
Section 1

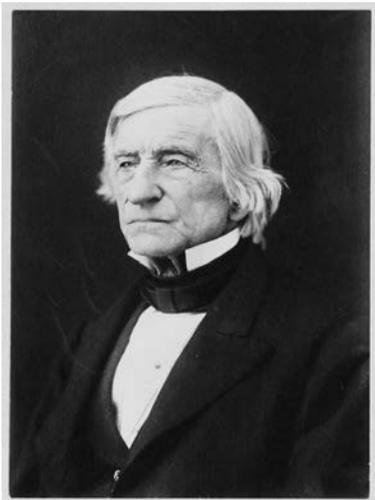
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Facts and History

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology is one of the world's preeminent research universities, dedicated to advancing knowledge and educating students in science, technology, and other areas of scholarship that will best serve the nation and the world. It is known for rigorous academic programs, cutting-edge research, a diverse campus community, and its long-standing commitment to working with the public and private sectors to bring new knowledge to bear on the world's great challenges.

William Barton Rogers, the Institute's founding president, believed that education should be both broad and useful, enabling students to participate in "the humane culture of the community" and to discover and apply knowledge for the benefit of society. His emphasis on "learning by doing," on combining liberal and professional education, and on the value of useful knowledge continues to be at the heart of MIT's educational mission.



MIT's founder, William Barton Rogers, 1879
Courtesy MIT Museum

MIT's commitment to innovation has led to a host of scientific breakthroughs and technological advances. Achievements of the Institute's faculty and graduates have included the first chemical synthesis of penicillin and vitamin A, the development of inertial guidance systems, modern technologies for artificial limbs, and the magnetic core memory that enabled the development of digital computers. Exciting areas of research and education today include neuroscience and the study of the brain and mind, bioengineering, energy, the environment and sustainable development, information sciences and technology, new media, financial technology, and entrepreneurship.

University research is one of the mainsprings of growth in an economy that is increasingly defined by technology. A study released by MIT in December 2015 estimated that MIT graduates had founded at least 30,000 active companies. These firms employed approximately 4.6 million people, and generated annual world sales of \$1.9 trillion, or the equivalent of the tenth-largest economy in the world in 2014.

MIT has forged educational and research collaborations with universities, governments, and companies throughout the world, and draws its faculty and students from every corner of the globe. The result is a vigorous mix of people, ideas, and programs dedicated to enhancing the world's well-being.

Fields of Study

MIT supports a large variety of fields of study, from science and engineering to the arts. MIT's five academic schools are organized into departments and other degree-granting programs. In addition, several programs, laboratories, and centers cross traditional boundaries and encourage creative thought and research.

School of Architecture and Planning

Architecture
Media Arts and Sciences
Urban Studies and Planning
Center for Real Estate

School of Engineering

Aeronautics and Astronautics
Biological Engineering
Chemical Engineering
Civil and Environmental Engineering
Data, Systems, and Society
Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Materials Science and Engineering
Mechanical Engineering
Nuclear Science and Engineering

School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

Anthropology
Comparative Media Studies/Writing
Economics
Global Studies and Languages
History
Linguistics and Philosophy
Literature
Music and Theatre Arts
Political Science
Science, Technology, and Society

Sloan School of Management Management

School of Science

Biology
Brain and Cognitive Sciences
Chemistry
Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences
Mathematics
Physics

Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Programs

Computer Science and Molecular Biology
Humanities
Humanities and Engineering
Humanities and Science
Mathematical Economics

Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs

Computation for Design and Optimization
Computational and Systems Biology
Computational Science and Engineering
Computer Science and Molecular Biology
Design and Management (Integrated Design and Management & System Design and Management)
Harvard-MIT Health Sciences and Technology Program
Joint Program with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Leaders for Global Operations
Microbiology
Operations Research
Polymers and Soft Matter
Supply Chain Management
Social and Engineering Systems
Technology and Policy
Transportation

Digital Learning

Practically since the advent of digital computing, MIT has been at the forefront of innovation in educational technology, whether through individual faculty initiatives, departmental projects, or Institute-wide programs. Literally hundreds of technology projects, each building on the lessons of those before, have helped to change the face of education at MIT and throughout the global academic community.

But in the last few years, technology-enabled change in how we teach and learn has been accelerating. We have seen remarkable educational experiments throughout higher education that are resulting in unprecedented breakthroughs:

- **New pedagogies.** Digital learning technologies enable students to do more outside of the class, so that class time can focus on deeper discussion, hands-on experiments and other forms of active learning. Digital technology can deliver lecture content, provide students rapid feedback on their understanding and even adaptive hints to foster learning, and foster more active reading and discussion through annotation tools. Digital platforms can also augment understanding, via visualizations, simulations and games. These technologies provide flexibility in course delivery, allowing more modularization and enabling students to access content anytime, anywhere; this is especially helpful for students who seek to access material in courses that are not offered every year. Many MIT faculty are experimenting with these new ways of teaching and learning.
 - **Scalable teaching.** Innovative technologies such as robust learning management platforms with short videos, embedded quizzes with instant feedback, student-ranked questions that prioritize topical focus for instructors, automated grading and assessment, discussion forums, personalization, etc. make it possible to increase student cohort size from tens or hundreds in a campus classroom to tens of thousands around
- the globe via the Internet. MITx in partnership with edX—originally an MIT-Harvard alliance, which has since expanded to include many top-tier universities worldwide—brings MIT faculty and their “MOOC” courses to many thousands of learners everywhere.
- **Open educational resources (OER).** The OER movement, pioneered in large part by MIT’s OpenCourseWare project—and since joined by hundreds more institutions worldwide—lowers financial, geographical, and political barriers to accessing quality educational content.
 - **Learning analytics and educational data mining.** Online learning systems have the ability to amass huge volumes of data on student use, navigation, and assessment as they work their way through courses. In the aggregate, these data can be used to model student learning approaches and performance. So, for example, it is now possible to monitor and predict students’ learning performance and spot potential issues early so that automated or instructor-initiated interventions can be provided. MIT faculty and other collaborators use these data for educational research to advance understanding of how people learn and identify effective pedagogical strategies.
 - **Online software innovations.** New tools such as internet labs, gaming, MIT STAR (Software Tools for Academics and Researchers), and other resources provide adaptive learning aids that present educational materials according to students’ varying needs and learning styles. MIT faculty have conceived and implemented many teaching tools, simulations, and learning aids. One remarkable example: iLabs enriches science and engineering education by enabling students to use real instruments via remote online laboratories. Unlike conventional laboratories, iLabs can be shared via the Internet, delivering the educational benefits of hands-on experimentation both to our own students and to students around the world.

In 2012, MIT established the Office of Digital Learning to harness the Institute's educational technology resources to ensure that MIT remains at the forefront of developments like these. ODL integrates formerly independent organizational units related to digital learning to focus on these strategic priorities:

- Support MIT faculty and students in bold experiments to enhance our residential education and provide resources for those who are interested in exploring how they might do so.
- Facilitate research on how people learn and on new technologies that might improve understanding, retention and application.
- Provide platforms for technological advances in digital education.
- Partner with companies, universities, governments and organizations that wish to develop new learning capabilities and enhance the competencies of their workforce, students and citizens.
- Extend MIT's knowledge and classrooms to the world.

<http://odl.mit.edu/>

Research Laboratories, Centers, and Programs

In addition to teaching and conducting research within their departments, faculty, students, and staff work in laboratories, centers, and programs.

Some of these include:

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab
Center for Archaeological Materials
Center for Collective Intelligence
Center for Computational Engineering
Center for Computational Research in Economics and Management Science
Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research
Center for Environmental Health Sciences
Center for Global Change Science
Center for International Studies
Center for Materials Science and Engineering

Center for Transportation and Logistics
Clinical Research Center
Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory
Concrete Sustainability Hub
Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation
Division of Comparative Medicine
Haystack Observatory
Initiative on the Digital Economy
Institute for Medical Engineering and Science
Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies
Institute for Work and Employment Research
Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change
Knight Science Journalism Program
Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research
Laboratory for Financial Engineering
Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems
Laboratory for Manufacturing and Productivity
Laboratory for Nuclear Science
Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship
Martin Trust Center for MIT Entrepreneurship
Materials Processing Center
McGovern Institute for Brain Research
Media Lab
Microsystems Technology Laboratories
MIT Center for Art, Science, and Technology
MIT Energy Initiative
MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative
MIT Innovation Initiative
MIT Kavli Institute for Astrophysics and Space Research
MIT Professional Education
MIT Program in Art, Culture and Technology
MIT Sea Grant
Nuclear Reactor Laboratory
Operations Research Center
Picower Institute for Learning and Memory
Plasma Science and Fusion Center
Research Laboratory of Electronics
Simons Center for the Social Brain
Sociotechnical Systems Research Center
Transportation@MIT
Women's and Gender Studies Program

<http://web.mit.edu/research/>

Academic and Research Affiliations

Collaborative Partnership

edX

A not-for-profit enterprise of its founding partners Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, edX is focused on transforming online and on-campus learning through groundbreaking methodologies, game-like experiences, and cutting-edge research on an open source platform.

Idaho National Laboratory

The Idaho National Laboratory (INL) is dedicated to supporting the U.S. Department of Energy's missions in nuclear and energy research, science, and national defense. The INL established a National Universities Consortium (NUC) of universities from around the nation to engage in collaborative research in the nation's strategic nuclear energy objectives. The NUC consists of MIT, Oregon State University, North Carolina State University, The Ohio State University, and University of New Mexico.

<https://www.inl.gov/inl-initiatives/education/nuc/>

Magellan Project

The Magellan Project is a five-university partnership that constructed, and now operates, two 6.5-meter optical telescopes at the Las Campanas Observatory in Chile. The telescopes allow researchers to observe planets orbiting stars in solar systems beyond our own and to explore the first galaxies that formed near the edge of the observable universe. Collaborating with MIT on the Magellan Project are Carnegie Institute of Washington, Harvard University, University of Arizona, and University of Michigan.

Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center

The Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center (MGHPCC) is a collaboration of five of the state's most research-intensive universities—Boston University, Harvard University, MIT, Northeastern University, and the University of Massachusetts—the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, CISCO, and EMC. The MGHPCC is a datacenter dedicated to providing the growing research computing capacity needed to support breakthroughs in science.

<http://www.mghpcc.org/>

MIT and Masdar Institute Cooperative Program

A collaboration between MIT and the government of Abu Dhabi to establish a graduate research university focused on alternative energy, sustainability, and advanced technology. The MIT and Masdar Institute Cooperative Program supports Abu Dhabi's goal of developing human capital for a diversified knowledge-based economy. See page 105 for more information.

Northeast Radio Observatory Corporation

The Northeast Radio Observatory Corporation (NEROC) is a nonprofit consortium of educational and research institutions that was formed in 1967 to plan an advanced radio and radar research facility in the Northeast. NEROC consists of nine educational and research institutions, these are MIT, Boston University, Brandeis University, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, University of Massachusetts, University of New Hampshire, and Wellesley College.

<http://www.haystack.mit.edu/hay/neroc.html>

Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology Centre

The Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART) Centre is a major research enterprise established by MIT in partnership with the National Research Foundation of Singapore. The SMART Centre serves as an intellectual hub for research interactions between MIT and Singapore at the frontiers of science and technology. See page 102 for more information about SMART.

<http://smart.mit.edu/>

MIT Skoltech Initiative

The MIT Skoltech Initiative is a multi-year collaboration between the Skolkovo Foundation, the Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology (Skoltech), and MIT to help conceive and launch a new private graduate research university focused on a small number of key global themes and designed to stimulate the development of a robust and economically impactful innovation ecosystem in Russia. See page 102 for more information.

Synthetic Biology Engineering Research Center

The Synthetic Biology Engineering Research Center (Synberc) is a multi-institution research effort to lay the foundation for synthetic biology. The core universities partners are MIT, University of California at Berkeley, University of California at San Francisco, Harvard University, and Stanford University. Synberc foundational research will be motivated by pressing biotechnology applications.

<http://synberc.org/>

Major Collaborator

Broad Institute

The Broad Institute seeks to transform medicine by empowering creative and energetic scientists of all disciplines from across the MIT, Harvard, and Harvard-affiliated hospital communities to work together to address even the most difficult challenges in biomedical research. The Broad Institute was founded in 2003; Eli and Edythe Broad, MIT, and Harvard University were founding partners.

<http://www.broadinstitute.org/>

Charles Stark Draper Laboratory

Founded as MIT's Instrumentation Laboratory, Draper Laboratory separated from MIT in 1973 to become an independent not-for-profit research and educational organization. Much of Draper's current research and development focuses on problems that arise in the measurement, analysis, simulation, and control of complex dynamic systems. This research and development covers a wide range of application areas, including guidance, navigation and control, microsystems, complex reliable systems, autonomous systems, information and decision systems, biomedical and chemical systems, secure networking and communications, energy systems, and commercial space systems.

<http://www.draper.com/>

Howard Hughes Medical Institute

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) is a scientific and philanthropic organization that conducts biomedical research in collaboration with universities, academic medical centers, hospitals, and other research institutions throughout the country. Nineteen HHMI investigators hold faculty appointments at MIT.

<http://www.hhmi.org/>

Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT and Harvard

The Ragon Institute was established at Massachusetts General Hospital, MIT, and Harvard in February 2009. The Institute brings scientists and clinicians together with engineers in an interdisciplinary effort to better understand how the body fights infections and, ultimately, to apply that understanding against a wide range of infectious diseases and cancers. The dual mission of the Institute is to contribute to the discovery of an HIV/AIDS vaccine and the collaborative study of immunology.

<http://ragoninstitute.org/>

Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research

The Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research is a nonprofit, independent research institution whose research excellence is nurtured by the collaborative spirit of its faculty and the creativity and dedication of its graduate students and postdoctoral scientists. Whitehead's primary focus is basic science, with an emphasis on molecular and cell biology, genetics and genomics, and developmental biology. Specific areas of inquiry at Whitehead include cancer, transgenic science, stem cells, regenerative biology, genetics, genomics, membrane biology, vertebrate development, and neurological disorders. Whitehead is affiliated with MIT through its members, who hold faculty positions at MIT. A small number of junior investigators also hold positions at Whitehead Institute as part of the Whitehead Fellows program.

<http://wi.mit.edu/>

Other Affiliation

MIT-Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Joint Program in Oceanography and Applied Ocean Science and Engineering

The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) is the largest independent oceanographic institution in the world. The MIT/WHOI Joint Program provides a high quality doctoral education leading to an internationally-recognized Ph.D. degree awarded by both institutions. The Joint Program is organized within five sub-disciplinary areas, each administered by a Joint Committee consisting of MIT faculty and WHOI scientists: Applied Ocean Science and Engineering, Biological Oceanography, Chemical Oceanography, Marine Geology and Geophysics, and Physical Oceanography.

<http://mit.whoi.edu/>

Naval Construction and Engineering

The graduate program in Naval Construction and Engineering (Course 2N) is intended for active duty officers in the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, and foreign Navies who have been designated for specialization in the design, construction, and repair of naval ships. The curriculum prepares Navy, Coast Guard, and foreign officers for careers in ship design and construction and is sponsored by Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command. Besides providing the officers a comprehensive education in naval engineering, the program emphasizes their future roles as advocates for innovation in ship design and acquisition.

<http://web.mit.edu/2n/>

Reserve Officer Training Corps Programs

Military training has existed at MIT since students first arrived in 1865. In 1917, MIT established the nation's first Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) unit. Today, Air Force, Army, and Naval ROTC units are based at MIT. These programs enable students to become commissioned military officers upon graduation. More than 12,000 officers have been commissioned from MIT, and more than 150 have achieved the rank of general or admiral.

<https://due.mit.edu/rotc/rotc-programs/>

Study at Other Institutions

MIT has cross-registration arrangements with several area schools. At the undergraduate level, students may cross-register at Harvard University, Wellesley College, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts. At the graduate level, qualified students may enroll in courses at Harvard University, Wellesley College, Boston University, Brandeis University, and Tufts University. International study opportunities including the Cambridge-MIT Exchange, departmental exchanges, and the MIT-Madrid Program are described on page 107.

Education Highlights

MIT has long maintained that professional competence is best fostered by coupling teaching with research and by focusing education on practical problems. This hands-on approach has made MIT a consistent leader in outside surveys of the nation's best colleges. MIT was the first university in the country to offer curriculums in architecture (1865), electrical engineering (1882), sanitary engineering (1889), naval architecture and marine engineering (1895), aeronautical engineering (1914), meteorology (1928), nuclear physics (1935), and artificial intelligence (1960s). More than 4,000 MIT graduates are professors at colleges and universities around the world. MIT faculty have written some of the best-selling textbooks of all time, such as *Economics* by Paul A. Samuelson and *Calculus and Analytic Geometry* by George Thomas. The following are some notable MIT teaching milestones since 1968.

1968 MIT and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute create a joint program for graduate studies in oceanography. This is the first higher education partnership of its kind.

1969 MIT launches the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP), the first of its kind. The program, which enables undergraduates to work directly with faculty on professional research, subsequently is copied in universities throughout the world.

1970 The Harvard-MIT Program in Health Sciences and Technology is established to focus advances in science and technology on human health and to train physicians with a strong base in engineering and science.

1970 Department of Mechanical Engineering initiates the course 2.70 (now 2.007) design contest, created by professor Woodie C. Flowers. The competition was to build a mechanical device, out of a set of relatively simple wooden and metal parts, that would roll down a ramp at a precisely controlled rate.

1971 MIT holds its first Independent Activities Period (IAP), a January program that emphasizes creativity and flexibility in teaching and learning.

1974 The Minority Introduction to Engineering and Science (MITES) program is established to provide a rigorous six-week residential, academic summer program for promising high school juniors who are interested in careers in science and engineering.

1977 Whitaker College of Health Sciences, Technology, and Management is established to strengthen MIT's ability to engage in health related research and education.

1977 MIT organizes the Program in Science, Technology, and Society to explore and teach courses on the social context and consequences of science and technology—one of the first programs of its kind in the United States.

1981 MIT-Japan Program is created to send MIT students to Japan for internships. In 1994, the program becomes part of the MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI). Today, the program also fosters research collaboration between faculty at MIT and in Asia through the MISTI Hayashi Seed Fund.

1981 MIT launches Project Athena, a \$70 million program to explore the use of computers in education. Digital Equipment Corporation and IBM each contribute \$25 million in computer equipment.

1981 The MIT Sloan School of Management launches its Management of Technology program, the world's first master's program to focus on the strategic management of technology and innovation.

1983 MIT establishes the Center for Real Estate and the first Master of Science in Real Estate Development (MSRED) degree program in the U.S.

1983–1990 MIT language and computer science faculty join in the Athena Language Learning Project to develop interactive videos that immerse students in the language and character of other cultures. The work pioneers a new generation of language learning tools.

1984 MIT establishes the Media Laboratory, bringing together pioneering educational programs in computer music, film, graphics, holography, lasers, and other media technologies.

1990 MIT initiates an artist-in-residence program to provide students with opportunities to interact with nationally and internationally recognized artists through master classes, lecture-demonstrations, performances and workshops.

1991 The Department of Mechanical Engineering's course 2.70 (2.007) design contest goes international, with students competing from Japan, England and Germany.

1992 MIT establishes the MacVicar Faculty Fellows Program, named in honor of the late Margaret A. MacVicar, to recognize outstanding contributions to teaching. MacVicar, a professor of physics, had conceived of, designed, and launched UROP (see 1969, above).

1992 MIT launches the Laboratory for Advanced Technology in the Humanities to extend its pioneering work in computer- and video-assisted language learning to other disciplines. Its first venture was a text and performance multimedia archive for studies of Shakespeare's plays.

1992 MIT Faculty approves the M.Eng. program in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, an integrated five-year program leading to the simultaneous award of a bachelor's and a master's degree.

1993 In recognition of the increasing importance of molecular and cell biology, MIT becomes the first college in the nation to add biology to its undergraduate requirement.

1994 The MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI) are created to connect MIT students to internships and research around the world. MIT's primary international program, MISTI is a pioneer in applied international studies—a distinctively MIT concept.

1994 The MIT-China Program is created within MISTI to send MIT students to China for internships.

1995 The School of Engineering and the Sloan School of Management join to create a graduate program in system design and management (SDM), in which students can complete most course requirements at their job sites through interactive distance-learning.

1995 MIT's Political Science Department establishes the Washington Summer Internship Program to provide undergraduates the opportunity to apply their scientific and technical training to public policy issues.

1997 The MIT-Germany Program is created within MISTI to send MIT students to Germany for internships.

1998 MIT teams up with Singapore's two leading research universities to create a global model for long-distance engineering education and research. This large-scale experiment, the first truly global collaboration in graduate engineering education and research, is a model for today's distance education.

1998 MIT-India Program is created within MISTI to send MIT students to India for internships.

1998 The Division of Bioengineering & Environmental Health (BEH) begins operation with the mission of fostering MIT education and research fusing engineering with biology.

1998 The School of Engineering establishes the Engineering Systems Division (ESD), focused on the development of new approaches, frameworks, and theories to better understand engineering systems behavior and design.

1999 MIT-Italy Program is created within MISTI to send MIT students to Italy for internships.

1999 The University of Cambridge and MIT establish the Cambridge-MIT Institute, whose programs include student and faculty exchanges, an integrated research program, professional practice education, and a national competitiveness network in Britain.

1999 MIT establishes the Society of Presidential Fellows to honor the most outstanding students worldwide entering the Institute's graduate programs. With gifts provided by lead donors, presidential fellows are awarded fellowships that fund first year tuition and living expenses.

2000 MIT Faculty approve the Communication Requirement (CR), which went into effect for the Class of 2005. The CR integrates substantial instruction and practice in writing and speaking into all four years and across all parts of MIT's undergraduate program. Students participate regularly in activities designed to develop both general and technical communication skills.

2001 Studio Physics is introduced to teach freshman physics. Incorporating a highly collaborative, hands-on environment that uses networked laptops and desktop experiments, the new curriculum lets students work directly with complicated and unfamiliar concepts as their professors introduce them.

2001 MIT launches OpenCourseWare, a program that makes materials for nearly all of its courses freely available on the web and serves as a model for sharing knowledge to benefit all humankind.

2001 The MIT-France Program is created within MISTI to send MIT students to France for internships and enhance research collaboration between faculty at MIT and in France through the MIT-France Seed Fund.

2001 MIT establishes WebLab, a microelectronics teaching laboratory that allows students to interact remotely on the Web with transistors and other microelectronics devices anywhere and at any time.

2001 MIT's Earth System Initiative launches TerraScope, a freshman course in which students work in teams to solve complex earth sciences problems. Bringing together physics, mathematics, chemistry, biology, management, and communications, the course has enabled students to devise strategies for preserving tropical rainforests, understand the costs and the benefits of oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and plan a mission to Mars.

2002 To give engineering students the opportunity to develop the skills they'll need to be leaders in the workplace, MIT introduces the Undergraduate Practice Opportunities Program (UPOP). The program involves a corporate training workshop, job seminars taught by alumni, and a 10-week summer internship.

2003 MIT Libraries introduce DSpace, a digital repository that gathers, stores, and preserves the intellectual output of MIT's faculty and research staff, and makes it freely available to research institutions worldwide. Within a year of its launch, DSpace material had been downloaded more than 8,000 times, and more than 100 organizations had adopted the system for their own use.

2003 MIT's Program in Computational and Systems Biology (CSBi), an Institute-wide program linking biology, engineering, and computer science in a systems biology approach to the study of cell-to-cell signaling, tissue formation, and cancer, begins accepting students for a new Ph.D. program that will give them the tools for treating biological entities as complex living systems.

2004 The MIT-Mexico Program is created within MISTI to send MIT students to Mexico for internships.

2005 Combining courses from engineering, mathematics, and management, MIT launches its master's program in Computation for Design and Optimization, one of the first curriculums in the country to focus on the computational modeling and design of complex engineered systems. The program prepares engineers for the challenges of making systems ranging from computational biology to airline scheduling to telecommunications design and operations run with maximum effectiveness and efficiency.

2006 MIT creates the Campaign for Students, a fundraising effort dedicated to enhancing the educational experience at MIT through creating scholarships and fellowships, and supporting multidisciplinary education and student life.

2006 The MIT-Spain Program is created within MISTI to send MIT students to Spain for internships.

2007 MIT makes material from virtually all MIT courses available online for free on OpenCourseWare. The publication marks the beginning of a worldwide movement toward open education that now involves more than 160 universities and 5,000 courses.

2008 The MIT-Israel Program is created within MISTI to train and send MIT students to Israel for internships; strengthen collaborations between MIT and Israel; and organize workshops, conferences, symposia and lectures at MIT and in Israel.

2009 MIT launches the Bernard M. Gordon-MIT Engineering Leadership Program. Through interaction with industry leaders, faculty, and fellow students, the program aims to help undergraduate engineering students develop the skills, tools, and character they will need as future engineering leaders.

2009 The MIT-Brazil Program is created within MISTI to send MIT students to Brazil for internships and encourage research collaboration between faculty at MIT and in Brazil through the MIT-Brazil Seed Fund.

2009 MIT introduces a minor in energy studies, open to all undergraduates. The new minor, unlike most energy concentrations available at other institutions, and unlike any other concentration at MIT, is designed to be inherently cross-disciplinary, encompassing all of MIT's five schools. It can be combined with any major subject. The minor aims to allow students to develop expertise and depth in their major disciplines, but then complement that with the breadth of understanding offered by the energy minor.

2010 MIT introduces the flexible engineering degree for undergraduates. The degree, the first of its kind, allows students to complement a deep disciplinary core with an additional subject concentration. The additional concentration can be broad and interdisciplinary in nature (energy, transportation, or the environment), or focused on areas that can be applied to multiple fields (robotics and controls, computational engineering, or engineering management).

2011 MIT announces MITx, an online learning initiative that will offer a portfolio of free MIT courses through an online interactive learning platform. The Institute expects the platform to enhance the educational experience of its on-campus students and serve as a host for a virtual community of millions of learners around the world. The MITx prototype course—6.002x or "Circuits and Electronics"—debuts in March 2012 with almost 155,000 people registering for the course.

2012 MIT establishes the Office of Digital Learning to harness the Institute’s digital learning resources, creating more integration and coordination among formerly independent organizational units related to educational technology.

2012 MIT and Harvard University announce edX, a transformational new partnership in online education. Through edX, the two institutions will collaborate to enhance campus-based teaching and learning and build a global community of online learners. An open-source technology platform will deliver online courses that move beyond the standard model of online education that relies on watching video content and will offer an interactive experience for students. The University of California at Berkeley later joins edX. The three institutions offer the first edX courses in fall 2012.

2012 Lincoln Laboratory debuts a new outreach program—a two-week summer residential program for high-school students. The program, Lincoln Laboratory Radar Introduction for Student Engineers, focuses on radar technology. The project-based curriculum is based on a popular class offered during MIT’s Independent Activities Period (IAP) and taught by Laboratory technical staff. While the instructors adapted the IAP course to suit high-school students, they retained the challenging nature of the original class. The goal of the program is that students take away not only an understanding of radar systems but also the realization that engineering is about problem-solving and applying knowledge in innovative ways.

2012 MIT announces the launch of the Institute for Medical Engineering and Science (IMES). IMES brings together research and education efforts at the nexus of engineering, science, and clinical medicine to advance human health.

2013 The School of Engineering and Lincoln Laboratory launch Beaver Works. This initiative facilitates project-based learning by leveraging partnerships between faculty and students at MIT and practicing engineers at Lincoln Laboratory to promote collaborative research and to enable the fabrication of prototype systems. The initiative’s signature collaboration is the Beaver Works capstone project in areas such as unmanned aerial vehicles, small satellites, autonomous underwater systems, energy systems, cybersecurity, communications, big data analytics, and advanced devices.

2013 OCW inaugurates “OCW Educator” with the first “This Course at MIT” page. This feature offers educational ideas, practices, and pedagogical expertise from MIT faculty in order to inspire teachers around the world with innovations that they may use in their own teaching.

2014 MITx on edX registers its one-millionth learner on May 27, 2014.

2014 The Office of Digital Learning pilots the MITx Global Entrepreneurship Bootcamp, an innovative “blended learning” program that combines online education with an intensive, immersive one-week on-campus experience.

2014 MIT Professional Education, in cooperation with the Office of Digital Learning and edX, begins offering online courses designed specifically for industry and active professionals. Based on research in areas ranging from big data, cybersecurity, and entrepreneurship, these courses enable MIT to disseminate knowledge at scale to professionals around the world, in areas critical to industry. The first course on big data enrolled more than 7,000 paid enrollees from over 100 countries.

2015 SuperUROP, an amplified version of the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, is launched in the School of Engineering. First conceived and implemented in 2012 under the leadership of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, SuperUROP is a year-long program that enables students to tackle complex problems and affords them the time, training, resources, and guidance necessary for deep scientific and engineering inquiry.

2015 MIT creates the MIT-Woodrow Wilson Academy of Teaching and Learning to advance pre-K through 12 education by combining MIT's "mind and hand" approach to learning with recent breakthroughs in cognitive science and digital learning. The program develops STEM teachers and school leaders around the world.

2015 The Residential MITx platform hosts its 100th course. Nearly 90% of MIT undergraduates have participated in one or more courses that use the platform.

2015 The Institute for Data, Systems, and Society (IDSS) is launched. A collaboration among all five of MIT's schools, IDSS brings together researchers working in the mathematical, behavioral, and empirical sciences to capitalize on their shared interest in tackling complex societal problems.

2015 Lincoln Laboratory offered LLCipher, a one-week workshop providing an introduction to cryptography. Lessons provided high-school students the foundational knowledge to understand a math-based theoretical approach to securing data. Students constructed provably secure encryption and digital signature schemes, and then learned about zero-knowledge proofs and multiparty computation. The workshop's success warranted an expansion in future years.

Research Highlights

The following are selected research achievements of MIT faculty and staff over the last five decades.

1967 Joel Moses, William A. Martin, and others develop MACSYMA, a computer program that manipulates algebraic quantities and performs symbolic integration and differentiation.

1968 Radar-based lunar studies are performed by Lincoln Laboratory. The use of radar to map the surface of the moon becomes possible when the radar beam is made small enough to discriminate between two points on the surface that would contribute echoes at the same range and Doppler shift. Altitude data is added to the two-dimensional radar reflectivity data by the use of interferometry. In addition, from the strength of radar reflections, it is estimated that the lunar surface has weight-bearing properties similar to that of terrestrial sand.

1969 Ioannis V. Yannas begins to develop artificial skin—a material used successfully to treat burn victims.

1970 David Baltimore reports the discovery of reverse transcriptase, an enzyme that catalyzes the conversion of RNA to DNA. The advance, which led to a Nobel Prize for Baltimore in 1975, provided a new means for studying the structure and function of genes.

1972 Lincoln Laboratory's Moving Target Detector (MTD) achieved a new performance level for the detection of aircraft in the presence of radar clutter, such as ground, weather, and birds. It employed an antenna with two fan beams to provide coverage from the immediate vicinity of an airport to a distance of 60 nautical miles. The MTD became the world-recognized standard for Airport Surveillance Radar.

1973 Jerome Friedman and Henry Kendall, with Stanford colleague Richard Taylor, complete a series of experiments confirming the theory that protons and neutrons are made up of minute particles called quarks. The three receive the 1979 Nobel Prize in Physics for their work.

1974 Samuel C. C. Ting, Ulrich Becker, and Min Chen discover the "J" particle. The discovery, which earns Ting the 1976 Nobel Prize in Physics, points to the existence of one of the six postulated types of quarks.

1975 The Lincoln Laboratory Experimental Test System (ETS) becomes operational. The ETS is used for deep-space surveillance, daylight satellite tracking, searching the geostationary belt, and making astronomical measurements.

1975–1977 Barbara Liskov and her students design the CLU programming language, an object-oriented language that helps form the underpinnings for languages like Java and C++. As a result of this work and other accomplishments, Liskov later wins the Turing Award, considered the Nobel Prize in computing.

1975–1982 Joel Moses develops the first extensive computerized program (MACSYMA) able to manipulate algebraic quantities and perform symbolic integration and differentiation.

1976 H. Gobind Khorana and his research team complete chemical synthesis of the first human-manufactured gene fully functional in a living cell. The culmination of 12 years of work, it establishes the foundation for the biotechnology industry. Khorana won the 1968 Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine for other genetics work.

1977 Phillip Sharp discovers the split gene structure of higher organisms, changing the view of how genes arose during evolution. For this work, Sharp shared the 1993 Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine.

1977 Ronald Rivest, Adi Shamir, and Leonard Adleman invent the first workable public key cryptographic system. The new code, which is based on the use of very large prime numbers, allows secret communication between any pair of users. Still unbroken, the code is in widespread use today.

1979 The high frame rate required for airborne laser radar demands an array of photomixers, and Lincoln Laboratory begins a design study in binary optics for a solution. A hologram is proposed to generate an array of beams with the amplitude and phase distributions necessary to ensure efficient photomixing.

1979 Robert Weinberg reports isolating and identifying the first human oncogene—an altered gene that causes the uncontrolled cell growth that leads to cancer.

1981 Alan Guth publishes the first satisfactory model, called cosmic inflation, of the universe's development in the first 10–32 seconds after the Big Bang.

1982 Alan Davison discovers a new class of technetium compounds that leads to the development of the first diagnostic technetium drug for imaging the human heart.

1982 Lincoln Laboratory utilizes a new generation of digital signal processing chips to develop a compact linear predictive coding (LPC) vocoder small and inexpensive enough for wide distribution. A vocoder analyzes and synthesizes speech using parameters that can be encrypted and transmitted at a much lower bit rate than the original speech waveform. The LPC vocoder is important in the U.S. development of secure voice systems.

1985 Susumu Tonegawa describes the structure of the gene for the receptors—"anchor molecules"—on the white blood cells called T lymphocytes, the immune system's master cells. In 1987, Tonegawa receives the Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine for similar work on the immune system's B cells.

1985 The Terminal Doppler Weather Radar (TDWR) program is initiated at Lincoln Laboratory to develop an automated system for detecting weather hazards in the airport terminal area and to help pilots avoid them. A successful TDWR prototype led to the procurement of 47 TDWRs from Raytheon in the 1990s, and there has not been a major U.S. wind-shear-related accident since 1994.

1986 Stephen Benton creates the first free-standing hologram. In 1985, Benton began generating synthetic holograms from 3D digital databases, initially creating a 3D image of a green car floating in front of the Boston skyline.

1986 H. Robert Horvitz identifies the first two genes found to be responsible for the process of cell death, which is critical both for normal body development and for protection against autoimmune diseases, cancer, and other disorders. Going on to make many more pioneering discoveries about the genetics of cell death, Horvitz shares the 2002 Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine for his work.

1988 Project Daedalus sets distance and endurance records for human-powered aircraft in a flight over the Aegean Sea.

1988 Sallie Chisholm and associates report the discovery of a form of ocean plankton that may be the most abundant single species on earth.

1989 The Airport Surveillance Radar (ASR)-9, developed at Lincoln Laboratory, provides air traffic control (ATC) personnel with a display free of clutter and a telephone bandwidth data stream for transmitting information to ATC facilities. The technology was later transferred to Westinghouse Corporation, which deployed the ASR-9 at 137 sites in the U.S. for the Federal Aviation Administration.

1990 Julius Rebek, Jr. and associates create the first self-replicating synthetic molecule.

1990 Building on the discovery of the metathesis—the process of cutting carbon-carbon double bonds in half and constructing new ones—Richard Schrock devises a catalyst that greatly speeds up the reaction, consumes less energy, and produces less waste. A process based on his discovery is now in widespread use for efficient and more environmentally friendly production of important pharmaceuticals, fuels, synthetic fibers, and many other products. Schrock shares the 2005 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his breakthrough.

1991 Cleveland heart doctors begin clinical trials of a laser catheter system for microsurgery on the arteries that is largely the work of Michael Feld and his MIT associates.

1992 The Lincoln Laboratory Microelectronics Laboratory becomes operational. It is a 70,000 sq ft state-of-the-art semiconductor research and fabrication facility supporting a wide range of programs: flight-quality gigapixel charge-coupled device (CCD) imager focal planes, photon-counting avalanche photodiode arrays, and niobium-based superconducting circuits, to name a few. The Microelectronics Laboratory also supports advanced packaging with a precision multichip module technology and an advanced three-dimensional circuit stacking technology.

1993 H. Robert Horvitz, together with scientists at Massachusetts General Hospital, discover an association between a gene mutation and the inherited form of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease).

1993 David Housman joins colleagues at other institutions in announcing a successful end to the long search for the genetic defect linked with Huntington's disease.

1993 Alexander Rich and postdoctoral fellow Shuguang Zhang report the discovery of a small protein fragment that spontaneously forms into membranes. This research will lead to advances in drug development, biomedical research, and the understanding of Alzheimer's and other diseases.

1993 The Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) is deployed. TCAS reduces midair collisions by sensing nearby aircraft and issuing an advisory to the pilot. Lincoln Laboratory developed the surveillance technology used by TCAS and built and flight-tested the TCAS prototype. Now mandated on all large transport aircraft, TCAS has been in operation for over a decade and has been credited with preventing several catastrophic accidents.

1994 MIT engineers develop a robot that can “learn” exercises from a physical therapist, guide a patient through them, and, for the first time, record biomedical data on the patient's condition and progress.

1995 The Advanced Land Imager (ALI) is developed at Lincoln Laboratory to validate new technologies that (1) could be utilized in future land-observing satellites and (2) would reduce mass, size, and power consumption while improving instrument sensitivity and image resolution.

1995 Scientists at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research and MIT create a map of the human genome and begin the final phase of the Human Genome Project. This powerful map contains more than 15,000 distinct markers and covers virtually all of the human genome.

1996 A group of scientists at MIT's Center for Learning and Memory, led by Matthew Wilson and Nobel laureate Susumu Tonegawa, use new genetic and multiple-cell monitoring technologies to demonstrate how animals form memory about new environments.

1997 MIT physicists create the first atom laser, a device that is analogous to an optical laser but emits atoms instead of light. The resulting beam can be focused to a pinpoint or made to travel long distances with minimal spreading.

1998 MIT biologists, led by Leonard Guarente, identify a mechanism of aging in yeast cells that suggests researchers may one day be able to intervene in, and possibly inhibit, the aging process in certain human cells.

1998 Lincoln Near Earth Asteroid Research (LINEAR) is developed by Lincoln Laboratory to detect and catalogue near-Earth asteroids that may threaten Earth. Applying technology originally developed for the surveillance of Earth-orbiting satellites, LINEAR uses two ground-based electro-optical deep-space surveillance telescopes.

1998 An interdisciplinary team of MIT researchers, led by Yoel Fink and Edwin L. Thomas, invent the “perfect mirror,” which offers radical new ways of directing and manipulating light. Potential applications range from a flexible light guide that can illuminate specific internal organs during surgery to new devices for optical communications.

1999 Michael Cima, Robert Langer, and graduate student John Santini report the first microchip that can store and release chemicals on demand. Among its potential applications is a “pharmacy” that could be swallowed or implanted under the skin and programmed to deliver precise drug dosages at specific times.

1999 Alexander Rich leads a team of researchers in the discovery that left-handed DNA (also known as Z-DNA) is critical for the creation of important brain chemicals. Having first produced Z-DNA synthetically in 1979, Rich succeeds in identifying it in nature in 1981. He also discovers its first biological role and received the National Medal of Science for this pioneering work in 1995.

2000 Scientists at the Whitehead Institute/MIT Center for Genome Research and their collaborators announce the completion of the Human Genome Project. Providing about a third of all the sequences assembled, the Center was the single largest contributor to this international enterprise.

2000 Researchers develop a device that uses ultrasound to extract a number of important molecules noninvasively and painlessly through the skin. They expect that the first application will be a portable device for noninvasive glucose monitoring for diabetics.

2000 Researchers from the MIT Sloan School of Management launch the Social and Economic Explorations of Information Technology (SeeIT) Project, the first empirical study of the effects of information technology (IT) on organizational and work practices. Examining IT’s relationship to changes in these models, SeeIT provides practical data for understanding and evaluating IT’s business and economic effects, which will enable us to take full advantage of its opportunities and better control its risks.

2001 In a step toward creating energy from sunlight as plants do, Daniel Nocera and a team of researchers invent a compound that, with the help of a catalyst and energy from light, produces hydrogen.

2002 MIT researchers create the first acrobatic robotic bird—a small, highly agile helicopter for military use in mountain and urban combat.

2002–2005 Scientists at MIT, the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, and the Broad Institute complete the genomes of the mouse, the dog, and four strains of phytoplankton, photosynthetic organisms that are critical for the regulation of atmospheric carbon dioxide. They also identify the genes required to create a zebrafish embryo. In collaboration with scientists from other institutions, they map the genomes of chimpanzees, humans’ closest genetic relative, and the smallest known vertebrate, the puffer fish.

2003 Enhanced Regional Situation Awareness (ERSA) system is developed by Lincoln Laboratory for the U.S. Air Force to provide improved defense of the airspace surrounding the National Capital Region (NCR). ERSA capabilities have improved airspace surveillance, threat assessment and decision support, distribution of a common air picture to multiple agencies, and new ways to respond to aircraft violating the NCR airspace.

2003 MIT scientists cool a sodium gas to the lowest temperature ever recorded—a half-a-billionth of a degree above absolute zero. Studying these ultra-low temperature gases will provide valuable insights into the basic physics of matter; and by facilitating the development of better atomic clocks and sensors for gravity and rotation, they also could lead to vast improvements in precision measurements.

2004 MIT's Levitated Dipole Experiment, a collaboration among scientists at MIT and Columbia, generates a strong dipole magnetic field that enables them to experiment with plasma fusion, the source of energy that powers the sun and stars, with the goal of producing it on Earth. Because the hydrogen that fuels plasma fusion is practically limitless and the energy it produces is clean and doesn't contribute to global warming, fusion power will be of enormous benefit to humankind and to earth systems in general.

2004 A team, led by neuroscientist Mark Bear, illuminates the molecular mechanisms underlying Fragile X Syndrome and shows that it might be possible to develop drugs that treat the symptoms of this leading known inherited cause of mental retardation, whose effects range from mild learning disabilities to severe autism.

2004 Shuguang Zhang, Marc A. Baldo, and recent graduate Patrick Kiley, first figure out how to stabilize spinach proteins—which, like all plants, produce energy when exposed to light—so they can survive without water and salt. Then, they devise a way to attach them to a piece of glass coated with a thin layer of gold. The resulting spinach-based solar cell, the world's first solid-state photosynthetic solar cell, has the potential to power laptops and cell phones with sunlight.

2005 MIT physicists, led by Nobel laureate Wolfgang Ketterle, create a new type of matter, a gas of atoms that shows high-temperature superfluidity.

2005 Vladimir Bulovic and Tim Swager develop lasing sensors based on a semiconducting polymer that is able to detect the presence of TNT vapor subparts per billion concentrations.

2006 MIT launches the MIT Energy Initiative (MITEI) to address world energy problems. Led by Ernest J. Moniz and Robert C. Armstrong, MITEI coordinates energy research, education, campus energy management, and outreach activities across the Institute.

2007 Rudolf Jaenisch, of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, conducts the first proof-of-principle experiment of the therapeutic potential of induced pluripotent stem cells (iPS cells), using iPS cells reprogrammed from mouse skin cells to cure a mouse model of human sickle-cell anemia. Jaenisch would then use a similar approach to treat a model of Parkinson's disease in rats.

2007 Marin Soljačić and his colleagues develop a new form of wireless power transmission they call WITricity. It is based on a strongly coupled magnetic resonance and can be used to transfer power over distances of a few meters with high efficiency. The technique could be used commercially to wirelessly power laptops, cell phones, and other devices.

2007 David H. Koch '62, SM '63 gives MIT \$100 million to create the David H. Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research. The Koch Institute opens in 2011. It brings together molecular geneticists, cell biologists, and engineers in a unique multi-disciplinary approach to cancer research.

2007 Tim Jamison discovers that cascades of epoxide-opening reactions that were long thought to be impossible can very rapidly assemble the Red Tide marine toxins when they are induced by water. Such processes may be emulating how these toxins are made in nature and may lead to a better understanding of what causes devastating Red Tide phenomena. These methods also open up an environmentally green synthesis of new classes of complex highly biologically active compounds.

2007 MIT mathematicians form part of a group of 18 mathematicians from the U.S. and Europe that maps one of the most complicated structures ever studied: the exceptional Lie group E8. The "answer" to the calculation, if written, would cover an area the size of Manhattan. The resulting atlas has applications in the fields of string theory and geometry.

2008 Mriganka Sur's laboratory discovers that astrocytes, star-shaped cells in the brain that are as numerous as neurons, form the basis for functioning brain imaging. Using ultra high-resolution imaging in the intact brain, they demonstrate that astrocytes regulate blood flow to active brain regions by linking neurons to brain capillaries.

2008 A team, led by Marc A. Baldo, designs a solar concentrator that focuses light at the edges of a solar power cell. The technology can increase the efficiency of solar panels by up to 50 percent, substantially reducing the cost of generating solar electricity.

2008 Daniel Nocera creates a chemical catalyst that hurdles one of the obstacles to widespread use of solar power—the difficulty of storing energy from the sun. The catalyst, which is cheap and easy to make, uses the energy from sunlight to separate the hydrogen and oxygen molecules in water. The hydrogen can then be burned, or used to power an electric fuel cell.

2009 Lincoln Laboratory develops and demonstrates the Lincoln Distributed Disaster Response System, which enables information from airborne platforms, distributed weather stations, GPS-enabled devices, and other sources to be shared by responders at the emergency command centers and by those equipped with ruggedized laptops at the front lines. The system design initially focuses on fighting a large-scale fire but is also applicable for any large-scale disaster response.

2009 A team of MIT researchers, led by Angela Belcher, reports that it is able to genetically engineer viruses to produce both the positively and negatively charged ends of a lithium-ion battery. The battery has the same energy capacity as those being considered for use in hybrid cars, but is produced using a cheaper, less environmentally hazardous process. MIT President Susan Hockfield presents a prototype battery to President Barack Obama at a press briefing at the White House.

2009 Researchers at MIT's Picower Institute for Learning and Memory show for the first time that multiple interacting genetic risk factors may influence the severity of autism symptoms. The finding could lead to therapies and diagnostic tools that target the interacting genes.

2009 Gerbrand Ceder and graduate student Byoungwoo Kang develop a new way to manufacture the material used in lithium ion batteries that allows ultrafast charging and discharging. The new method creates a surface structure that allows lithium ions to move rapidly around the outside of the battery. Batteries built using the new method could take seconds, rather than the now standard hours, to charge.

2009 Li-Huei Tsai's laboratory describes mechanisms that underlie Alzheimer's disease and propose that inhibition of histone deacetylases is therapeutic for degenerative disorders of learning and memory. Her laboratory also discovers the mechanisms of action of the gene Disrupted-in-Schizophrenia 1 and demonstrates why drugs such as lithium are effective in certain instances of schizophrenia. This research opens up pathways to discovering novel classes of drugs for devastating neuropsychiatric conditions.

2010 A new approach to desalination is being developed by researchers at MIT and in Korea that could lead to small, portable desalination units that could be powered by solar cells or batteries and could deliver enough fresh water to supply the needs of a family or small village. As an added bonus, the system would remove many contaminants, viruses, and bacteria at the same time.

2010 Yang Shao-Horn, with some of her students, and visiting professor Hubert Gasteiger, reports that lithium-oxygen (also known as lithium-air) batteries with electrodes with either gold or platinum as a catalyst have a higher efficiency than simple carbon electrodes. Lithium-air batteries are lighter than the conventional lithium-ion batteries.

2010 A team at Media Lab, including Ramesh Raskar, visiting professor Manuel Oliveira, student Vitor Pamplona, and postdoctoral research associate Ankit Mohan, create a new system to determine a prescription for eyeglasses. In its simplest form, the test can be carried out using a small, plastic device clipped onto the front of a cellphone's screen.

2010 MIT releases *The Future of Natural Gas* report. The two-year study, managed by the MIT Energy Initiative, examines the scale of U.S. natural gas reserves and the potential of this fuel to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions. While the report emphasizes the great potential for natural gas as a transitional fuel to help curb greenhouse gases and dependence on oil, it also stresses that it is important as a matter of national policy not to favor any one fuel or energy source in a way that puts others at a disadvantage.

2010 Michael Strano and his team of graduate students and researchers create a set of self-assembling molecules that can turn sunlight into electricity; the molecules can be repeatedly broken down and reassembled quickly just by adding or removing an additional solution.

2010 Lincoln Laboratory developed the Space Surveillance Telescope (SST), an advanced ground-based optical system designed to enable detection and tracking of faint objects in space while providing rapid, wide-area search capability. The SST combines innovative curved charge-coupled device imager technology developed at Lincoln Laboratory with a very wide field-of-view, large-aperture (3.5 meter) telescope. The system is installed at the Atom Site on the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico being evaluated for detection and tracking of microsattellites before being transitioned to Space Surveillance Network.

2011 Elazer Edelman, graduate student Joseph Franses, and former postdoctoral fellows Aaron Baker and Vipul Chitalia show that cells lining blood vessels secrete molecules that suppress tumor growth and prevent cancer cells from invading other tissues, a finding that could lead to a new cancer treatment.

2011 The Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer (AMS)—an instrument designed to use the unique environment of space to search for antimatter and dark matter and to measure cosmic rays—is delivered to the International Space Station. The AMS experiment, led by Samuel C. C. Ting, is designed to study high-energy particles; such study could lead to new theories about the formation and evolution of the universe.

2011 A team, including Karen Gleason, Vladimir Bulović, and graduate student Miles Barr, develops materials that make it possible to produce photovoltaic cells on paper or fabric, nearly as simply as printing a document. The technique represents a major departure from the systems typically used to create solar cells, which require exposing the substrates to potentially damaging conditions, either in the form of liquids or high temperatures.

2011 By combining a physical interface with computer-vision algorithms, researchers in the Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences create a simple, portable imaging system that can achieve resolutions previously possible only with large and expensive lab equipment. The device could allow manufacturers to inspect products too large to fit under a microscope and could also have applications in medicine, forensics, and biometrics. Moreover, because the design uses multiple cameras, it can produce 3D models of an object, which can be manipulated on a computer screen for examination from multiple angles.

2011 Researchers, led by Daniel Nocera, have produced an “artificial leaf”—a silicon solar cell with different catalytic materials bonded onto its two sides. The artificial leaf can turn the energy of sunlight directly into a chemical fuel that can be stored and used later as an energy source.

2012 NASA's Gravity Recovery And Interior Laboratory (GRAIL) twin spacecraft successfully enters lunar orbit. By precisely measuring changes in distance between the twin orbiting spacecraft, scientists will construct a detailed gravitational model of the moon that will be used to answer fundamental questions about the moon's evolution and its internal composition. GRAIL's principal investigator is Maria Zuber.

2012 Researchers, including Jeffrey Grossman, discover that building cubes or towers of solar cells—to extend the cells upward in three-dimensional configurations—generates two to 20 times the power produced by fixed flat panels with the same base area.

2012 Researchers, led by Ian Hunter, have engineered a device that delivers a tiny, high-pressure jet of medicine through the skin without the use of a hypodermic needle. The device can be programmed to deliver a range of doses to various depths—an improvement over similar jet-injection systems that are now commercially available.

2012 A clinical trial of an Alzheimer’s disease treatment developed at MIT finds that a nutrient cocktail can improve memory in patients with early Alzheimer’s. Richard Wurtman invented the supplement mixture, known as Souvenaid, which appears to stimulate growth of new synapses.

2012 Researchers, including Young Lee and PhD graduate Tianheng Han, have followed up on earlier theoretical predictions and demonstrated experimentally the existence of a fundamentally new magnetic state called a quantum spin liquid (QSL), adding to the two previously known states of magnetism. The QSL is a solid crystal, but its magnetic state is described as liquid: Unlike the other two kinds of magnetism, the magnetic orientations of the individual particles within it fluctuate constantly, resembling the constant motion of molecules within a true liquid.

2012 Lincoln Laboratory developed a laser communications system to demonstrate high-data-rate communications between a lunar-orbiting NASA satellite and a ground site in the United States. The Lunar Laser Communications Demonstration addresses NASA’s need for very-high-rate, very-long-distance communications systems small enough to fly in space. It transmits over 600 megabits per second using only a 4-inch telescope and a 1/2-watt laser installed on the satellite. The ground receiver is nearly ten times more efficient than any optical receiver ever demonstrated at these high rates.

2013 A new steelmaking process developed by researchers, Donald Sadoway, Antoine Allanore, and former postdoc Lan Yin, produces no emissions other than pure oxygen and carries nice side benefits: The resulting steel should be of higher purity, and eventually, once the process is scaled up, cheaper.

2013 A research team, led by Yuriy Román, has devised a cheaper way to synthesize a key biofuel component, which could make its industrial production much more cost-effective. The compound, known as gamma-valerolactone (GVL), has more energy than ethanol and could be used on its own or as an additive to other fuels. GVL could also be useful as a “green” solvent or a building block for creating renewable polymers from sustainable materials.

2013 A system being developed by Dina Katabi and her graduate student Fadel Adib, could give us the ability to see people through walls using low-cost Wi-Fi technology. The system, called “Wi-Vi,” is based on a concept similar to radar and sonar imaging. But in contrast to radar and sonar, it transmits a low-power Wi-Fi signal and uses its reflections to track moving humans.

2013 Hydrophobic materials—water-shedding surfaces—have a theoretical limit on the time it takes for a water droplet to bounce away from such a surface. Researchers, led by Kripa Varanasi, have found a way to burst through that perceived barrier, reducing the contact time by at least 40 percent. This research could aid ice prevention, wing efficiency, and more.

2014 Lincoln Laboratory develops PANDA (Platform for Architecture-Neutral Dynamic Analysis) enabling software analysts to simplify the analysis and understanding of complex software systems for cyber analysis and threat protection. PANDA allows analysts to quickly develop instrumentation that can help answer complex questions about software and inform appropriate responses. Software developers and analysts can move toward automating tasks that would otherwise be manual, tedious, time-consuming, and costly.

2014 Platinum-group metals can be considered unsustainable resources that are needed catalysts to enable renewable energy technologies. Graduate student Sean Hunt, postdoc Tarit Nimmandwudipong, and Yuriy Román have devised a process of synthesizing renewable alternative catalysts.

2014 Engineers at MIT and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) have devised a way to translate that airy, yet remarkably strong, structure style of the Eiffel Tower down to the microscale—designing a system that could be fabricated from a variety of materials, such as metals or polymers, and that may set new records for stiffness for a given weight. Nicholas Fang, former postdoc Howon Lee, visiting research fellow Qi “Kevin” Ge, LLNL’s Christopher Spadaccini and Xiaoyu “Rayne” Zheng are among the researchers involved in the project.

2014 Researchers, including Gang Chen and postdoc Hadi Ghasemi, have developed a new material structure—a layer of graphite flakes and an underlying carbon foam—that generates steam by soaking up the sun. The material is able to convert 85 percent of incoming solar energy into steam—a significant improvement over recent approaches to solar-powered steam generation. The setup loses very little heat in the process, and can produce steam at relatively low solar intensity.

2014 Bryan Hsu PhD ’14 and Paula Hammond, working with Myoung-Hwan Park of Shamyook University in South Korea and Samantha Hagerman ’14, have developed a new drug-delivery system method that could enable pain medication and other drugs to be released directly to specific parts of the body. The method uses biodegradable, nanoscale “thin films” laden with drug molecules that are absorbed into the body in steady doses over a period of up to 14 months.

2014 Researchers at MIT, including John Foster, the University of Colorado, including Daniel Baker, and elsewhere have found there’s a hard limit to how close ultrarelativistic electrons can get to the Earth. The team found that no matter where these electrons are circling around the planet’s equator, they can get no further than about 11,000 kilometers from the Earth’s surface—despite their intense energy.

2015 Natalie Artzi and Elazer Edelman, working with other researchers, found that a tissue adhesive they had previously developed worked much differently in cancerous colon tissue than in colon tissue inflamed with colitis. The finding suggests that scientists must take into account the environment in which the material will be used, instead of using a “one-size fits all” approach for this sealant, or any other kind of biomaterial, designed to work inside the human body.

2015 MACHETE, a state-of-the-art airborne lidar system that performs high-resolution, 3D imaging at an area collection rate an order of magnitude higher than other lidar systems, was developed by Lincoln Laboratory. The system is highly optimized for foliage-penetration applications; it can image through dense canopy to reveal structures at and near ground level. The system employs advanced single-photon-counting Geiger-mode avalanche detector array technology, and an ultra-short pulsed laser and gimbaled pointing system to deliver high-altitude, high-resolution 3D imaging.

2015 Kimberly Hamad-Schifferli and Lee Gehrke are among the researchers that have devised a new diagnostic test that is a simple paper strip similar to a pregnancy test, that can rapidly diagnose Ebola, as well as other viral hemorrhagic fevers such as yellow fever and dengue fever. Unlike most existing paper diagnostics, which test for only one disease, the new MIT strips are color-coded so they can be used to distinguish among several diseases.

2015 Research conducted by Polina Anikeeva, graduate student Ritchie Chen, postdoc Gabriela Romero, graduate student Michael Christiansen, and undergraduate Alan Mohr has developed a method to stimulate brain tissue using external magnetic fields and injected magnetic nanoparticles—a technique allowing direct stimulation of neurons, which could be an effective treatment for a variety of neurological diseases, without the need for implants or external connections.

2015 Plants achieve efficient energy transport by making use of the exotic effects of quantum mechanics—effects sometimes known as “quantum weirdness.” These effects, which include the ability of a particle to exist in more than one place at a time, have now been used by engineers to achieve a significant efficiency boost in a light-harvesting system. Researchers at MIT, including Angela Belcher and Seth Lloyd, and Eni, the Italian energy company, use engineered viruses to provide quantum-based enhancement of energy transport to mimic photosynthesis.

2015 MIT engineers have designed what may be the Band-Aid of the future: a sticky, stretchy, gel-like material that can incorporate temperature sensors, LED lights, and other electronics, as well as tiny, drug-delivering reservoirs and channels. The “smart wound dressing” releases medicine in response to changes in skin temperature and can be designed to light up if, say, medicine is running low. The key to the design is a hydrogel matrix designed by Xuanhe Zhao.

2016 A new advance from MIT, Boston Children’s Hospital, and several other institutions may offer a better treatment for Type 1 diabetes, which leaves patients without the ability to naturally control blood sugar by damaging the pancreas. Replacing patients’ destroyed pancreatic islet cells with healthy cells is a treatment with one major drawback—the patients’ immune systems attack the transplanted cells—requiring patients to take immunosuppressant drugs for the rest of their lives. The researchers, including Daniel Anderson, have designed a material that can be used to encapsulate human islet cells before transplanting them without provoking an immune response.

2016 For the first time, scientists have observed ripples in the fabric of spacetime called gravitational waves, arriving at the Earth from a cataclysmic event in the distant universe. This confirms a major prediction of Albert Einstein’s 1915 general theory of relativity. Gravitational waves carry information about their dramatic origins and about the nature of gravity that cannot otherwise be obtained. Physicists have concluded that the detected gravitational waves were produced during the final fraction of a second of the merger of two black holes to produce a single, more massive spinning black hole. This collision of two black holes had been predicted but never observed. The gravitational waves were detected on Sept. 14, 2015 at 5:51 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time (09:51 UTC) by both of the twin Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) detectors, located in Livingston, Louisiana, and Hanford, Washington. The LIGO Observatories are funded by the National Science Foundation, and were conceived, built, and are operated by Caltech and MIT. The discovery was made by the LIGO Scientific Collaboration and the Virgo Collaboration using data from the two LIGO detectors.

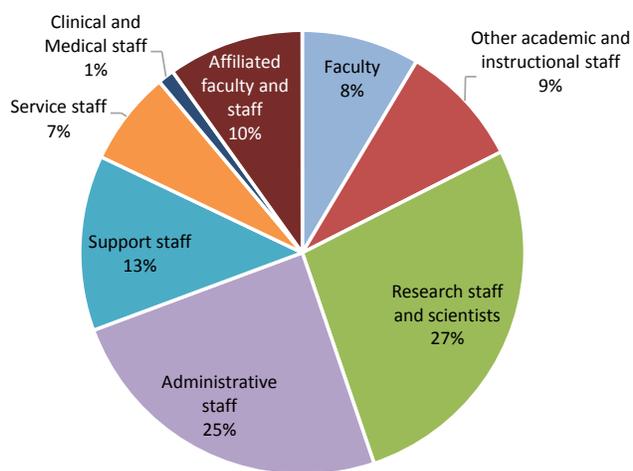
Faculty and Staff

As of October 31, 2015, MIT employs 12,109 persons on campus. In addition to the faculty, there are research, library, and administrative staff, and many others who, directly or indirectly, support the teaching and research goals of the Institute.

Faculty and Staff, 2015–2016

Employee Type	Count
Faculty	1,036
Other academic and instructional staff	1,086
Research staff and research scientists (includes postdoctoral positions)	3,300
Administrative staff	2,974
Support staff	1,543
Service staff	829
Clinical and Medical staff	144
Affiliated faculty, scientists, and scholars	1,197
Total campus faculty and staff	12,109

Faculty and Staff, 2015–2016



Each year, MIT employs about 1,250 graduate students as teaching assistants and 3,600 graduate students as research assistants.

MIT Lincoln Laboratory employs about 3,700 people, primarily at Hanscom Air Force Base in Lexington, Massachusetts. See page 86 for additional Lincoln Laboratory staffing information.

Faculty

The MIT faculty instruct undergraduate and graduate students, and engage in research and service.

Faculty Profile, 2015–2016

	Count	Percent of Total
Professors	665	64
Associate professors	194	19
Assistant professors	177	17
Total	1,036	100
Male	806	78
Female	230	22

See page 48 for a chart of faculty and students from 1865–2016.

Seventy-five percent of faculty are tenured.

Faculty may hold dual appointments where they are appointed equally to two departments. Sixteen faculty members have dual appointments.

Faculty by School, 2015–2016

School	Count	Percentage
Architecture and Planning	84	8
Engineering	378	37
Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences	174	17
Management	117	11
Science	273	26
Other	10	1
Total	1,036	100

Sixty-three percent of the faculty are in science and engineering fields.

Twenty percent of faculty are members of a U.S. minority group; seven percent of faculty identify with an underrepresented minority group.

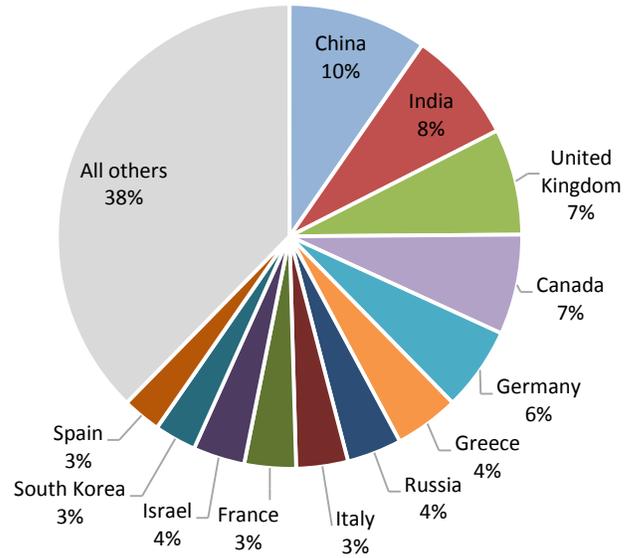
Faculty by U.S. Minority Group, 2015–2016

Ethnicity	Female Count	Male Count
Asian	30	104
Hispanic or Latino	7	34
African American	8	25
American Indian or Alaskan Native	2	1
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	0

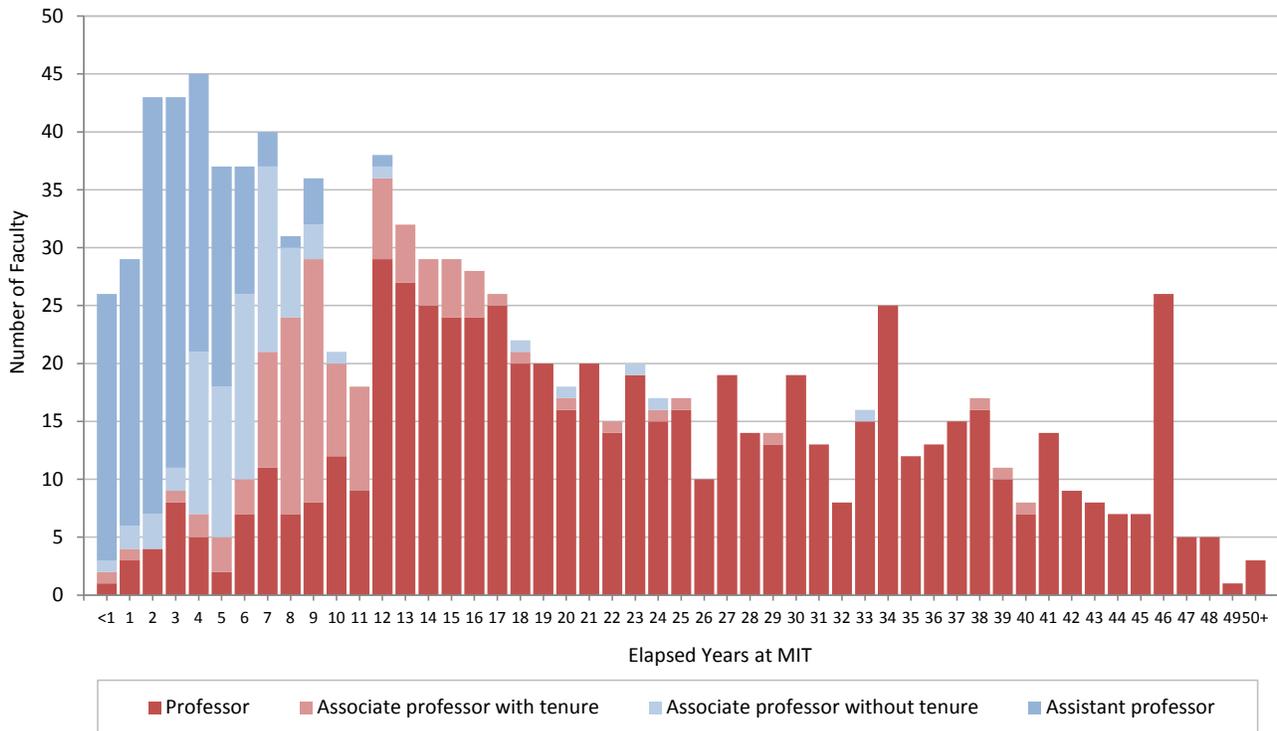
Ethnicity is self-identified, and faculty members may identify with more than one group.

Forty-three percent of current faculty are internationally born. Over seventy countries are represented by these faculty members.

Country of Origin of Internationally Born Faculty, 2015–2016



**Elapsed Years at MIT of Faculty, 2015–2016
(Excludes time as student)**



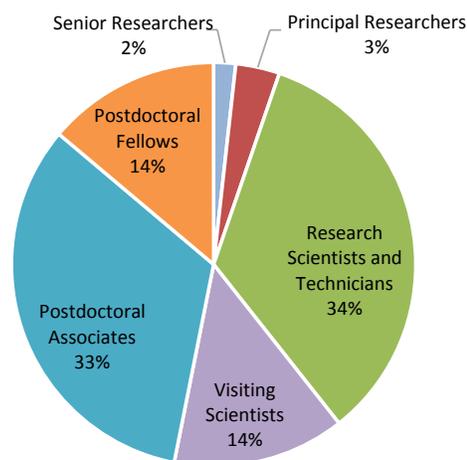
Researchers

MIT campus research staff and scientists total 3,300. These researchers work with MIT faculty and students on projects funded by government, nonprofits and foundations, and industry.

Campus Research Staff and Scientists, 2015–2016

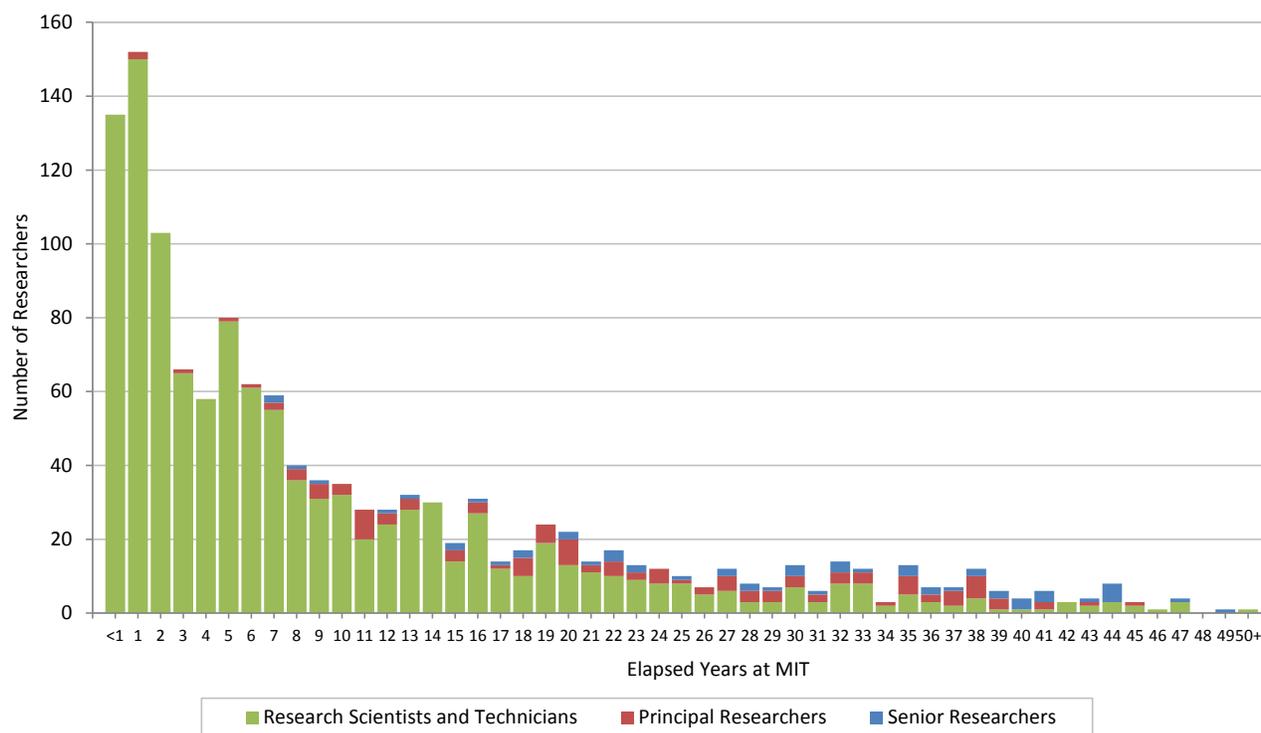
Employee Type	Count
Senior Researchers	58
Principal Researchers	116
Research Scientists and Technicians	1,125
Visiting Scientists	454
Postdoctoral Associates	1,090
Postdoctoral Fellows	457
Total	3,300

Campus Research Staff and Scientists, 2015–2016



In fall 2015, approximately 2,600 graduate students were research assistants.

**Elapsed Years at MIT of Campus Research Staff and Scientists, 2015–2016
(Senior Researchers, Principal Researchers, and Research Scientists and Technicians)**



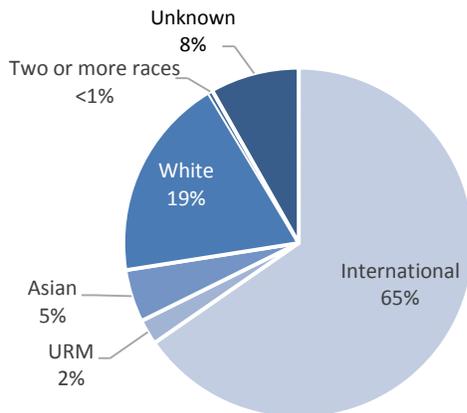
Postdoctoral Scholars

The MIT campus hosts 1,547 postdoctoral associates and fellows—412 females and 1,135 males. These individuals work with faculty in academic departments, laboratories, and centers.

U.S. Citizen and Permanent Resident Postdoctoral Scholars by Ethnicity, 2015–2016

Ethnicity	Count
Hispanic or Latino	29
African American	7
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0
Total underrepresented minorities (URM)	36
White	292
Asian	75
Two or more races	6
Unknown	127
Total	536

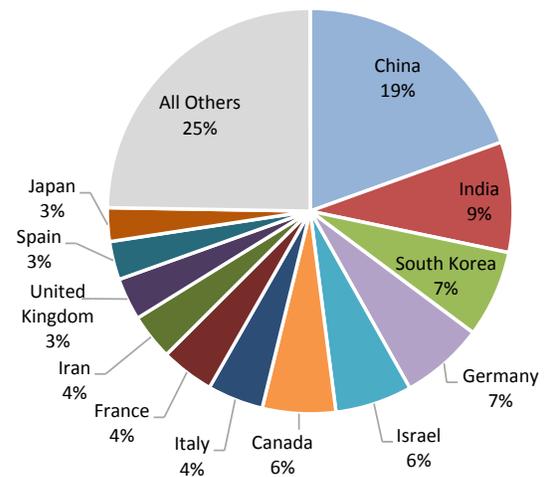
Ethnicity of Postdoctoral Scholars, 2015–2016



International Postdoctoral Scholars Top Countries of Citizenship, 2015–2016

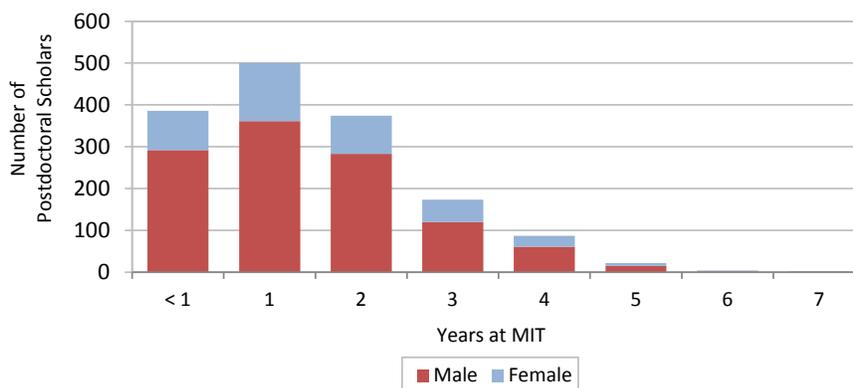
Country of Citizenship	Count
China	197
India	89
South Korea	70
Germany	67
Israel	62
Canada	59
Italy	45
France	43
Iran	37
United Kingdom	34

Country of Citizenship of International Postdoctoral Scholars, 2015–2016



Postdoctoral scholars come from 70 foreign countries.

Years at MIT of Postdoctoral Scholars, 2015–2016



Awards and Honors of Current Faculty and Staff

Nobel Prize

Nine current faculty members at MIT have received the Nobel Prize. They are:

H. Robert Horvitz	Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (shared)
Wolfgang Ketterle	Nobel Prize in Physics (shared)
Robert C. Merton	Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel (shared)
Richard R. Schrock	Nobel Prize in Chemistry (shared)
Phillip A. Sharp	Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (shared)
Susan Solomon	Nobel Peace Prize (co-chair of Working Group One recognized under Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), shared)
Samuel C. C. Ting	Nobel Prize in Physics (shared)
Susumu Tonegawa	Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine
Frank Wilczek	Nobel Prize in Physics (shared)

Number of recipients of selected awards and honors current faculty and staff have received

Recipients	Award Name and Agency
151	American Academy of Arts and Sciences Member
98	American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow
13	American Philosophical Society Member
85	American Physical Society Fellow
21	American Society of Mechanical Engineers Fellow
29	Association for Computing Machinery Fellow
4	John Bates Clark Medal, American Economic Association
3	Dirac Medal, Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics
11	Fulbright Scholar, Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES)
8	Gairdner Award, Gairdner Foundation
63	Guggenheim Fellow, John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation
17	HHMI Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI)
55	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. Fellow
1	Japan Prize, Science and Technology Foundation of Japan
3	Kavli Prize, Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters
1	Kyoto Prize, Inamori Foundation of Japan
24	MacArthur Fellow, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
2	Millennium Technology Prize, Millennium Prize Foundation
66	National Academy of Engineering Member, National Academies
31	National Academy of Medicine Member, National Academies
82	National Academy of Sciences Member, National Academies
10	National Medal of Science, National Science & Technology Medals Foundation
1	National Medal of Technology and Innovation, National Science & Technology Medals Foundation
1	Rolf Nevanlinna Prize, International Mathematical Union (IMU)
33	Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE)
4	Pulitzer Prize, Pulitzer Board
2	Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering, The Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering Foundation
4	Royal Academy of Engineering Fellow, Royal Academy of Engineering
5	A. M. Turing Award, Association for Computing Machinery
1	Von Hippel Award, Materials Research Society
2	John von Neumann Medal, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.
5	Alan T. Waterman Award, National Science Foundation
3	Wolf Prize, Wolf Foundation

Award Highlights

Four MIT faculty win Presidential Early Career Awards

2016 Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE)

President Barack Obama named four MIT faculty among 105 recipients of the 2016 Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government on science and engineering professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers.

Those from MIT who were honored were:

- Tonio Buonassisi, associate professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering;
- Cullen Buie, associate professor and the Esther and Harold E. Edergton Career Development Chair in the Department of Mechanical Engineering;
- William Tisdale, assistant professor and the Charles and Hilda Roddey Career Development Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering; and
- Kay M. Tye, assistant professor and the Whitehead Professorship Chair in the Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences.

<http://bit.ly/1QiL4bn>

Feng Zhang

2016 Canada Gairdner International Award

Feng Zhang, a core institute member of the Broad Institute, an investigator at the McGovern Institute for Brain Research at MIT, and W. M. Keck Career Development Associate Professor in MIT's Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences, has been named a recipient of the 2016 Canada Gairdner International Award—Canada's most prestigious scientific prize—for his role in developing the CRISPR-Cas9 gene-editing system.

In January 2013 Zhang and his team were first to report CRISPR-based genome editing in mammalian cells, in what has become the most-cited paper in the CRISPR field. He is one of five scientists the Gairdner Foundation is honoring for work with CRISPR. Zhang shares the award with Rodolphe Barrangou from North Carolina State University; Emmanuelle Charpentier of the Max Planck Institute; Jennifer Doudna of the University of California at Berkeley and Phillippe Horvath from DuPont Nutrition and Health.

<http://bit.ly/1Tna1jO>

Mircea Dincă

2016 National Science Foundation's Alan T. Waterman Award

MIT professor of chemistry Mircea Dincă has been selected as the recipient of the National Science Foundation's 2016 Alan T. Waterman Award. This is the 40th anniversary of this prestigious prize, which is the foundation's highest honor recognizing an outstanding researcher under the age of 35.

"It's a pleasure to recognize Dr. Dincă as this year's recipient of the Alan T. Waterman Award," said National Science Foundation (NSF) Director France Córdoba. "His research in microporous solids is revolutionizing how scientists approach this exciting new technology, opening the door for future discoveries."

<http://bit.ly/23Z3xN2>