

Vice President and Secretary of the Corporation

One of the Institute's four corporate officers, the Vice President 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 has management responsibilities for Government and Community Relations, the Events and Information Center, the Conference Services Office, the News Office, and Communication Production Services. Responsibilities include providing direct support to the President on communications and relations with internal constituencies; coordinating activities and communication among senior staff; and advising the President on policy issues. 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.

Since its founding over 150 years ago, the great experiment of MIT has been stewarded by a series of visionary leaders. This year marked a significant moment in our leadership history as Susan Hockfield, MIT's 16th president, announced that after seven years of exceptional service she would step down. Her work was celebrated throughout the Institute with events across campus and a gala event in June. A Presidential Search Committee conducted an in-depth search following the announcement of her departure and named Provost L. Rafael Reif as the 17th President of MIT. While these important historical changes were taking place within the Institute, the world was also taking note as MIT announced major advancements in online education with the launch of MITx in the fall and edX in the spring. MITx is a means for delivering the Institute's course content online and edX is a platform created by MIT and its founding partner Harvard University for delivering online courses to learners around the world.

There were also several transformations at the deeper levels of the Office of Institute Affairs and Office of the Corporation this year. Among these changes, the Institute's promotion and tenure cases were transitioned to an electronic delivery system and the Publishing Services Bureau (PSB) was transformed into Communications Production Services (CPS) in response to the Institute's evolving communications needs and abilities. CPS brings together PSB, Copy Technology Centers (CopyTech) and the Institute's reference publications efforts to provide valuable support and content to the entire Institute community. As part of this effort, the Office of Institute Affairs welcomed Danyel Barnard as Senior Communications Specialist and leader of the new CPS entity.

What follows is a report of the work of the Office of the Vice President and the Office of the Secretary of the Corporation.

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Vice President and Secretary of the Corporation