President’s Corner
by Belle L. Tseng ’91

On behalf of CAMIT, I would like to thank our past and present members for another wonderful year of support, participation, and fun. We filled the year with social activities and cultural events including the Lunar New Year’s banquet in New York, guided tour of the Noguchi Museum, ski trip to Killington, whitewater rafting trip at the Poconos, Atlantic City road trip from Boston, summer picnics, hiking trips, tennis parties, apple picking outings, pumpkin carving and dumpling parties. It was certainly an exciting year and we promise to beat another record this year with your participation and involvement.

A little history for those unfamiliar to the organization, here are my thoughts on CAMIT, the Chinese Alumni Club of MIT. CAMIT was conceived in 1983 by a group of Chinese alumni of MIT and their friends for the exchange of information and ideas and to promote the interests of Chinese culture. They established a network of resources so as to cultivate programs of common interest and to assist and advance the prestige of MIT. To this day, CAMIT has grown to be an association of MIT alumni and friends, united by our educational background, cultural interests, and network activities. Combining our resources, CAMIT offers each member professional, cultural, and social expansion.

As we look forward to the new millennium, CAMIT has defined four goals: Awareness, Membership, Events, and Volunteers.

The first is to promote CAMIT Awareness. For this initiative, we are participating in the following diversified set of approaches. Devoted CAMIT volunteers are working on the establishment of local chapters in Northern California, Southern California, and Texas, in addition to the existing chapters in Boston and New York. CAMIT officers are contacting Asian student clubs at MIT (i.e., Chinese Student Club, Taiwanese Student Club, KSC) to extend free first year memberships to new graduates. CAMIT is also participating in the Great Court Gala event during MIT Tech Week and Reunion on Saturday, June 5, 1999. Finally for publicity media, CAMIT has a newsletter, bulletin board, web site, and emailing list (see addresses on this issue of CAMITalk).

The second goal is to increase CAMIT Membership. Currently, we are undergoing a membership drive for the membership year starting on July 1, 1999 and ending on June 30, 2000. For the first time, the membership term coincides with the MIT Alumni Association’s fiscal year calendar. So we encourage you to become a member now to take full advantage of all the benefits of a CAMIT member.

The third goal is to improve CAMIT Events in terms of quantity, quality and participation. Everyone is encourage to partake in the events, the more the merrier, and soon you’ll notice that vicious cycle where the quality and quantity go up.

The fourth goal is to recruit CAMIT Volunteers. We are always seeking active individuals with leadership skills, team spirit and creativity. If you enjoy writing, please contribute to CAMITalk. If you like talking and networking, discuss leading issues with other volunteers. Or if you simply want to have fun, come and brainstorm about our upcoming events. In particular, with the establishment of local chapters in your area, we hope you can become an avid contributor to shape and grow these start-ups.

CAMIT need your help in achieving these goals, increasing membership, participating in events, and becoming active volunteers. We hope you will continue to support CAMIT through a combination of these involvements. If you have questions, comments, or suggestions, please feel free to contact me or any officer or board member (their names and email addresses are listed in this and every issue of CAMITalk).