

Bib·li·o·Tēch

NEWS FROM THE MIT LIBRARIES

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PAGE 2: *From the Director* PAGE 3: *DSpace*

Grows PAGE 4: *Hayden Solar Panels*

PAGE 5: *From the Archives: Objects of the*

Month PAGE 6: *Supporting the Libraries:*

Making a Planned Gift ~ Honoring

New Graduates PAGE 8: *Donors to the*

Libraries PAGE 12: *What's New?*



Photo by Richard Howard

FROM THE DIRECTOR

"It will kill scholarship!

It will free research from a stranglehold!

Yes, it will!

No, it won't!"

Thus goes the debate over open access, and its potential impact on the future of scholarly communication and research publishing. As important as research publishing is to university education, and as critical as it is to the ability of faculty and students to conduct non-profit research and scholarship, one can hardly blame a newcomer to the debate for wondering what the fuss is all about. And what is open access, anyway?

Open access encompasses a number of strategies for making digitally-formatted research and scholarship available to readers

on the Internet without charge. Open access is the emerging counterpoint to the current digital publishing system, in which increasingly consolidated journal publishers retain long-term control (90 years) over both price and access conditions for the research and scholarship they publish.

The stakes are high and the stakeholders are formidable. Commercial and societal publishers fear the loss of control over lucrative, long-standing, international publishing programs. Universities and their libraries fear that without a better digital publishing and archiving system, uncontrolled costs and unacceptable licensing conditions will seriously undermine university teaching and research and the value those activities provide to society.

There are various proposals for how open access would work. Some disciplines (high-energy physics and economics, for example) already share much of their work openly at the preprint stage. And, bowing to author pressure, many (but certainly not all) publishers now permit authors to post their own articles on the Web.

Still other publishers make their articles available on the web free of charge after six months. And, as this newsletter goes to press, the National Institutes of Health has proposed a policy change that would require all scientists who receive funding from that agency to make the peer-reviewed results of their research available to the public on the free NIH web-based database 6 months after publication.

Why is open access so important to an institution like MIT? For the simple reason that published research and scholarship are (1) a critically important outcome of the work of the Institution and (2) a critically important form of "raw material" that supports teaching and research in higher education.

Institutions like MIT provide a physical and intellectual environment in which research and scholarship can advance. Universities insure the sustainability of intellectual disciplines by providing a stable base for faculty to work, an environment for students to learn and explore, and the laboratories, libraries, and networks necessary for the creation of new knowledge. Through the papers and presentations of faculty, universities readily and freely share with the world the new knowledge that is created by this value chain.

The tragedy of the current digital publishing system is that the traditional balance between the interests of publishers and the interests of universities has been shattered. In the digital publishing age, publishers (both commercial and societal) now have the ability to control the cost and the conditions under which published faculty research can be brought back into the university. Information still streams freely from academic institutions to publishers. But the flow of information back into the institution is, in many cases, both closely controlled and astonishingly expensive.

And so we come to open access, and to the deeply necessary conversation that must begin about the future of scholarly communication and research publishing. If progress is to continue, faculty, students, and the institutions that support their work must be able to access and use their research results and the results of their colleagues. This use must be fair, without unreasonable constraint, and at a rational cost.

The MIT Libraries are working closely with the Provost and the Faculty Committee on the Library System to increase awareness of this issue and encourage an ongoing dialogue about possible solutions. We are also collaborating with colleagues in academic libraries worldwide to promote open access initiatives such as DSpace. The work being done by institutions adopting DSpace offers opportunities to gather data, analyze options, and inform the debate about new and better models of research publication.

Ann J. Wolpert, *Director of Libraries*
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DSPACE GROWS WORLDWIDE

In March of 2004, 125 representatives of over 50 universities from 9 countries arrived at MIT for the inaugural DSpace User Group Meeting, organized and led by MIT Libraries. The meeting was the culmination of a one-year project to define the DSpace Federation and catalyzed the emergence of a flourishing open source software community. It also showcased several years worth of collective effort from staff at MIT Libraries, Hewlett Packard (HP) Labs, and participants from universities around the world. We're excited to say that this is just the beginning!

The DSpace project, a precursor to the Federation project, began in 2000 as a collaborative research project between MIT Libraries and HP Labs to develop a software system to collect, manage, and preserve digital content such as research and teaching material and make it openly available on the Web. Initially developed as a service for MIT faculty and researchers, the system was released in November 2002 as open source software, allowing anyone to download the software source code for free and encouraging users to reciprocate by contributing bug fixes and enhancements for the benefit of the rest of the user community. DSpace immediately attracted the attention of top research universities around the world.

The MIT Libraries recognized this as an opportunity to bring the collective resources of universities to bear on a number of issues challenging today's research libraries such as open access to scholarly resources and digital preservation. As a result, the Libraries applied for and received funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to study the adoption of the DSpace institutional repository platform at MIT and a small group of universities. The grant also would fund the beginning of the process to build a collaborative federation of institutions running DSpace. The institutions that volunteered to participate in this project included Columbia University, Ohio State University, the University of Rochester, the University of Toronto, and the University of Washington. Cornell University and Cambridge University joined the project under separate funding.

To help get the DSpace technology up and running at these institutions, MIT and HP hosted a series of workshops. The first two workshops covered the implementation process and addressed policies and service models for new institutional repositories. The third and final workshop in March 2004 was expanded beyond the original eight universities to include other institutions running DSpace. Users from around the globe were invited to the first international DSpace Federation User Group meeting to share their experiences and ideas. The two-day conference featured presentations from participants on technical, organizational, and economic issues and included a lively discussion of what the next steps should be toward building a thriving open source development community.

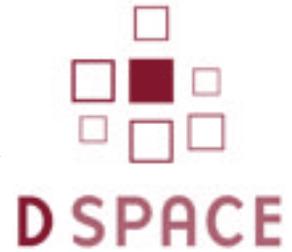
The DSpace Federation project, which spanned the first year of DSpace as a free and open source software project, supported a critical stage in the development of both the DSpace platform and the people and institutions that make up the DSpace community. By the end of the project in June 2004, 100 organizations worldwide (mainly research universities) had DSpace running as a live system and more than

one hundred others had begun implementing, testing, or evaluating it. Approximately sixty thousand items have been collected cumulatively in live DSpace systems and the content continues to grow. Expertise with the platform continues to widen, both technically and among the librarians and other content managers who have curatorial interests in the scholarly material produced by research institutions.

The end of the DSpace Federation project signifies the emergence of this nascent open source community. Institutional repositories offer a high-value, long-term vision, even though they remain works in progress. The community must continue to collaborate on how best to build repositories by sharing information about advocacy, marketing, assessment, policies, business plans, technical architecture, system capabilities and a myriad of other issues that help universities understand how repositories might function most effectively. DSpace users continue to foster new and innovative uses of the DSpace platform in areas such as scholarly communication, digital preservation, electronic theses, teaching materials and virtual publishing environments. The library community has just begun to understand how open source software can be employed cooperatively to support the needs of many universities. Nevertheless, the DSpace project has already succeeded in its most important objective: to convince other universities to consider DSpace a viable institutional repository platform and open source software an appealing development model.

The MIT Libraries are grateful to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for their funding of the DSpace Federation project and to HP Labs and Google for their sponsorship of the DSpace User Group Meeting.

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SOLAR POWER PANELS INSTALLED ON HAYDEN LIBRARY ROOF

There's certainly a lot of brainpower generated under the roof of Hayden Library, now there will be another kind of power generated on the roof as well.

On an appropriately sunny day in September a crane hoisted 42 solar panels to the roof of Hayden Library. The panels make up a photovoltaic system that creates power by harnessing sunlight. The solar power panel installation on the library's roof is the third and largest at MIT.

The site was selected by MIT's Department of Facilities for its ideal southern exposure, according to Laxmi Rao, a senior project manager with the department. The project is part of an ongoing initiative that Rao and others have been involved in to reduce MIT's "emissions footprint." In 2002, the MIT Community Solar Power Initiative was awarded a \$455,700 grant from the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust (<http://www.mtpc.org/RenewableEnergy>) for solar installations on campus, including panels on the roof of the Student Center and Building N52 as well as residential installations in several communities including Cambridge.

"The Libraries are thrilled to be a part of this project," said Ann Wolpert, Director of Libraries. "What a great opportunity for us to incorporate environmentally-friendly technology and be a good neighbor to the Cambridge community."

The 13-kilowatt system on the library's roof is anticipated to generate around 15,000 kilowatt hours a year—roughly equivalent to a year's worth of energy needed to power 2 residential homes. The electricity production will result in zero greenhouse gas emissions and supplement power provided by MIT's co-generation plant on Vassar Street.

To learn more about the MIT Community Solar Power Initiative and view photos of solar power panel installations visit: <http://solarpower.mit.edu>.

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Photo by Antonio Pulsone

Crane hoists solar panels to roof of Hayden Library



Photo by Donna Coveney/MIT

MIT Facilities employees install solar panels on the roof of Hayden Library

FROM THE ARCHIVES:

Objects of the Month: Showcasing Collections of the Institute Archives and Special Collections

For MIT's first entering class no formal entrance examinations were required, although proper preparation was expected. However, that was soon to change.

The MIT Corporation minutes for 1865 charged the faculty with "prescrib[ing] the age and degree of preparation requisite for admission." The "conditions for admission" section of MIT's catalogue for 1865-1866 indicates that candidates for admission as first year students must be at least sixteen years old, must give satisfactory evidence "by examination or otherwise" of competent training in arithmetic, geometry, English grammar, geography, and the "rudiments of French." Rapid and legible handwriting was also stressed as being "particularly important." By 1869 the handwriting requirement and French had been dropped, but algebra had been added and students needed to pass a qualifying exam in the required subject areas.

Entrance exams seem to have been intended to ensure that matriculating students could handle the heavy workload at the Institute. But there is also some suggestion in the early records of the Corporation that the degree of difficulty of entrance exams had some relationship to the fledgling school's financial solvency. A Corporation member noted in the minutes for 1873 that "when the... financial prospects for the school were brighter... admission would be made so difficult that students who entered would find no difficulty" with their schoolwork. Freshmen paid \$200 per year for tuition (a hefty increase from the original \$100 charged in 1865).

MIT catalogues going back to 1865, examinations (including entrance exams) from the nineteenth century and later, and a variety of historical materials relating to students, professors, courses and other subjects are among the materials available in the Archives.

The entrance exam is one of many unique items featured recently in the Archives' Object of the Month series. Each month the Archives spotlight unique items from the collection in a display outside the entrance to the reading room (14N-118) and on the Archives website (<http://libraries.mit.edu/archives/index.html>).

The Object of the Month is one of the ways Archives and Special Collections is spreading the word about its wonderful collections and showcasing the interesting variety of material housed in the Archives. The objects, along with other exhibits, have been featured on the MIT homepage and other MIT publications. To view past Object of the Month displays including September's entrance exam (and answers to the exam!) visit: <http://libraries.mit.edu/archives/mithistory/exhibits-object.html>.

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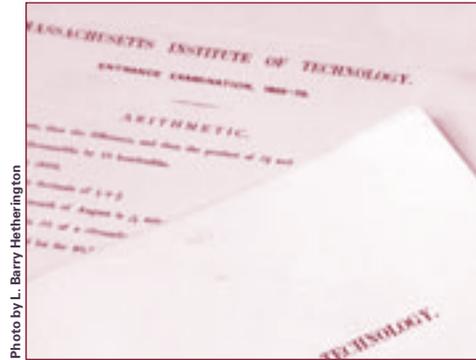


Photo by L. Barry Hetherington

An early MIT entrance exam used from 1869 to 1870

Edgerton 101: Celebrating the 101st Anniversary of the Birth of Harold "Doc" Edgerton



Photo by Calvin Campbell/MIT Museum

Professor Harold "Doc" Edgerton

This past summer the Institute Archives and Special Collections participated in "Edgerton 101", a celebration of the anniversary of the 101st birthday of Professor Harold "Doc" Edgerton. The celebration, organized in cooperation with The Edgerton Center and the MIT Museum, featured exhibits, both real and virtual, and an open house. On display were items from Doc's personal papers (MC 25) that are preserved in the Archives. From his early discoveries in stop-action and multi-flash photography through his pioneering development of devices for underwater exploration, the exhibit highlighted Doc's varied research and personal interests as documented in his notebooks, correspondence, research records and notes.



Photo by L. Barry Hetherington

Edgerton's underwater photography notebooks from the 1950s

SUPPORTING THE LIBRARIES: *Making a Planned Gift*

Growing up in Tampa, Florida, Dick Blanchard had made up his mind by the tender age of four that he was coming to MIT. "My uncle was an engineering graduate of MIT and at the time I had no idea what it [MIT] even was, but I knew that I wanted to go there." True to his word, Blanchard eventually came to the Institute, where he earned both an S.B. and an S.M. in Electrical Engineering in 1968 and 1970.

After leaving Cambridge, Blanchard made his way to the West Coast, where he began his career in the semiconductor and electronics industries. To his credit are a number of accomplishments, including co-founding Supertex (a manufacturer of semiconductor devices), receiving a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University, serving as vice president of engineering for three semiconductor companies, and being an independent consultant and expert witness in semiconductor technology. He has also published multiple books and articles, and holds over 100 US patents on semiconductor

(continued on next page)



Photo by Dennis Burry

Dick and Esther Blanchard

HONORING NEW GRADUATES WITH BOOKS

A question often asked in this digital age is "Do the MIT Libraries still purchase books?" The answer is a resounding, "YES!" As Paul Gray, Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and President Emeritus of MIT so eloquently iterates: "As true today as a century ago, books bring the distilled insights and wisdom of scholars and teachers to learners at all levels of education at MIT. Laptops, PDAs, and electronically-enabled classrooms notwithstanding, books – wonderfully portable – remain essential."



Photo by Justin Knight

The Albir family checks out a book purchased for the Lewis Music Library in honor of Ana Albir (2004, Civil Engineering and Physics)

On June 4, 2004, during Commencement week activities, the Libraries and the MIT Parents Association hosted the second annual Honor with Books reception in the 24-Hour Study Room in Hayden Library. Approximately 65 people, including many of the honored graduating seniors, their parents, family members and friends attended this memorable event. Kathryn Hankin, Director of the Parents Association, and Ann Wolpert, Director of Libraries, addressed the attendees and thanked them for their support of MIT and its Libraries. A selection of books, each containing a bookplate bearing the name of an honored student, was also on display.

The MIT Libraries provide an opportunity for anyone to honor a special family member or friend, celebrate a special occasion, or provide a memorial tribute by participating in the Honor with Books Program. For each contribution of \$100, a bookplate bearing the name of the person honored or remembered will be placed in a newly purchased book in the library of the donor's choice.

For additional information please visit the Libraries' website at <http://libraries.mit.edu/about/giving/honor.html>. Honor with Books brochures with bookplate forms can be found in all of the MIT Libraries. Online donation forms can be found on the website.

For more information on the Honor with Books Program, contact Jos Wanschers.

Jos Wanschers, **Development Coordinator**
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technology, including the patents on “trench” power MOSFETs. With more than 30 years of industry experience, today he is the Vice President and CTO of Silicon Valley Expert Witness Group (SVEWG), a high-tech consulting and litigation support firm specializing in complex technologies and intellectual property disputes.

Despite his busy schedule, Dick has always made giving back a priority, describing his longtime support of MIT as a straightforward decision. “Scholarships made it possible for me to attend, and being able to give back is my way of repaying the Institute for investing in me.” Along with his wife Esther, the Blanchards consider their philanthropy a way for them to have positive influences where they can, especially when it comes to education. As a result, they have contributed to the Institute through a variety of programs, including making a planned gift.

Dick and Esther took advantage of an unusual opportunity by moving an independently managed trust, which they had established years earlier, to an MIT charitable remainder unitrust. By reallocating this asset and bringing it under MIT’s management, they were able to realize both short-term and long-term benefits. The trust generates an annual income for them during their lives, and ultimately provides a significant gift to MIT in the future. The Blanchards also have the flexibility of adding to the principal over time through a variety of assets. In addition to the tax deduction they received when they first established the trust, the Blanchards receive future deductions with each subsequent gift that they make to the trust. Finally, Dick and Esther take comfort in MIT’s prudent investment management and no-fee administration, which they believe has maximized their return. It is this win-win situation that makes Life Income Funds so attractive.

When it came to designating the unitrust, Dick decided to reach back to a place of inspiration, a resource he feels is often taken for granted—the MIT Libraries. He reminisces about his campus days, particularly the time he spent in the MIT Libraries,

“Teaching provides the path to learning and the Libraries provide the points of enrichment.”

with a certain sentimental air. “The Libraries were an integral part of my education, both physically and in terms of the information available in them. They offered the perfect setting to mentally unwind and focus on the purpose of being at MIT, which was to learn. Teaching provides the path to learning and the Libraries provide the points of enrichment.”

Lisa Frenz, **Gift Planning Coordinator**
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About MIT Life Income Funds

MIT Life Income Funds are unique planning tools that can provide you with financial and tax benefits, while also building a foundation of support for future generations at the Institute. In return for a contribution, you or a beneficiary receive payments for life or for a specified term of years. Assets including cash, appreciated securities, and real estate may be used to establish a gift fund. MIT offers several options to suit your needs, including charitable remainder trusts, charitable gift annuities, deferred gift annuities, and pooled income funds.

Donor Benefits:

- Term or lifetime income
- Variable or fixed payments
- One or two income beneficiaries
- Charitable income tax deduction
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- The satisfaction of supporting MIT

If you are age 55+ and would like to learn more about how you can benefit from supporting the MIT Libraries through a life income gift, please contact:

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Judy Sager, Director
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July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004



Gifts to the MIT Libraries are critical to the success of the Libraries' mission, and make a significant difference in the quality of resources and services that are available to the MIT community. It gives me great pleasure to recognize the alumni, faculty, staff and friends who chose to support the work of the Institute through gifts and pledges to the Libraries during Fiscal Year 2004.

Ann J. Wolpert, *Director, MIT Libraries*

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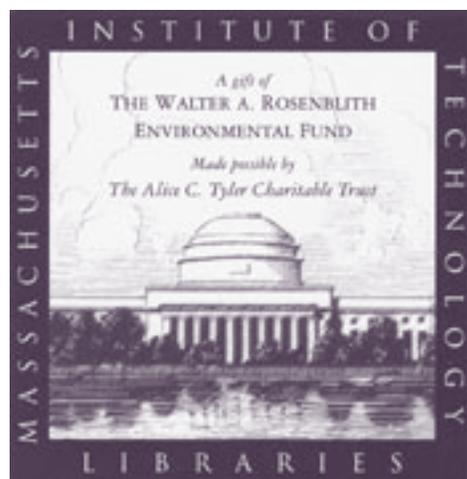
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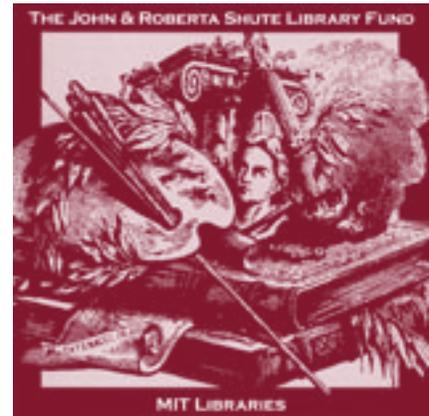
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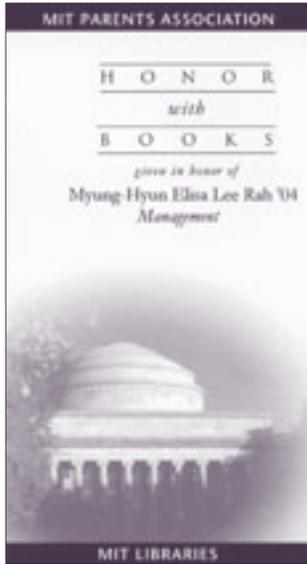


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WHAT'S NEW
IN THE LIBRARIES?

Renovated Athena Space



Photo by L. Barry Hetherington

Among the stacks in the basement of Hayden Library, students will now find a bright and inviting study oasis. The newly renovated Athena cluster offers access

to eight Athena terminals and a printer as well as a large private group study area (with a table and seating for eight), comfortable soft seating, "crushed can" stools and footrests and cushy "sport flooring" made out of recycled tires.

The renovation was made possible with the help of funding from MIT Information Services and Technology (IS&T) and is part of an ongoing effort to upgrade study spaces throughout the Libraries.

NEW LOOK FOR HOME PAGE

In June MIT Libraries launched a new home page. With a lighter look and feel, as well as improved features and functionality, the page was redesigned with new users in mind.

New features include a "How do I" button which immediately links users to the information they need to find an article or book or borrow or renew an item. Other features include Tip of the Week, a Barton catalog quick search function, revised "quick links" and a photo stripe that runs across the bottom of the page picturing a Library item. Users are encouraged to click on the "Curious?" link to see the photo in its entirety and find out more about what is pictured.

Libraries "Information Intersection" at Stata Center

A new library access point in the Stata Center offers quick and convenient library services for students to use on their way to class or to eat in the Forbes Family Cafe. The Information Intersection, located in a high-traffic area known as the Student Street, provides six computers with flat panel monitors on its exterior walls for speedy access to online resources. The interior space provides a LCD projector and is ideal for small group instruction, collaborative study, and informal meetings. A library book drop and community book exchange are also provided.



Photo by L. Barry Hetherington



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