On January 1, 2007, the MIT Libraries were delighted to join organizational ranks with two units of MIT’s Academic Media Production Services (AMPS). In a merger announced by the Provost on December 18, 2006, the AMPS units with which the Libraries will now be closely collaborating are MIT Video Production and Digital Technologies, led by Larry Gallagher and David Mycue, respectively.

The talented professionals in these AMPS units share with the MIT Libraries a deep commitment to supporting MIT’s mission in the 21st century. And like the librarians they now call colleagues, these able individuals are engaged in fulfilling MIT’s goals of “disseminating and preserving knowledge and...working with others to bring this knowledge to bear on the world’s great challenges.”

My enthusiasm for this merger of talents and responsibilities has been reinforced by a growing appreciation for the strong service priorities shared by these organizations. Both the MIT Libraries and AMPS have designed their services to faculty and students with the expectation of providing high-value professional skills to a community for whom such skills can add reach, polish, and productivity.

The talent pool in AMPS and the MIT Libraries is highly complementary. The Libraries are increasingly interested in the creative use of video in instruction and in 24x7 reference assistance, while AMPS is increasingly interested in the availability of video-enabled classrooms and group work spaces, as well as the visibility and appropriate use of their captured content of educational videos and Institute events.

Another area of common ground lies in the need of both organizations to provide competent stewardship of the multimedia assets they hold on behalf of the Institute. While MIT’s Institute Archives addresses the preservation challenges of video and audio formats, AMPS likewise seeks to steward more consistently their significant archive of digital and analog videos dating back at least 25 years.

Beyond the commonalities just described, one finds additional synergies. Both AMPS and the MIT Libraries run highly sophisticated technical infrastructures. Both organizations take an active role in supporting faculty in their educational responsibilities. Both are internally and externally respected in their domains of expertise. Both are renowned for their entrepreneurial verve and creative energy. Everyone cares deeply about MIT, MIT faculty, and MIT students. Add these attributes together and one begins to see the promise and opportunity of this exciting new collaboration for MIT.

My enthusiasm for this merger of talents and responsibilities has been reinforced by a growing appreciation for the strong service priorities shared by these organizations.

At the end of the day, however, the merger of these talented groups and Institute assets will not be judged a success unless there is a cohesive, multi-year vision for educational technology at MIT. Video services need a sustainable financial model, and faculty and students must be able to get the educational and technical services they need, when they need them. For this reason AMPS and the MIT Libraries are pleased to be partnering with DUE and IS&T on the design of a “one-stop-shopping” service model for the delivery of educational technology that supports teaching at MIT, and we look forward to the development of an overall set of priorities by MIT’s Council on Educational Technology.

On the wall of an MIT lab is a sign that reads: “The first rule of tinkering is to save all the parts.” As we restructure academic computing at MIT we are confident that we not only have the high-quality parts we need, but that we are amply equipped to put those parts together in an interesting and effective new design. Our shared goal will be achieved when the total good derived from this reorganization provides MIT faculty and students with a total that is even greater than the sum of the parts.

Ann J. Wolpert, Director of Libraries
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MIT LIBRARIES WELCOMES AMPS

ACADEMIC MEDIA PRODUCTION SERVICES

The MIT Libraries’ recent merger with Academic Media Production Services (AMPS) adds multimedia production, videoconferencing, webcasting and distance education services, among other features, to the Libraries’ existing suite of information services that support educational technology at MIT.

All of AMPS, with the exception of the Stellar team (responsible for MIT’s course management system), has joined the Libraries as part of a campus-wide restructuring of academic computing services.

The restructuring was based on the recommendations of an ad hoc committee commissioned last year by Provost Rafael Reif and chaired by Jerrold Grochow, Vice President for Information Services and Technology (IS&T). The committee also made recommendations that will transition the educational consulting and software development groups to the office of the Dean of Undergraduate Education (DUE) and the Stellar team to IS&T’s Infrastructure Software Development and Architecture (ISDA) group.

In an announcement from the Provost, Reif said reorganization will “...expand efforts toward ‘one-stop-shopping’ for faculty in the use of educational technology, in part by clarifying IS&T’s role in providing core technology services and by expanding the Libraries’ role in providing service to faculty and students with media production services....”

Director of Libraries Ann Wolpert, who also served on the committee, sees tremendous opportunity in the Libraries’ new partnership with AMPS.

“I am pleased to welcome the respected members of AMPS to our organization. It’s vital for today’s academic libraries to be conversant in all forms of media and to offer innovative, seamlessly integrated services to MIT faculty and students. The synergies and opportunities presented to both AMPS and the Libraries through this reorganization hold great promise for us all,” said Wolpert.

A transition team was formed last November to work through the operational changes resulting from the reorganization. Composed of representatives from all the affected departments, the team focused its efforts on communications and service transitions, as well as fiscal, personnel, equipment and space changes. Under the reorganization the

AMPS staff of 20 will remain in their current positions and offices, most of which are located in Building NE48. The group will initially report directly to Wolpert.

Another group with representatives from the Libraries, IS&T and the office of the DUE, has been formed to work closely with faculty and staff to facilitate a “one-stop-shopping” model for services—Academic Computing CoORDinating (ACCORD) will ensure MIT’s combined academic computing services support the user community seamlessly across all units. The ACCORD group welcomes email at <accord@mit.edu>.

Heather Denny, Communications Officer
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“Music was a very important part of my life here at MIT,” said Lionel Kinney ’53. As a trumpet player and general manager of the Combined Music Clubs at MIT, he gained skills that helped him during his forty-year career at the industrial tractor company Caterpillar. When he and his wife, Vilma, a former librarian, began to consider their estate plans, the work of the Rosalind Denny Lewis Music Library was a natural fit.

The Kinneys have included a bequest to the Lewis Music Library and the Music Section of SHASS in their estate plan—naming MIT the beneficiary of Lionel’s employer retirement plan. “We want to help others,” said Vilma. Both she and Lionel noted that they trust MIT to put the funds to good use.

To support the Library’s work in preserving musical heritage, the Kinneys also made an outright gift to the Music at MIT Oral History Project. Their assistance will help the project continue to document the history of music at MIT by expanding interviews with current and former music faculty, staff, students, and visiting artists. The interviews will all be available for listening in the Lewis Music Library.

“Choosing music and the Libraries goes back to what helped me at MIT and later in life,” said Lionel. The music library continues to be a place of peace, comfort and inspiration for MIT’s students, many of whom find there a welcome release from the pressures of the Institute.

“Music has always played an important role at MIT, and future generations entering the library will be touched by the Kinneys’ generosity and vision,” said Music Librarian Peter Munstedt.

With their gift the Kinneys hope their philanthropy will help expand students’ exposure to music. As Lionel noted, “If you give money to a worthy cause, like the Libraries, it’s good for the future.”

Sarah E. Rowley
Gift Planning Coordinator
MIT Office of Gift Planning
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Choosing music and the Libraries goes back to what helped me at MIT and later in life.
Lionel Kinney

BEQUESTS:
CREATING YOUR LEGACY

When you remember the MIT Libraries in your estate plan, you
• retain assets for use during your lifetime,
• reduce your estate taxes, and
• make a meaningful gift to the Libraries.

For more information, contact:
Judy Sager, Director
MIT Office of Gift Planning
617 253 6463 bequests@mit.edu
Like a history detective, Lewis Music Library staff member Forrest Larson is piecing together clues about MIT’s musical past. He has interviewed current and retired MIT music faculty, staff, former students, and other musicians to record their unique reflections about music at MIT and uncover information that has not been documented in other sources. His work is part of the Music at MIT Oral History Project—a project started by the library in 1999 to document the history of music at MIT through recorded audio interviews.

Music has been a vibrant part of MIT’s culture for over 100 years. To understand more about what music was like at the Institute in the 1920s Larson recently interviewed MIT’s oldest living alumnus, Charles Yardley Chittick ’22. Chittick was a student in course 15 (engineering management) and an amateur musician who played in the MIT Mandolin Club. He went on to become a well-known patent attorney in his professional life. In the interview he recalled the music activities he was involved in at MIT including playing in the Mandolin Club, going to dances and orchestral performances, and regular outings to see the Boston Pops. While in the Mandolin Club Chittick went on tours with other MIT groups, including the Glee Club and the Banjo Club, that took them as far as Chicago by train. “We weren’t a first class operation. We were just a bunch of collegians having a good time,” said Chittick of their concerts. At 106, Chittick also fondly remembers the old song “Take Me Back to Tech,” which he enthusiastically sang for Larson’s interview.

We weren’t a first class operation. We were just a bunch of collegians having a good time.

Charles Yardley Chittick

More interviews with alumni like Chittick and MIT music faculty, many of whom are distinguished performers, composers and scholars, are now possible thanks to a recent $250,000 gift from Lionel Kinney ’53. Music had a significant impact on Kinney, who played trumpet in MIT’s orchestra and concert band (see Supporting the Libraries). His gift will enable the music library to expand the project and help ensure this legacy is preserved for the historical record. It will provide the funding needed to conduct in-depth interviews with five individuals per year for the next five years.

As interviews are completed, they will be available for listening in the library. Written transcripts will eventually be available. For more information about the Music at MIT Oral History Project see: http://libraries.mit.edu/music/oralhistory/index.html, or contact Forrest Larson at twiggy@mit.edu.

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The Internet has created the potential for research to be shared more quickly and more widely than ever before, offering authors, researchers, universities, and research funders the promise of improved access to research. Yet many journal publishers — through restrictive and inhibiting access and pricing policies — have created barriers to realizing this promise of a more open and interoperable environment for sharing knowledge. These complex issues were the topic of a panel discussion “Copyright Unlocked: Managing Copyright for Research and Teaching at MIT,” offered by the Libraries during the Independent Activities Period (IAP). Ann Wolpert, Director of Libraries, served as host and facilitator of the event. She introduced the five speakers who addressed the problems authors and universities face in taking advantage of technology’s potential to share research as widely as possible:

Claude Canizares, Vice President for Research, Associate Provost, and Professor of Physics set the stage by discussing how important it is that MIT and its faculty retain the rights to use their research output in support of MIT’s mission.

Thinh Nguyen, Legal Counsel for Science Commons, offered examples of how barriers to access and escalating prices have resulted in the inability to take advantage of the potential for discovering, sharing, and filtering research over the web.

Ann Hammersla, MIT Intellectual Property Counsel, gave the audience a crash course in copyright and explained how typical publisher copyright transfer agreements conflict with the openness to research results that research funders frequently demand.

Brian Evans, Professor in the Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences, spoke about his view that the current journal publishing model is flawed and must change, and presented a draft faculty resolution supporting more open access to MIT’s research. The draft resolution is a work-in-progress; it was developed by the Faculty Committee on the Library System and will be shared with academic departments.

Ellen Duranceau, Scholarly Publishing and Licensing Consultant, spoke about why MIT authors might want to retain rights to their work, what rights they should retain to ensure that they can reuse their work and make it openly available, and how they can do so.

Duranceau also spoke briefly about her new role in the Libraries, offering support to faculty and other MIT authors who are navigating the changed landscape for scholarly publication, assisting them with managing copyrights to their work. This position has been made possible with support from the Provost’s office.

The Libraries are pleased to be able to expand their support for MIT authors and are committed to MIT’s mission of “generating, disseminating, and preserving knowledge, and to working with others to bring this knowledge to bear on the world’s great challenges.” The IAP session will be available worldwide through MIT World, a free, open-streaming media web site of significant public events at MIT (see: http://mitworld.mit.edu/about.php).

Ellen Duranceau, Scholarly Publishing and Licensing Consultant
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SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING CONSULTANT NOW AVAILABLE TO FACULTY

The MIT Libraries are offering support to MIT faculty and researchers who have questions about their options and rights in the world of scholarly publishing. The Libraries’ Scholarly Publishing Consultant, Ellen Duranceau, is available to meet with faculty:

- To discuss rights faculty have over their work, and how they can ensure having rights to future use of their work;
- To discuss standard publisher copyright transfer agreements, including the use of MIT’s amendment to such agreements;
- To consult about options and rights related to archiving faculty work on the web, whether via a faculty home page, DSpace, or a discipline-based archive;
- To discuss the options for publishing an article so that it will be openly available, without permission or subscription barriers, whether in a new open-access journal or a long-standing journal; or
- To consult about open-access publication options, and funder or government policies in relation to those options.

Duranceau has worked in the MIT Libraries for over 15 years. Since 1996 she has been negotiating license agreements for e-journals and databases so that the content can be made available on the MIT network under terms for access and use that meet MIT’s needs. Her new role supports MIT faculty and researchers at the time of publication, when many rights and potential uses are defined in publisher agreements.

If you would like to discuss any of these issues, please contact Ellen Finnie Duranceau
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HISTORIC ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC JOURNALS EXPANDED

In a November 2005 Library Services Survey of faculty and students, one of the top requests for future enhancements was to “expand the historic depth of our online collection by providing more electronic access to older journals.”

While most current research journals have been available electronically since the 1990’s, many older journals have only recently been available for purchase. Electronic access to earlier issues (“back files”) offers many advantages to researchers, allowing them to seamlessly link to and read journal citations going back many decades, without leaving their offices or labs.


To learn more and see a listing of recently-purchased collections and titles including important collections in the life sciences, neuroscience, engineering, mathematics, chemistry, economics, physics, art and architecture, as well as major national newspapers back to the 19th century, see:

http://libraries.mit.edu/backfiles

MIT Libraries provide electronic access to over 34,000 current and historical journals. Many are available by going directly to a journal’s web site—on-campus users are automatically recognized as being from MIT and granted access. Current MIT faculty, students, and staff can also gain off-campus access with certificates through Vera (Virtual Electronic Resource Access) at http://libraries.mit.edu/vera, or by adding the Libraries’ proxy string to the publisher’s URL. (See: libraries.mit.edu/about/faqs/remote-proxystring.html for instructions.) The Libraries plan to purchase more electronic back files as demand for these resources grows and as funds become available.

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Imagine losing the architectural drawings for the Louvre, the Vatican, or the Taj Mahal. For centuries archivists have had to worry about the hazards of time, water, and pests that threaten paper documents. Today’s digital drawings, created as Computer-Aided Design (CAD) files, face a new kind of preservation challenge—digital obsolescence.

CAD has revolutionized the architectural industry, giving architects the ability to create astounding three-dimensional models. However, these models exist only in proprietary digital formats that are ever-changing and short-lived, making them difficult to preserve and manage over time. While paper documents are still used in architecture, the visualization afforded by 3-D models has become increasingly critical to understanding built objects in the modern world. Without a structure for preserving digital CAD files, the full history of future architectural masterpieces is in danger of being lost forever.
A $724,415 grant from The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has been awarded to the MIT Libraries to address this critical cultural challenge. Using the designs of renowned architect Frank Gehry and his work on MIT’s Stata Center as a test bed, MIT’s FACADE (Future-proofing Architectural Computer-Aided Design) project will study CAD architectural documents and create preservation strategies to stem their potential loss.

“My own projects over the last decade (including the Stata Center) have made extensive use of three-dimensional modeling in CATIA® (Computer Aided Three-dimensional Interactive Application), but the long-term preservation of digital models is not effectively supported by commercially available software products. Unless effective tools, standards and strategies quickly become available, a vast amount of historically important documentation will simply vanish forever,” Frank Gehry said.

Over the next two years the MIT Libraries’ Digital Libraries Research Group (DLRG) will work with MIT’s Department of Architecture to research the primary software products (such as CATIA®, AutoCAD® and Microstation®) that produce architectural CAD models. With the guidance of former dean of the School of Architecture and Planning Bill Mitchell, the researchers will examine the role of CAD files in the life cycle of modern architecture and building construction—including the entire “digital and paper trail” from early designs and sketches to internal communications regarding onsite revisions, all of which are important to architectural historians and scholars. They will seek strategies for long-term preservation of this critical material and also investigate the optimal use of digital preservation archives, such as the DSpace digital repository system, to provide open-source solutions to this problem.

The DSpace digital repository, created in 2002 by the MIT Libraries and Hewlett-Packard, was designed to capture, preserve, and share MIT’s intellectual output with the world. Its open-source software platform has been adopted by hundreds of institutions around the globe. Results from the FACADE project will be shared with these institutions and others facing similar digital preservation challenges.

The MIT Libraries are actively engaged in tackling the challenges of the 21st century library. The FACADE project is one of several research initiatives of the Libraries’ DLRG. The group conducts research in technology and other aspects of digital libraries, furthering library, scholarly, and educational initiatives. Their work includes research on applications of the semantic web, the data grid to digital libraries and data curation. To learn more about MIT Libraries’ research initiatives see: http://libraries.mit.edu/dlrg.

Funding for the FACADE project was provided by the IMLS—the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 122,000 libraries and 15,000 museums. Through its grant making, research and publications, the Institute empowers museums and libraries nationwide to provide leadership and services to enhance learning in families and communities, sustain cultural heritage, build twenty-first-century skills, and increase civic participation. To learn more about IMLS, visit: http://www.imls.gov.

Heather Denny, Communications Officer
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This year heralds the 50th anniversary of Sputnik—the satellite launched by the Soviet Union that sparked the race to space. MIT played an important role in America’s responses to that historic event.

Perhaps the most notable initial response was the appointment of MIT President James Killian by President Dwight D. Eisenhower as the first special assistant for science and technology. Killian chaired the President’s Scientific Advisory Committee (PSAC), which was instrumental in initiating national curriculum reforms in science and technology and in establishing the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Eisenhower’s successor, John F. Kennedy, appointed Jerome Wiesner, a future MIT President, as his science advisor.

After Sputnik, MIT’s space-related research increased and included work on the Apollo Project, an effort to land a man on the moon. NASA provided funds for the MIT Center for Space Research and contracted with MIT’s Instrumentation Laboratory for the development of the Apollo Guidance System. The system was designed to track the spacecraft’s location and velocity during the voyage to the moon and back, and provide steering commands to keep it on the correct path. It was also intended to control the descent of the lunar landing module and its return to the moon-orbiting command module.

MIT’s involvement in America’s response to the Soviet Union’s Sputnik program is well documented in the Archives’ collections: in the personal papers of Killian and Wiesner, and of professors such as Robert Seamans, a former NASA administrator; as well as in the records of the Office of the MIT President, the School of Engineering, the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and the Instrumentation Lab. The topic is of increasing scholarly interest. The Archives is continuing to acquire the papers of MIT faculty members, researchers, and administrators who participated in those efforts, as well as those who in their early years, were inspired by the launch of Sputnik and the push into space.

MIT is a strong advocate of the role of science and technology in providing solutions to global challenges. Today’s efforts have deep roots in MIT’s history as a technological and educational leader. MIT has responded to the challenges of the industrialization of the latter 19th century, two world wars, the space race, and global climate and health concerns. As MIT continues on its path, the Archives will continue to document its work and accomplishments.

Tom Rosko, Head, MIT Institute Archives & Special Collections
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On an ordinary day in January, the ordinarily quiet Lewis Music Library was doing something quite extraordinary—it was vibrating, humming, drumming and chirping with the sounds of interactive music installations created by Media Lab graduate students. The installations were part of a class led by Professor of Media Arts and Sciences Tod Machover. The students’ projects were designed to explore the relationships between space, movement, touch and sound. The 10 different installations ranged from a musical staircase to a tactile rainfall experience and a robotic chandelier—immersing the library in what Machover described as a “sonic bath.”

The installations were set up in the library and open for public viewing over a 3-day period during the Independent Activities Period (IAP). The program culminated with a workshop and demonstration on January 19th where Machover led participants through the library to view the installations and each student gave a brief demonstration and description of their project. Participants had a chance to discuss the concepts and technologies behind each installation with their creators. In addition, the Lewis Music Library staff shared some of the library’s hidden treasures that were relevant to the projects.

For more information see http://web.media.mit.edu/~revrev/librarymusic

Heather Denny, Communications Officer
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**DISCOVER NEW BOOKS VIA EMAIL, RSS FEED OR WEB**

Now you can get up-to-date information by email, RSS feed or on the Libraries’ web site, about the newest books, music CDs and DVDs arriving at the MIT Libraries. New titles are posted weekly at http://libraries.mit.edu/help/rss/barton for over 60 subjects from “Graphic Novels and Manga” to “Economics” to “Nanoscience and Nanotechnology.” You can choose to subscribe to RSS feeds by subject or browse through subject areas on the web site. Links to catalog records in Barton, the Libraries’ online catalog, are provided for each title so you can find out if the item is currently available and where to locate it in the Libraries.

**HUMANITIES VIRTUAL BROWSERY**

The Virtual Browsery (http://libraries.mit.edu/browsery) has been redesigned to offer new features. In addition to highlighting new and topical books on the Humanities shelves, you’ll also find biographies and prizewinners, as well as a “Hidden in the Stacks” category that features library staff favorites. The redesign also introduces:

- Informative book reviews (accessible with MITcertificates).
- Information about the availability of books in the Humanities Library.
- Lists of other books by a particular author that are owned by the Humanities Library.
- RSS feeds, allowing you to subscribe to regular updates.
- A “Comments” link to share your thoughts about a book with others in the MIT community.

**LIBRARIES AD CAMPAIGN**

If you read The Tech you may notice ads for the MIT Libraries. The series of ads are part of a campaign that will run throughout the spring term to promote the Libraries’ services and resources to undergraduate students. The campaign is an outcome from a survey where the Libraries learned that many undergraduate users were either unaware of or would like to know more about library services and resources. Some ad themes include: study spaces, electronic resources, Vera & Barton, librarian and subject expertise, AskUs! and new Libraries’ web tools.

**UPCOMING EVENT**

5th Annual Prokopoff Concert
Friday, April 27th, 2007
Noon — 1pm,
MIT Lewis Music Library (14E - 109)

The Annual Prokoppoff Concert honors the extraordinary collection of violin music collected by Stephen Prokopoff and donated to the Lewis Music Library by Lois Craig in 2001. This year, the concert will feature music from the collection performed by some of MIT’s finest violinists and student musicians: Albert Chow, Serenus Hua, Sherman Jia, Catherine McCurry, and others.