
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 commitment to innovation has led to a host of scientific breakthroughs and technological advances. Achievements by the Institute's faculty and graduates include 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. Today, MIT is making a better world by focusing its strengths in research, innovation, and education in such areas as: the secrets of the brain and mind and the origins and evolution of life; practical solutions for environmental sustainability, clean energy, and water and food security; the convergence of disciplines in tackling human health challenges, from disease prevention to personalized medicine to affordable health care; improved innovation and entrepreneurship systems that speed ideas to impact; and pedagogical innovation on campus and online thanks to new avenues in the science of learning and cutting-edge digital tools.

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.

MIT Campaign for a Better World

Launched to the public in May 2016, the MIT Campaign for a Better World is a \$5 billion fundraising initiative that seeks to advance the Institute's work on some of the most urgent global challenges facing humanity. The Campaign—which spans the breadth of MIT's schools and departments, labs, and centers—is focusing MIT's distinctive strengths in education, research, and innovation on six key priority areas: defining the future of human health through advances from the laboratory to the clinic; transforming our world through fundamental scientific research; addressing mankind's critical environmental and sustainability challenges; reimagining education for the 21st-century learner; accelerating the journey from idea to investment and investment to impact; and attracting extraordinary students and faculty to MIT and providing them with the tools and infrastructure to do their pioneering work.

As part of its commitment to strengthening the MIT core, the Campaign is increasing resources for undergraduate financial aid, graduate fellowships, and professorships; reimagining residential living and educational spaces; transforming MIT's presence in the innovation hub of Kendall Square; and developing leading-edge research facilities such as MIT.nano.

Early support for the Campaign from MIT's alumni and friends has been directed toward such areas as education, water and food security, autism research, and urbanization. Across campus, new teaching, learning, and research spaces are providing MIT's faculty and students with the advanced facilities they need. Donor support is also providing MIT with funds to invest in the daring, high-risk research that is the Institute's hallmark and sustain support for students, faculty, and the physical campus.

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 Theater 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

Chemistry and Biology
Computer Science and Molecular Biology
Computer Science, Economics, and Data Science
Humanities
Humanities and Engineering
Humanities and Science

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
Social and Engineering Systems
Statistics
Supply Chain Management
Technology and Policy
Transportation

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
Abdul Latif Jameel World Water and Food Security Lab
Center for Archaeological Materials
Center for Bits and Atoms
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 Information Systems Research
Center for Real Estate
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
Edgerton Center/D-Lab
Haystack Observatory
Initiative on the Digital Economy
Institute for Data, Systems, and Society
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
Leventhal Center for Advanced Urbanism
Lincoln Laboratory
Martin Trust Center for MIT Entrepreneurship
Materials Research Laboratory
McGovern Institute for Brain Research
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 Media Lab
MIT Portugal Program
MIT Program in Art, Culture, and Technology
MIT Sea Grant College Program
MIT/Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Joint Program in Oceanography/Applied Ocean Science and Engineering
Nuclear Reactor Laboratory
Operations Research Center
Picower Institute for Learning and Memory
Plasma Science and Fusion Center
Research Laboratory of Electronics
Sloan School of Management-Research Centers
Simons Center for the Social Brain
Singapore–MIT Alliance for Research and Technology
Sociotechnical Systems Research Center
Women's and Gender Studies Program

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

Digital Learning

Since the advent of digital computing, MIT has been at the forefront of innovation in educational technology. Individual faculty initiatives, departmental projects, or Institute-wide programs have helped transform education at MIT and around the world. In the last few years, technology-enabled change in how we teach and learn has been accelerating. Remarkable educational experiments throughout higher education are resulting in unprecedented breakthroughs:

- New pedagogies and tools. Digital technologies enable students to do more outside the class: consume lecture content, receive rapid feedback, and access adaptive hints to foster learning. This means that class time can focus on discussion, hands-on experiments and other forms of active learning. Technologies, such as the Residential MITx platform, provide flexibility in course delivery, enabling students to access content anytime, anywhere. New tools such as internet labs, gaming, and other resources open new ways of presenting and understanding educational materials to enhance comprehension and learning.
- Scalable and open teaching. The open education 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. Robust learning management platforms like edX (originally an MIT-Harvard alliance) make it possible to increase student cohort size from a campus classroom to tens of thousands around the globe via the Internet. MITx brings MIT faculty and their MOOCs to thousands of learners everywhere via the edX platform. MicroMasters programs offer an online credential to learners and a new path to a Master's degree at MIT and other universities.

- Digital learning research and learning analytics. Online learning systems have the ability to amass huge volumes of data on student use and assessment as they work their way through courses. In the aggregate, these data can be used to model student learning approaches. Launched in 2016, the MIT Integrated Learning Initiative (MITili) is a cross-disciplinary, Institute-wide effort that will foster rigorous, quantitative research on how people learn; investigate what methods and approaches to education work best for different people and subjects; and improve learning and teaching from K–12 through college through continuing education.

MIT Open Learning seeks to transform teaching and learning at MIT and around the globe through the innovative use of digital technologies. It is the umbrella entity for the Office of Digital Learning (ODL), which offers digital products and services; MIT Integrated Learning Initiative (MITili), which conducts research on teaching and learning; and the Jameel World Education Lab (J-WEL), which convenes a global community to spread research and best practice in teaching and learning. MIT Open Learning:

- Supports MIT faculty and students in bold experiments to enhance our residential education
- Promotes and enables research on teaching and learning
- Provides platforms for digital education
- Partners with companies, universities, governments, and organizations that wish to develop new learning capabilities and enhance the competencies of their students, workforce, and citizens
- Extends MIT's knowledge and classrooms to the world.

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

Academic and Research Affiliations

Collaborative Partnership *edX*

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

<https://www.edx.org/>

Engineering Biology Research Consortium

“The Engineering Biology Research Consortium, or EBRC, aims to be the leading organization bringing together an inclusive community committed to advancing biological engineering to address national and global needs.” EBRC is a network including biotechnology firms and 25 U.S. research universities and institutions, including MIT, Caltech, Stanford, University of California at Berkeley, and Harvard University.

<https://www.ebrc.org/>

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, clean energy initiatives, and critical infrastructure security goals. 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 Systems, and EMC Corporation. The MGHPCC is a datacenter dedicated to providing the growing research computing capacity needed to support breakthroughs in science.

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

Northeast Radio Observatory Corporation

The Northeast Radio Observatory Corporation 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. Current member institutions are MIT, Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis University, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, Merrimack College, University of Massachusetts—Amherst and Lowell, University of New Hampshire, and Wellesley College.

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

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 the Harvard-affiliated hospital communities to work together to address even the most difficult challenges in biomedical research.

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

Charles Stark Draper Laboratory

Since 1973, The Charles Stark Draper Laboratory, Inc. has created premiere guidance, navigation and control technologies, the expertise it became known for when it was the MIT Instrumentation Laboratory. Expanding its scope over the decades, Draper uses multidisciplinary approaches in designing, developing and deploying advanced technological solutions for the world’s most challenging and important problems, spanning national security, space, biomedical solutions and energy.

<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. Sixteen 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 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, and the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. At the graduate level, qualified students may enroll in courses at Harvard University, Wellesley College, Boston University, Brandeis University, and Tufts University.

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 The 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 The 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 The 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 ULVAC-Hayashi Seed Grant.

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 Master of Engineering 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 The 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 The 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). 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 Terra-scope, 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 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 (LLRISE), 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 percent 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 offers LLCipher, a one-week workshop providing an introduction to cryptography. Lessons provide high-school students the foundational knowledge to understand a math-based theoretical approach to securing data. Students construct provably secure encryption and digital signature schemes, and then learn about zero-knowledge proofs and multiparty computation. The workshop’s success warrants an expansion in future years.

2015 MIT launches the first MicroMasters, a series of online courses that provide a professional and academic credential. Micromasters certificate holders can apply for accelerated, on-campus master’s degree programs at MIT and other top universities.

2016 MIT Integrated Learning Initiative (MITili) launches, aimed at conducting interdisciplinary research on learning and education.

2017 Abdul Latif Jameel World Education Lab (J-WEL) launches. Leveraging MIT’s resources, J-WEL convenes a global community of collaborators for sustainable, high-impact transformation in education through research, policy, pedagogy, and practice.

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, provides a new means for studying the structure and function of genes.

1972 Lincoln Laboratory's Moving Target Detector (MTD) achieves a new performance level for the detection of aircraft in the presence of radar clutter, such as ground, weather, and birds. It employs 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 1990 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.

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 shares 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 leads 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 is later transferred to Westinghouse Corporation, which deploys 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 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 could be utilized in future land-observing satellites and 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 succeeded 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.

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 report 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 the 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 to evaluate its detection and tracking of microsatellites 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 T. 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 develops 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, and at 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, is 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 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. Physicists have concluded that the detected gravitational waves are produced during the final fraction of a second of the merger of two black holes to produce a single, more massive spinning black hole. The first 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 Louisiana and Washington, U.S. Scientists detected gravitational waves for a second time on Dec. 26, 2015. The LIGO Observatories 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. Rainer Weiss shares the 2017 Nobel Prize in Physics for his contributions to this work.

2016 Scientists at MIT, including Susan Solomon and research scientist Diane Ivy, and elsewhere have identified signs that the Antarctic ozone hole has shrunk by more than 4 million square kilometers—about half the area of the contiguous United States—since 2000, when ozone depletion was at its peak. The team also showed for the first time that this recovery has slowed somewhat at times, due to the effects of volcanic eruptions from year to year. The team used “fingerprints” of the ozone changes with season and altitude to attribute the ozone’s recovery to the continuing decline of atmospheric chlorine originating from chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs).

2016 On Friday, Sept. 30, 2016, at 9:25 p.m. EDT, scientists and engineers at MIT's Plasma Science and Fusion Center made a leap forward in the pursuit of clean energy. The team set a new world record for plasma pressure in the Institute's Alcator C-Mod tokamak nuclear fusion reactor. Plasma pressure is the key ingredient to producing energy from nuclear fusion, and MIT's new result achieves over 2 atmospheres of pressure for the first time.

2017 MIT physicists, led by Wolfgang Ketterle, have created a new form of matter, a supersolid, which combines the properties of solids with those of superfluids. By using lasers to manipulate a superfluid gas known as a Bose-Einstein condensate, the team was able to coax the condensate into a quantum phase of matter that has a rigid structure—like a solid—and can flow without viscosity—a key characteristic of a superfluid.

2017 A team of scientists from MIT and Harvard have adapted a CRISPR protein that targets RNA (rather than DNA), for use as a rapid, inexpensive, highly sensitive diagnostic tool with the potential to transform research and global public health. Feng Zhang, Jim Collins, Deb Hung, Aviv Regev, and Pardis Sabeti describe how this RNA-targeting CRISPR enzyme was harnessed as a highly sensitive detector—able to indicate the presence of as little as a single molecule of a target RNA or DNA. The new tool, SHERLOCK (Specific High-sensitivity Enzymatic Reporter unLOCKing), could one day be used to respond to viral and bacterial outbreaks, monitor antibiotic resistance, and detect cancer.

2017 MIT researchers have developed a new system to help visually impaired users to navigate. The system uses a 3D camera, a processing unit that runs the team's proprietary algorithms, a belt with separately controllable vibrational motors distributed around it, and an electronically reconfigurable Braille interface to give visually impaired users more information about their environments. The belt motors can vary the types of vibrations, as well as the intervals between them, to send different types of tactile signals to the user. For instance, an increase in frequency and intensity generally indicates that the wearer is approaching an obstacle in the direction indicated by that particular motor.

2017 For the first time, scientists have directly detected gravitational waves—ripples in space-time—in addition to light from the spectacular collision of two neutron stars. This marks the first time that a cosmic event has been viewed in both gravitational waves and light. The discovery was made using the U.S.-based Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO); the Europe-based Virgo detector; and some 70 ground- and space-based observatories. The LIGO observatories were conceived, constructed, and operated by Caltech and MIT. Virgo is operated by the European Gravitational Observatory.

2018 A team from MIT's Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL), including PhD candidate Robert Katzschmann and CSAIL director Daniela Rus, unveiled "SoFi," a soft robotic fish that can independently swim alongside real fish in the ocean. Using its undulating tail and a unique ability to control its own buoyancy, SoFi can swim in a straight line, turn, or dive up or down. During test dives in Fiji, SoFi swam at depths of more than 50 feet for up to 40 minutes at once, nimbly handling currents and taking high-resolution photos and videos.

2018 MIT researchers, including Fadel Adib, working with scientists from Brigham and Women's Hospital, have developed a way to power and communicate with devices implanted within the human body. The implants have no batteries and are powered by radio frequency waves, which can safely pass through human tissues. In tests in animals, the researchers showed that the waves can power devices located 10 centimeters deep in tissue, from a distance of 1 meter. The prototype is about the size of a grain of rice. Such devices could be used to deliver drugs, monitor conditions inside the body, or treat disease by stimulating the brain with electricity or light.

2018 Scientists at MIT and elsewhere have analyzed data from K2, the follow-up mission to NASA's Kepler Space Telescope, and have discovered nearly 80 new planetary candidates, including a particular standout: a likely planet that orbits the star HD 73344, which would be the brightest planet host ever discovered by the K2 mission. Assistant professor Ian Crossfield co-lead the study with graduate student Liang Yu. The new analysis is also noteworthy for the speed with which it was performed. The researchers were able to use tools developed at MIT to rapidly search through graphs of light intensity called "lightcurves" from each of the 50,000 stars that K2 monitored in its two recent observing campaigns. They quickly identified the planetary candidates and released the information to the astronomy community just weeks after the K2 mission made the spacecraft's raw data available. A typical analysis of this kind takes between several months and a year.

2018 A team at MIT, including Kripa Varanasi and Karen Gleason, has come up with a coating that adds water-repellency to natural fabrics and outperforms conventional materials in water-repellency tests. The coated materials have been subjected to repeated washings with no degradation of the coatings, and also have passed severe abrasion tests, with no damage to the coatings after 10,000 repetitions. The process could offer a nontoxic alternative to environmentally harmful chemicals and also works on nonfabric materials such as paper.

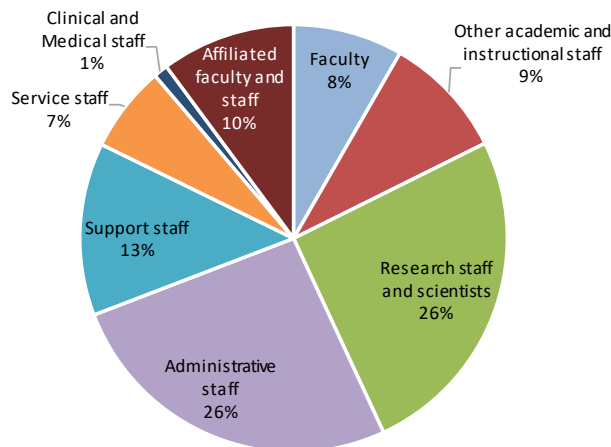
Faculty and Staff

As of October 31, 2017, MIT employs 12,607 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, 2017–2018

Employee Type	Count
Faculty	1,047
Other academic and instructional staff	1,180
Research staff and research scientists (includes postdoctoral positions)	3,204
Administrative staff	3,290
Support staff	1,647
Service staff	824
Clinical and Medical staff	136
Affiliated faculty, scientists, and scholars	1,279
Total campus faculty and staff	12,607

Faculty and Staff, 2017–2018



Each year, MIT employs about 1,350 graduate students as teaching assistants and 3,400 graduate students as research assistants.

MIT Lincoln Laboratory employs about 4,050 people, primarily at Hanscom Air Force Base in Lexington, Massachusetts. See page 92 for additional Lincoln Laboratory staffing information.

Faculty

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

Faculty Profile, 2017–2018

	Count	Percent of Total
Professors	662	63
Associate professors	219	21
Assistant professors	166	16
Total	1,047	100
Male	808	77
Female	239	23

See page 52 for a chart of faculty and students from 1865–2018.

Seventy-five percent of faculty are tenured.

Faculty by School, 2017–2018

School	Count	Percentage
Architecture and Planning	85	8
Engineering	378	36
Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences	183	17
Management	112	11
Science	278	27
Other	11	1
Total	1,047	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.

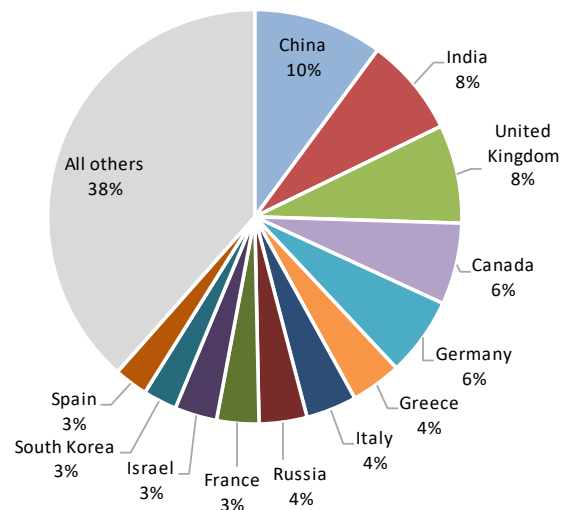
Faculty by U.S. Minority Group, 2017–2018

Ethnicity	Female Count	Male Count
Asian	30	106
Hispanic or Latino	7	35
African American	8	25
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0	1
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	0

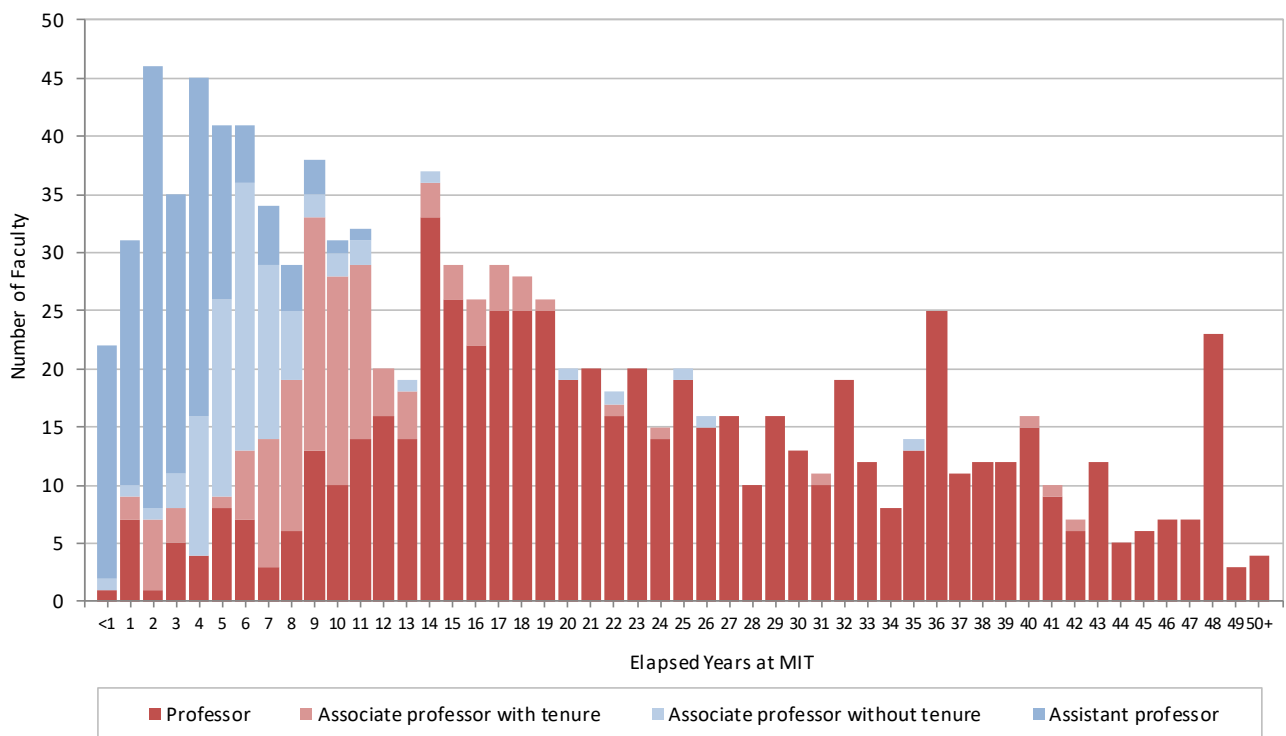
Ethnicity is self-identified, and faculty members may identify with more than one group.

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, 2017–2018



**Elapsed Years at MIT of Faculty, 2017–2018
(Excludes time as student)**



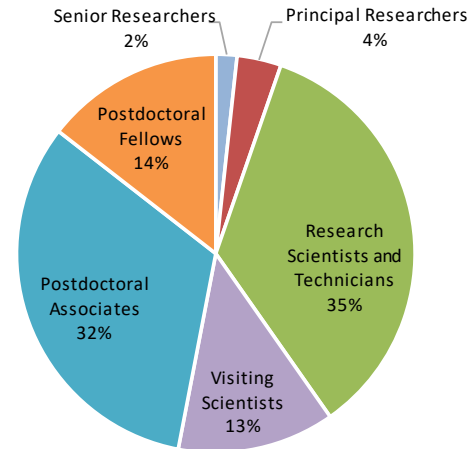
Researchers

MIT campus research staff and scientists total 3,204. These researchers work with MIT faculty and students on projects funded by government, nonprofits and foundations, and industry.

Campus Research Staff and Scientists, 2017–2018

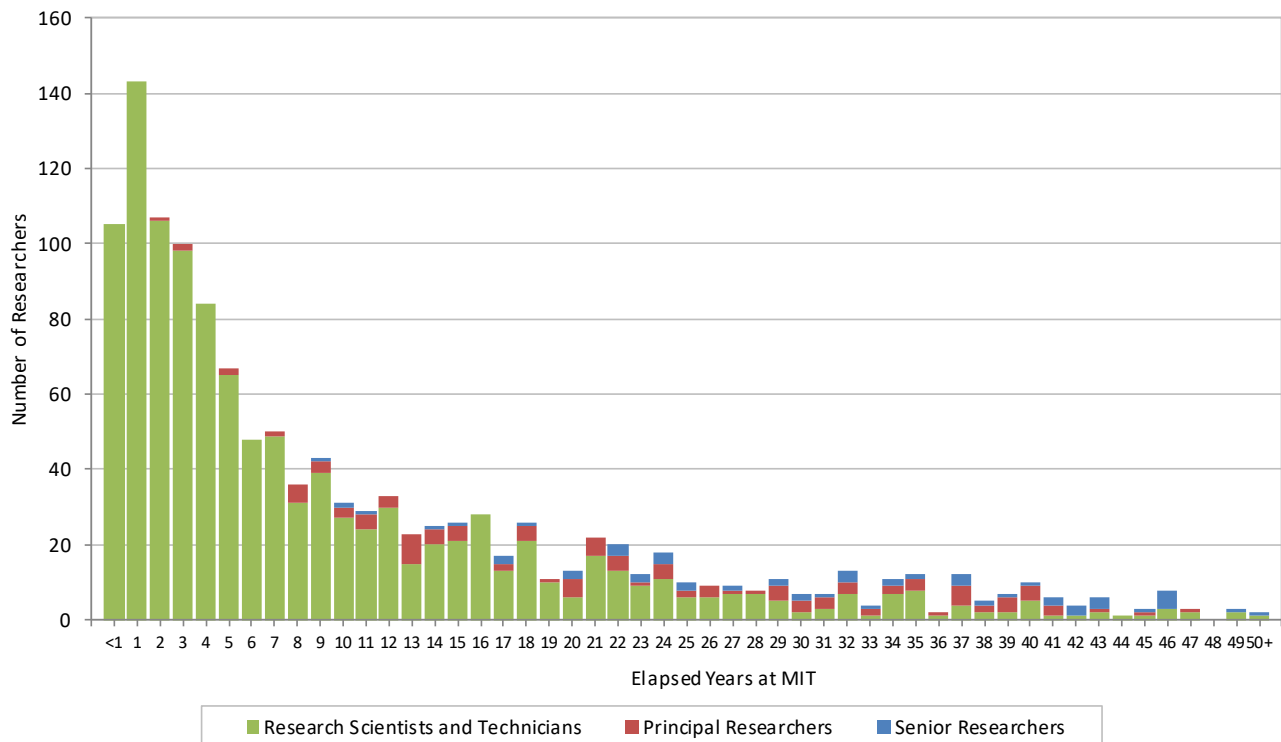
Employee Type	Count
Senior Researchers	55
Principal Researchers	115
Research Scientists and Technicians	1,120
Visiting Scientists	409
Postdoctoral Associates	1,041
Postdoctoral Fellows	464
Total	3,204

Campus Research Staff and Scientists, 2017–2018



Approximately 3,000 graduate students were research assistants in fall 2017.

**Elapsed Years at MIT of Campus Research Staff and Scientists, 2017–2018
(Senior Researchers, Principal Researchers, and Research Scientists and Technicians)**



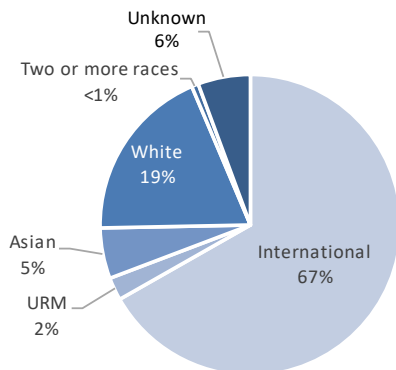
Postdoctoral Scholars

The MIT campus hosts 1,505 postdoctoral associates and fellows—418 females and 1,087 males. These individuals work with faculty in academic departments, laboratories, and centers.

U.S. Citizen and Permanent Resident Postdoctoral Scholars by Ethnicity, 2017–2018

Ethnicity	Count
Hispanic or Latino	33
African American	4
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0
Total underrepresented minorities (URM)	37
White	285
Asian	82
Two or more races	11
Unknown	85
Total	500

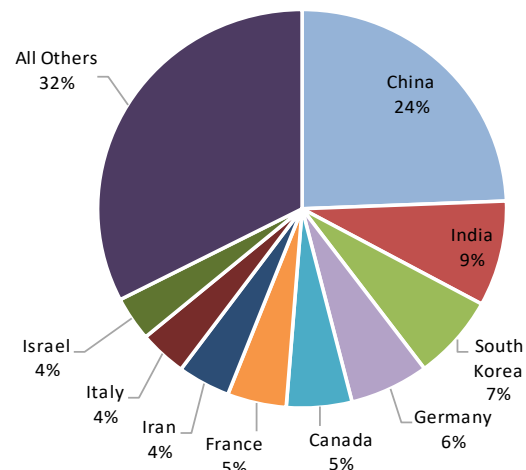
Ethnicity of Postdoctoral Scholars, 2017–2018



International Postdoctoral Scholars Top Countries of Citizenship, 2017–2018

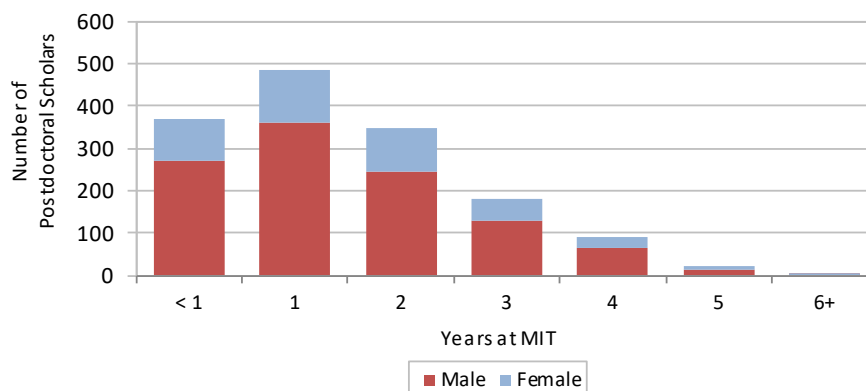
Country of Citizenship	Count
China	245
India	86
South Korea	69
Germany	63
Canada	52
France	47
Iran	42
Italy	38
Israel	36

Country of Citizenship of International Postdoctoral Scholars, 2017–2018



Postdoctoral scholars come from over seventy foreign countries.

Years at MIT of Postdoctoral Scholars, 2017–2018



Awards and Honors of Current Faculty and Staff

Nobel Prize

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

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

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

Recipients Award Name and Agency

153	American Academy of Arts and Sciences Member
93	American Association for the Advancement of Science Fellow
12	American Philosophical Society Member
89	American Physical Society Fellow
22	American Society of Mechanical Engineers Fellow
35	Association for Computing Machinery Fellow
4	John Bates Clark Medal, American Economic Association
4	Dirac Medal, Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics
9	Fulbright Scholar, Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES)
9	Gairdner Award, Gairdner Foundation
60	Guggenheim Fellow, John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation
16	HHMI Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI)
58	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
26	MacArthur Fellow, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
2	Millennium Technology Prize, Millennium Prize Foundation
71	National Academy of Engineering Member, National Academies
27	National Academy of Medicine Member, National Academies
84	National Academy of Sciences Member, National Academies
7	National Medal of Science, National Science & Technology Medals Foundation
1	National Medal of Technology and Innovation, National Science & Technology Medals Foundation
2	Rolf Nevanlinna Prize, International Mathematical Union (IMU)
34	Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE)
3	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
6	A. M. Turing Award, Association for Computing Machinery
2	John von Neumann Medal, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.
4	Alan T. Waterman Award, National Science Foundation
3	Wolf Prize, Wolf Foundation

Award Highlights

Joan Jonas

2018 Kyoto Prize

Joan Jonas, professor emerita in the MIT Program in Art, Culture and Technology, is one of three individuals honored with the 2018 Kyoto Prize.

The Kyoto Prize is Japan's highest private award for global achievement, created by Japanese philanthropist Kazuo Inamori and awarded by the Inamori Foundation. Awarded annually in three categories—Advanced Technology, Basic Sciences, and Arts and Philosophy—the prize honors individuals who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind. Jonas is a recipient in the Arts and Philosophy category for her lifetime of accomplishment and global influence as an artist.

“Jonas created a new artistic form by integrating performance art and video art, and has evolved her original medium at the forefront of contemporary art continuously,” the prize announcement states. “Creating labyrinth-like works that lead audiences to diverse interpretations, she hands down the legacy of 1960s avant-garde art by developing it into a postmodern framework, profoundly impacting artists of later generations.”

<https://bit.ly/2OvLYaE>

Edward “Ed” Boyden

2018 Canada Gairdner International Award

Ed Boyden, the Y. Eva Tan Professor in Neurotechnology, has been named a recipient of the 2018 Canada Gairdner International Award—Canada's most prestigious scientific prize—for his role in the discovery of light-gated ion channels and optogenetics, a technology to control brain activity with light.

Boyden's work has given neuroscientists the ability to precisely activate or silence brain cells to see how they contribute to—or possibly alleviate—brain disease. By optogenetically controlling brain cells, it has become possible to understand how specific patterns of brain activity might be used to quiet seizures, cancel out Parkinsonian tremors, and make other improvements to brain health.

<https://bit.ly/2P4cbu5>

Rainer Weiss

2017 Nobel Prize in physics, shared

Rainer Weiss '55, PhD '62, professor emeritus of physics at MIT, has won the Nobel Prize in physics for 2017. Weiss won half of the prize, with the other half of the award shared by Kip S. Thorne, professor emeritus of theoretical physics at Caltech, and Barry C. Barish, professor emeritus of physics at Caltech.

The Nobel Foundation, in its announcement this morning, cited the physicists “for decisive contributions to the LIGO detector and the observation of gravitational waves.”

<http://bit.ly/2yF3UnM>

