

## 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. 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 co-chairs the International Advisory Committee. He serves with the provost and dean of Engineering on the Collaboration Governance Board of the MIT-Singapore University of Technology and Design (MIT-SUTD) Collaboration Office. He chairs the Compton Lectures advisory committee to the President and the Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar at MIT, which will begin its 32nd year in the fall of 2017.

## The Arts

### Accomplishments

The MIT Center for Art, Science & Technology has received increasing recognition in the last year. An article in the *New York Times* about an innovative virtual reality collaboration between D. Fox Harrell, associate professor of digital media, and Karim Ben Khelifa, visiting artist, observed, "The work grows out of more than half a century of collaborations between the world of art and the worlds of science and technology. . . . M.I.T. has been at the forefront of such cross-pollination, which has taken off at schools around the world in recent years." The center's first book, *Experience: Culture, Cognition and the Common Sense* was published by the MIT Press, and CAST's second major international symposium, *Being Material*, received international press coverage, reached more than 5,000 viewers online, and was attended on campus by an audience of more than 400. The annual performance series, MIT Sounding, in its third year, has put MIT on the map as a center for commissioning, composing, and performing contemporary music. Since its establishment five years ago, CAST has been a catalyst for integrating the arts across campus in teaching, research, and public presentations, providing more than \$1.73 million in funding and production support for more than 116 projects.

The [List Visual Arts Center](#) installed three new public artworks, at the entrance of the renovated economics building (Building E52), in the staircase of the renovated math building (Building 2), and outside the McGovern Institute for Brain Research (Building 46). It continues to build the public art collection, one of the most important on a university campus in the United States, which will be greatly enhanced by future development in Kendall Square. In addition, the List presented nine exhibitions in the galleries and published three exhibition catalogues, to great critical acclaim.

The [MIT Museum](#), while focused on its future relocation to Main Street to become a cornerstone of the new eastern gateway to the campus, continued to expand visitation in its current location at 265 Massachusetts Avenue, seeing a 15% increase in attendance in the last year, to 147,950. The Cambridge Science Festival, now in its 11th year, attracted 100,000 visitors to 225 events led by more than 1,000 presenters in science and technology. The Museum is a leader in this domain, both nationally, through the Science Festival Alliance of more than 45 members nationwide, and internationally, through a five-year collaboration with Nord Anglia Education and its network of schools worldwide.

## Finances and Funding

Fundraising activity in the arts continues to be strong, with more than \$2.3 million in gifts across the sector in AY2017.

Donations totaling \$259,000 from the 2016 Eugene McDermott Award in the Arts gala, the most successful to date, were distributed to various arts programs on campus. Notable gifts from this event were made to the renovation of the Wiesner Student Art Gallery in the Student Center, student theater productions, and to student arts entrepreneurship activities, which is capped by the annual \$15,000 Creative Arts Competition. A new gift of \$100,000 from Philip and Barbara Bobko will help support the student ticket program at the Boston Symphony Orchestra, which has been funded for many years by the Council for the Arts at MIT. Overall, the council distributes more than \$378,200 in grants or support for arts units and programs annually. Although the council has not met its fundraising goals in the past two fiscal years, a healthy reserve has allowed it to continue support at its customary levels, and a renewed emphasis on recruitment promises to sustain its contributions in future.

An alumnus provided support of the Center for Art, Science & Technology's concert series, *MIT Sounding*, with gifts totaling \$41,800. Ronald Kurtz '54, '59, SM '60 continues his generosity to the arts, making another gift of \$100,000 to be used at the discretion of the associate provost.

The List Visual Arts Center raised \$583,000 in gifts, in part through the success of a new Director's Circle program, now in its second year.

The Museum's Patrons Program received gifts from 19 donors. New gifts such as \$500,000 from Tim Rutter as well as another \$100,000 gift from an anonymous donor to support the Herreshoff Legacy Project at the MIT Museum, have made an immense impact on exhibition planning. In addition, \$50,000 was secured from the Ramón Areces Foundation for the upcoming Beautiful Brain exhibition at the MIT Museum in May 2018.

## Future Goals

The overarching goals for the arts sector include securing the future of the MIT Center for Art, Science & Technology, raising funds for the MIT Museum's move to Kendall Square, and enabling the List Visual Arts Center's growth by endowing the directorship, curatorships, and exhibition program. We would also like to strengthen the Council

for the Arts at MIT by recruiting the next generation of philanthropists for the arts at MIT. The arts have achieved remarkable growth and visibility on campus and beyond in recent years, in the associate provost's sector as well as in the units with which we partner on a regular basis in the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences and the School of Architecture and Planning; future plans for arts facilities and greater synergy in programming will only enhance this momentum.

### **Personnel**

MIT appointed a new director for the Council for the Arts at MIT, Rachel Bennett, who was previously at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston. Other changes in arts staff are listed in the Arts Initiatives, List Visual Arts Center, and the MIT Museum sections of the report.

### **International**

The International Advisory Committee, co-chaired by the Khoury and Lester, continued to review proposals for new and existing international programs across the five schools.

The 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 collaboration will come to an end in the coming year. The International Design Center, which constitutes the research arm of the collaboration, will continue until 2020.

Our future goal is 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**