Message from the President
Welcome MIT Club of Minnesota members and area alumni to this semi-annual newsletter.

CONNECTING TO THE MIT CLUB OF MINNESOTA
There are new ways to connect with the MIT Club of Minnesota:
- NEW WEBSITE (http://): alumweb.mit.edu/clubs/minnesota/
- FACEBOOK: MIT Alumni Club of MN
- ONLINE NEWSLETTER

EVENTS
To provide a view of the fantastic events the club has sponsored and that many of you have participated in, so far the 2008-9 fiscal year has included the following offerings summarized below. Some of the more recent events are spotlighted in articles in this newsletter. See the website for registration information for upcoming events.

MEMBERSHIP, VOLUNTEERING, AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
We hope you will be able to participate in many of these wonderful activities. If you aren't already a member, please consider joining the Club. By joining, you will receive reduced rates for events, and you will be part of building a stronger club that supports fellow alumni and the Institute. Membership in the club is currently based on the MIT Alumni Association Fiscal Year, which runs July through June. Our new year will thus officially begin on July 1st, but we would like to encourage you to renew your membership or join now, so the 2009-2010 memberships are available now that will extend backwards into March – June 2009 – 4 months free!

If you are interested in volunteering for club activities or potential involvement with the Board of Directors of the Club, we would welcome your interest and support in these areas as well. Our club has grown dramatically in the last 5 years, and we would like to continue to strengthen our ability to serve our membership and the Institute.
- To JOIN, please see the MEMBERSHIP form attached or visit our website
- If you are interested in volunteering, or in a position on the Board of Directors for the club, please contact Becca Luger Guillaume at beccalg@alum.mit.edu.

With best regards,
Karin Roof, 1995 SM
President
MIT Club of Minnesota
Fiscal Year 2008-9

Summary of Past 2008-9 Events

Speaker & Enterprise Forums
- Sept. 25: MIT Physics Chair Edmund Bertschinger signature event on “Dark Energy – The Greatest Mystery of the Universe”
- Oct. 21: Enterprise Forum on “Pathways to Entrepreneurship: A Female Perspective”
- Feb. 4: Fireside Chat with Sherwin Greenblatt, co-founder of Bose and EVP of MIT AA

Tours
- July 22: St. Paul Regional Water System
- Aug. 20: Star Wars at SMM
- Oct. 2: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in Chanhassen
- Jan. 4: Eero Saarinen at The Walker Art Center
- Feb. 19: Sustainability at Minneapolis City Hall

Social, Arts & Culture Events
- Aug. 17: Annual Summer Send-Off
- Nov. 7: Vino Squisito Wine Tasting
- Nov. 15: Volunteer for Bridging
- Dec. 13: Annual Holiday Party
- Jan. 21: Toast to IAP
- Monthly: MIT10 Social Gatherings
Some Recent Past Events

Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination
On August 17th a number of alums and their families attended this event at the Science Museum of Minnesota (SMM), presented by the Bose Corporation. Highlights were an omni-theatre movie on special effects and an exciting exhibition. The exhibition features “more than 80 costumes, models and props from all six Star Wars films that invites visitors to defy gravity, manipulate robots, engineer droids, and journey into that galaxy far, far away that has captivated audiences for more than 30 years.” BTW, can you identify the Star Wars characters and vehicles below? **May the force be with you!**

![Star Wars Characters](image1)

Professor Bertschinger Draws Large Crowd Interested in Dark Energy by Ross Meisner
The MIT Department Head of Physics, the former Division Head of Astrophysics, and a member of the MIT Kavli Institute for Astrophysics and Space Research, Professor Edmund Bertschinger attracted immediate attention when we announced his visit. First, his topic was compelling: *Dark Energy – the Greatest Mystery in the Universe*. Second, his description was irresistible: “…a bizarre anti-gravity effect…a cancer of space…a failure to understand gravity!”

An audience of 100 people were both entertained and informed as Dr. Bertschinger took us on a brief journey about what is known today about the cosmos, dark matter, and dark energy. Forgive me as I grossly oversimplify the topic to share two of my own take-aways. One is that Einstein's original theory which included his “band-aid,” the cosmological constant he found so distasteful, may have been correct in that it accounted for the anti-gravity effect of dark energy. Two is that the absolute empty space between galaxies isn’t. (Empty, that is.) Dark energy is a force or energy somehow associated with the vast emptiness of space.

The presentation was held at the beautiful Schulze Auditorium at the downtown Minneapolis campus of the University of St. Thomas. Everyone enjoyed an active social hour with wine, beer, and delightful appetizers beforehand. The audience was classic MIT, engaged and unhesitant to pepper Professor Bertschinger with questions well after the event was supposed to close.

We thank Dr. Bertschinger once again for his time and support, and thank St. Thomas for making their facilities and services available to us. I also want to thank the many MIT alumni and club members who provided their time, labor, and expertise to making this large event such a success.

Sustainability Program and Tour at the Minneapolis City Hall
Approximately 20 alums and guests attended this event on February 19th to learn about Minneapolis’ Sustainability Program and get a tour of this beautiful building from the 1890s. Gayle Prest (with a brief visit from Ward 11 Council member Scott Benson) gave an overview of Minneapolis’ program that has received national acclaim, in part because of the use of 24 indicators for measuring sustainability and setting numerical targets. Such indicators include things like affordable housing, bicycle lanes and paths, lead testing, high school graduation rates, block clubs, water quality, permeable surfaces, tree canopy, air quality, infant mortality rates, CO2 emissions, airport noise, sewer overflows, and asthma rates.
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Tour by Bill Robbins

On October 2, 2008 approximately 24 alums and guests toured NOAA’s combined facility in Chanhassen (http://weather.gov/twincities) that houses both the National Weather Service Forecast Office and the North Central River Forecast Center. A guide from the Weather Service Forecast Office talked about tracking tornados, correlating weather observations with on-the-ground damage, and long term weather prediction. In addition, a hydrologist from the River Forecast Center discussed how flood prediction is done based on measurements of water content in snowpacks obtained from fly-overs and river channel capacity. Outside, various weather instruments were available for viewing. The tour culminated with the launching of a weather balloon which soared aloft into blue sky holding just a few clouds. The setting sun illuminated the balloon with soft yellow light for some time, providing a memorable end to the launch.

Vino Squisito Wine Tasting by Becca Luger-Guillaume

On November 7, 2008, 28 alums and guests gathered in a private room of the Braemar Golf Course Clubhouse to sample 4 selected wines from Italy, and 1 “blind” wine that we tasted first and learned that it was an ’06 Coffele Soave at the end of the evening. Our wine educator, John Glas, toured us through a collection of whites and reds from Italy that were all priced for enjoying in the current economy. My personal favorite, the 2006 Fontanafredda Briccotondo Barbera, is a deep succulent red that was fruity on the nose but full bodied with a long finish and a level of complexity not normally found in wines so cheap! While we sipped, sloshed, and gurgled our wine on command, John challenged the group with wine trivia throughout the night and was continuously impressed at the expertise in the room. What is your favorite wine closure: cork, synthetic, or screw caps? According to John, cork still holds its own against synthetic and screw, although I’ve had some pretty tasty wines of all varieties. Don’t judge a wine by its closure!

Serving Our Community at Bridging by Andrew Satrijo

On the morning of Saturday, November 15th, a group of eleven MIT alumni, friends, and family members gathered in Bloomington to volunteer at Bridging, a nonprofit organization that serves families in transition. As stated in their mission, Bridging “provides the economically disadvantaged with quality furniture and household items, free of charge, by effectively utilizing community resources.” In effect they “bridge the gap” between the “haves” and the “have-nots.” Our hard-working group of volunteers helped in assembling furniture, unloading boxes of donations, and stocking the warehouse shelves. We also assisted in loading moving trucks with furniture and household items, which were later delivered to economically disadvantaged individuals and families. Besides serving our community, we also got a good workout and had fun cooperating as a team. For more information about volunteering or donating at Bridging, please visit their website www.bridging.org.
Eero Saarinen: *Shaping the Future* at The Walker Art Center (with the Minneapolis Institute of Arts)

On the last day of this exhibit at The Walker Art Center, the Club held its first event of the new year, on Sunday afternoon, January 4th. Eero Saarinen of course is the famous Finnish architect, up there with other masters like Frank Lloyd Wright and Frank Gehry. Despite living to only age 51, he was quite prolific and is known as one of the most celebrated, unorthodox, and controversial masters of 20th-century architecture. His best known works include the 630 ft high Gateway Arch in St. Louis, TWA Terminal at New York’s JFK airport, General Motors Technical Center, CBS building in Manhattan, and the “innovative pedestal,” a series of tables and chairs. His connection to MIT was solidified in the mid-twentieth century; he designed both the MIT Chapel and Kresge Auditorium. In fact, there was a special corner of the exhibit devoted to these MIT buildings. The docent guided tour lasted 1 ½ hrs. and it was entertaining to listen to some of the elder alums describe some of the roof problems that Kresge Auditorium had shortly after its construction. Apparently it took several revisions to get it right!

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2009 Toast to IAP Trivia Contest: Club of Minnesota ties the Club of Boston for win!

For BS graduates, the Inter Activities Period (IAP) during January often brings back memories of adventurous times gone by. Each year alumni clubs from around the world celebrate the event sponsored by MIT10, “Toast to IAP,” and participate in various games, often at a local watering hole. This year we are proud to announce that the Club of MN tied the Club of Boston for winning the trivia contest! Check out the trivia questions. As for the “Smoot bridge travel time” question, the answer should be sqrt(2*364.4) = 26.996 sec! “Toast” participants are shown at Toast Wine Bar & Café in Minneapolis’ warehouse district on 1/21.

(https://alum.mit.edu/networks/MIT10/Toast_to_IAP.jsp)

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Fireside Chat with Sherwin Greenblatt (current CEO of the MIT Alumni Association)

On February 4th 46 alumni and guests attended this speaking event. The evening began with socializing and was well represented by the “engineer/inventor contingent” of the local MIT alumni. Sherwin Greenblatt gave a very engaging and entertaining talk, describing his entire career, going back to when he was an electrical engineering graduate student with Dr. Amar Bose at MIT. He was the first employee of Bose Corporation, worked at Bose for 38 years, and left the company when there were 8,000 employees and $2B in annual sales. After his retirement he has held various leadership positions at MIT, including interim EVP.
Alumni Leadership Conference (ALC) 2008

Carrying on the tradition, MIT Club of Minnesota Board Members (5 this year) participated in this great conference at MIT from September 19-20, 2008, held mostly at the Frank Gehry-designed Stata Center (Building 32). This annual conference brings together volunteer MIT alumni leaders (about 500 this year) from literally all over the world and provides many exciting learning opportunities through interaction with each other and MIT via workshops, training sessions, and keynote lectures by MIT administrators. Workshops and training sessions were on topics such as: (1) Training for Class Officers, (2) K-12 Initiatives, (3) Promoting and Sustaining Innovation at MIT: The MIT Entrepreneurial Ecosystem, and (4) Fostering and Developing Shared Leadership. In President Hockfield’s keynote address she outlined 5 critical initiatives that she wants MIT to focus on: (1) energy, (2) K-12 education, (3) cancer, (4) poverty, and (5) environment. The conference culminated with the Leadership Awards reception and dinner. Overall, the conference advised and inspired our Minnesota Board Members.
Connection to the Institute by Becca Luger-Guillaume and Robert Butler of the MIT Alumni Association, Cambridge, MA

The MIT Alumni Association provides a variety of services directly to alums around the world, such as the Infinite Connection, Email for Life, and career services, but also provides support for location based clubs. While the MIT Club of MN chooses its own by-laws, board members, and events, the MIT AA is ready to help whenever we need it. Recently, the MIT AA assigned a new regional representative who is our main connection to the MIT AA: Rob Butler. Rob visited Minneapolis in December and met many board members and others to get to know who we are and how we work so that he can best support us. We thank Rob for being so active in getting to know us. Here is a little message he sent regarding his visit.

Dear MIT Club of Minnesota,

It sure was nice meeting many of you on my visit there in December. What a great club! One of the biggest pleasures of this job as your regional representative is to meet with you face to face and hear first hand from you and other volunteers about their ideas of engaging other Alumni and spreading MIT’s messages throughout their community.

A big thank you goes out to all of you who volunteer for the club by keeping the MIT Alumni community there active through your high caliber and engaging programs and events, serving as education councilors, or just simply attending your local events.

Please call on me should you need any assistance with any of your volunteers’ roles, event marketing suggestions, or any thing you might need from campus. You are why I’m here.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Butler, Associate Director
Clubs & Regional Programs, MIT Alumni Association
77 Massachusetts Avenue, W98-208D
Cambridge, MA 02139, Phone: 617-324-0378

Local Alumni Profile:

Nick Powley, a self-described invention enthusiast, graduated in 2004 with his BS in Mechanical Engineering. As a student he designed/invented his first medical device which became the early basis for angel-backed r4 Vascular, Inc. Nick is now a director of and engineer at r4, which is professionally managed and employs 17 people. Both Nick and r4 are looking forward to the release of numerous vascular access products throughout this year. "It’ll be nice to sell something!"

In his free time, Nick enjoys racing sailboats at the Wayzata Yacht Club, designing/inventing orthopedic devices, woodworking and consumer products, and most of all sharing his passion for inventing with young people.

With friends Nick co-founded Invent Minnesota, a non-profit organization that offers high school students opportunities to invent real products for and with real companies. Over 100 St. Paul high school students have participated at varying levels in the program and 3 noteworthy inventions have been the result. Students from Central High School developed a collapsile crutch to facilitate air-travel for people with lower limb prostheses. Students from Johnson High School developed a new flour scoop and measurement device with the guidance of a national bakery franchise. And one student from The Avalon School developed a detailed model of a green learning facility.

In the coming months Nick looks forward to furthering his invention initiatives and spending time with friends and family within the US and abroad.

2008-9 MIT Club of Minnesota Officers

Officers
President
Karim Roof, 1995 SM
VP Programs & Pres.-Elect
Becca Luger-Guillaume, 2005 CS
VP Communications (& Editor)
Michael Hennessy, 1982 ME
VP Membership
Tom Kelly, 1972 SMEE
Treasurer
Dora Paolucci, 1998 CH
Secretary
Andrew Satrijo, 2007 CH
MIT 10 Chair
Nimi Ocholi, 2006 CS

At Large / Alumni Association
At Large / Picnic
At Large / Tours
At Large / Arts & Culture
At Large / Holiday Party
At Large / Events
At Large / Signature / MIT Speaker
John Carney, 1976 ARCH
Barbara Slater, 1995 SM
Bill Robbins, 1966 PHY
Alice Ribbens, 1989 MS
Anna Szafranski, 1995 SM
Jon Szafranski, 2001 SM
Jon Moon, ME
OPEN

Board Members
Past President / Philanthropy
Ross Meisner, 1997 MBA
At Large / Communications
Leonard Glaeser, 1957 EE
Educational Council Liaison
Alice Campbell, 1978 CHE

Ross Meisner, 1997 MBA
Leonard Glaeser, 1957 EE
Alice Campbell, 1978 CHE

Non-Board Members
Board Counsel
Adonis Neblett, 1979 CHE
Information Officer
David Cahlander, 1966 EE
Dear MIT Alumnus or Alumna:

As a graduate of MIT, you are one of a small and distinguished group. Do you still feel connected to MIT today? Have you received the full benefit of your MIT education? If you are not leveraging the networking, social, and educational benefits available to MIT alumni, then you may be missing great opportunities available to you.

There are approximately 936 MIT alumni in Minnesota and Western Wisconsin, 11% of whom are members of the MIT Club of Minnesota, a high ratio of club members to total alumni. The support of members builds the sense of MIT community in our area and provides valuable resources for the intellectually stimulating and enjoyable activities provided by the Club.

As an MIT Club of Minnesota member, you receive first priority at popular events, as well as discounted prices. This current 2008-9 membership year has included well-attended and diverse events such as:
- St. Paul Regional Water System tour
- Picnic and annual summer send-off
- Family fun Star Wars exhibit at SMM
- Physics Professor Bertschinger talk on Dark Energy
- NOAA Facilities Tour in Chanhassen
- MIT Enterprise Forum on female entrepreneurship
- Vino Squisito Wine Tasting Party
- Volunteer for Bridging
- Annual Holiday Party
- Eero Saarinen Exhibit at the Walker Art Center
- January Toast to IAP at Toast Wine Bar and Cafe
- Fireside chat with Sherwin Greenblatt, former Bose CEO
- Sustainability at the Minneapolis City Hall
- Monthly, informal after-work social gatherings

We are planning our 2009-10 events now. These should include a special speaker from Cambridge, technical tours of local laboratories and facilities, family-friendly events, and frequent social gatherings for our MIT10 (young alumni) and other alumni.

The Club is currently granting memberships that will run through June 2010. Become a member, and take advantage of the vibrant Minnesota MIT community. Join today at http://alumweb.mit.edu/clubs/minnesota/ ("Membership").

Best regards,

Karin Roof, President (Karin.Roof@alum.mit.edu)
Thomas Kelly, VP Membership (tckelly1@gmail.com)

MIT CLUB OF MINNESOTA
JULY 2009 – JUNE 2010 MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT / RENEWAL

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<th>Membership Level</th>
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<tr>
<td>Standard Membership</td>
<td>$30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Club Supporter</td>
<td>$50 – 99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Club Patron</td>
<td>$500 or more</td>
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<td>Recent Graduate 2008,9</td>
<td>No Charge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recent Alumni 2006, 2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>Club Sponsor</td>
<td>$100 – 299</td>
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<tr>
<td>Club Benefactor</td>
<td>$300 – 499</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parents of Students</td>
<td>$20</td>
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* Required Information – This information is strictly for club use and will never be distributed.

*NAME: ________________________________  DEGREE(S) & YEAR: __________________________

*HOME ADDRESS: __________________________  COURSE: _________________________________

*HOME CITY & ZIP: ________________________  *Preferred E-MAIL: ________________________

*SPOUSE / SIG OTHER: _____________________  TELEPHONE: (Home) _________________________

COMPANY & TITLE: _________________________  TELEPHONE: (Day) _________________________

WORK ADDRESS: __________________________  Parent of Current Student(s)? YES NO

WORK CITY & ZIP: ________________________  Student Name & Year _______________________

Please mail this form with payment to:
MIT Club of Minnesota
1730 New Brighton Blvd., #180
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Or, register faster at: http://alumweb.mit.edu/clubs/minnesota/ and click on “Membership” tab
The following information is optional and helps the Club officers plan events that will be of interest to you.

Please rank your preferences for the timing of events (1 = top preference):

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<th></th>
<th>WEEKDAYS</th>
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<tr>
<td>DAYTIME (mornings &amp; afternoons)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EVENINGS (after 5:00 pm)</td>
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Please circle the types of events you would attend:

- OUTDOOR ACTIVITY
- EDUCATIONAL / LECTURE
- SHOW / ENTERTAINMENT
- PLANT TOUR
- HOLIDAY PARTY
- SINGLES EVENT
- ENTERPRISE FORUM (business / finance focus)
- PICNIC
- SOCIAL / MIXER
- MUSEUM TOUR
- BOAT CRUISE
- SPORTING EVENT
- FAMILY ORIENTED, if so what are your children’s ages? ___________________________
- OTHER ___________________________

Do you have suggestions for improving future Club functions? _______________________

Would you like to organize or help implement a future Club event?  

<table>
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<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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