On a recent flight from the west coast, I found myself seated next to a young road warrior who travels the world installing and staffing IT centers for his company. Not surprisingly, he was a digerati with a high-end laptop, numerous travel chargers, two cell phones (one smart), an e-book reader, and a watch with more controls than a 737.

When he had finished running spreadsheets and queuing up email replies on his laptop, he put all his electronic devices (including the e-book reader) on the floor, pulled out a paperback book, and started to read.

This is the world of reading behaviors in which 21st century research libraries support research and education. Not all books (especially scholarly books) are digital. Not all digitized books can be legally read in their entirety. Different titles are available on different e-book platforms. Publisher and distributor business models are as varied as the weather in New England. Each new offering has its own lifecycle cost structure, business proposition, user-interface advantages and disadvantages, and persistence challenges. Will this evolve over time? I certainly hope so. Meanwhile, much of what we know today about the volatile consumer market for e-books simply does not map well to the learning and research needs of cash-strapped university students, who must be able to follow their intellectual noses where their intelligence and imagination take them.

So the MIT Libraries acquire both e-books and print books in all relevant disciplines, negotiating with publishers until we can arrive at a licensing or purchasing model that makes sense for MIT. We try out every new platform. We leverage our existing print collections, run experiments, gather data, and listen to our community in order to understand the format choices made by smart busy people in the context of a fast-paced research university environment.

When I asked my seat-mate about his choice of a print paperback over his state-of-the-art e-book reader, his response — like the reaction of most MIT students — was purely practical. First, he said he liked the clarity of the printed page and found it easy on the eye and faster to read — especially after a day of staring at screens. Second, a friend had given him the book with a great recommendation, and he was looking forward to passing it along to his wife. You can’t share e-books that way, he said.

In 2010 the MIT Libraries will make available to the MIT community 2.9 million printed volumes, 148,000 electronic books, 672 reference databases, and 60,400 electronic and print journals. And this is only the tip of the iceberg of MIT’s vast digital and tangible collections; not to mention the combined collections of the many fine libraries with which the MIT Libraries actively collaborate.

The future state to which the MIT Libraries are moving will undoubtedly be more digital than it is today. At the moment, however, two equally vivid and dynamic library service delivery systems are required: one which is physical, takes advantage of our deep rich collections and supports our on-campus community; and one which is virtual, focused on remote support for MIT faculty and students wherever they may be and in whatever time zone they may be.

As my seat-mate and I discussed the current state of book publishing, he laughingly reminded me that television was once expected to replace the radio, but that today there are more sets and stations than ever while television yields ground to the Internet. So for now, MIT students just read on. It’s good to know that whatever medium they choose, the MIT Libraries will continue to support their curiosity and intelligence with all manner of relevant material.

Ann J. Wolpert
Director of Libraries
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awolpert@mit.edu
IN THE MAIHAUGEN GALLERY

“TELL HER TO GO TO IT” AN EXHIBIT ON WOMEN’S EXPERIENCES AT MIT

The wisdom and determination of MIT’s women are showcased in a new exhibit in the Maihaugen Gallery (14N-130) that reveals the history of women establishing themselves as students, faculty, administrators and staff at MIT. From the first women’s labs and dorms, to finding community and equity in the ranks, learn about their story through original letters, publications, photos, video and records from the Institute Archives. The exhibit will run through early December. See libraries.mit.edu/maihaugen for hours and information.

“I thoroughly enjoyed my years at Tech...if a girl comes along who really wants to be an engineer, tell her to go to it. Not to be dissuaded.”

Lydia Weld, S.B. in Naval Engineering, Class of 1904.

AT ROTCH LIBRARY

SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGH INCLUSIVENESS, COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT CASE STUDY: SHENZHEN, CHINA

Vanke Town development in Shenzhen, China

Since 2005, Vanke Corporation has sponsored research seminars, studios, and workshops at MIT on the topic of sustainable residential development. This exhibit synthesized the four years of ideas, discussion, drawings, and writings produced by the students involved. The issues explored were: resource efficiency, the natural environment, community facilities and mobility. This exhibit was bilingual, offered in Chinese and English and ran through October 1.

For more information and an archive of past exhibitions, see: info-libraries.mit.edu/rotch/exhibitions

WATER WORKS: RECENT OIL PAINTINGS AND SKETCH BOOKS BY CAROL SCHWEIGERT

“Water Works” features paintings by Carol Schweigert from Dewey Library’s Access Services. Schweigert’s passion is for painting from direct observation in both oil and gouache, indoors and out. MIT and scenes on the Charles River are common themes in her artwork. Four MIT dome studies painted by Schweigert hang in Dewey Library and were the subject of an article in the May 3, 2010 issue of News@MITSloan (mitsloan.mit.edu/newsatmitsloan). This exhibit offers the opportunity to see more of Schweigert’s paintings and sketches. It runs through October 29.
An official announcement from Susan Hockfield at the beginning of the semester heralded "MIT150," the upcoming celebration of the sesquicentennial of MIT's founding in 1861. Across the Institute, work has been underway and celebration plans are in their final stages.

As the president announced, “…the Institute will begin 150 days of celebration next January, with symposia, performances, exhibits, a campus-wide open house, and competitions — all designed to highlight the many facets of MIT.”

The MIT Libraries' Institute Archives and AMPS (Academic Media Production Services), have played key roles in the preparations and projects that will be launched in January 2011:

- MIT150 Archivist Silvia Mejia directed the creation of a multimedia timeline that will be featured on the Institute’s MIT150 website (mit150.mit.edu/timeline);
- An exhibit in the Maihaugen Gallery, running throughout the sesquicentennial year, will showcase the broad and varied history of MIT with items from the Institute Archives' Special Collections and the MIT Museum’s 150 Exhibition;
- The MIT history segment of the Archives' website (libraries.mit.edu/archives/mithistory) is being upgraded and enhanced to bring forward a wealth of historical information in a more attractive and user-friendly way; and
- “Infinite Histories,” produced by AMPS, will present the story of MIT through video interviews with many of MIT’s most notable figures (mit150.mit.edu/infinite-history).

In addition, the Archives will launch a number of projects aimed at celebrating and promoting MIT’s rich and varied history in fun and engaging ways. In January you’ll find links to these from the Archives website (libraries.mit.edu/archives):

- MIT History Haiku: “Stroboscope studies; Frequent flashes formed freeze frames; Doc made applesauce”…;
- 150 Resources from the MIT Libraries: a daily blog of 150 books and resources from the Libraries’ collections “published” during each year from 1861 to 2011, one from each year of MIT’s existence;
- MIT Diary project: the digitization and presentation of selections of historical diaries from our collections; and “historical guest” bloggers;
- 150 MIT Myths and Rumors: clarification, if possible, of historical MIT “facts.” Were “bituminous coal” William Barton’s last words? The verdict is still out…;
- Maps of Boston and Cambridge: historical comparisons of the land MIT has occupied; what it looked like before, during and after (some of it was not land, but sea);
- “Future Buildings”: “historical” information about the new buildings on campus; and
- Games and puzzles.

We look forward to celebrating 150 years of MIT and hope you’ll join us for these events and activities, or follow the celebration online through the MIT150 and Institute Archives websites.

Tom Rosko
Head, MIT Institute Archives & Special Collections
617 253 5688
rosko@mit.edu
“Without the studio we would have had to rent studio time elsewhere. I’m delighted that we have this space”

MIT President Emeritus Paul Gray

“With the flip of a switch we can be connected to any major news organization via fiber optic network,” said Larry Gallagher, director of video production for AMPS (Academic Media Production Services), a part of the MIT Libraries. “Having this resource on campus saves faculty from traveling to other facilities in the Boston area.”

According to Gallagher, in the past few months the studio has been used to film interviews with MIT faculty that have appeared on CNN, CNBC, Fox Business News, PBS and other national and international news programs. “We’re glad to be able to facilitate this kind of exposure for MIT experts to reach a broad audience,” he said.

In addition to media requests, the studio will be used for video that supports MIT events, teaching and communications projects. Already the studio has recorded interviews for the MIT150 Infinite History Project, student greetings for the Class of 2010 Commencement, and interviews with incoming members of the Class of 2014.

An open house in the new facility is planned for late October and tours are available on request. To learn more about the studio and AMPS video production capabilities, see libraries.mit.edu/amps, or contact amps-info@mit.edu.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION: NEW VIDEO STUDIO OPENS ON CAMPUS

MIT’s faculty and researchers are frequently in the media spotlight with news organizations from around the world seeking their expertise and opinions on numerous topics. Now a new resource on campus will make it easier to connect MIT experts with a broadcast audience.

A state-of-the-art video production studio has opened in Building 24, equipped with high-definition cameras, a controlled environment for light and sound and “Medialink” technology to provide news media with convenient and immediate access to MIT newsmakers. The new studio replaces an older recording space in Building 9.
A FEW OF THE MANY
WAYS YOUR SUPPORT
CAN BENEFIT MIT’S
STUDENTS AND FACULTY:

DONATE A CHAIR
Gifts in any amount to the “Take a Seat” Fund (fund #2743248) will help us upgrade furnishings in student spaces throughout the MIT Libraries. For information on this fund and the “Take a Seat” special recognition program, visit libraries.mit.edu/giving/opportunities/seat.html.

SUPPORT INFORMATION RESOURCES
The Library Collection Fund (fund #2781000) is an unrestricted fund for information resources. This fund assists the Libraries’ support of interdisciplinary and emerging academic programs, and helps to meet demands for new types of resources.

SUPPORT NEW TECHNOLOGY
The Libraries’ Software Development and Analysis group develops new information management and preservation technology, and supports implementation of this new technology into active use at MIT. Gifts to the Technology Innovation Fund (fund #2742963) help the Libraries to work toward solutions to cutting-edge research problems.

PREVENT BOOKS AND DIGITAL MEDIA
FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
Preservation and Conservation Services is charged with preserving resources and data — printed and electronic — for future generations of MIT scholars. The MIT Libraries Preservation Fund (fund #3207000) supports not only repairs to books, but also the conservation of film, video, and other non-print material, and the preservation of digital information.

ADD CAPACITY FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES
In recent years, the Director’s Fund for Library Excellence, the Libraries’ unrestricted annual fund, has played a vital role in allowing the Libraries to innovate. Gifts to this fund (#2787900) have supported the Libraries’ scholarly publishing and open access initiatives, have made new educational and outreach programs possible, and have helped to ensure the Libraries sustain their high level of services for students and faculty in times of leaner budgets.

This is a small sampling of the gift funds that support the MIT Libraries’ collections, services and spaces. A complete list of Libraries funds can be found at giving.mit.edu/libraries.

SUPPORTING THE LIBRARIES
STUDENT SPACES
Visit any library at MIT and you’ll find students tucked into the overstuffed chairs in Hayden Library overlooking the Charles River, immersed in an energetic study session with their peers in one of Dewey Library’s group study rooms, or absorbed in a librarian-led instruction session on the latest digital resource in the Libraries’ Digital Information Resource Center (DIRC).

The MIT Libraries provide a host of spaces for quiet study and introspection, as well as lively collaboration and learning. And our spaces are well-used — last year, the Libraries counted 714,000 visits* to our facilities — up 7.4% from the previous year. These spaces include not only traditional library spaces but instructional facilities, GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and social science data laboratories, video conference-enabled group study rooms, and secure 24/7 study rooms, to name a few.

The Libraries adapt facilities to meet student needs presented by new technologies and academic programs. In recent years, our ability to do this has been strengthened by gifts from alumni and friends of MIT. To find out how you can help please contact Steven Horsch at 617-452-2123 or horsch@mit.edu.

*MIT Libraries Report to the President for academic year 2009–2010, as submitted.
Earlier this year the MIT Libraries established a special fund, the MIT Open Access Article Publication Subvention Fund (OAAPSF), to support equity in open access publication by providing funding to MIT authors who might not otherwise be able to cover publication fees. A subsidy of up to $1,000 per article is now available to faculty authors publishing in peer-reviewed open access journals that meet certain criteria.

The fund was created as a result of MIT’s commitment to the “Compact for Open-Access Publishing Equity,” launched with four other founding universities in September of 2009. The goal of the compact is to allow subscription-based journals and open access journals to compete on a more level playing field by providing equitable support for the processing-fee business model used by some open-access journals. Soon after the fund was launched, Professor Lionel Kimerling and Doctor Jurgen Michel applied for and received funding from the Libraries to publish their paper in Optics Express.

“We welcome the new program because it encourages publication in open-access journals that have high impact ratings by defraying the publication fees,” Michel said.

The fund is being initiated as a pilot project, in cooperation with the Faculty Committee on the Library System, with the goal of determining faculty interest and financial requirements for such a fund. Initial funding for the pilot is from the Libraries’ Director’s Fund for Library Excellence.

For additional examples of how the Libraries support open access publishing, see: libraries.mit.edu/oasupport. To learn more about OAAPSF and how to apply see: libraries.mit.edu/oafund, or contact

Ellen Duranceau
Program Manager, Scholarly Publishing & Licensing
617-253-8483
efinnie@mit.edu

The Libraries are celebrating the one-year launch of the Open Access Articles Collection in DSpace@MIT during International Open Access Week (October 18-24). Growth and use of the collection is steadily on the rise.

GLOBAL IMPACT: IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS ARTICLES HAVE BEEN DOWNLOADED FROM 125 COUNTRIES
WITH APPRECIATION:
DONORS TO THE MIT LIBRARIES JULY 1, 2009 – JUNE 30, 2010

On behalf of MIT’s faculty and students, and the staff of the MIT Libraries, I am delighted to acknowledge the generosity of the following supporters of our programs and collections. Your gifts play a critical role in our efforts to support the MIT academic community with the information and services they need to do their work. You, our donors, are partners in this endeavor and we are all deeply grateful.

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Director of Libraries

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The Chorallaries of MIT perform in the Institute Archives for the opening of the Technology & Enlightenment exhibit.
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please accept our apologies and contact us at horsch@mit.edu or (617) 452-2123
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Ingenuity Pathways Analysis software- libraries.mit.edu/get/ipa
This bioinformatics tool helps researchers model, analyze, and understand complex biological and chemical systems relevant to their experimental data.

Search scientific literature, find insights relevant to experimental data, analyze and build pathway models and share and collaborate with your colleagues.

Bioinformatics

NEW FEATURES IN MIT TECH TV
With the addition of a new back-end system this summer, MIT TechTV (techtv.mit.edu) will now be able to offer a wider array of features and enhanced capabilities. Some new features coming soon will be Closed Captioning support, Touchstone integration, web-based video editing, recording directly to a TechTV account and more. MIT TechTV will also have the ability to create custom players, replace source videos without having to replace other content,* and create multiple versions of videos customized to various network speeds and video quality. The new video player requires the latest version of Adobe’s Flash Player to be installed, but will also auto-detect network speed and play the best version of the video based on your network’s capabilities.

*embed codes require updating on “replaced” videos

UPCOMING EVENTS
Citation software classes
Learn how to manage your articles and cite your references more effectively. Workshops held in the Digital Instruction Resource Center (14N-132).

RefWorks Basics
Wednesday, October 20, 5 – 6pm

Zotero Basics
Wednesday, October 27, 5 – 6pm

Workshops on Statistical Software
Workshops held in 1-115.

Regression Using Stata
Monday, October 25th, 1 – 4pm

Graphics in Stata
Thursday, November 4th, 1 – 4pm

Introduction to SAS
Monday, November 15th, 1 – 4pm

Pre-register at info-libraries.mit.edu/events. For more information on upcoming classes, see: libraries.mit.edu/classes

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UPGRADES IN HAYDEN
When you walk into Hayden Library (14S-100) you’ll notice a brighter look and new carpet. This summer, energy conservation measures were made in conjunction with a sprinkler system upgrade, including:
• energy efficient lighting and day-lighting controls
• improvements in monitoring CO2 and humidity levels to ensure optimal energy and comfort
• new carpeting, ceiling tiles and fresh paint complete the improvements, creating a more inviting space.

IBISWorld - libraries.mit.edu/get/ibisworld
This popular resource has been expanded to include Global reports and China reports. Find market characteristics, trends, and statistics for 700+ U.S. industries, 70+ global industries, and 180+ Chinese industries.

What’s New in the Libraries?