

Bib·li·o·tech

NEWS FROM THE MIT LIBRARIES

TASK FORCE REPORT

Inventing the Future

A Bold Vision for MIT and Libraries Globally
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From the Director


When I wrote to you a year ago about the formation of the Future of Libraries task force, I shared my hope that it would be a conversation including many voices. Now, I'm excited to share with you the fruits of this yearlong process that brought out the very best of MIT.

Our discussions were challenging, eye-opening, and inspiring. The diversity of the task force itself—faculty from all five MIT schools; staff from the Libraries, Press, Office of Digital Learning, and Information Systems & Technology; undergraduate and graduate students—enriched those conversations and pushed us to be bold, to imagine a library that serves not only MIT but a global community.

I believe the vision that emerged reflects this inclusive process and bold ambition; you can read more about it in this issue of *Bibliotech* and on our website. The full report is also available on PubPub, the new open source publishing platform developed in the MIT Media Lab that allows us to continue to engage with the community even after publication. I invite you to join that conversation.

While the task force was imagining the kind of library required by an institution that aims to solve big problems, MIT was launching the Campaign for a Better World, imagining a future where we bring our considerable talents to bear on the world's greatest challenges. Our goals could not be better aligned.

The Libraries' vision of a better world is one where there is abundant, equitable, meaningful access to knowledge and research emerging from places like MIT. It's a world where we have enduring and sustainable models for ensuring that knowledge is available long into the future.

Realizing this future for libraries presents a big challenge and a big opportunity. I'm confident that there is no one better positioned than MIT to embrace them. The outstanding support you have shown for the Libraries over the past year—represented in this issue's honor roll of donors—only boosts that confidence further. I look forward to pursuing this better world together.

All the best,

Chris Bourg, PhD
DIRECTOR OF THE LIBRARIES

 617-253-5297
 cbourg@mit.edu

 @mchris4duke
 chrisbourg.wordpress.com

BIBLIOTECH

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EDITOR

Brigham Fay
 Marketing and
 Communications Officer
 617-253-5686
 brighamf@mit.edu

DESIGN

Moth Design

DIRECTOR'S PHOTOS

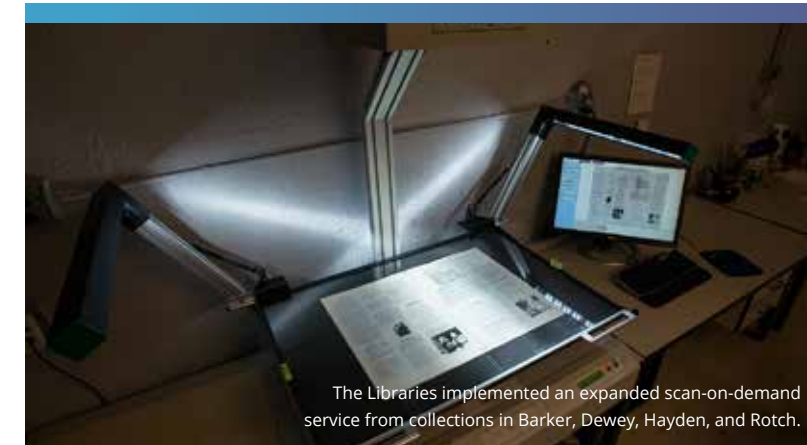
Wayne Vanderkull

COVER

Muriel Cooper, brochure for
 MIT summer institute, 1957

Change Is Good

Meeting today's needs and imagining tomorrow's



The Libraries implemented an expanded scan-on-demand service from collections in Barker, Dewey, Hayden, and Rotch.

Libraries staff are continuously looking at how spaces can be better used.

While the Future of Libraries task force has been envisioning the global library of tomorrow, staff across the MIT Libraries have been hard at work making improvements the community can enjoy today. This fall, the Libraries debuted a number of service and space changes designed to improve service, accessibility, and engagement.

Many improvements—including an expanded scan-on-demand service and office delivery, a modern microform reader/printer, and more printing and scanning capability in 24-hour study spaces—are based on direct feedback from users via the Ask Us chat service, Tell Us online suggestion form, and user surveys. Felicity Walsh, head of Information Delivery and Library Access, adds that Libraries staff are continuously looking at how spaces can be better used and keeping up with industry best practices.

"We're always trying to find ways to give people what they want," says Walsh.

Also this academic year, the conversion of underutilized space in Barker Library into an active learning classroom for library instruction is being explored. New furnishings and technologies could allow

students to work flexibly alone or in groups, to share what they're working on, and to engage in discussion more easily.

"We want students to take control of the discovery and research process," says E-learning and Instructional Technology Librarian Stacey Snyder, who is leading the project. "This will be a great venue for that."

Other facilities improvements under review for the coming year include a reconfigured desk at Barker Library and a potential reconfiguration of Hayden Library to improve usability.

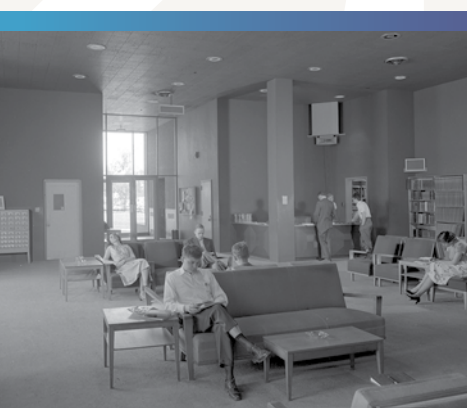
With the Future of Libraries task force completing a nearly yearlong process of gathering input from the MIT community, conversations about users' needs, and opportunities for experimentation, are reaching a whole new level.

"Chris Bourg and the task force have undertaken an extensive interview process with the community as a whole," says Walsh. "There are certain things like scanning, printing, and delivery, that we knew people wanted. But with the task force, it's exciting to think that some of the ideas coming out of this process are going to be surprising."



Celebrating 20 Years of the Lewis Music Library

The MIT community is passionate about music, so it's no surprise that MIT's music library holds a special place in the hearts and minds of students, faculty, and alumni alike. This fall marks the 20th anniversary of the renovation and dedication of the Rosalind Denny Lewis Music Library. *Bibliotech* takes a look back at the evolution of its technologies and collections, the unique ways it supports the community both intellectually and creatively, and the enduring passion of its supporters and friends.



1950

The Charles Hayden Memorial Library opens, and a music lounge with a small library collection is created as a branch of the Humanities Library in the present location. The new space is immediately popular.

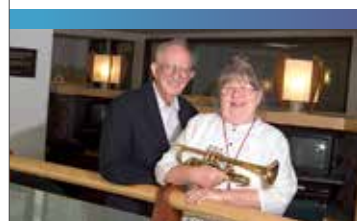
1995

After 45 years in this location, the Music Library is cramped and the shelves are overflowing.



1996

A total renovation of the library is completed, with support from Cherry ('41) and Mary Emerson and other dedicated donors. Renamed the Rosalind Denny Lewis Music Library, the space expands by 2,500 square feet, and its users nearly double in the first year.



1999

The Music at MIT Oral History project, supported by Lionel Kinney ('53) since 2006, begins. It includes nearly 50 interviews with individuals involved in music at MIT presented in audio and video recordings.



2004

The library digitizes 72 reel-to-reel tape recordings of the MIT Symphony Orchestra. This project is made possible through the David M. Epstein Memorial Library Fund, named after the longtime conductor.



2007

For *Library Music: Silence Into Sound*, 10 sound installations, created by MIT Media Lab graduate students and curated by Professor Tod Machover, fill the library with a cacophony of sounds and music.



2010

The library embraces its role as an ideal venue for concerts and lectures, such as a performance by Oori, MIT's student punghmul group, with New York-based ensemble KIOKU in a mesh of traditional Asian music and collaborative improvisation.



2011

Constance Kantar donates several 15th- or 16th-century Spanish chant leaves in their original binding, known as the *Glaser Codex*, giving new dimension to instruction in MIT's Early Music class.

The collections of Herb Pomeroy, influential jazz performer and educator and founder of the MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble, are donated to the Libraries. Support from donors, including Michael Good and JoAnn Close, is helping to make this material available.



2014

One of the library's most popular events, "DJing at a Glance: The History of Beatmatching with Mmmaven's General Motor," is presented in conjunction with classes in Music and STS (Science, Technology, and Society).

Looking ahead

"The Lewis Music Library has been at the forefront among music libraries in adapting resources to changing formats and user needs that evolving technologies have entailed...I have the utmost confidence they will continue to do so for the next 20 years and beyond."

—MICHAEL S. CUTHBERT,
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC

Pre-1950

The music "library" originally consisted of two or three shelves of music books and recordings, donated by the Carnegie Corporation, housed on the balcony of Walker Memorial Library.



1997

The *Inventions of Note* sheet music collection is created. Popular songs and piano compositions, most from 1890–1923, portray new technologies of the day, such as automobiles and telephones.

2001

Lois Craig, former associate dean of the School of Architecture and Planning, gives 2,600 violin music scores belonging to her late husband, Stephen Prokopoff. Since 2003, MIT students have performed this music in an annual library recital.

2009

The Class of 1982 Music Library Fund enables the library to provide custom-built study tables and computers containing music audio software.



2013

Excerpt from *Urban songs*, 1992, Klas Torstensson (b.1951) purchased by the Class of 1982 Music Library Fund.

Lionel Kinney ('53) establishes the Lewis Music Library Digital Initiatives Fund.

2016

The library collection reaches more than 88,000 physical items, with e-resource materials numbering in the millions.

From the Archives

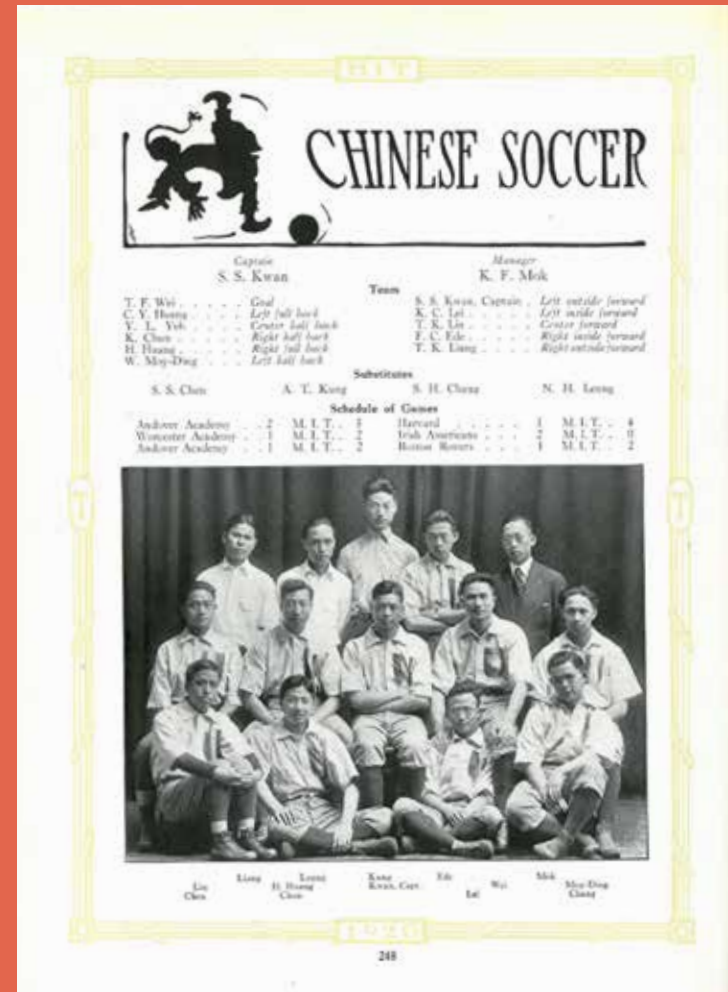
China Comes to Tech: 1877–1930

Maihaugen Gallery exhibit examines Chinese students at MIT

In 1877, the first student from China matriculated at MIT. By 1910, China was sending more students to MIT than any other foreign country. From these beginnings, the Institute became one of the most popular overseas destinations for Chinese students, many seeking to contribute to their country's modernization through engineering, science, and commerce. These students played a key role in bringing new technology and science back to China during an era of rapid modernization, while also promoting American understanding of China and its people.

Early Chinese graduates of MIT produced numerous inventions, from the world's first Chinese typewriter to the Model C training seaplane, and pioneered work in fields from microwave spectroscopy to nonlinear control theory. These students left a legacy of strong ties between China and "Tech" that profoundly influenced the course of globalization.

Opening in 2017 and organized for the Maihaugen Gallery by Emma J. Teng, T.T. and Wei Fong Chao Professor of Asian Civilizations at MIT, *China Comes to Tech: 1877–1930* commemorates 140 years of Chinese students at the Institute. Taking the 1931 Chinese Students' Club publication *Chinese Students Directory: For the Past 50 Years* as a launching point, the exhibit chronicles the history of this MIT community through the Institute Archives.



Chinese soccer team, *Technique*, 1920.

Out of the Ordinary

Experimental Collections Fund backs bold new ideas to benefit users



MIT is synonymous with a spirit of exploration, with its thriving maker culture, entrepreneurial drive, and problem-solving ethos. This year, the Libraries staff had its own opportunity to dip a toe in the proverbial sandbox.

This spring, the Scholarly Communications and Collections Strategy department announced a special fund for services, models, or collections that differ from the kinds the Libraries typically support. All members of the staff were given the opportunity to submit proposals for innovative, forward-looking uses of the fund that would align with the Libraries' goals to meet the ever-evolving needs of our community, encourage openness, advance diversity and inclusion, and have a broad impact on users.

One of the pilot programs supported by the fund is testing the use of electronic music scores using a new app from music publisher G. Henle Verlag. It allows musicians to customize music text, add notes, record and play back their performance, and take advantage of several other features afforded by a digital format.

"Musicians have been performing music from paper scores for centuries," says Peter Munstedt, music librarian. "However, electronic scores are improving rapidly and beginning to catch the attention of musicians and music librarians."

The Lewis Music Library has lent several tablets equipped with the app to MIT students and faculty, who will use them throughout the fall and will share their experiences at a public lecture and recital at the end of the semester. The library staff is working on this project with Institute Professor Marcus Thompson, director of the MIT Chamber Music Society.

"We expect e-scores to become more popular. This experiment is an opportunity to think about how music libraries collect scores in the future and whether e-scores will eventually replace paper scores."

—PETER MUNSTEDT

In addition to the e-scores project, the Experimental Collections Fund also supported a web archiving program for the *mit.edu* domain and a streaming video service to meet a longstanding need for films for teaching.

"It was energizing to see the wide range of projects proposed in our first round with the experimental fund," says Ellen Finnie, head, Scholarly Communications and Collections Strategy. "We are enthusiastic about the opportunities each project affords to support new user needs and explore new ways of building collections while manifesting our values."

For more information →

Visit libraries.mit.edu/exhibits/maihaugen

Inventing the Future

Task force presents a bold vision for MIT and for libraries globally



Chris Bourg

DIRECTOR OF THE LIBRARIES
cbourg@mit.edu

“The task force spent significant time imagining the kind of library that is needed at an institution that aims to invent the future and to improve the world.”

This fall, the Task Force on the Future of Libraries shares with the community its report, the culmination of a yearlong conversation across the Institute. Representing not only recommendations for the MIT Libraries but an aspirational framework for libraries in general, the report reflects many of the defining values of MIT—openness, daring, a willingness to take on the big problems by realizing the promise of technology.

“The task force spent significant time imagining the kind of library that is needed at an institution that aims to invent the future and to improve the world,” says Director Chris Bourg.

Inspired by President Reif’s call to bring MIT’s power to bear on the world’s greatest challenges, the task force saw the impact of the research library as extending far beyond the campus community.

“This task force report’s overarching recommendation is that the MIT Libraries embrace and accelerate its transformation from a local portal to a global platform,” says Bruce Tidor, professor of Biological Engineering and Computer Science and co-chair of the task force.

This shift in perspective is reflected in a set of ten recommendations, outlining a future in which the MIT Libraries provide a foundation for the entire lifecycle of information for collaborative global research and education.

“The world needs models for a radically more open, equitable, and productive information landscape,” says Bourg. “This is an opportunity for MIT to lead the way, as it has so many times before.”



To read the full report: →

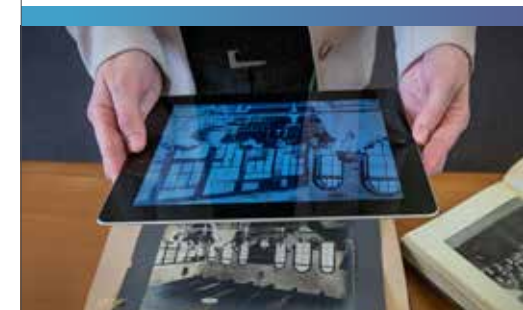
visit future-of-libraries.mit.edu

The Big Ideas

The task force seeks to define both what libraries are and what they can be through the following bold and innovative recommendations.

The MIT Libraries should:

- Be a global library serving a global university and its audiences
- Convene a new ad hoc task force to make recommendations regarding the redesign of the MIT Libraries’ physical spaces
- Equip MIT community members with the skills, knowledge, and habits to be critical and responsible consumers and creators of information and knowledge
- Serve as a trusted vehicle for disseminating MIT research to the world
- Provide comprehensive digital access to content in our collections or content needed by MIT’s global community
- Generate open, interoperable content platforms that explore new ways of producing, using, sharing, and preserving knowledge
- Convene a new ad hoc task force on Open Access to review the current MIT Faculty Open Access Policy and its implementation
- Serve as a durable, trusted repository for research objects produced at MIT while continuing to serve as the “Institute’s memory” through archival programs and practices
- Actively engage with, and in many cases lead, efforts to develop viable models and systems for the long-term stewardship and preservation of digital research
- Establish an Initiative for Research in Information Sciences and Scholarly Communication to serve as a hub for best-in-class research on the grand challenges in information science and scholarly communication



“The world needs models for a radically more open, equitable, and productive information landscape. This is an opportunity for MIT to lead the way, as it has so many times before.”

New Faces in the Libraries

Get to know our newest colleagues

“Our new colleagues are arriving at a remarkable time for the MIT Libraries. As I like to say, we do great things, and we have fun doing them.”

—CHRIS BOURG



TINA CHAN / MAY '16
REFERENCE SERVICES
PROGRAM MANAGER AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES LIBRARIAN

WHAT DO YOU DO?

I collaborate with colleagues in the interdisciplinary areas of energy and the environment, as well as provide research assistance for the Dewey and Rotch libraries.

FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF

I write book reviews for *Library Journal* and *Children's Literature* and have written for a few others.



CHRISTINA FANCIULLO / MAY '16
RESOURCE SHARING
SPECIALIST

WHAT DO YOU DO?

I help bring MIT's resources to the world!

FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF

I do a pretty convincing bird call.



MOHAMMED EL OUIDI / APRIL '16
HEAD, TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS
AND SUPPORT SERVICES

WHAT DO YOU DO?

I oversee the Libraries' technology infrastructure, enterprise systems, metadata services, and staff technology.

FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF

I have a fascination for languages, and I've studied many over the years. I am fluent in four languages so far.



HANNAH PIECUCH / APRIL '16
MARKETING AND
COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

WHAT DO YOU DO?

I support marketing by producing materials such as postcards, posters, and displays, drafting newsletters, and handling administrative tasks.

FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF

I have an MFA in fiction writing.



ANGELA SERVELLO / APRIL '16
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANT

WHAT DO YOU DO?

I provide administrative support for development events, campaigns, and donor stewardship within the Libraries.

FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF

I'm an aspiring polyglot and have been teaching Spanish for 10 years.

What's New?

Libraries Launch Institute-wide Reading Program

MIT Reads, which launched this semester, is an Institute-wide program that aims to build community and foster understanding through a series of shared reading and discussion events. All MIT students, staff, faculty, and affiliates are invited to read and discuss book selections, which will be made available at a discount for students and staff by the MIT Press Bookstore. For the 2016–17 academic year, books and discussions will explore the theme of diversity and inclusion. The first title, selected in partnership with the Gender Fluidity Group and LBGT@MIT, is *Rede ining Realness*, Janet Mock's memoir of growing up multiracial, poor, and trans in America. For more information, visit libraries.mit.edu/mit-reads

A Spirited Crossing



On May 7, the Libraries and the MIT Press joined the MIT community in recreating the Institute's historic move to Cambridge at the Crossing the Charles parade and contest. Competing alongside an 8-foot, 200-pound brain, a robotic cheetah, and a floating Great Dome, the Libraries' entry—featuring an oversized book and laptop, rippling fabric “river,” and a boisterous group of staff—snagged the Beaver Spirit Award for school spirit.

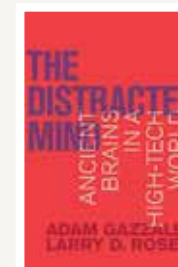
A “Who’s Who” of Science Through the Libraries’ Lens



As the Institute celebrated its Cambridge centennial, the Libraries' Rare Books Program offered a closer look at the famous names that have graced Killian Court for 100 years. The “Big Names on Campus” blog profiles the scientists whose names are inscribed on MIT's buildings and examines their connections to the Libraries' collections. Discover MIT's copies of works by Galileo, Linnaeus, or Daguerre, and consider what other names might be included if the carvings were planned today. Visit mitnames2016.tumblr.com

MIT to Co-host Digital Preservation Conference

MIT Libraries and Harvard Library will be co-hosts of the 2018 International Conference on Digital Preservation (iPres), the premier international conference on the preservation and long-term management of digital materials. The Libraries' lead for Digital Preservation, Nancy McGovern, will co-organize the event. “This is a recognition of the ongoing leadership role that MIT Libraries plays in the digital preservation community and of the impact of Nance's leadership in this area,” says Associate Director for Collections Greg Eow.



New from the MIT Press The Distracted Mind

Most of us will freely admit that we are obsessed with our devices. We pride ourselves on our ability to multitask—read work email, reply to a text, check Facebook, watch a video clip. Talk on the phone, send a text, drive a car. Enjoy family dinner with a glowing smartphone next to our plates. We can do it all, 24/7! Never mind the errors in the email, the near-miss on the road, and the unheard conversation at the table. In *The Distracted Mind*, Adam Gazzaley and Larry Rosen—a neuroscientist and a psychologist—explain why our brains aren't built for multitasking, and suggest better ways to live in a high-tech world without giving up our modern technology.

Keep reading →

Read more about *The Distracted Mind* at mitpress.mit.edu/thedistractedmind, and browse MIT Press's entire Fall 2016 catalog at mitpress.mit.edu/fall2016catalog

 Supporting the Libraries

First Impressions

New Libraries supporters on making their first gifts

Bertha Chang, SB '88, PhD '95 Raleigh, NC



While Chang has faithfully contributed to her class gift ever since graduation, she saw her first gift to the MIT Libraries as a way to benefit an even larger portion of the MIT community: "I can see the impact an academic library has on its entire campus—the students, faculty, and staff."

Chang, who frequented the Music Library and the Barker stacks as a student, now has unique insight into the Libraries' "behind-the-scenes" impact in her role as research librarian for Engineering at North Carolina State University:

"By providing access to journals, books, and other materials that are vital to research, teaching, and learning, the Libraries contribute to all of the great discoveries and innovation you see coming out of MIT."

Sze-Wen Kuo, SB '73 Bedford, MA



Connecting MIT to its past is clearly important to Kuo, a retired software engineer and active volunteer who has served as president of the Association of MIT Alumnae (AMITA), class officer, and coach for the Community Catalyst Leadership Program. The mathematics major, who spent time in the Music Library as a student, now enjoys the Maihaugen Gallery exhibits, especially *"Tell Her to Go To It": Women's Experiences at MIT* and *The Great Stride: MIT Moves to Cambridge*.

She sees keeping MIT history alive as a crucial part of the Libraries' mission. "Our amazing Special Collections contains insightful information about our MIT past in rare books, research, and oral histories, especially of the women in the Margaret MacVicar Memorial AMITA Oral History Project," she says. Equally important for this first-time donor is looking ahead:

"We need to incorporate the past, present, and future forms of information in print, digital, and any new forms of data."

Shastri Sandy, SB '01, SM '02, and Heather Moulaison Sandy Cambridge, MA



Shastri Sandy's first MIT job was opening and closing the Lindgren Library, the former home of the earth, atmospheric, and planetary sciences collections. "Everyone there treated me like family," says the associate at the Brattle Group. Today, librarianship really does run in the family for Sandy—his wife, Heather, teaches information science to master's students.

"It was personally important for us to support the MIT Libraries, especially since they are showing such a leadership role among libraries in general. I'm proud to say that some of the best new innovations in librarianship come from the MIT Libraries."

When he wasn't working or staring out Hayden's floor-to-ceiling windows, Sandy found the MIT Libraries an ideal place to study and to have group meetings. Now that he's an alumnus, it offers a lasting connection to the Institute: "Libraries events provide an entertaining and informative way of learning about new research and helping me feel as though I am still part of the MIT community."

Thank You

We are grateful for the generosity of our library friends and supporters. Our donors enable the Libraries to support the MIT community and to advance the Institute's mission by producing, collecting, and sharing knowledge to solve the world's biggest problems. Thank you for your support.

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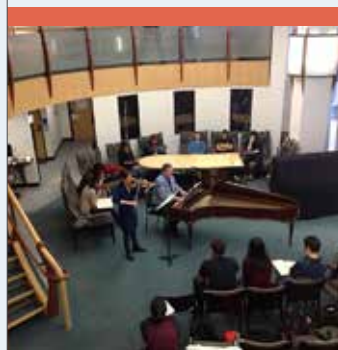
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Office of the Director
Building 14S-216
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
77 Massachusetts Avenue
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Fall & Winter Events

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Study Break
Furry First Friday

November 4
2–3:30 PM
Hayden Library (14S-100)



Open House
Lewis Music Library 20th
Anniversary Community
Open House

November 15
3–5 PM
Lewis Music Library (14E-109)



DECEMBER EVENTS

Study Break
Cookies with Canines

December 15
2–3:30 PM
Hayden Library (14S-100)



JANUARY EVENTS



Workshops & Classes
IAP: Independent
Activities Period

January 9–February 3
Offered throughout the month



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