When the Council was established in 1973, the objectives were to create a self-supporting organization which would actively promote student participation in the arts, enhance the visual environment, and plan for better cultural facilities. Over the past year, we have been most successful in fulfilling each of these objectives. The Arts and Media Technology center, initiated and supported in large part by the Council, is nearing completion. The Permanent Collection Committee has vigorously assisted the Institute with its collection of public works of art and art loaned to students. This advisory body has been so effective that it will serve as a prototype for Council liaison committees with faculty in architecture and the performing arts. Our grants program, through increased publicity, technical assistance, and an expanded budget, substantially raised the level of student participation in arts activities. And this year, for the first time in Council history, 100 percent of our budget was contributed by Council members and friends.

To continue to meet these objectives as the needs and opportunities of members of the MIT community change, the Council has to adapt its programs, services, and membership. Accordingly, we substantially changed the Council membership so that the full range of arts disciplines at the Institute are represented. Our membership now provides the leadership and imagination to encourage new directions in all aspects of MIT art activities. We also undertook a major evaluation of the grants program and a study of Council-generated support of the arts. Finally, we are studying ways of strengthening the performing arts, of increasing the exposure of MIT arts programs to a broader audience, and of developing criteria by which improvements in the arts can be evaluated.

**ARTS PROGRAMMING**

The Grants Committee, under the chairmanship of Lewis Cabot, reviewed 67 proposals and awarded 45 grants. Over $50,000 was allocated in grants to individuals and organizations associated with the Institute. These grants were matched by $28,000 of cash support and an estimated $44,000 of in-kind contributions. A record number of awards went to students and student organizations -- a trend that we hope will continue in the future.

One of the most successful projects was an outdoor dance event choreographed and produced by staff members Renee Caso, Laura Knott, and Lynn Modell. Another grant to the Chorallaries, an MIT singing group, assisted with their tour to high schools throughout California. Support for John Stautner, Research Associate at the Experimental Music Studio, has enabled him to collaborate with Korean pianist Kun Woo Paik, to create a computer-modified ambience for a performance of Scriabin piano works.

A grant to the Class of 1983 established an exhibition fund to renovate the East Lounge of the Student Center for use as a gallery and arts information area. The students are naming it the Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Gallery. Support to the MIT Symphony Orchestra for their Carnegie Hall performance this April was greatly enhanced by the publicity provided by Council members. Funds also enabled the Shakespeare Ensemble to sponsor workshops with local theatre professionals, and the Film/Video Section to undertake a variety of collaborative film projects. Five grants enabled visiting artists to present their work and/or to be in residence at MIT, including writers, dance companies, and musicians. Two commissions were awarded: one for a new work for solo viola, to be performed by Professor Marcus Thompson, and the other for a new piece by Visiting Professor James Dashow.

During its ten years of operation, the grants program has expended over $370,000 to support 269 projects, generating an additional $432,500 in matching gifts.

A growing program of technical assistance has been well-received by the MIT community. Our staff is called upon daily to assist with proposal writing and the preparation of budgets. Students, staff, and faculty regularly refer to information and publications regarding funding opportunities in our research library. To better acquaint the community with our staff services and programs, we scheduled our first Open House at the Council offices in September.

For the third consecutive year, Council efforts and support ensured continued Institute participation in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts' group membership program. All MIT students were thereby entitled to free admission and other Museum privileges. The number of MIT student visits recorded by the Museum this year increased from approximately 9,500 to over 13,500. A new program of membership cards for faculty, staff, and associates was begun. Cards can be checked out of the Humanities Library for three days at a time.

To introduce MIT community members to the Museum, Stacia Zabusky, administrative assistant, helped organize an evening of events and tours at the Museum in April. "The Event" was coordinated with four other colleges and universities in the Boston area, and attracted over 300 members of the MIT community.
As a way of increasing the exposure of the arts at MIT, the Council continued its popular series of "salons." These occasions feature MIT artists who present or discuss new works. Twenty to forty guests assemble for an informal program followed by dinner. Because of the enthusiasm generated by our last salon, held in Dedham, Massachusetts, and hosted by Council member Bradford Endicott, we began this year with a salon in Boston at the home of Council member Frances Fahnestock. Guests shared the evening with MIT composers John Harbison and Barry Vercoe. Following dinner there was a concert of their work at MIT's Kresge Theatre. In New York City, our hosts for an evening with playwright Albert R. Gurney, Jr., were Council member John Kunstadter and his wife, Geraldine. Discussion focused on Professor Gurney's Off-Broadway production, The Dining Room.

The Permanent Collection Committee (formerly the Acquisitions Committee), under the chairmanship of Ida Rubin, serves as an advisory body for the Institute's Committee on the Visual Arts. Two meetings were held to assess current needs for the Permanent Collection and to outline long-range plans for acquisitions. The most concrete result of these meetings was a gift of a Jennifer Bartlett painting by Council member Vera List.

A major endowment, the William L. Abramowitz Lecture/Concert Fund, was transferred to the Council after having been administered for 22 years by the Humanities Department. The $150,000 Fund was established by William L. Abramowitz '36 as a memorial to his father. The Council will now be responsible for continuing the tradition of bringing an established performing arts group or an artistic event of significance to MIT.

A growing number of endowed awards serve to recognize and celebrate art, artists, and art activities at MIT. The McDermott Award was presented this year to Council Secretary and Elizabethan scholar Roy Lamson, for major contributions to the arts at MIT. The Laya and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Awards, established by Council members in 1979, are given annually to individuals and organizations which have contributed significantly to the MIT community through the arts. Dr. Wiesner presented the awards this May to graduate student Barbara Hushey, concertmistress of the MIT Symphony Orchestra, for service to the performing arts, and to Peter Cerrato and Howard Kolodny, Class of 1983, for their poetry. The Gyorgy Kepes Fellowship Prize was established this year by Council member Angus MacDonald, with assistance from Margaret McDermott and Institute Professor Walter Rosenblith. In honor of artist and Institute Professor Gyorgy Kepes, the Fellowship will be awarded annually to an individual at the graduate or post-graduate level who has demonstrated a concern for human values as reflected in the relationship between art and the environment.

Jerome B. Wiesner, Chairman of the Council, and William L. Porter, Special Assistant to the President for the Arts, welcomed members of the Council and invited guests to the Eleventh Annual Meeting in Cambridge on November 12, 1982. The highlight of the morning session was an address by Robert Brustein, Artistic Director of the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge and Professor of English at Harvard. He spoke to an audience of Council members, faculty, administrators, and students about the need for professional theatre within an educational context. As he put it, "without the performing arts no university can be complete." The morning session also included an announcement by Council member Angus MacDonald of an endowed Fellowship Prize in honor of artist Gyorgy Kepes.

John de Monchaux, Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning, and Council member I.M. Pei gave a program and construction report on the Arts and Media Technology center. By consolidating existing arts and media activities, and providing access to research and teaching in modern information technologies, the center will create new opportunities for the production, presentation, and dissemination of art. When the center opens in the fall of 1984, it will include extensive gallery, screening, and presentation areas. Academic programs included are experimental music, holography, computer graphics, computer animation, experimental print media, film, video, computers-in-education, and computational video, among others. The Council offices will also be re-located in the new center.

Luncheon concerts were followed by a selection of afternoon workshops in studios and laboratories throughout the Institute. At dinner ceremonies, Dr. Wiesner presented the McDermott Award to Professor Emeritus Roy Lamson. The meeting ended with remarks by President Gray. He urged the Council to consider two goals for our next decade: "First, to see to completion the Arts and Media Technology facility, both in terms of achieving administrative and intellectual clarity in its program, and in completing the funding for the building, and second, to reassert your interest in the full spectrum of the arts at MIT."

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Committee, under the chairmanship of Nelson Lees, met regularly to review proposals for Council membership. Barbara Allen, assistant director, arranged visits for prospective members with faculty and students at MIT. The Committee made every effort to identify new members who demonstrate scholarship, creativity, or distinguished service in the performing arts, the media arts, and the design arts. Through the success of these efforts, the membership is now more varied in its constituency and more congruent with the needs of the Institute. A greater number of members were enlisted this year than at any other time except the first years of Council formation. Twelve new members began three-year terms.
in July 1982; seven were announced this year. They are: Annette Berger, NYC; Robert Greenes ’42, NYC; Graham Gund, Cambridge; Ragnar Naess ’25, NYC; Walter Netsch ’43, Chicago; William Porter G’69, Concord, MA; and Frances Whitney, NYC.

Invitations for membership terms beginning July 1983 were accepted by Norma Asnes, NYC; Mary Ann Beinecke, Williamstown, MA; Dr. Jerome Grossman ’61, Boston; Marilyn Hoffman, Washington, D.C.; and Ronald Kurtz ’54, Englewood, NJ.

With Council membership restricted to 100, we cannot invite new members to serve the Institute without also asking some members to continue their service and association with the Council in a less formal manner. A growing group of Council 'alumni' is active in its support of MIT arts activities. Twelve members concluded their service as Council members in June 1983: Sarah Caldwell, Walter Campbell ’26, George Henning ’33, Frederick Lehmann ’51, Katie Louchheim, Dorothy Rautbord, Jean Riboud, Samuel Sachs II, Archer Shapiro ’30, Sue Thurman, Harry Weese ’36, and Dorothy Wilson. Three other members, Anna Bing Arnold, Betty Johnson, and Agnes Gund Saalfield, resigned after years of dedicated and active membership. We look forward to continued interaction with each of these former members.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

The staff initiated the first comprehensive evaluation of our ten-year-old grants program. Without the assistance of our intern, Betsy Burr, this undertaking would not have been possible. Betsy developed a questionnaire which was mailed to each of the 119 grant recipients. The final response rate was 72 percent. Members of the Grants Committee met with Betsy to review the data and to discuss possible changes in application procedures, review criteria, publicity, program guidelines, and policy. The final report, presented to the Executive Committee, listed recommendations and outlined priorities based on current resources and staff time. As a result, the staff has already begun new program guidelines which are planned to encourage greater student participation in the grants program and to facilitate the review process.

Another project attempted to measure how active Council members have been in their contributions to arts programs at the Institute, in addition to their support of the Council. The results of this study were quite impressive. For every dollar contributed to the Council’s operating budget by a Council member, another thirteen dollars, on average, is generated for arts programs at the Institute by Council members and through the efforts of Council members. These figures are based on the past four years and do not include estimates for gifts of works of art. Another parallel study will be initiated this year to assess those qualitative contributions to the artistic and educational life at MIT that are attributable to Council efforts.

A third research project, undertaken by Roy Lamson, is scheduled for completion next year. This comprehensive history of the Council’s first decade will provide valuable information for our Council members and for our future planning efforts.

Council staff and members completed four publications this year. A new descriptive brochure, printed last summer, outlines the current Council operating structure, our services, and our programs. A third issue of MIT Arts in the News compiled press clippings reviewing MIT arts events and artists. Clippings ranged from the New York Times to the Christian Science Monitor, and from the San Francisco Chronicle to the British Journal of Photography. The staff also prepared a special printing of Robert Brustein’s McDermott Award Lecture, “The Humanist and the Artist.” A chronology of Council dates and events was compiled by Council Secretary Roy Lamson.

DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS

I wrote in this space one year ago that my first task as director would be to ensure sound financial footing for Council operations. Through reductions in personnel, new fund-raising strategies, and increased participation by Council members, we were able, for the first time, to raise 100 percent of our budget from Council members and friends, and to do so by the end of our fiscal year on June 30. Thus, we no longer require financial support from the Institute. This major breakthrough in Council financing would not have been possible without the dedication and perseverance of Gregory Smith, chairman of the Development Committee, who worked daily with Barbara Allen, assistant director. This year, 65 Council members provided direct support to the Council’s operations, with an average gift of $2,250. This support was supplemented by gifts from 39 friends of the Council at an average of $1,150.

While important, the Council’s operating budget is only one aspect of its development efforts. Members also contribute substantially to other arts projects and activities throughout the Institute. Over the past five years, Council members have contributed or assisted in raising almost $7.5 million in gifts and pledges for this $26 million Arts and Media Technology center. The Facilities Sponsoring Committee, under the chairmanship of Vernon Alden, has played a major role in raising these funds. Council members have also donated or loaned numerous works of art to the MIT Permanent Collection and the two Student Loan
collections. This year, these works included a portfolio of ten photographs by Barbara Morgan, donated by Ruth Bowman, and a selection of contemporary works on paper, donated or loaned by Lewis Cabot, Vera List, and Roger Sonnabend.

The staff also encourages direct sponsorship of arts activities by Council members. Among these gifts this year were an increase in music scholarship support by Ragnar Naess and a pledge by Solomon Manber to support the MIT student membership in Boston's Museum of Fine Arts for the calendar year 1984. Staff members have also increased their efforts to assist faculty and student organizations in raising funds from outside sources, including government agencies, foundations, and corporations.

PERSONNEL

Following the resignation of Elizabeth Scott, whose good humor and fund-raising talent contributed significantly to the Council, Barbara Allen was appointed assistant director. Barbara comes to the Council with extensive background in arts administration and the performing arts. Julian Low, a jazz guitarist, became the Council's new secretary. An intern from Wellesley College, Betsy Burr, worked with us for five months; we wish it could have been longer. Elizabeth Fox, a graduate of Colorado College, began research work as an intern to assist the Council's development program.

DEBORAH A. HOOVER