Transportation@MIT

In 2009, MIT researchers launched Transportation@MIT, a partnership of MIT’s School of Engineering, the Sloan School of Management, and the School of Architecture and Planning. Our purpose is urgent and impactful: to mobilize MIT’s resources to transform global transportation systems and meet the needs of mobility and the environment in the 21st century. Representing 15 departments, our team of more than 240 faculty members engages in transportation-related research and pursues new multidisciplinary projects.

This year, Transportation@MIT continued our efforts in three main areas: research, education, and community.

MIT and the National Research Foundation of Singapore launched a five-year project to develop new models and tools for the planning, design, and operation of future urban transportation. Led by Amedeo Odoni, professor of aeronautics and astronautics and of civil and environmental engineering, the project is aimed at making urban transportation systems more environmentally sustainable, first in Singapore and ultimately on a global scale. Professor Odoni is supported by 30 other faculty and researchers from the School of Engineering, the Sloan School of Management, and the School of Architecture and Planning, as well as 25 faculty from universities in Singapore.

Our Transportation Education Committee made a proposal for a transportation concentration in the new flexible Engineering undergraduate degree, which requires the creation of several new multidisciplinary subjects. At the graduate level, we proposed the establishment of multidisciplinary project-based courses, utilizing the greater Boston metropolitan area as a living laboratory.

The Transportation@MIT seminar series hosted 18 MIT faculty members discussing current transportation research. With over 900 attendees representing 16 departments and centers across the Institute, the seminars have been effective in creating a lively and academically diverse community of transportation researchers. Seminar videos are posted our website and have received over 10,000 views.

In the coming year, our faculty Advisory Council will continue to guide our progress in research, education, and community activities, and oversee our establishment of an External Advisory Board.

Cynthia Barnhart
Director
Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Engineering Systems

More information on Transportation Initiatives can be found at http://transportation.mit.edu/.