

ANNUAL REPORT

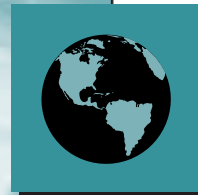
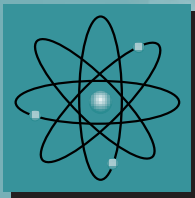


2006/2007

THE TECHNOLOGY & CULTURE

FORUM

AT MIT



Tuesday • September 19, 2006

REQUIEM ON THE ISRAEL-LEBANON WAR

Augustus Norton, *International Relations; Anthropology, Boston University*

Co-sponsored with the Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar and the Center for International Studies

Wednesday • September 20, 2006

TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL CHANGE IN NIGERIA

A Lunchtime Discussion

Chris Abani, *Creative Writing, University of California; author of Becoming Abigail*

Co-sponsored with the MIT Office of the Arts

Friday • September 29, 2006

THE FIFTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FAIR

An annual event designed to showcase the many groups, projects and activities at MIT that provide students with an opportunity to work on issues related to international development.

► TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE SERIES

A THREE PART SERIES

Co-sponsored with the MIT Museum and the Energy Research Council

Wednesday • October 18, 2006

► THE CHALLENGE: MEETING GLOBAL ENERGY DEMANDS SUSTAINABLY

Kerry Emanuel, *Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Science, MIT*
Ernest Moniz, *Physics, MIT*

Wednesday • October 25, 2006

► THE ROLE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ECONOMY

Dan Nocera, *Chemistry, MIT*
Angela Belcher, *Materials Science and Engineering; Biological Engineering, MIT*

Wednesday • November 1, 2006

► GROWING PAINS: TRANSITIONING TO A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY POLICY

John Heywood, *Mechanical Engineering; Director, Sloan Automotive Lab, MIT*
Stephen Ansolabehere, *Political Science, MIT*

Thursday • November 2, 2006

TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL ISOLATION

Noboru Tsubaki, *Director, Space Design Section, Kyoto University of Art and Design*
Xaq Frohlich, *Graduate Student, Science, Technology and Society, MIT*
Amy McCreath, *Coordinator, Technology and Culture Forum; Episcopal Chaplain, MIT*

Co-sponsored with the MIT Office of the Arts

Tuesday • November 7, 2006

RETURN OF THE MIDDLE EAST COLD WAR: A VIEW FROM THE REGION'S NEW IDEOLOGICAL BATTLE FRONT

Rami G. Khouri, *Syndicated Columnist; Director, Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs, American University of Beirut*

Co-sponsored with the Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar and the Center for International Studies

Sunday • November 19, 2006

CLIMATE ACTION CONFERENCE

Co-sponsored and organized by the Massachusetts Climate Action Network

► THE FUTURE OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES SERIES

A FOUR PART SERIES

Wednesday • February 22, 2007

► BOMB SCARE: THE HISTORY AND FUTURE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Joseph Cirincione, *Senior Vice President, Center for American Progress*

Wednesday • March 1, 2007

► THE FUTURE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

Allison Macfarlane, *Environmental Science and Policy, George Mason University*
Andrew Kadak, *Nuclear Science and Engineering, MIT*
Victor Reis, *Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary, US Department of Energy*

Wednesday • March 8, 2007

► DIVERSE APPLICATIONS OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY

Ian Hutchinson, *Nuclear Science and Engineering, MIT*
Jeffrey Coderre, *Nuclear Science and Engineering, MIT*
Alan Jasanoff, *McGovern Institute for Brain Research, MIT*
Dwight Williams, *Martin Luther King Visiting Professor of Nuclear Science and Engineering, MIT*

Wednesday • March 15, 2007

► CAN NUCLEAR ENERGY AND NON-PROLIFERATION CO-EXIST?

Matthew Bunn, *Senior Research Associate, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University*
Geoff Forden, *Science, Technology and Global Security Working Group; Science, Technology and Society, MIT*
Marvin Miller, *Senior Scientist Emeritus, Center for International Studies, MIT*

Tuesday • February 27, 2007

COUNTING THE DEAD IN IRAQ

Gilbert Burnham, *Center for Refugee and Disaster Response, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health*

Co-sponsored with the Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar and the Center for International Studies

Tuesday • March 20, 2007

IRAN: WAR OR PEACE?

Kenneth Pollack, *Director of Research, Saban Center for Middle East Policy*

Co-sponsored with the Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar and the Center for International Studies

Monday • April 2, 2007

THE LUCIFER EFFECT: UNDERSTANDING HOW GOOD PEOPLE TURN EVIL

Philip Zimbardo, *Professor Emeritus, Stanford University; author of The Lucifer Effect: Understanding Why Good People Turn Evil*

Co-sponsored with the MIT Leadership Center and the Society for Terrorism Research

Thursday • April 26, 2007

CONTEMPLATION AND EDUCATION: TRAINING THE MIND: FROM STRESS TO BLISS

Robert Thurman, *Je Tsong Khapa Professor of Buddhist Studies, Columbia University*

Co-sponsored with MIT Prajnopaya

Saturday • May 19, 2007

YOUTH SUMMIT ON GLOBAL WARMING

Co-Sponsored with Boston Latin School Youth Climate Action Network with assistance from the MIT Energy Club



THE TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE FORUM AT MIT PROMOTES DISCUSSION OF THE ETHICAL IMPLICATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION, AND EXPLORES THE ROLE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN PROMOTING POSITIVE CHANGE. WE SEEK OUT TOPICS WHICH FALL OUTSIDE OR BETWEEN TRADITIONAL DEPARTMENTAL LINES.



On any day during the academic year, you will find the walls of the Infinite Corridor filled with posters for exciting and wide-ranging events from lectures by biotech CEOs to world-premiers of plays, from Ted Kennedy to Margaret Cho, from beast roasts to Mahler. That is why I am always so touched when, as happens quite often, someone stops me in the hall to thank me for some recent TAC event. They are so glad to have come, they are thankful for what we do and their lives are richer for it.

After six years with TAC, I can see that we are not only affecting individual lives, but also helping to change the culture of MIT. Five years ago, when we contributed to the founding of the International Development Fair, finding people engaged in development-related projects at MIT was challenging, as was attracting a modest crowd of students curious about such work. Each year the IDF has grown, enrollment in development-related classes has increased, and MIT's administration has increasingly focused attention on issues like appropriate technologies, global travel for students, global climate change and related research.

▲ (LEFT) PHILIP ZIMBARDO, PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF PSYCHOLOGY, STANFORD UNIVERSITY, SPOKE TO A CAPTIVATED CROWD IN THE WONG AUDITORIUM ON APRIL 2, 2007.

▲ (RIGHT) ON FEBRUARY 22, 2007, JOSEPH CIRINCIONE, VICE PRESIDENT FOR THE CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS, KICKED OFF TAC'S SERIES ON THE FUTURE OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGIES.



◀ AUDIENCE MEMBERS ENJOY THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS ENERGY ISSUES AT THE MIT MUSEUM. TAC AND THE MIT MUSEUM HOSTED A SOAPBOX SERIES, TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE, HELD ON OCTOBER 18, 25 AND NOVEMBER 1, 2006.

And while we remain the oldest and most comprehensive venue for discussing ethical issues at MIT, we are glad to no longer be the only venue for such conversation. Classes on ethical issues are cropping up in many departments. The Institute is looking for ways to build reflection on experience and conversation about values into the fabric of MIT life. Discussions about MIT's responsibility to teach and speak about ethics in science and engineering are part of strategic planning at several levels within the Institute, and because of our 40+ year track record, we're at the table. It is an exciting time, and it is a great pleasure to see the seeds planted by my predecessors, our steering committee and long-time supporters bear fruit in this way.

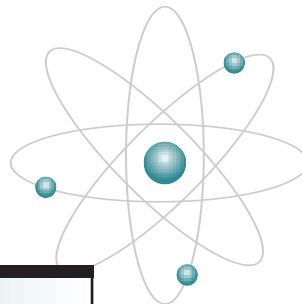
In 2006-07 we again covered a broad range of issues, but among the most popular and most appreciated programs were those that delved into difficult moral questions and the greatest threats of our time. The generation of students at MIT today grew up with reports from wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, code oranges, and headlines of corporate scandal. It is clear they are trying to find their moorings and make a positive difference. Hence their rapt attention to Joe Cirincione detailing the risks posed by government inaction on the nuclear threat, their appreciation for Philip Zimbardo's insight into the systemic failings that led to the horrors of Abu Ghraib, their many questions for Chris Abani about how to combat human rights abuses, and their curiosity about Robert Thurman's "science of the mind" as a discipline leading to the alleviation of suffering.

youth summit

This year, TAC began mentoring a student club at the Boston Latin School. The club, BLS Youth Climate Action Network BLSYouthCAN <www.blsyouthcan.org>, began as a small group of students concerned about global warming. Over the winter, the club expanded to over 125 members and on May 19, BLSYouthCAN and TAC hosted a Youth Summit on Global Warming. More than 225 students from the metropolitan area enjoyed a day of facts and fun. Among the speakers were Mayor Thomas Menino, MIT's Professor Kerry Emanuel and Linda Lopez, Director of Membership and Public Education for the Natural Resources Defense Council. Workshop leaders included MIT staff and administration and graduate students from MIT's Energy Club.



The Technology and Culture Forum is not simply a series of programs. It is a community of scholars and citizens who care deeply about the role of science and technology in bringing about positive change. Our success arises from the creative energy and elbow grease of our steering committee, our donors, our development team, and our program partners. My deepest thanks to all of them, especially Patricia Weinmann, whose dedication to our mission and great camaraderie are enormously helpful.



▲ (UPPER LEFT) JOOST BONSEN, A CO-ORGANIZER OF THE ID FAIR, WITH JEANNETTE SUE AND KARINA DREES, VICE-CHAIR AND CHAIR OF THE MIT 100K 2006-2007.

▲ (UPPER RIGHT) JOHN DURANT, DIRECTOR OF THE MIT MUSEUM AND TAC STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER, INTRODUCES MIT PROFESSORS JOHN HEYWOOD AND STEPHEN ANSOLABEHRE TO THE SOAPBOX AUDIENCE ON NOVEMBER 1, 2006.



This summer, I will be on sabbatical for three months, reflecting on and writing about the role of the university as a mentoring community. As I head off for this time of renewal, I am so very aware of how profoundly the TAC community continues to mentor me in so many ways. Chief among such mentors was long-time steering committee member Robert Mann, who could not have been more loyal to our work. His mental and moral tenacity drove forward many excellent programs through the years and his support was unwavering. This annual report is dedicated to his memory. ■



▲ **IKE COLBERT, NEWLY RETIRED
DEAN FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS,
AND TAC COORDINATOR AMY
MCCREATH AT THE ID FAIR ON
SEPTEMBER 29, 2006.**

Amy McCreath

(The Rev.) Amy McCreath



Photo/Donna Coveney

R O B E R T M A N N

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ANNUAL SUPPORT

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A SPECIAL THANKS

to our

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■

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THE TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE FORUM STEERING COMMITTEE 2006 / 2007

The Technology and Culture Forum at MIT 2006-2007

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