cypress, Texas 77433**

## Sign Up Now for 2006 Membership !

Please sign me up as a **Member** of the **MIT Club of South Texas** for Calendar Year **2006**:

2006-09

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class & Course: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Announcement Service** – In addition to our regular monthly **Newsletter**, Please specify your preferred contact method for **special members-only events** and **event reminders**. (Your use of Email helps the Club control operating costs – Your Email address will be held confidential):

E-mail : \_\_\_\_\_  US Postal Service

FAX: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Please circle preferred fax receive times: Day Evening Overnight No Preference

Benefactor, \$200+  Sustaining, \$100+  Patron, \$50+  Regular, \$25  Recent Grad ('01-'06), \$5

Parent (per household), \$25 (Parents who sign up now will also receive credit for 2007 membership)

Extra Contribution to Leadership In Education: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to **MIT Club of South Texas** and return to:

**Ramón San Pedro**

**8503 Stone Village Lane**

**Houston, TX 77040**

**September Happy Hour !**  
**Thursday Sept 28**  
**5:00pm**

### Ginger Man

5607 Morningside Dr

Houston, TX 77005-3218

<http://maps.citysearch.com/location/9841687>

(713) 526-2770

### Club Website Has New Format !!!

<http://alumweb.mit.edu/clubs/s-texas>

New Left Side Navigation Bar !

New "[Past Events](#)" Sections

New "[Outreach](#)" Sections

[Educational Outreach](#)

[Community Outreach](#)

Reformatted [MIT Astronaut Webpages](#)

**Upcoming Events:**

**Sept 17 - Houston Astros Game (RSVP Sept 8)**

**Sept 28 – Happy Hour @ Ginger Man**

**Sept 30 - Houston Dynamo Soccer Game (RSVP Sept 20)**

**Oct 21 - Tech Golf Tournament (RSVP Oct 1)**

**Oct TBD - Networking Event**

**Happy Hours - Monthly**