

Bib·li·o·tech

NEWS FROM THE MIT LIBRARIES



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 From the Director


It would take an exceptional opportunity to lure someone from Stanford, where the streets are lined with palm trees nearly 50 feet tall and the temperatures rarely dip below 60 in February, to MIT, where the streets are lined with snow banks nearly as tall, and the temperatures rarely rose above freezing this February. The chance to lead the MIT Libraries and provide oversight to the MIT Press, during this time of enormous change in higher education and in scholarly communication, is exactly that kind of opportunity.

Thanks to the visionary and strategic leadership of Ann Wolpert, the commitment and talents of library staff, and the support of our friends and donors, the MIT Libraries are in an excellent position to play a leadership role in developing a model for great research libraries supporting new forms of scholarship, teaching, and learning. As I spend time over the next several months talking with and listening to people from every corner of the MIT community, I'll be paying special attention to the unique role MIT plays in the lives of individuals, and the role the Institute can and will play in inventing the future of higher education. I hope you'll get to know me a bit through my profile in this issue, and I look forward to getting to know many of you and learning about your thoughts and aspirations for the future of the MIT Libraries.

Early in March, we welcomed our Visiting Committee, a group of dedicated alumni, supporters, friends, and advisors to MIT and the Libraries. We are privileged to have Xerox CEO Ursula Burns serving as chair of the MIT Libraries Visiting Committee – you can learn more about Ursula and her support of MIT and the Libraries in this issue of *Bibliotech*.

Also in this issue, we highlight the creativity and expertise of the Lewis Music Library and staff who support music education at the Institute. You can also learn more about our efforts to preserve materials from Officer Sean Collier's memorial, read about our diversity initiatives, and find information about our upcoming exhibit and events. I hope you enjoy the spring issue of *Bibliotech*, and that you will contact me directly with your ideas and comments.

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BIBLIOTECH

News from the MIT Libraries, an official publication of the MIT Libraries, is published twice a year, in the Fall and Spring.

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In tune with music at MIT

From beatmatching to music gaming, the Lewis Music Library supports music education in creative new ways

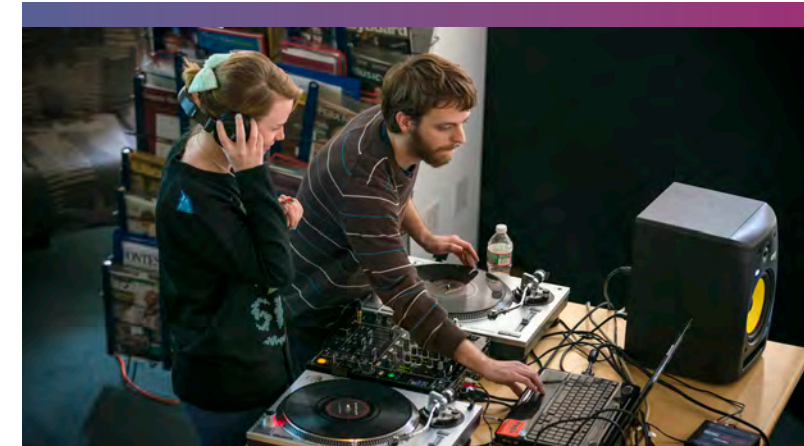


photo credit: Christopher Harding

“There’s a misconception out there that we’re only about classical music,” Munstedt said. “When students see everything we offer, both in the library and online, they’re amazed.”

A young crowd gathered around a turntable, as sounds of 70’s hits re-mixed with the latest dance beats pumped out of speakers. You might have thought you were in a club, if it weren’t for the stacks of books and scores all around. It was the Lewis Music Library hosting “DJing at a Glance: The History of Beatmatching with Mmmaven’s General Motor.”

The DJ event brought in four MIT classes studying topics ranging from American popular music, to music and technology. Gareth Middlebrook (aka DJ General Motor) demonstrated DJ technology, beatmatching, and vinyl mixing to a full house of enthralled students.

“DJ General Motor’s talk on the history of [beatmatching] gave me a new appreciation and respect for the art of DJing. Combining vinyl and traditional DJ techniques is a difficult endeavor, and requires not only the ability to correctly match beats and understand music, but also physical skills and muscle memory for working with the vinyl,” student Carolyn Joseph said.

The event was one of several ways the music library is supporting MIT classes in creative new ways.

“We’re interested in bringing in new types of media and programming. This is the direction we want to go in,” Music Librarian, Peter Munstedt said.

This semester the library is working with MIT alumnus Eran Egozy, SB/SM ’95, developer of the popular games *Guitar Hero* and *Rock Band*. Egozy is teaching Interactive Music Systems, a hands-on programming and design course that explores audio synthesis, musical structure, and human/computer interfaces as parts of interactive musical experiences. The library reconfigured its group viewing room and installed new equipment to support the class. A *Guitar Hero* guitar is also available to students taking the class.

According to Munstedt, collaborating with classes and offering events, increases awareness of all the library’s resources. The music library offers as many as eight events a semester ranging from class-specific offerings, to composer forums, and open mics that attract musicians, and music fans, from across the MIT community.



See upcoming music events on pg. 12 →

Meet Chris Bourg

New director brings a passion for education, and openness to the Libraries



photo credit: L. Barry Hetherington

The MIT community welcomed the new director at a recent reception

“We’re MIT, we aspire to do something that will be a model for other libraries.”



Chris Bourg arrived in Cambridge in the middle of the snowiest winter on record. The fact that MIT was closed due to 20+ inches of snow during the first two days of her tenure, did not deter the Libraries’ new director.

“It would take an extraordinary organization, and an extraordinary set of people to tempt someone to move from Palo Alto, California where it’s 73 degrees right now,” Bourg said at a staff reception in early February. “THIS is that kind of organization. I’m excited to be here, and I know we will do great things together,” she said to resounding applause.

Bourg came to MIT from Stanford University Libraries where she served in various roles over the past 12 years, most recently as associate university librarian for public services. She was a sociology grad student at Stanford when a part time job as a statistical software consultant at the Libraries gave her the opportunity to work with subject librarians and students.

“I kind of fell in love with it,” Bourg said. “I realized I could have more of an impact working in libraries than as an individual scholar.”

She talks about the match with libraries as the culmination of her experience. She was a first generation college student who attended Duke University on an ROTC scholarship. After Duke she spent the first ten years of her career as an officer in the United States Army, including three years on the faculty of the United States Military Academy at West Point.

“I kind of fell in love with it...I realized I could have more of an impact working in libraries than as an individual scholar.”

“Being a leader in research libraries allows me to bring to bear all the experience I gained as an officer in the US Army, as a faculty member at West Point, as well as the scholarly expertise I gained from my PhD program. Combining that experience with the values and passion I have for the transformative potential of higher education is incredibly rewarding in a career,” she said.

While Bourg is still getting to know MIT, she already feels the Institute is a natural fit for her.

“MIT is the kind of place that embodies my values—openness, transparency, meritocracy, striving to do the right thing, not just by their students, but by the whole community,” she said.

In her new role Bourg will lead the MIT Libraries and the MIT Press at a pivotal time when library services are evolving, and changes in scholarly communication and digital publishing are impacting both libraries and publishers.

“A good leader facilitates individuals and groups to do great work that has meaning for them,” she said. “Authenticity and passion are really important too.”

Bourg’s passion for libraries comes through in the potential she sees for the Libraries to collaborate with researchers in new ways.

“Libraries have always been a place for discovery, but there are ways to make our resources more available to more people,” she said.

Bourg wants to get to know MIT students too. She plans to attend Furry First Friday study breaks, hold open office hours, and catch a few MIT sporting events. She’s a sports fanatic with a fondness for Duke Basketball, and the San Francisco Giants, evident by the framed *Sports Illustrated* covers adorning her office walls.

In her first year Bourg will spend time working on a new strategic plan, a plan she said will be, “big and bold.” With library renovations on the horizon, she’s interested in finding out how the Libraries can fill under-met needs, and create a shared vision with the MIT community.

In her words, “We’re MIT, we aspire to do something that will be a model for other libraries.”



Chris Bourg

DIRECTOR OF THE LIBRARIES

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Professor Lorna Gibson with Chris Bourg

Featured Exhibit

Wild things

Amazing animals in library collections

Animals have always fascinated humans: for centuries we've taxonomized, anatomized, and sometimes anthropomorphized our fellow creatures. Several animal species have been domesticated and bred for thousands of years, while others were hunted to extinction. Select species live in our homes as treasured parts of the family. Some serve as mascots for our institutions and sports teams. And for millennia, fantastic creatures have disturbed our sleep. The relationship between humans and animals is, in a word, complex.

Scientific approaches to the animal kingdom haven't always been perfectly straightforward either. Why did the 16th-century publications of Conrad Gessner, the "father of zoology," include animals that have never existed? How clear is the distinction between the purely analytical work of Linnaeus, and the more practical work of animal husbandry? Was John James Audubon truly a naturalist, or was he simply a painter of animals?

The upcoming exhibit, *Quadrupedia*, in the Libraries' Maihaugen Gallery considers animals—quadrupeds in particular—and the way we've viewed them through the centuries. Classic works by Linnaeus, Cuvier, Buffon, Gessner, Audubon, and others will be on display. Join us as we examine the intersections of science and art, reality and fantasy, human and animal.

Visit the Maihaugen Gallery →

Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
libraries.mit.edu/maihaugen



Top & Bottom:
 Hand colored woodcuts
 from *Icones animalium
 quadrupedum uiuiparorum
 et ouiparorum*
 by Konrad Gesner, 1553

Middle: Maryland Marmot,
 from *Viviparous Quadrupeds
 of North America* by John
 James Audubon and John
 Bachman, 1845-1848

Institute Archives and
 Special Collections



Promoting diversity and inclusion

Libraries contribute to campus efforts to create a welcoming community

This winter, MIT hosted its annual Institute Diversity Summit. The theme was "Advancing a Respectful and Caring Community," and included workshops and thought-provoking discussions. Many MIT departments, including the Libraries, are following MIT's efforts and addressing these important issues on a local level.

The Libraries' Committee on the Promotion of Diversity and Inclusion (CPDI), now in its fifth year, focuses on increasing awareness and sensitivity among library staff, and recommends policies and practices that embed diversity and inclusion into the Libraries' services

and work environment. CPDI hosts a variety of staff events, from informational seminars that build cultural awareness, to workshops that provide the tools needed to change insensitive behavior, to social gatherings that strengthen work relationships and build a supportive community.

Topics have included unconscious bias, microinequities, being an active bystander, and social justice issues related to race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, ability, and religion.

MIT's Council for Staff Diversity and Inclusion (CSDI) has recognized the Libraries' efforts, and several CPDI members have served as panel speakers at the 2014 Summit, and have assumed leadership roles within MIT's Employee Resource Groups (ERGs). To learn more about the work of CPDI, and the Libraries' commitment to diversity and inclusion see: libguides.mit.edu/diversity

CO-CHAIRS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PROMOTION OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION:



Gregory Padilla
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willer@mit.edu

Staff Profile



Christine Malinowski Research Data Management Fellow

Christine Malinowski joined the MIT Libraries in September 2014 to begin a two-year fellowship in the area of research data management. She is a 2013 graduate of the University of Washington iSchool, where she was also a graduate staff assistant. She has a BS in Geochemistry from Millersville University, and an MS in Science Journalism from Boston University. Prior to MIT, she was the science and data services librarian at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon.

Malinowski supports MIT students, faculty, and researchers working with research data. This includes providing assistance with creating data management plans, individual consultations, and workshops on data management best practices and technologies.

"The best part of the job is interacting with such a wide swath of talent and expertise in the Libraries, and the broader MIT community," Malinowski said.

"I really look forward to bolstering what we are able to offer in research data management."

Malinowski once lived Boston, and was excited to return. "I love living in such a walkable city again where I average about 5-6 miles walking to and from work alone!" she said.

From the Archives

Preserving Officer Sean Collier's legacy

Mementos from memorial site become part of MIT's archives and history



photo credit: Dominick Reuter

In the aftermath of the Boston Marathon bombing, on April 18, 2013, MIT Police Officer Sean Collier was killed in the line of duty by the alleged bombers. Shortly thereafter a makeshift memorial sprang up near the site. Hundreds of items were left at the memorial including flowers, notes, photographs, candles, stuffed animals, and numbers from Marathon runners.

With the consent of the Institute administration and MIT Police, staff of the Institute Archives collected the items, leaving only the flowers and candles. The collected items, which had been exposed to the elements, were brought to the Libraries' Wunsch Conservation Lab where they were placed in a freezer to kill any potentially harmful mold. After an appropriate time, items were cleaned and rehoused in custom-built enclosures. The items were

then cataloged and stored in the Archives. Additional items were collected as the memorial remained in place for six months, and at that point a marker was placed on the spot.

During the process staff of the Institute Archives and Special Collections met with members of the MIT Police to facilitate the collection and preservation of the items. And with the approval of Officer Collier's family, and the MIT Police, the collection was given to the Institute Archives. A permanent memorial is scheduled to be unveiled in April, along with the collection in the Archives. Both will provide a permanent tribute to Officer Collier and serve as a reminder of his sacrifice for future generations. The MIT Libraries are honored to have been able to assist in preserving Officer Collier's legacy.

For more information →

about the collection, contact mithistory@mit.edu

★ Featured Special Collection

Howe, Manning & Almy papers

Collection documents the lives and work of Boston's first female architects

Drawing was considered an essential skill for late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century architects, and was part of the curriculum at the Institute. MIT-trained Eleanor Manning (class of 1906) created plans and drawings for the buildings she designed, and spent vacations painting architectural subjects she found intriguing. Manning joined in partnership with Boston architect Lois Lilley Howe (MIT, 1890) in 1913. A third MIT alumna, Mary Almy, joined them in 1926.

The architectural firm that grew into Howe, Manning & Almy is believed to be the first architectural firm in Boston founded by women and the second in the United States.

The firm completed approximately 500 projects, most of which still stand, including a number of private dwellings in Cambridge. The Howe, Manning & Almy collection (MC 9) in the Institute Archives and Special Collections includes reports, paintings, drawings, blueprints, photographs, diaries, notes, correspondence, and other materials illuminating the lives and work of the three MIT alumnae.



Undated watercolor by architect Eleanor Manning (Class of 1906)

To learn more →

Contact the Institute Archives and Special Collections at mithistory@mit.edu

 Supporting the Libraries

Ursula Burns

Xerox CEO generously lends her support and expertise to the Libraries

Ursula Burns, chairwoman and chief executive officer of Xerox Corporation, has been a friend and supporter of the MIT Libraries since becoming chair of the Libraries' Visiting Committee in 2011. In her role on the committee, she ensures that the committee provides valuable advice and insight about the Libraries to the MIT Corporation.

"Libraries today have to balance meeting current information needs with the challenge of anticipating and inventing a digital future. I can bring my experience as CEO of Xerox to the task of guiding the Visiting Committee in helping the MIT Libraries meet that challenge."

Burns' career with Xerox began with a summer internship in 1980. The mechanical engineer, with degrees from the Polytechnic Institute of NYU and Columbia University, rose through the ranks to become CEO of the company in 2009. The first African-American woman to lead a Fortune 500 company, she's consistently ranked on Forbes' "World's 100 Most Powerful Women" list, and widely admired for her vision and tenacity.

Burns is also known as a national advocate for math and science education. In 2009 she was named by President Obama to help lead the White House national program on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), and in 2010 she was appointed vice chair of Obama's Export Council.

As an advocate for education, and a leader who has navigated momentous technological changes at Xerox, Burns has unique insight into the challenges that libraries face in a digital world. She also has a personal connection to MIT—her son Malcolm graduated from the Institute.

"No matter the discipline or department, I have found scholarships and library services to be the great equalizers in the MIT educational experience. There is no better way to touch the lives of so many gifted young innovators than to provide the financial resources to study at MIT and the information resources to be successful at MIT and beyond."

"No matter the discipline or department, I have found scholarships and library services to be the great equalizers in the MIT educational experience..."

In addition to lending her time and expertise to MIT, she has made monetary donations to the Undergraduate Scholarship Fund, and the Libraries' Director's Fund for Library Excellence. In 2011 Burns was MIT's Commencement speaker.

"Set your sights on changing the world—in leaving this planet a little better than you found it," she said to graduates. Burns lives by these words, and the Libraries are grateful for it.

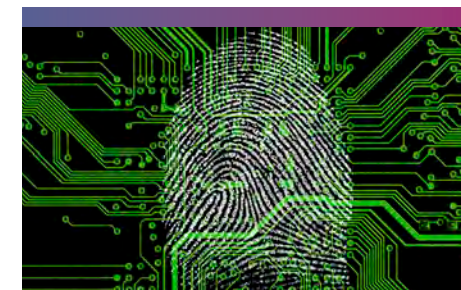


photo credit: Lonnie Major

What's New?

Libraries' Program on Information Science awarded Sloan Foundation grant

This January, the Arthur P. Sloan Foundation awarded \$868,954 to a joint MIT-Harvard University project focused on developing easy-to-use tools for sharing confidential research data while retaining data privacy. The project, led by Micah Altman, director of research for the MIT Libraries and head/scientist for the Program on Information Science, will begin in April. It aims to leverage ongoing multidisciplinary collaborations and theoretical advances in computation, statistics, law, and social science to improve reuse and replicability in empirical social science, promoting archiving of, and access to, large-scale confidential data.



"Both academic research and information services are increasingly based on detailed digital information about people and their behavior," Altman said. "Although personal information is being produced and collected at an exponentially increased rate, there is no broadly standardized way of describing and managing private information in research. This project will provide understandable, usable tools and policies for managing confidential research data."

Institute Archives and Special Collections receives records of the MIT Hillel office



MIT Hillel office records, recently donated to the Archives, document a vibrant Jewish community on campus dating back to 1914. Records trace the evolution of MIT Hillel on campus from its beginnings as the Menorah Society. The collection includes many informal photographs of students at social and religious events sponsored by Hillel; posters publicizing events; newsletters; papers, drawings, and brochures about the award-winning sukkah design from the early 1990s; and files from the original director. Much of the material is from the 1950s to the early 2000s.

To learn more →

To learn more, contact the Institute Archives and Special Collections at mithistory@mit.edu.

 Staff Profile


Jessica Venlet Digital Archives Fellow

Jessica Venlet arrived at MIT in October 2014 to begin a two-year fellowship with the Libraries in the area of digital archives. She came from Michigan where she received her Master of Science in Information degree from the University of Michigan, and was a graduate assistant at the University's Bentley Historical Library. She has a BA in English literature from Aquinas College.

Venlet's work is focused on providing greater access to MIT's archival content in digital forms. Working closely with the digital archivist in the Institute Archives and Special Collections, she explores methods and tools to collect, store, and provide access to the content.

"Learning more about the context of digital archives at MIT, and what it takes to create new workflows and procedures, is a fantastic professional experience for me," she said. She's already getting experience in many areas including creating experiment frames for the Digital Sustainability Lab.

"I'm also really enjoying learning about the history of the Institute."

As a history and literature buff, Venlet has embraced her new surroundings. "American Transcendentalism was one of my favorite classes—so moving to Boston was really very exciting for me," she said.

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Spring Events 2015

APRIL EVENTS

Workshop Series

IAPril

April 1-30

Series of workshops and classes offered throughout the month

Open Performance

Open Mic

April 3

noon-1 PM

Lewis Music Library (14E-109)



Study Break

Furry First Friday

April 3

2-4 PM

Hayden Library (14S-100)



Composer Forum

Composer Forum with
Arnold Dreyblatt

April 8

5:00-6:00 PM

Lewis Music Library (14E-109)



Music Concert

13th Annual Prokopoff
Violin Music Concert

April 17

noon-1 PM

Lewis Music Library (14E-109)



Examination

Examining Medieval
Chant Manuscripts

April 27

12-2 PM

Lewis Music Library (14E-109)

Event Series

Preservation Week

Events held April 26 - May 2

MAY EVENTS

Open Performance

Open Mic

May 1

noon-1 PM

Lewis Music Library (14E-109)

Finals Week

Study Breaks

May 13-19

Study Break

Cookies with Canines

May 14

2-3:30 PM

Hayden Library (14S-100)



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