From the Director

When I joined the MIT Libraries in January 1996, it was clear that MIT and its Libraries were in for an exciting time. Educational innovations, new interdisciplinary research directions, redesigned curricula, new forms of publication, and a significant initiative in distance learning are but a few of the activities on campus this spring. The potential of the Internet and the World Wide Web to enhance traditional teaching has energized faculty and students - as well as librarians. These changes have already impacted students’ needs for library resources and services, and we know that many more innovations are on the way.

The MIT Libraries are serving these new needs with enthusiasm and creativity. Yet today’s library environment is a dual environment. Book and journal publishing continues to grow even as new technologies supplement, but do not displace, traditional ones. Today’s students and faculty can move readily through an astonishing array of print and electronic research resources. Yet, more than ever, the Libraries serve as a place for contemplative study and research.

In this volatile and demanding environment, the Libraries’ goal is, quite simply, to be preeminent in the delivery of information services to MIT’s outstanding students and faculty. We face many challenges in this goal, but these challenges only serve to sharpen our purpose. It is vital that we continue to provide access to useful information resources in increasingly specialized disciplines in an increasingly global context. It is essential that we continue to introduce information technology into our services and operations. It is imperative that we support the needs of students as the faculty explore new uses of information technology in the curriculum.

MIT’s world class Libraries are proud to have long played a key role in support of the research and educational missions of the Institute. For this legacy we owe thanks to determined, effective leadership and an exceptionally strong and talented staff. I am honored to continue the tradition of excellence.

Ann Wolpert, Director of Libraries
Music Library To Be Renovated This Summer

The Music Library is the nerve center for music on campus. From the students taking Introduction to Western Music, who have extensive listening assignments each week in the library, to the most advanced performers in Chamber Music, who use the scores for their music-making, the library serves the 1500 student enrollments in music each year. The new Rosalind Denny Lewis Music Library will provide the space and facilities to better serve the composers, performers, scholars and music lovers at MIT who all depend on this precious resource.

Ellen Harris, Professor of Music

Architect’s drawing of the Rosalind Denny Lewis Music Library.

Plans are underway for a major renovation of the Music Library this summer. This first renovation to the library since it was established over forty years ago will produce an innovative library featuring a newly built mezzanine with 22 listening carrels, a listening lounge, a small group listening room, and a conference room. The library’s books, printed music, and sound recordings will be housed in compact shelving. Compact shelving, which moves on tracks, provides greater storage space per square foot and will allow the collection to expand well into the 21st century. Other highlights include a special collections room for rare materials, a journal reading area, an electric keyboard for playing through music scores, a photocopy machine, and expanded study space.

Renovation work is scheduled to begin in late May and be completed in time for the Fall semester. During the summer, the collection is to be placed in storage and therefore will not be accessible. Extended checkouts will be provided in order to accommodate those users needing books and scores over the summer. Other Boston area music libraries will offer their assistance to MIT library users during this time.

Funding for the project was attained through the fundraising efforts of former Associate Provost for the Arts, Ellen Harris. Cherry Emerson (’41) contributed a significant donation toward the renovation. The new Music Library will be named the Rosalind Denny Lewis Library in honor of Mr. Emerson’s mother-in-law, wife of MIT professor, Warren K. "Doc" Lewis, and grandmother of Dean for Undergraduate Education, Rosalind Williams. Other individuals who have made gifts and pledges to the Music Library renovation include: Dr. W. Gerald Austen (’51), Sandra and David Bakalar (’51), Norton Belknap (’50), Ann and Bruce Blomstrom (’59), Dorothea and Bradford Endicott (’49), Mrs. Harris Fahnstock, Gordon Getty, Marilyn Hoffman, Bethany and Robert Millard (’73), Carlos Prieto (’58), Robert Sprich (’60), Raymond Stata (’57), Cynthia du Pont Tobias (’72), Ruth and Daniel Vershbow (’45), and Peter Wender (’71). The generous support of these individuals is greatly appreciated.

For more information concerning the renovation, contact the Music Librarian, Peter Munstedt at 253-5636.

Peter Munstedt, Music Librarian
Librarians in the Lab

Last fall, several librarians from the Engineering and Science Libraries served as information consultants to a Mechanical Engineering senior design course. Course 2.73 (soon to be 2.009) "emphasizes creative solutions to current engineering design problems, team work, and the fabrication of prototypes." It is an intensive, high energy course which demands a great deal from both the students and the faculty involved. In the fall term of '95 the faculty leaders of the course agreed to add another dimension to the process. Each team of 25 students was assigned two faculty members and a librarian. The librarians worked with the teams during the information gathering stages doing patent searches, business/market research, and other types of background research the students needed.

The initial impetus behind the Libraries’ involvement was the time-critical aspect of the course. In 11 weeks students were required to progress from the concept generation phase to a working prototype. Librarians assisted in the information gathering process, hence alleviating some of the time strain. They helped students plan their data gathering strategy, as well as pointed them to the correct sources for the data they needed. The librarians' role was emphasized in a very positive way by the faculty during lectures and lab meetings.

The librarians also compiled the initial web pages for the course and provided links to sites of potential use to the course. The web pages can be viewed at:

<<<http://me.mit.edu/2.73/>>>

There was a web form for students to ask questions at any time of the day or night, but in most cases the students corresponded directly with their team librarian through e-mail.

Helen Samuels, the Institute Archivist, was also involved with the course. One area of Institute life that is very difficult to record is the teaching/learning process. Last fall, Helen, along with the librarians, faculty and students, agreed to document the course by creating and gathering records. The team meetings, lectures, staff meetings, e-mail, and design presentations were all recorded either manually or on videotape. Student notebooks, drawings, course handouts and the entire contents of the Athena course locker will be kept by the Institute Archives. It is hoped that this enormous record will allow future generations a glimpse into the design experience here at MIT as it existed in 1995.

This was, from the librarians’ point of view, a very rewarding experience. It allowed us to see first hand what the expectations are for undergraduates here at MIT and we found ourselves caught up and swept-along in the immense push to accomplish our team goals. The overall reaction from the students was overwhelmingly positive. Some of their comments are included below.

I didn't ever realize that the library had a full staff of people who were available and willing to help out in intensive library searches. This can be a really valuable service to students and [I] wish I had known about it sooner. Please keep this project going and expand it if you can.

I feel like I know some of you personally now, which will be nice in the future. I think it's good for you all to be doing stuff like this - it keeps you in much closer touch with the needs of the undergrad population.

Next time I need to know, I'll come to them.

The librarians really do seem to have an interest in helping out with the educational process. They no longer seem to be as remote. I am also a bit more knowledgeable [of] the library tools at my disposal. It was also fun and enjoyable talking with Helen Samuels, the Institute Archivist. It was nice to see that they are trying to document this process for posterity.

This experience serves as an example of the success of integrating library services into course work and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the faculty members who were so supportive of our efforts in the course: Woodie Flowers and Warren Seering, who ran the course, as well as Ernesto Blanco, David Wallace, Ross Levinsky, Caroline Whitbeck, Ernesto Cravalho and Igor Paul. We are also looking forward to next year!

Suzanne T. Weiner,
Assistant Engineering and Science Librarian
Rotch Library Receives Gift of Rare Books

Donors Robert Stevens, Mary P. Stevens, (far left) and Samuel Stevens (second from right) show Rotch Librarian, Margaret dePopolo, (center) and Director of Libraries, Ann Wolpert, (right) one of the books that they gave to Rotch Library. Photo by L. Barry Hetherington.

are architectural treatises including several editions of Vitruvius' *Ten Books of Architecture* in Italian, Spanish, Dutch and German as well as English, were among the volumes received by Rotch library recently through a family gift from the William W. Cordingley library.

On April 10th, Rotch Library celebrated the gift with an exhibition and tea to thank the donors, the Stevens families of North Andover and Belmont and the Putnams of New London, New Hampshire. Their uncle, William Cordingley, an architect living in Mendham, N. J., had collected architecture books throughout his lifetime. Many of the volumes were highlighted in a display assembled by Rotch librarians Michael Leininger and Merrill Smith and Head of the Bindery Mary Patrick Bogan. Rotch's large exhibit case held among others, volumes by Claude Perrault, *A Treatise on the Five Orders of Architecture* (1708), an unusual Vignola treatise (1640), Stow's two volume *Survey of the Cities and Towns of London and Westminster, and the Borough of Southwark* (1754) with engraved maps showing the filling in of the city over time.

Arrayed on adjacent large reading tables, other selections from the gift included a copy of Pain's *British Palladio*, (1790), *The Gentleman and Farmer's Architect* by T. Lightoler (1762), several of the Vitruvius translations including the earliest of the group published in Lyon in 1523. A fine suite of 296 engravings filled a large vellum bound book by Gabrielle Perelle, "selected by Sir Godfrey Kneller for Harley...Earle of Oxford...", late 17th century. Faculty, staff and students from the School of Architecture, members of the Libraries' staff, and the family surrounded the exhibit tables, donning white cotton gloves to examine the volumes which had been laid out. Many of the volumes were cased in preservation clamshell boxes.

Leading remarks of thanks to the donors, Ann Wolpert, Director of Libraries, spoke of the value and importance of the gift to enhance research for generations of scholars. William Mitchell, Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning, welcomed the addition of early and original works and the stewardship of the staff of Rotch Library. Stanford Anderson, Head of the Architecture Department, commented on the value to PhD students in the History, Theory & Criticism program of studying original works first hand. The final speaker, Annie Pedret, a PhD student in the HTC program, remarked on the value to her of being able to look up a book in the Barton catalog, fill out a call slip, and in a few minutes to be sitting in the limited access reading room consulting the work.

Merrill Smith,
Associate Rotch Librarian
Ruth Seidman Honored

Database for Japanese Materials Science and Engineering Information Now Available at the MIT Libraries

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology Libraries, in collaboration with the MIT Japan Program, are in the first phase of a Japanese Science and Technology Information Project. The project, funded by the United States Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR), is initially focusing on materials science and engineering. The primary objective of phase one is to create an electronic database of information related to materials science and engineering in Japan. The first generation of the database, which became available in December 1995, will be maintained by the MIT Libraries. It is accessible through the World Wide Web on the Internet. The direct URL is: 

The site is also accessible from the MIT Libraries’ Home Page: <http://nimrod.mit.edu/>>.

The database will include information on electronic resources, printed publications, directories, conferences, bibliographies, and document-delivery and translation services for Japanese information. Currently, information by and about Japanese research centers, programs in universities, industry, government, and other sources can be found in the database. Throughout the life of the project, the database will grow and expand in direct relation to what is learned about user needs. The contents are informed by market research conducted last year by project Information Specialist, Emi Takase. Ms. Takase interviewed MIT professors, researchers at government laboratories in Massachusetts, and researchers at private companies in the Boston area, together with a focus group comprised of MIT researchers and librarians specializing in the fields of materials science and engineering. An analysis of the January 1996 web site activity confirmed what the market research predicted: that visitors to the web site are most interested in Japanese publications and company information.

In phase two, the project will expand from being a reference source to being a reference service. Project plans call for the creation of an ‘electronic space’ in which relationships among members of the international materials science and engineering community may be developed, and to which the market can turn for discussions of innovative materials and applications. A Listserv, an electronic forum in which members of the list may communicate with one another, will be created. The Listserv will be monitored by the project Information Specialist so that selective information on topics of discussion may be disseminated. In addition to the Listserv communication, Listserv members would have the option of consulting with an Information Specialist or Librarian through private, electronic communication. Phase two began May 1, 1996.

Continued on next page
New Professional Staff

Please join the Libraries in welcoming three new members to the librarian staff.
Charlene Follett, a long term MIT Libraries' staff member who recently completed her Master's in Library Science at Simmons College, was appointed Assistant Acquisitions Librarian for Monograph Acquisitions and Gifts, effective February 1, 1996. Charlene has served in a variety of positions at MIT including MIT Technical Reports Assistant, Section Head for Monograph Receipts, Administrative Assistant for the Acquisition Department and Acting Gifts Librarian from July 1991-February 1992. In addition to her Library Science degree, she holds the B.A. from Salem State College.

Heahyun Yoo was appointed Assistant Engineering and Science Librarian for Chemistry effective, February 1, 1996. Heahyun holds the B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Inha University (Incheon, Korea) and the M.S. and Ph.D. in Chemistry from Seton Hall University. Her Master's in Library Science is from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Her library experience includes an internship at the Mt. Sinai Medical Center Health Science Library and duty as Librarian of Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center's Hibbs Medical Library of New York Orthopaedic Hospital. Prior to her library career, Heahyun worked as a Preclinical Research Scientist for Perstorp Pharma, Lund, Sweden where she investigated pharmacokinetical properties of various drugs and their derivatives. She is a member of both the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Society for Information Science.

Jennifer Edwards was appointed Serials Cataloger effective, January 2, 1996. Jennifer comes to us from the Kansas State University Libraries where she held the position of Original Serials Cataloger and was the Team Leader of the Serials Cataloging Team, the Serials Management Team, and the Series Authority Team. Previous to that she was an Assistant Librarian of the Research Library of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. At Kansas State, Jennifer also had experience chairing an Electronic Journals Ad Hoc Committee and co-facilitating a World Wide Web Subteam of the Instruction Team. Jennifer holds the B.S. in Biology from Marquette University and the M.L.I.S from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

From left to right, Charlene Follett, Heahyun Yoo, and Jennifer Edwards. Photo by L. Barry Hetherington.

Database cont.

Project staff are seeking input from the materials science and engineering community regarding database contents. Interested users or data providers may contact Emi Takase through e-mail at etakase@mit.edu for further information. Alternatively, write to: Emi Takase, Japanese Science & Technology Information Specialist, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dewey Library E53-100, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA, USA, 02139-4307.

Rae Jean N. Wiggins, Assistant Dewey and Humanities Librarian

MIT Libraries' News, an official publication of the MIT Libraries, is published twice a year.

Edited and designed by Carol Zoppel.

Correspondence should be addressed to:

The Director of Libraries, Room 145-216 MIT Cambridge, MA 02139-4307
Human Brain Mapping, NeuroImage, Brain Research, Learning and Memory, Glia, and Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience are just a few of the neurosciences journals that make up the core collection of the Schering-Plough Library. Add to that atlases on computerized images of the brain and books and journals on bio-imaging and you begin to get a more complete picture of the library's new focus. A neurosciences video collection is in development. The library continues to maintain a medical textbook reference collection as well as a small consumer health collection funded by a gift from Catherine N. Stratton.

Elevated to full branch library status in February 1995, Schering-Plough along with the biology and medicine collections in the Science Library comprise the life sciences component of the MIT Libraries. Established in 1982 as the A.O.Seeler Reading Room for the new Whitaker College of Health Sciences, Technology, and Management, the collection evolved over the years to its present neurosciences and biomedical imaging focus. The library supports the research and teaching of the Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, the new Center for Memory and Learning, the Harvard-MIT Health Science and Technology (HST) program, and the Clinical Research Center.

Schering-Plough Library participates fully in all of the online services of the MIT Libraries. Two Athena terminals provide access to FirstSearch, MEDLINE/WILLOW, and the Boston Library Consortium databases as well as to resources on the Internet. Library staff provide daily tutorials on searching MEDLINE, a basic online resource for biomedical research. Schering-Plough's World Wide Web homepage:

<http://nimrod.mit.edu/depts/schering-plough/>

provides a guide to library services and access to neuroscience sources on the Internet. The homepage includes a link to the Society for Neuroscience, the abstracts of which are in the library's collection.

Schering-Plough Library will continue to grow and evolve in relation to the expanding interdisciplinary areas of research that our services and collections support.

E. Louisa Worthington, Life Sciences Librarian

Neurosciences materials available in the Schering-Plough Library. Photo by L. Barry Hetherington.