

Vice President for Institute Affairs and Secretary of the Corporation

One of the Institute's four corporate officers, the vice president for Institute affairs and secretary of the Corporation is responsible for MIT's communications, including the coordination of policy issues with the senior administration and trustees of the Corporation. The vice president for Institute affairs oversees the News Office, the Publishing Services Bureau, and the Reference Publications Office. Guidance is also provided to Institute Events, which includes Conference Services, the Events and Information Center, the Community Services Office, and the MIT 150 Sesquicentennial Office. The secretary of the Corporation oversees the operations of MIT's board of trustees and its committees, including the 31 visiting committees that conduct biennial reviews of the Institute's academic and research programs.

MIT continues to promote the roles of science, technology, and policy in the economy and society, even during the current financial crisis. The senior leadership of the Institute remains committed to laying the foundation for the future through education and research, and has chosen this moment to tailor the Institute's financial choices so that they better position MIT to seize emerging opportunities. In particular, senior leadership worked with the community to identify ways to reduce costs and streamline operations while capitalizing on the wealth of knowledge available within the community. As part of this effort, the Institute created the MIT Idea Bank, an online forum where all members of the community can discuss ways to make MIT more effective and efficient while preserving the Institute's core values.

The vice president for Institute affairs and secretary of the Corporation also worked to fully align the work of the Office of the President with the President's strategic initiatives, as well as to streamline the calendars and agendas of the Corporation, Executive Committee, Academic Council, Administrative Council, department heads, and the Institute Faculty Committee. This was done to promote strategic, timely, and integrated decision-making. Additionally, the office began planning comprehensive programming for MIT's 150th anniversary. In February 2009, the assets, functions, and personnel of the MIT News Office and *Technology Review* magazine were combined to cut costs and increase efficiency. As part of that restructuring, Jason Pontin, editor in chief and publisher of *Technology Review*, was appointed director of communications for MIT. In addition, Chris Taylor was appointed associate secretary of the Corporation.

Kirk D. Kolenbrander

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