In Special Recognition

The 2007–2008 academic year saw a number of changes in the senior academic and administrative leadership of MIT.

Marc A. Kastner, the Donner professor of science and head of the Department of Physics, was appointed dean of the School of Science on July 1. Subra Suresh, the Ford professor of engineering in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, was appointed dean of the School of Engineering on July 23. David C. Schmittlein was appointed the John C Head III dean of the MIT Sloan School of Management on October 15. Dean Schmittlein had previously served as deputy dean of the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School for seven years, and as its interim dean.

Steven R. Lerman, the Class of 1922 distinguished professor of civil and environmental engineering, was appointed dean for graduate students on July 1. Bishwapriya Sanyal, the Ford International professor of urban development and planning, began his two-year term as chair of the Faculty in July.

Israel Ruiz, formerly the director of finance, was appointed vice president for finance on July 1, and Stuart Schmill, who had been serving as interim director of admissions since the previous April, was appointed dean of admissions in March.

Associate provost Lorna Gibson, the Matoula S. Salapatas professor of materials science and engineering, stepped down at the end of the academic year to return to her department. Deborah Bohren, who had joined MIT as its first vice president for external affairs, left the Institute at the end of the year, relocating to New York.

Honors and Awards

The awards received by MIT students, faculty, and staff testify to the distinction of the Institute’s programs and its people. Here we note only some of the honors and recognition earned by members of the MIT community during the 2007–2008 academic year.

MIT seniors Ali Alhassani and Melis Anahtar won a Marshall Scholarship and a Rhodes Scholarship, respectively. Alhassani will study health policy, planning, and financing at the University of London’s School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Anahtar, the 38th MIT student to receive a Rhodes, will study integrated immunology and global health sciences at Oxford.

Six MIT graduate students were awarded Fulbright Scholarships: V. A. Shiva Ayyadurai, Matthew DeJong, Francesca DeMeo, David Lee, Jonathan Rose, and Sarah Zukerman.

Timothy Lu, a graduate student in health sciences and technology, won the $30,000 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize for inventing processes that promise to combat bacterial infections by enhancing the effectiveness of antibiotics and helping to eradicate biofilm.
In Special Recognition

Institute Professor Robert S. Langer was named one of the two winners of the 2008 Max Planck Research Award, a €1.5 million science prize funded by the German government and shared annually by one German and one non-German scientist. Langer was recognized for his research on the development of biomimetic materials.

Professor Langer also received the Millennium Technology Prize, the world’s largest award for technology innovation at €800,000, or approximately $1.2 million. Langer was honored “for his inventions and development of innovative biomaterials for controlled drug release and tissue regeneration that have saved and improved the lives of millions of people.”

President emeritus Charles M. Vest and Professors Robert S. Langer and Daniel Kleppner were presented with the nation’s highest honors in science and technology. Vest received the National Medal of Technology, and Langer and Kleppner received the National Medal of Science.

Election to a national academy is one of the highest honors that can be bestowed in the fields of engineering, science, and medicine. This year, seven MIT faculty members were elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences: Edward A. Boyle, professor of ocean geochemistry; Stephen L. Buchwald, Camille Dreyfus professor of chemistry; Edward F. DeLong, professor of civil and environmental engineering and biological engineering; Marc A. Kastner, Donner professor of science and dean of the School of Science; Frank T. Leighton, professor of applied mathematics; Timothy M. Swager, John D. MacArthur professor of chemistry and head of the Department of Chemistry; and Jack L. Wisdom, professor of planetary sciences. Two faculty members were elected to the National Academy of Engineering: Arvind, the Charles W. and Jennifer C. Johnson professor of electrical engineering and computer science, and Robert C. Armstrong, Chevron professor of chemical engineering. Emery N. Brown, professor of computational neuroscience and of health sciences and technology, was elected to the Institute of Medicine.

Eight MIT faculty members became fellows of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences: Tobias Colding, professor of mathematics; Christopher Cummins, professor of chemistry; Alan D. Grossman, Praecis professor of biology; Timothy L. Grove, professor of geology; Jonathan Gruber, professor of economics; Klavs F. Jensen, Warren K. Lewis professor of chemical engineering and head of the Department of Chemical Engineering; Marc A. Kastner, Donner professor of science and dean of the School of Science; and Henry I. Smith, professor of electrical engineering.

Seven MIT faculty members became fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science: Emery N. Brown, professor of computational neuroscience and of health sciences and technology; Jeffrey P. Freidberg, Korea Electric Power professor of nuclear science and engineering; Klavs F. Jensen, Warren K. Lewis professor of chemical engineering; Daniel G. Nocera, Henry Dreyfus professor of energy; Leona D. Samson, Ellison American Cancer Society professor; Joseph M. Sussman, JR East professor of civil and environmental engineering; and Maria T. Zuber, Earle Griswold professor of geophysics and planetary science.
Five MIT faculty members were named Howard Hughes Medical Investigators, bringing the total number at MIT to 19. The new medical investigators are Sangeeta N. Bhatia, associate professor of electrical engineering and of health sciences and technology; Catherine L. Drennan, associate professor of chemistry and of biology; Darrell J. Irvine, Eugene Bell career development associate professor of materials science and engineering and tissue engineering; Dianne K. Newman, John and Dorothy Wilson professor of biology and geobiology; and David M. Sabatini, associate professor of biology, who is also a member of the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research.

Three MIT faculty members were named Guggenheim fellows: Robert Kanigel, professor of science writing; Susan S. Silbey, professor of sociology and anthropology and head of the Program in Anthropology; and Alexander van Oudenaarden, associate professor of physics.

Seven junior faculty members were named Alfred P. Sloan Foundation research fellows: Edward S. Boyden, assistant professor of media arts and sciences; Mikhail Golusov, Rudiger Dornbusch career development assistant professor of economics; Manolis Kellis, Karl R. Van Tassel (1925) career development assistant professor of electrical engineering and computer science; Mohammad Movassaghi, Firmenich career development assistant professor of chemistry; Aviv Regev, assistant professor of biology; Mehmet Fatih Yanik, assistant professor of electrical engineering; and Martin W. Zwierlein, assistant professor of physics.

Four MIT faculty members were honored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for exceptionally innovative research. Emery N. Brown, professor of computational neuroscience and of health sciences and technology, won a 2007 Pioneer Award, for which he will receive $2.5 million over a period of five years. Brown is the third MIT faculty member in the four years of the program to be so honored. New Innovator Awards, valued at $1.5 million over five years, were given to Edward S. Boyden, assistant professor of media arts and sciences; Alan Jasanoff, N. C. Rasmussen assistant professor of nuclear science and engineering; and Mehmet Fatih Yanik, assistant professor of electrical engineering and computer science.

Junot Díaz, associate professor of writing, received two prestigious awards—the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Pulitzer Prize—for his first novel, The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao.

Ahmed F. Ghoniem, the Ronald C. Crane professor of mechanical engineering, was named a Global Research Partnership Investigator by the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology in Saudi Arabia. His research group will receive $10 million over five years to work on advanced energy conversion systems.

Ann M. Graybiel, the Walther A. Rosenblith professor of neuroscience, was selected by NARSAD to receive its Distinguished Investigator Award. NARSAD’s Young Investigator Awards were given to three scientists at the Broad Institute and a postdoctoral researcher at the Picower Center for Learning and Memory: Jinbo Fan, Daniel Fass, Stephen Haggarty, and Yingwei Mao.
Subra Suresh, Ford professor of engineering and dean of the School of Engineering, received the Society of Engineering Science’s A. C. Eringen Medal in recognition of “sustained outstanding achievements in engineering science.”

Alexander Rich, the William Thompson Sedgwick professor of biophysics, became the first MIT faculty member to receive the prestigious Welch Award, a $300,000 prize given annually to foster basic chemical research. Rich was the first to carry out DNA-RNA hybridization and discovered left-handed DNA.

Martin Zwierlein, assistant professor of physics, received one of Germany’s premier awards for young scientists, the €100,000 Klung-Wilhelmy-Weberbank Prize for Physics. Zwierlein was honored for work he did in atomic physics as an MIT graduate student.

Hugh Herr, associate professor of media arts and sciences, won the 13th annual Heinz Award for Technology, the Economy and Employment. Herr, a double amputee whose work has led to the development of new prosthetic innovations merging body and machine, is the fifth MIT faculty member to receive a Heinz Award.

Ronald L. Rivest, the Andrew and Erna Viterbi professor of electrical engineering and computer science, was named the 2007 Marconi fellow for his pioneering work in the fields of cryptography, computer and network security.

Angelika Amon, professor of biology, and Todd R. Golub of the Broad Institute will share the $150,000 Paul Marks Prize for Cancer Research with Gregory J. Hannon of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. The prize is given by the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in recognition of significant contributions to the basic understanding and treatment of cancer by scientists under the age of 45.

Keeril Makan, assistant professor of music, was awarded the Luciano Berio Rome Prize for musical composition by the American Academy in Rome. The prize carries a stipend of $24,000 and work and living accommodations for 11 months at the academy.

Robert A. Weinberg, the Daniel K. Ludwig professor for cancer research, was selected to receive the first Georg and Eva Klein Award, a new €20,000 prize given a Swedish foundation. Weinberg was recognized for his work on basal tumor biology.

Joanne Stubbe, Novartis professor of chemistry and professor of biology, received the $15,000 Award in Chemical Sciences from the National Academy of Sciences in recognition of her work on the enzymes called ribonucleotide reductases.

Institute Professor Mildred Dresselhaus received the $10,000 Oliver E. Buckley Condensed Matter Prize from the American Physical Society for “pioneering contributions to the understanding of electronic properties of materials, especially novel forms of carbon.”
Rafael Bras, the Edward A. Abdun-Nur professor of civil and environmental engineering and of earth, atmospheric, and planetary sciences, received the Robert E. Horton Medal, the highest award given to hydrologists by the American Geophysical Union.

Five faculty members were named MacVicar Faculty Fellows: Tania Baker, professor of biology; W. Craig Carter, professor of materials science and engineering; Sanjay E. Sarma, associate professor of mechanical engineering; Stephen J. Tapscott, professor of literature; and Barton Zwiebach, professor of physics.

John Dower, the Ford International professor of history, received the James R. Killian Jr. Faculty Achievement Award given in recognition of extraordinary professional accomplishment by an MIT faculty member.

Jay Scheib, associate professor of theater arts, received the Harold E. Edgerton Faculty Achievement Award in recognition of his achievements in teaching, research, and service to the MIT community.

The Gordon Y Billard Award recognizing special services of outstanding merit was given to Paul E. Gray and Priscilla King Gray, president emeritus and former first lady, and Dick K. P. Yue, director of international programs and co-director of the Singapore-MIT Alliance 2.

In Memoriam

Inevitably, death takes from among us each year men and women who have contributed to the intellectual vitality and service to the wider world that mark MIT as an extraordinary community. The memory of their accomplishments urges us to our own best efforts.

Hayward R. Alker ‘59, a political scientist who specialized in international relations, died on August 24, 2007, at his home on Block Island, RI, following a cerebral hemorrhage. He was 69. A native of New York City, Alker was widely respected for his integration of mathematical and humanistic research methods, especially in the field of international conflict resolution. His books included *Journeys Through Conflict* (2001) and *Mathematics and Politics* (1965). Alker taught at MIT from 1968 to 1995, and subsequently held the John A. McCone chair in international relations at the University of Southern California. After earning an SB in mathematics at MIT, he received his MA and PhD degrees from Yale University and taught at Yale before joining MIT’s Political Science department.

Eugene Bell, a biologist renowned for his pioneering work in the field of regenerative medicine, passed away on June 22, 2007, at the age of 88. Bell’s reputation as the “father of tissue engineering” was the result of a seminal study published in the journal *Science* in 1981, in which he demonstrated a way to repair skin wounds with artificial skin made from a person’s or an animal’s own cells. Born in New York, Bell saw combat action in the Philippines and New Guinea during World War II and was wounded by a piece of shrapnel that remained in his hand. He joined the MIT faculty in 1956, becoming a professor of biology in 1967, and laid the groundwork for the field of tissue engineering while at MIT. He held more than 40 US and foreign patents and was the lead author of
more than 200 scientific papers. Retiring from MIT in 1986, he went on to found two companies to commercialize the technology he helped to develop.

John M. “Jack” Buchanan, the John and Dorothy Wilson professor emeritus of biology, died on June 25, 2008, in Lexington, MA. He was 89. Buchanan joined MIT’s Biology Department in 1953 as director of the newly established Division of Biochemistry. He soon recruited a core group of junior and senior faculty members who solidified its reputation as one of the outstanding programs in the nation. Buchanan completed his undergraduate degree in chemistry at DePauw University in 1938 and earned a master’s degree in biological chemistry at the University of Michigan in 1939. He received his PhD from Harvard Medical School in 1943, contributing to research on biosynthetic pathways using isotopically labeled precursors. He joined the faculty in physiological chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, where he ascended to full professor before leaving for MIT in 1953. Buchanan was awarded a Medical Research Council Fellowship between 1946 and 1948, which gave him an opportunity to work with Hugo Theorell at the Nobel Institute in Stockholm. In recognition of his career and service, MIT has endowed an annual John M. Buchanan Lectureship and a John M. Buchanan Medal containing the inscription “Discovery, Education, Inspiration, Friendship and Modesty.”

William L. Kraushaar, a physicist and pioneer in the field of high-energy astronomy, died on March 21, 2008, at the age of 87. Kraushaar received his bachelor’s degree from Lafayette College in 1942. For the duration of the war, he worked at the National Bureau of Standards, where he helped to develop proximity fuses for artillery shells, one of the more important technological innovations of the war effort. After the war he earned his doctorate at Cornell University and in 1949 was appointed a research associate at MIT, where he subsequently rose through the faculty ranks. In 1957 Kraushaar began a decade-long effort to map the sky using the “light” of cosmic gamma rays, whose detection promised to provide a new means to investigate high-energy processes in the universe. Working with Professor George Clark, he directed the development of a gamma-ray detector that was carried into orbit on the Explorer 11 satellite in 1961. Over the next seven years, the first all-sky map of high-energy cosmic gamma rays was constructed, including a demonstration of the existence of extra-galactic gamma ray sources that have since been identified as black holes. As a result, high-energy gamma-ray astronomy became one of the most active areas of space research. Kraushaar was a fellow of the American Physical Society and a member of the American Astronomical Society, International Astronomical Union, the National Academy of Sciences, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He had been the recipient of Fulbright and Guggenheim fellowships, as well as the Senior Scientist Award of the Humboldt Foundation.

Harald A. Enge, professor emeritus of physics, died on April 14, 2008, of respiratory failure. He was 87. Enge served as director of MIT’s Van de Graff Research Group for many years and was recognized as a world leader in the design of magnetic spectrometers for nuclear physics. Born in Fauske, Norway, Enge earned the equivalent of a master’s degree in electrical engineering from Trondheim University in 1946. Prior to graduation, he had spent a year repairing radios for the Norwegian resistance. He
earned his PhD in physics from the University of Bergin in 1954, based mostly on research in nuclear physics he did at MIT in 1950 and 1951. He returned to MIT in 1955 as an assistant professor, becoming a full professor in 1959. Enge held more than 20 patents for inventions in a wide range of fields, including magnetic and electric optics, accelerators, power supplies and mass separators. He also wrote a popular textbook titled *Introduction to Nuclear Physics*. In 1984, he received the Tom W. Bonner Prize in Nuclear Physics from the American Physical Society.

Robert I. Hulsizer, Jr., professor emeritus of physics and a former chair of the MIT Faculty, died on April 30, 2008, in Jamaica Plain, MA. He was 88. Born in East Orange, NJ, Hulsizer received his BS in mathematics from Bates College in 1940, an MA in physics from Wesleyan University in 1942, and a PhD in physics from MIT in 1948. During World War II, Hulsizer helped develop the use of radar at MIT’s Radiation Lab, working on radar-guided bombsights, among other influential projects. In 1964, after 15 years on the faculty of the University of Illinois, he returned to MIT to direct what would become the Education Research Center. Hulsizer saw teaching as an essential part of being a scientist and, for many years, taught the 8.01 and 8.02 elementary physics courses required of all MIT students, where his lively lecture style became extremely popular. Hulsizer and his wife were housemasters of Ashdown House, a graduate dormitory, from 1974 to 1985. When they stepped down as housemasters, the space they had used to host a popular weekly ice cream social was renamed the Hulsizer Room. Retiring in 1986, Hulsizer continued teaching at the Institute for many years. He was a fellow of the American Physics Society and a member of Sigma Xi, Phi Beta Kappa, the American Association of University Professors, and the American Association of Physics Teachers.

Jin Au Kong, professor of electrical engineering, died unexpectedly of complications from pneumonia on March 13, 2008, at the age of 65. Born in Kiangsu, China, Kong received a BS from National Taiwan University in Taipei, and an MS from National Chiao Tung University in Hsinchu, Taiwan. In 1965, he came to the United States and earned a PhD from Syracuse University. An internationally renowned expert on electromagnetic waves, Kong was a member of MIT’s Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science for nearly 40 years. He also led the Center for Electromagnetic Theory and Applications at the Research Laboratory of Electronics. He published more than 30 books on electromagnets and more than 700 research papers and book chapters, earning acclaim for his work in electromagnetic wave propagation, radiation and scattering, and their associated applications in microwave remote sensing, geophysical exploration, and electromagnetic transmission and coupling in microelectronic integrated circuits.

Edward Lorenz, a renowned meteorologist, died of cancer on April 16, 2008, in Cambridge, MA. He was 90. As an MIT meteorologist, Lorenz was the first to recognize what is now called chaotic behavior, or chaos theory, in the mathematical modeling of weather systems. In the early 1960s, he realized that small differences in a dynamic system such as the atmosphere—or a model of the atmosphere—could trigger vast and often unsuspected results. These observations led him to formulate what became known as the butterfly effect, a term that grew out of a paper he presented in 1972.
entitled “Predictability: Does the Flap of a Butterfly’s Wings in Brazil Set Off a Tornado in Texas?” These early insights marked the beginning of a new field of study that impacted not only the field of mathematics but virtually every branch of science—biological, physical, and social. In meteorology, it led to the conclusion that it may be fundamentally impossible to predict weather beyond two or three weeks with a reasonable degree of accuracy. Born in West Hartford, CT, Lorenz received an AB in mathematics from Dartmouth College and an AM in mathematics from Harvard University. While serving as a weather forecaster for the US Army Air Corps in World War II, he decided to pursue graduate work in meteorology at MIT, earning an SM in 1943 and an ScD in 1948. Joining MIT’s Department of Meteorology upon graduation, he was promoted to full professor in 1962 and served as department head from 1977 to 1981. In 1983, he was named a co-winner of the Crafoord Prize, given by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences to recognize achievement in fields not eligible for Nobel Prizes. In 1991, he was awarded the Kyoto Prize for achievement in the field of earth and planetary sciences.

Louis Menand III, a celebrated teacher and political scientist who served in senior leadership roles for three consecutive MIT administrations, died on January 30, 2008, at the age of 85. Menand came to MIT in 1968 as assistant to the provost under President Howard Johnson. Later, he was a special assistant to the provost under Presidents Jerome Wiesner and Paul Gray. In addition to his administrative duties, Menand taught American politics in the Political Science department, where he and was well known for a course on the Supreme Court and constitutional processes, which he developed. In 1988, he was honored with the Everett Moore Baker Memorial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. Beyond MIT, Menand was a consultant on higher education, a prominent advocate for civil rights, and a leader in the American Civil Liberties Union. His personal passions were music—especially opera—and the natural environment. Menand was a native of Menands, NY, a town named for his great-grandfather. He earned his BA from Middlebury College and his PhD in political science from the Maxwell School of Public Administration at Syracuse University. Before coming to MIT, Menand served as dean of Bradford College from 1956 to 1966 and held faculty positions at Dartmouth College and Vassar College.

Walter Shepherd Owen, professor emeritus of physical metallurgy, passed away on October 10, 2007, at Massachusetts General Hospital. He was 87. Owen was educated at the University of Liverpool, earning a BE in metallurgy in 1940, an MEng in 1942, and a PhD in metallurgy in 1950. In 1951, he became a Commonwealth Fund fellow at MIT and also was a member of the research staff from 1954 to 1957. Following a series of academic and administrative positions at the University of Liverpool, Cornell University, and Northwestern University, Owen returned to MIT in 1973 as head of what would become the Department of Materials Science and Engineering. Under his guidance, the department broadened its academic and research foci from metallurgy to include ceramics, polymers, and semiconductors. While controversial at the time, this expansion created a department that today produces groundbreaking work on lower-emission iron production, rechargeable batteries, and lasers used in minimally invasive surgical procedures. Owen was deeply committed to the education of materials scientists and engineers, and to furthering the evolution and development of his field. Of particular
relevance today was his interest in the areas of conservation, recycling, materials availability, and public policy.

Herb Pomeroy, a jazz icon who founded the MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble in 1963, died on August 11, 2007, at his home in Gloucester, MA. He was 77. As a trumpeter, Pomeroy was inspired by Louis Armstrong and played with many jazz greats, including Charlie Parker, Stan Kenton, Lionel Hampton, and Duke Ellington. Under his guidance, the MIT jazz ensemble, once deemed “horrible,” was transformed, and the Festival Jazz Ensemble developed into a top-notch, award-winning group. Pomeroy’s Festival Jazz Ensemble performed throughout the United States and was the first college ensemble to appear at Switzerland’s prestigious Montreux Jazz Festival. Pomeroy left MIT in 1985 but returned to perform as a guest artist from 2000 to 2005. A 2005 concert performance at MIT by the Festival Jazz Ensemble celebrated Pomeroy’s 75th birthday and featured alumni musicians and conductors.

J. Francis Reintjes, celebrated for his keen wit and unassuming but steadfast leadership in electrical engineering and computer science, died on February 21, 2008, after a brief illness. He was 96. Born in Troy, NY, he received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in electrical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy and began his career as an engineer with General Motors in Lockport, NY. He subsequently taught electrical engineering at Manhattan College in New York City before coming to MIT in 1943 to work on radar. He earned a faculty appointment in 1947, and his research interests expanded from radar and electronics to the computerization of communications technologies. After five years as a research staff member in the Research Laboratory of Electronics, he became director of the Servo Lab, a position he held for 21 years. Renamed the Electronic Systems Laboratory in 1959, the lab became a haven for master’s and doctoral studies in a variety of fields, including chemical and mechanical engineering, physics, mathematics, biology, and aeronautical and astronautical engineering. In 1978, it became an independent entity known as the Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems. Despite his retirement in 1978, Reintjes remained an active presence in LIDS and the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department.

J. Mark Schuster, professor of urban studies and planning, died on February 25, 2008, of complications from melanoma. He was 57. An expert on arts funding policies, Schuster helped develop the field of urban cultural policy, showing it could be a vital part of the practice of city planning. He quickly gained international prominence, winning a Fulbright Scholarship in 1990 and serving as a consultant to national and international cultural institutions, including the National Endowment for the Arts and National Public Radio. A native of Meriden, CT, Schuster joined the MIT faculty in 1978 and was promoted to full professor in 1999. He gained early and steady recognition for his teaching, winning the Graduate Student Council Award for Outstanding Teaching in 1983 and his department’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2006. Known for his delight in city festivals, he served as a trustee or board member for numerous arts, cultural, and civic organizations. In February 2008, he received special recognition for his contributions to First Night Boston, with which he had been involved for many
years. Schuster earned his BA at Harvard University in 1972 and received his PhD from MIT in 1979.

Joseph Weizenbaum, professor emeritus of computer science, died on March 5, 2008, in Berlin. He was 85. Weizenbaum’s family had fled Nazi Germany in the 1930s. At the beginning of his career, Weizenbaum worked on analog computers. Later, he helped design and build a digital computer at Wayne State University. In 1955, he became a member of the General Electric team that designed and built the first computer system dedicated to banking operations. Among his early technical contributions were the list processing system SLIP and the natural language program ELIZA, which simulated a conversation between a patient and a psychotherapist by using a person’s responses to shape the computer’s replies. The popular response to ELIZA was unexpected. Weizenbaum was shocked to discover that many users were taking his program seriously and were opening their hearts to it. This experience prompted him to think philosophically about the implications of artificial intelligence, and, later, to become a critic of it. In 1963, Weizenbaum joined the MIT faculty and subsequently held academic appointments at a number of institutions, including Harvard University, Stanford University, the Technical University of Berlin, and the University of Hamburg. He was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the New York Academy of Science and the European Academy of Science.

It is with sadness that we also report the untimely passing of two of our exceptional students.

James T. Albrecht, a senior majoring in mathematics and physics, died on July 22, 2007, in New York City, after a fall from a building. He was 21. President of Baker House, Albrecht was elected executive vice president of the Dormitory Council in May 2007. He planned to graduate with his class in June 2008 and then enter a master’s program in computation for design and optimization or in applied mathematics. A native of Naperville, IL, Albrecht was living in New York’s East Village and working as a summer intern at D. E. Shaw & Co., an investment and technology development firm, at the time of his death.

Robert M. Wells, a senior majoring in brain and cognitive sciences, died on March 1, 2008, at the age of 22. Originally from Ballston Spa, NY, Wells was found early in the morning outside the Delta Upsilon fraternity house, located on Beacon Street in Boston. It is believed he fell from a fifth-story window in his sleep.