Message from the President

Dear Brave MN MIT Alums,

It’s about that time of year where those of us not from Minnesota, and maybe some who are, question why we live in this frosty state. Should we have stayed in Boston? Late nights in Athena Clusters, hurried walks through the Infinite Corridor, big adventures out to the Galleria or Newbury Street to try to find some freedom…

Yet while our hearts may yearn for one more all-nighter in lab, Minnesota has become, for many of us, our new home-away-from-Tech. I hope that the MIT Club of MN has helped bring you in from the cold by fostering new relationships with alumni/ae, stimulating your brain at each unique event, and connecting you back to the happenings at MIT. This is, of course, the purpose of the Club of Minnesota - to serve the local community of MIT Alums in ways that strengthen our ties with each other, with our local community, and with the MIT community as a whole. Each year we thrive on the strength of our alumni network to create masterful programs. Without our volunteers, we wouldn’t have anyone dedicated to organizing great events. Our alums donate amazing facilities and sometimes even themselves as main presenters for our programs. Most importantly, the numerous attendees who challenge our tour guides and presenters with outside-the-box questions are one of the key ingredients to such a successful club. I am honored to be a part of this amazing community and thank each and every one of you for making the MIT Club of MN what it is today.

Yes, even though the winter sometimes lasts too long, the MIT Club of MN is here to help you through it. With upcoming tours, happy hours, and wonderful talks, your brain can be kept warm and active until cabin time. Be sure to check out our upcoming events calendar on our website www.mitmn.org. Don’t see the type of event to get you through the days of cold temps? We would love suggestions for new events and volunteers to help organize them! After all, this is your MIT Club.

Best of luck staying warm and see you at the next happy hour or lecture,

Becca Luger-Guillaume
MIT Club of MN President, 2009-10
Course 6-3, 2005

P.S. – Are your dues up to date? Follow links on our website, www.mitmn.org, to join the club.

Summary of Past 2009-10 Events

Tours, Speaker & Enterprise Forums

May 2: Minnesota Zoo

May 27: Enterprise Forum on “Energy Entrepreneurship & Innovation”

June 13: Mississippi Volunteering

July 18: Lock and Dam #1

Nov. 5: Cleantech & Alternative Energy

Feb. 18: Stratasys Tour

Social, Arts & Culture Events

March 14: Tea Tasting

April 18: Dine ’n Dance

June 28: Annual Summer Picnic

Sept. 24: Jungle Theatre (with Columbia University Club)

Oct. 30: Beer Lover’s Delight

Nov. 15: MITTeaTime2

Dec. 5: Annual Holiday Party

Dec. 8: Spoonriver Restaurant (with Columbia University Club)

Jan. 20: Toast to IAP

Monthly: MIT10 Social Gatherings
Upcoming Highlight Events
Spotlight Speaking Event on April 12th – Save the Date!: MIT Professor Penny Chisholm

We are excited to announce that Professor Penny Chisholm (Lee and Geraldine Martin Professor of Environmental Studies) will be in Minneapolis from 5:30-8:00 PM on April 12th in Opus Hall at the University of St. Thomas to share with us her research on The Invisible Forest: Ocean Microbes, Genes, and Planetary Maintenance. Microorganisms in the sea carry out about half of the photosynthesis on Earth, help regulate our climate, and mediate global cycles of elements. She studies a family of microbes known as phytoplankton, which created the oxygen in our atmosphere. At the heart of her research is the cyanobacterium Prochlorococcus, the smallest and most abundant microbe in the ocean ecosystem. Her lab focuses on understanding the role of marine phytoplankton in the ocean's "metabolism." This talk will examine some of the rapid advances in this area that are changing the way we think about the ecology and evolution of living systems. Recent proposals for geoengineering our planet and their inherent uncertainties will be examined. Chisholm (http://chisholmlab.mit.edu) received her Ph.D. in Biology in 1974 from S.U.N.Y. Albany and received the 2005 Huntsman Award for Excellence in Marine Science. Look for future announcements with registration details. The MIT Alumni Association has also donated 20 copies of Professor Chisholm's book, Living Sunlight, that will be personally inscribed and signed by the author. First come first serve. (http://spectrum.mit.edu/issue/2009-fall/living-sunlight/).

Stay informed about our upcoming events on our website: mitmn.org and our Facebook Group: MIT Alumni Club of MN!

Casino Card Counting on March 12th: "Beat the Odds: How to Use Quantitative Talents and Discipline at Blackjack"

What a surprise! We have an MIT graduate in our midst who is a former casino card counter. This graduate will discuss personal (profitable) experience with blackjack ("21") card counting, and answer questions (but not necessarily all questions ...) about casinos, blackjack, casino rules, statistics, sophistication levels, signals, staying sober, avoiding identification, avoiding suspicion, etc. This is the stuff of the movie "21" (http://www.sonypictures.com/homevideo/21/) and is of special interest to "quantitative"or "undercover" MIT alums.

After gathering for pizza and beverages at 6 PM at the offices of Gray, Plant, and Mooty (in downtown Minneapolis), the evening will begin with a showing of the movie "21", detailing how a group of MIT students counted cards for profit in the casinos of Las Vegas. After the movie our guest—though not part of the group from the movie—will present personal experiences about the practical issues of casino card counting. You can participate in the question and answer session with our guest, and compare your own blackjack experiences, followed by informal discussions.

If you enjoy playing blackjack, you're likely to learn something that will improve your odds. See you there! Carpooling is encouraged.

NOTE: The MIT Club of Minnesota does not endorse blackjack card counting.

Some Recent Past Events
Highlights of the 2009 Alumni Leadership Conference by John Carney

More than 400 alumni and guests at the Alumni Leadership Conference, including six volunteers from Minnesota, came to campus last September for an insider's view of MIT - and they got it. President Susan Hockfield keynoted the event and they were the first to receive a new report on the future of MIT's global education and research.

Participants at the annual gathering are leaders among the Alumni Association's 9,664 volunteers. During the weekend, they shared strategies for community building and fundraising, honored pivotal volunteers, including three from Minnesota, and learned what's new at the Institute, from financial facts to new research.

"The ALC theme, Connections that Count, means all of you - your connections with one another and with the Institute," Hockfield said. She recounted student and faculty honors, a new minor in energy, research breakthroughs in areas as diverse as the discovery of exo-planets and cement's molecular structure, and influential studies of practice and policy in coal, nuclear, and other energy industries. "On campus there is cutting-edge energy research, but we are also framing the ideas discussed in Congress with recently released policy reports." The Association's annual awards were bestowed at a festive dinner in Walker Memorial on MIT's campus on Saturday night of ALC. Three local MIT volunteers from both the MIT Club of Minnesota and the
Minnesota Education Council were honored to receive awards at the Awards Banquet.

John Carney, Alice Campbell, and Fred Tsuchiya receive awards at MIT ALC 2009

2009 George B. Morgan ’20 Award Recipients

The George B. Morgan ’20 Award recognizes ongoing excellence in all aspects of Educational Council activity. This includes dedication to MIT, an abiding concern for the interests of prospective students, and exceptional standards of achievement and professionalism in meeting Council responsibilities. As of July 1, 2009, a total of 187 alumni have received this award. Locally, both Alice Campbell and Fred Tsuchiya were honored with Morgan Awards.

Alice became an Educational Counselor in 1980, co-vice chair in 1996 and regional co-chair in 2002. Alice leads the educational counselors in the Minnesota region, provides training, and annually helps organize the central meeting. For years she has arranged the spring admitted student’s reception, often in her home. President of the MIT Club of Minnesota for a decade in the 1980s, she is currently a Club of Minnesota Board Member serving as the Education Council liaison to the club. The club began the tradition of hosting a summer send-off picnic seven years ago and Alice was on the forefront of sponsoring the event, rounding up volunteers, and inviting students, recent grads, and interns. Alice is a fine example of leadership and the MIT spirit in action.

Fred became an Educational Counselor in Minnesota in 1978, served as co-vice chair supporting the previous regional chair from 1996 to 2002, and since then has served as co-chair of the Twin Cities Region. He works actively with local educational counselors balancing workloads, providing training and helping to organize the central meeting every year. Fred is always on top of what is needed. He is organized and keeps the Education Counselors informed and supported. His tireless and steady work makes him a fine example of dedication and loyalty in his service to MIT.

2009 Harold E. Lobdell ’17 Distinguished Service Award Recipients

The Lobdell Award, established in 1979, recognizes alumni relations service of special depth over a sustained period. As of July 1, 2009, a total of 264 alumni have received this award. Locally, John Carney was honored with a Lobdell Distinguished Service Award.

John has been a leader of the MIT Club of Minnesota for over a decade. Working with the Alumni Association staff he helped develop and market a number of online tools. He also participated on campus in meetings of the Advisory Committee for Clubs and served on the Technical Operations Review Committee. During John’s tenure as club President, the MIT Club of Minnesota was recognized with the Presidential Citation. John continued to demonstrate his technical interest and prowess as a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors by serving on the Board’s ad hoc committee on Email Forwarding for Life strategy. Currently, as chair of the board's Finance Committee, he is a very thorough and detailed oriented leader. John has also served as an Educational Counselor in Minnesota for the last ten years. His long-term, high quality service in a variety of leadership roles distinguishes him among alumni peers.

2010 Toast to IAP

For BS graduates, the Independent 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 the defending champions of the IAP Trivia Contest (us!, plus the Boston Club) lost out to the Connecticut Club – oh well, there’s always next year! “Toast” participants are shown at Toast Wine Bar & Café in Minneapolis’ warehouse district on January 20th.
Cleantech and Alternative Energy: Opportunities and Challenges

Dr. Doug Cameron (AppBioSci:20 Ph.D. 1987), Managing Director and Chief Science Advisor at Piper Jaffray along with Taylor Todd of Fredrikson and Byron, held a forum on this topic at Fredrikson & Byron on November 5th. Global climate, the need for renewable energies, and “cap and trade” policies have raised nearly universal concern for how individuals, families, companies, and nations will select and best use alternative sources of energy.

The presentation provided a look at existing, emerging, and some speculative technologies in the areas of alternative energy, energy efficiency, material efficiency, green chemistry and carbon dioxide management -- key segments of what venture capitalists and investors classify as “cleantech”. Doug’s presentation was very effective at categorizing and enumerating an impressive array of technologies out there that warrant analysis from a technical, investment, market, and policy point of view. The event was well attended (45 attendees, including many from the general public) -- thanks to Dr. Wayne Lea (EE:6 Ph.D. 1966) for coordinating this exciting and contemporary event.

Tea Tasting Party 1 and 2!

Gretchen Pruett, Manager of the TeaSource, and certified with the Specialty Tea Institute, shared some of her expertise in INDIA TEA with a small group of alums in the basement of the Merriam Park Library on March 14th. India teas range from light, delicate Darjeelings to rich hearty Assams. We learned about the history, production, and brewing of teas in India. The highlight was the tasting. We sampled Indian black, oolong, green, and white teas with fruit and pastries. It was delightful and for those who attended, discount coupons and a catalog from the TeaSource were provided. – thanks to Alice Campbell. St. Anthony’s TeaSource on November 15th was the site of MITTeaTime2, focusing on all major categories of tea.

Will You Be My Friend? by Nimi Ocholi

Greetings fellow alumni! Unless you’ve been living under a rock it’s likely that the words ‘Facebook’, ‘Twitter’ or ‘YouTube’ sound very familiar to you. In fact, I recently heard a good joke about these tools by Conan O’Brien, the former host of the Tonight Show. He quipped that in the year 2050, YouTube, Twitter and Facebook would combine forces to form one social networking platform called ‘You-Twit-Face’. :) To prepare us all for this moment, I’ve decided
to share with you a slice of my experience -- an approach that hopefully proves to be interesting and possibly even informative.

As far as tools go, I predominantly use Facebook and Twitter. I am a self professed information junkie (I bet a number of you are too) and these tools act as a ‘dashboard’ of sorts to help me engage with a subset of all the information out there on the web. The other neat aspect is the fact that I can have an on-going dialogue with friends/acquaintances about the information that I come across. Facebook allows me to do this privately with people within my network while Twitter is more open to whoever finds me on the web. In order to minimize the time I waste (I mean spend) online, I prefer to focus mainly on sharing information that might be of value to others e.g. posting ‘news articles’ vs. making comments about ‘what color of socks I plan to wear today’. While I do admit that the determination of value here is subjective, I haven’t yet received any death threats. :)

The biggest value I see in these tools is the ability to connect in ways that were previously impossible. Facebook allows me to engage regularly with people from all around the world and with a higher fidelity. I have friends in the US, England and Nigeria and Facebook brings it all to one place for me. At one point, I used to play Scrabble games with my dad in Nigeria on Facebook! There are also silly things I partake in such as virtual ‘poking’ to connect without actually using any words. The other person could choose to poke me back, send a message, or acknowledge it and do nothing. (This would be the part where some of you shake your head and wonder how much of this is a complete waste of time?)

Twitter allows me to get a more real time view of what’s going on in the world and not just within the confines of Facebook. Last fall while at ALC, I had the opportunity to send regular updates about the conference (including pictures from the institute, different sessions I attended, etc) and later received several comments from friends saying that it made them wish they were there. For those who are interested, my twitter handle (or name) is @nimzter. I must say that having a smart phone has also been a catalyst for my constant online activity. Given how easy it is to make updates at any point during the day, I’ve been able to stay plugged into the virtual world for much longer stretches at a time. I’m often “that guy” whose friends tell him to put his phone away and start connecting with people in the room when we go out for dinner!

Finally, I will leave you with the thought that while I love all these forms of social media, it’s important to know why you are using these tools. There have been several times I would say I’ve suffered from information/data fatigue after being online for hours. More recently I’ve been challenging myself to answer the question “Why am I going online now?” before I log-on. I’m hoping it lets me reclaim more hours in my day, which maybe I will use to keep up connections with my friends in person and not just virtually.

FYI - Check out the MIT Alumni Social Media tools here: http://alum.mit.edu/news/AlumniNews/Archive/socialmedia.jsp and be sure to join the MIT Club of MN Facebook group: MIT Alumni Club of Minnesota.

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See for yourself how far-reaching the MIT connection is with PlanetMIT, a global community atlas. Use this map to learn where in the world MITers live. The atlas also allows you to quickly see areas where there is an official alumni MIT presence, as represented by red pins. Click the pins and you’ll easily find a profile of alumni, student, volunteer, and parent populations; MIT clubs including club size and the link to its web site; Enterprise Forum chapters; and area representatives with links to their listings in the Online Alumni Directory. PlanetMIT has a great deal of information all in one cross functional view. In the future MIT’s Alumni Association plans to add interesting data from internal departments at MIT including Admissions and the Education Council, Sloan, and donor information from the Alumni Fund and
Resource Development. They also plan to add events from SmarTrans scheduled by clubs, classes, affinity groups, parents, and others so that PlanetMIT will educate about the whole MIT community in a selected locale.

Global information accessible from PlanetMIT will be updated once a year. PlanetMIT can be found on the Infinite Connection under the Networking tab. It does not require a log in to the Infinite Connection so perspective students, parents, high schools, and many others worldwide can use it as a reference. MIT alumni travelers can use PlanetMIT to conveniently find everything about MIT happening in a new region they plan to visit. Check it out!

Educational Council Annual Report
by Alice Campbell and Fred Tsuchiya

What's New with MIT Recruiting in MN?
The 27 MIT alums who volunteer as Twin Cities Educational Council (EC) interviewers of high school applicants to MIT have had another busy fall season. We conducted 151 interviews (and 23 more students chose to apply without having an interview). Roughly half of the interviews were for students who applied “Early Action” -- and 6 were offered early admission in December 2009! Congrats to Kelly Roscoe (two students admitted!), Ken Ross, John Carney, Ying Tan and Mark Copman who all had interviewees admitted Early Action as frosh to be in the class of 2014. With only 6 admitted so far, that leaves over 160 high school seniors (and 27 EC's) waiting impatiently for the Regular Action decision date which, for the past several years, has been on "Pi Day" (March 14, just before 4 PM -- that's 3.14159....). We've seen so many wonderful candidates that a lot of ECs wonder if we would still get in to MIT now! We wish the best of luck to the Minnesota contingent of entering frosh who should be just as superlative as their predecessors, as well as those applicants who are still waiting to hear.

Regards,
Fred Tsuchiya and Alice Campbell
Educational Council
Twin Cities Region Co-Chairs

P.S. -- Several of our EC volunteers did more than 10 interviews this season. Each interview takes 1-2 hours plus at least that much more crafting a report to the Admissions Office that lives up to the high standards of the Institute, and essentially all the work happens from September 15 to December 31. A huge thank you is in line for all the EC volunteers! Fred and Alice, the Twin Cities Region Co-Chairs, received MIT's George B. Morgan Award at the 2009 Alumni Leadership Conference in recognition of excellence in all things "EC" for more than 30 years each. If you were an MIT undergrad and are interested in being an EC for a 3 year term of 4-7 applicants per year, please contact Alice Campbell (aliceC78@alum.mit.edu) or Fred Tsuchiya (fred.tsuchiya@alum.mit.edu) for more info.

2009-10 MIT Club of Minnesota Officers

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officers</th>
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<th>MIT 10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VP Communications</td>
<td>Michael Hennessy, SMME:2 1982</td>
<td>Barbara Slater, SMCP:11R 1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Ying Tan, PH:8 2001</td>
<td>Amber Montalvo, SMMAT:3M 2002</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>John Arenivar, CH:5 1979</td>
<td>Lynn Cornell, PhyBio:7A 1997</td>
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| Board Members | | K-12 Initiative |
| EC Liaison & Enterprise Forum | Alice Campbell, CHE:10 1978 | Communications Planning |

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<th>Non-Board Member</th>
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<td>Adonis Neblett, CHE:10 1979</td>
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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 900 MIT alumni in Minnesota and Western Wisconsin, about 10% of whom are members of the MIT Club of Minnesota. 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 2009-10 membership year has included well-attended and diverse events such as:
- Tea Tasting
- Dine 'n Dance
- Minnesota Zoo
- EF on Energy Entrepreneurship & Innovation
- Mississippi Volunteering
- Annual Summer Picnic
- Lock and Dam #1 Tour
- Jungle Theatre (with Columbia U Club)
- Beer Lover’s Delight
- Cleantech and Alternative Energy
- MITTeaTime2
- Annual Holiday Party
- Spoonriver Restaurant (with Columbia U Club)
- Stratasys Tour
- Toast to IAP
- Monthly, informal after-work social gatherings

We are planning our 2010-11 events now and are open to your suggestions! 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://mitmn.org](http://mitmn.org) ("Membership").

Best regards,

Becca Luger-Guillaume, President (president@mitmn.org)
Dora Paolucci, VP Membership (paolucci@alum.mit.edu)

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### MIT CLUB OF MINNESOTA

**January 2010 – JUNE 2010 MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT / RENEWAL**

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<th>Club Patron:</th>
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<th>Club Benefactor:</th>
<th>$300 – 499</th>
<th>Club Sponsor:</th>
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<td>Recent Graduate 2009:</td>
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<td><strong>Standard Membership</strong> (1/2 yr):</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 ____________________________

*Membership Level & Date: ____________________________

Please mail this form with payment to:

MIT Club of Minnesota
1730 New Brighton Blvd., #180
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Register faster at: [http://alumweb.mit.edu/clubs/minnesota/](http://alumweb.mit.edu/clubs/minnesota/) and click on “Membership”
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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<thead>
<tr>
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<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? YES NO