

Associate Provost

Associate Provost and Ford International Professor of History Philip S. Khoury oversees the Institute's extra-academic arts programs and institutions and works closely with Associate Provost for International Activities Richard Lester on international strategic programs and initiatives. The arts programs include the MIT Center for Art, Science & Technology (CAST), the List Visual Arts Center, and the MIT Museum. Associate Provost Khoury is a member of the executive committee of CAST, a joint initiative with the dean of the School of Architecture and Planning and the dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. The associate provost chairs the Creative Arts Council and the advisory board of the Catalyst Collaborative at MIT. He is an *ex officio* member of the executive committee of the Council for the Arts at MIT and the advisory boards of the List Visual Arts Center and the MIT Museum. He also chairs the advisory board of the Kuwait Center for Natural Resources and the Environment at MIT and co-chairs the International Advisory Committee (IAC). He serves with the provost and dean of Engineering on the Collaboration Governance Board of the MIT-Singapore University of Technology and Design. He chairs the Compton Lectures Advisory Committee to the President and the Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar at MIT, which will begin its 31st year in the fall of 2016.

The Arts

Accomplishments

The 2016 [Eugene McDermott Award in the Arts at MIT](#), honoring architect David Adjaye, convened the most successful gala to date, raising \$259,000 for the arts, and sponsored a series of programs during the recipient's campus residency. The three programs devoted to the future of the campus, library, and museum, respectively, resonated with current initiatives at the Institute: the provost's task force on the future of the MIT libraries, the centennial symposium "The Campus: Then, Now, Next," and the renovation of Kendall Square, where the MIT Museum's future home will serve as a gateway to the eastern side of campus.

The MIT [Center for Art, Science & Technology](#) solidified its financial position after the renewal of funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation through 2020 and by closing a \$1 million endowment for a distinguished visiting artist program donated by the Russian arts entrepreneur Dasha Zhukova. The first full-length publication sponsored by CAST, *Experience: Culture, Cognition, and the Common Sense*, will be published in fall 2016 with The MIT Press, issuing from the very successful 2014 symposium, "[Seeing / Sounding / Sensing](#)." The premiere of a new chamber opera, *Persona*, by MIT performing arts faculty was a highlight of the second season of the concert series *MIT Sounding*. Based on Ingmar Bergman's iconic 1966 film, the opera was conducted by CAST Faculty Director Evan Ziporyn and featured music by Keeril Makan and direction and libretto by Jay Scheib. The Center has moved to a new level of collaboration within the MIT community and visibility without, as indicated by a feature article in the *New York Times* in March 2016, "[At M.I.T., Science Embraces a New Chaos Theory: Art](#)," which focused on collaborations among CAST visiting artists Vik Muniz, Tomás Saraceno,

and Anicka Yi and faculty, research scientists, and graduate students in the Media Lab, the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, and the Departments of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences.

The [List Visual Arts Center](#) continued to receive outstanding recognition for presenting the exhibition of Joan Jonas, professor emerita in the MIT Program in Art, Culture and Technology at the US Pavilion for the 56th Venice Biennale. In July, the List Center supported Jonas's premiere of a new, live performance at the Biennale, *They Come to Us without a Word II*, based on the exhibition and featuring Jonas and a longtime collaborator, jazz musician Jason Moran. The exhibition closed in November 2015, having been seen by more than 500,000 visitors and reviewed in more than 25 international press outlets.

The [MIT Museum](#) played a significant role in the Institute's centennial celebrations in 2016, with the exhibition *Imagining New Technology: Building MIT in Cambridge* as its central contribution to the semester-long series of events. In addition to marking the 10th anniversary of the Cambridge Science Festival, the Museum entered into a multiyear agreement with Nord Anglia Education to sponsor the festival and a number of related educational programs.

Finances and Funding

Arts development officer Erin Genereux has been crucial to the increasing success of the arts sector in fundraising.

Margaret McDermott has given an additional \$1 million gift to be used for the arts at MIT at the discretion of the associate provost.

In addition to the \$1 million endowment from Dasha Zhukova for CAST, the Center raised \$100,000 in support of the 2017 CAST symposium from Ronald A. Kurtz '54. The Council for the Arts at MIT provided \$180,000 in funding from proceeds of the 2014 McDermott Award gala to support the CAST symposium publication *Experience*, the Percent-for-Art work for MIT.nano (Building 12) currently under construction with a 2018 completion date, and for the Joan Jonas exhibition at the Venice Biennale.

The List Visual Arts Center raised \$300,000 in additional funds for the Venice Biennale (a total of \$1.6 million over two fiscal years) and another \$700,000 for other programs, including \$100,000 for an exhibitions fund named in honor of the late Jane Farver, longtime director of the List Center.

The MIT Museum continued to focus its efforts on the new museum building in Kendall Square and received the first \$1 million gift from a family foundation for that purpose, plus another \$375,000 in additional funds.

Future Goals

The principal fundraising goals remain focused on the arts sector, including securing the future of the MIT Center for Art, Science & Technology beyond 2020, engaging in long-range planning for the List Visual Arts Center that builds upon the achievement

and international recognition garnered by the Venice Biennale, and raising funds for the MIT Museum's move to Kendall Square, as well as working with Resource Development and the dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences to secure funding for a new Music and Theater Arts facility. If we are successful, we will emerge from the MIT capital campaign with endowed directorships, curatorial positions, exhibition funds, and publication programs, which will provide a solid foundation for future operations.

Personnel

After 20 years of service for the Council of the Arts at MIT and a total of 29 years at MIT, Director Susan Cohen stepped down in March 2016. Other changes in arts staff are listed in the Arts Initiatives, List Visual Arts Center, and the MIT Museum sections of the report.

International

Accomplishments

The International Advisory Committee, co-chaired by Associate Provost Khoury and Associate Provost Lester, continued to review proposals for new and existing international programs across the five schools. The committee continues to revise and update the IAC's 2009 [report](#), Guiding Strategies for MIT's International Activities, especially in light of MITx and its global potential.

The MIT-Singapore University of Technology and Design (MIT-SUTD) collaboration is one of the largest and most complex university capacity-building endeavors in MIT's history. It has made excellent progress in the area of curriculum development and has also contributed to the MIT-SUTD efforts to recruit its first faculty members. The International Design Center, which constitutes the research arm of the collaboration, continues to gain momentum. Discussions continue between MIT and the Ministry of Education in Singapore about an SUTD renewal and extension beyond 2017.

Future Goals

- To continue to assist in efforts to strengthen MIT's relationship with the Singapore University of Technology and Design.
- To work with the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science to develop a new set of collaborations in the wake of the dissolution, after 10 years, of the Kuwait-MIT Center for Natural Resources and the Environment.
- To continue to monitor, through the International Advisory Committee, all major international research and education programs, especially those in Singapore, Abu Dhabi, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Portugal, Spain, Russia, India, and China.

Philip S. Khoury
Associate Provost