

MISTI MIT-Israel Program

Annual Report 2010-2011

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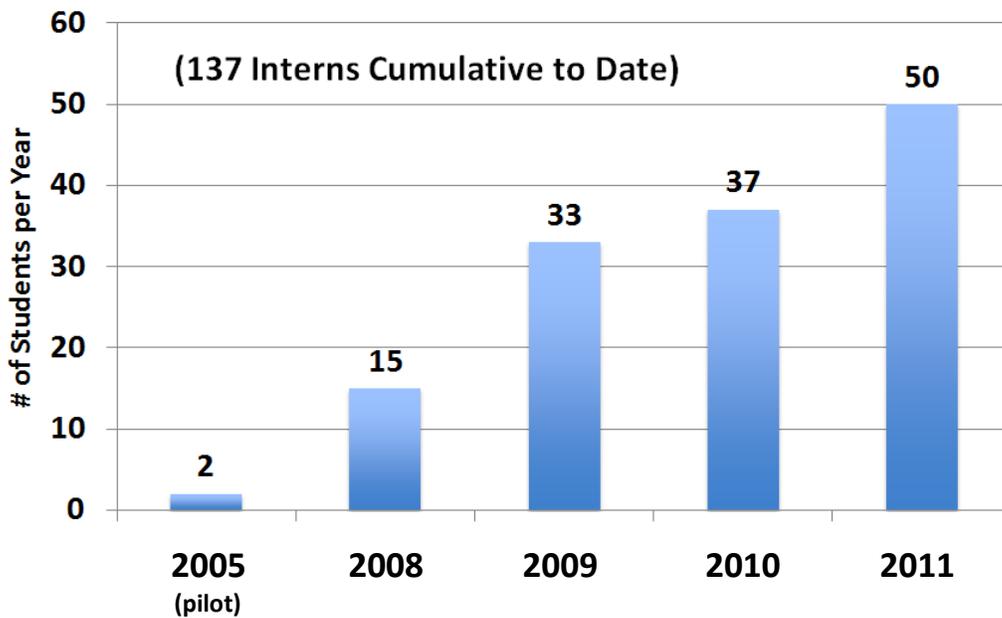
I. Overview

“By preparing our students to work, lead, and thrive in cultures around the globe, we equip them with crucial skills for tackling the world’s greatest challenges.”

**-Susan Hockfield
President, MIT**

From its inception in 2007, we at the MISTI MIT-Israel program have striven to effectively recruit, select, and place outstanding students in unique internship opportunities in Israel. As our fourth year draws to a close, it is our pleasure to present the 2011 annual report in order to provide information regarding our past and future activities. 2010-2011 marked significant strides in the program’s growth and development. This past year the number of students participating grew to 50, the largest cohort the program has sent overseas, for a total of 137 students since the pilot year of 2005. This outstanding group of MIT students hails from all over the United States, as well as 14 different countries. Participants were drawn from 16 academic departments, and a broad range of academic levels ranging from freshmen to PhD candidates.

MISTI MIT-Israel Student Interns by Year¹



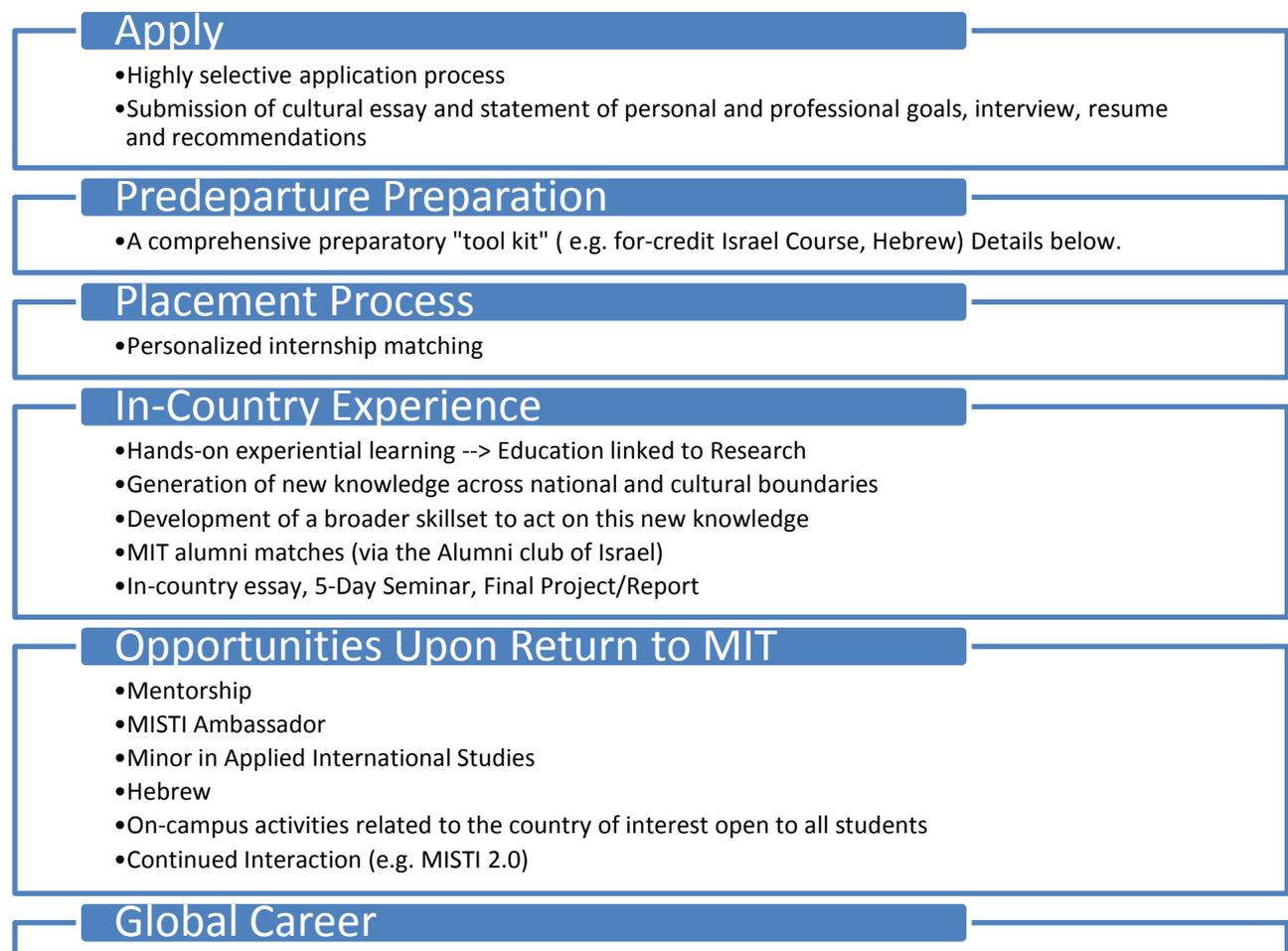
The MISTI MIT-Israel program is part of the MISTI organization (MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives, <http://web.mit.edu/misti/index/html>). To date, MISTI has sent over 4100 MIT students abroad, and awarded 183 grants to MIT faculty via MISTI Global Seed Funds. In addition to MISTI MIT-Israel, MISTI is comprises eleven other programs (Chile, China, Japan, India, Germany, Italy, France, Spain, Mexico, MISTI MIT-MEET and Brazil). The MISTI organization is 27 years old and follows in

the rich and historical tradition of “Mens et Manus” (“Mind and Hand”); that is, real-world engagement through the pairing of ideas, innovation, and research with action, practical applications, and testing². In order to fulfill the mission of the Institute, address the greatest problems of the 21st century, and adapt to an increasingly globalized marketplace, this concept needs to be applied and expanded globally. “Mens et Manus et Mundus,” Mind and Hand and World, represents an institution-wide drive to enable students to serve, succeed and lead in the global environment³.

The goal of MISTI is to internationalize MIT education and research by preparing students for leadership in careers that go beyond national boundaries and, furthermore, to serve as a national benchmark for international education through its unique programmatic structure. More specifically, MISTI aims to educate the next generation of “globally –cognizant” engineers and scientists.

The MISTI Model

MISTI MIT-Israel employs a unique programmatic infrastructure to deepen international learning at MIT, and to accomplish its ambitious learning objectives.



Benefits of the MISTI Model

During MISTI internships, students gain an appreciation of their discipline in a broader cultural and socioeconomic context without sacrificing academic rigor. A broad cross-section of MIT students is able to build a meaningful understanding of different regions of the world and construct deep local relationships which constitute a basis for lifelong interaction. Before departure students are provided with a series of skills which facilitate intercultural awareness and teambuilding across national borders. Hands-on experiential learning, problem-solving, exposure to difference pedagogies, curricula, styles of research, educational systems, etc. are crucial features of the MISTI experience. In addition, MISTI programs initiate and strengthen international collaborations and connect MIT with international centers of innovation, by employing students as global, intellectual and cultural bridges. Here students may be provided with opportunities to aid in the development of technologies that address the most important problems facing the world, such as energy, health, clean water, infrastructure, etc. MISTI also provides concurrent activities on the MIT campus related to the country of interest to enable exposure to the broader student population and to further develop a local community in the country of interest.

Why Israel?

Israel is a global leader and center of innovation and entrepreneurship. Israel spends more on civilian research and development than any other country⁴, and also has one of the most educated populations in the world (including the highest density of engineers and scientists)⁵, despite limited local resources and a very challenging political environment. Israel also has the greatest number of patents per capita in the world⁶, has the highest concentration of high-tech startups after Silicon Valley⁷, and is ranked 2nd for the most companies on NASDAQ after the US⁸. Israel's Universities are ranked among the top in the world and provide MIT students with technical experiences on par with those available on campus. Israel is unique in that it also can provide students with a rich and deep cultural experience through its long history. MIT has many connections to Israel via the several hundred MIT alumni in Israel⁹, over one hundred Israeli graduate students on campus, and the many research collaborations between MIT and Israeli scientists.

This year, Israel has been ranked as **14th in the Global Innovation Index (GII)**. The country's dedication to innovation and a progressive climate is demonstrated by this significant jump in rankings from last year's 23¹⁰.



The International Institute for Management and Development ranked Israel **17th globally** in its **World Competitiveness yearbook of 2010**. In this same publication, Israel ranked 1st in resilience of the economy and R&D expenditure (as % of GDP and skilled labor)¹².

II. Internships

In AY 2010-2011, **50 MIT students** participated in the MISTI-MIT Israel Program. Participation increased by over 40% from AY 2009-2010. Students were selected from **16 academic departments** (i.e. Aeronautics and Astronautics, Architecture, Biological Engineering, Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Chemical Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Economics, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, History, Materials Science and Engineering, Mathematics, Mechanical Engineering, Physics, Political Science and Urban Studies and Planning) and from a **variety of academic levels** (10 Freshmen, 10 Sophomores, 11 Juniors, 5 Seniors, 5 B.S. graduates, 5 M.S. Candidates, 2 M.S. graduates, and 2 PhD Candidates). 11 students carried out **cleantech or energy related internships**. Student profiles and projects are provided in detail in Section III.



MISTI MIT-Israel Class of 2011 (July 2011), Rabin Center, Tel Aviv, during 5 day Israel Seminar



Nathan Monroe, Bar Ilan University



Chika Ugboh, Technion



Bin Li, Israel Antiquities Authority/
International Conservation Center, Akko



Ofir Nachum, Ben Gurion University

MISTI MIT-Israel Alumna Co-Authors a Submitted Manuscript



MISTI MIT-Israel alumna Melissa Gymrek did an internship at the Schuldiner lab at the Weizmann Institute of Science in the summer of 2010.

Upon her return to MIT she continued her research in the lab of Dr. Yaniv Erlich, Whitehead Institute. She returned to Israel during IAP through the MISTI 2.0 program and has a paper which was submitted and is currently under review in a peer-reviewed journal.

Below is the abstract of this article:

Systematic measurement of protein dynamics in yeast reveals novel stress response arsenal.

Michal Breker¹, Melissa Gymrek² & Maya Schuldiner¹

Using the commercially available yeast GFP library (8) we have used our platform to look at protein dynamics under three different conditions (DTT, H₂O₂, Nitrogen starvation). We find that a plethora of post-transcriptional changes occur under each condition including changes in abundance and localization for hundreds of proteins. We show that such post-transcriptional changes can have a role in promoting the ability of yeast to survive in stressful environments.

Future Internship Deliverables

Many of the interns from this year's cohort also report foreseeable concrete deliverables. As self-reported in surveys and trip reports, students discuss the following outcomes:

- "I will be giving a presentation to the CEO of the factory. Additionally, I hope to eventually see photographs of my system once it is built!" – Jasmine Florentine
- "I hope to produce a few papers while I'm here. While these papers will mostly be for internal review, I hope to have at least one published in the group's quarterly publications." – Timothy McKinley
- "One paper, with my name included, is being refereed by a journal, Energy Policy, and I'm working hard to finish another draft paper to leave with the professor." – Samuel Bader
- "I will be one of the co-authors of the paper that my graduate student will publish." – Kevin Wong
- "My supervisor will no doubt continue the project and hopefully develop it into a patent." – Mary Wang
- "I've already had a conference presentation; I am producing a paper although primarily for internal use, and have received a job interview." – David Reens

MISTI Global Seed Funds

MISTI Global Seed Funds helps MIT faculty and researchers launch early-stage international projects and collaboration. Applicants are encouraged to involve MIT undergraduate and graduate students in their projects. This past year, MISTI Global Seed Funds awarded over \$900K to 46 projects between MIT faculty and international colleagues, and most of those projects involve one or more graduate students. We are proud to announce that Prof. Eran Ben-Joseph from MIT and Prof. Tali Hatuka from Tel Aviv University were awarded a MISTI Global Seed Fund grant. They will be running a collaborative research and teaching program with students from MIT and Tel Aviv University on "Prototypical Sustainable Residential Communities." We are currently raising funds to set up a MISTI MIT-Israel Seed Fund with the aim of funding 8-10 projects each year.



III. Student Profiles



Melanie Adams, Sophomore, Materials Science and Engineering
Host: Professor David Yitzchak, Ben Gurion University
Project: Characterization of metallic materials by electrochemical methods
"I don't think there was any way to not enjoy the time we had in Israel. It was a great way to connect with other MIT students and be immersed in a different culture and interact with locals."



Leah Alpert, Sophomore, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Host: Google
Project: Implementing and evaluating one feature for a new Google product called Google Related
"This internship has helped me realize what parts of computer science I'm interested in, and will help me choose classes at MIT that align with my interests."



Samuel Bader, Freshman, Physics
Host: Professor Faiman, Ben Gurion University
Project: Modeling the output of solar plants to determine how well they can be matched to the Israeli Grid
"I'll keep in touch with my professor here. He's been a great boss, supervisor, and friend."



Joshua Blum, Freshman, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Host: Professor Sher, Ben Gurion University
Project: Micro-pneumatic engine research, focusing in the theoretical limits of scaling down internal combustion engines
"The mixing of travel and work experiences made this internship a huge success. I was able to learn a lot about a new culture, the characteristics, conflicts, and daily life and that is irreplaceable."

Dana Braff, Junior, Biological Engineering

Host: Professor Shomron, Tel-Aviv University

Project: Analysis of deep sequencing data for the elucidation of human pathogen infection.

"I learned the application of new bioinformatics tools and am now confident in my decision to study computational biology in graduate school."



Dorota Chapko, Junior, Brain and Cognitive Sciences

Host: Prof. Hochberg, Dr. Tiosano, Dr. Crispel, Rambam Hospital, Haifa

Project: Trans-generational impacts of weaning age in rats, and ethical issues behind application of exome sequencing in medical practice.

"The internship gave me an opportunity to combine my interdisciplinary interests in medical sciences and anthropology, which will hopefully impact positively my future career as a doctor."



Caroline DeBoer, Senior, Brain and Cognitive Sciences

Host: Professor Kofman, Ben Gurion University

Project: Project Long term effects of developmental exposure to chlorpyrifos on fear conditioning and social behavior.

"Working in Israel this summer was a life-changing experience for me. Not only did I participate in valuable scientific research in a neuroscience lab, but I met many new people and became more socially-aware and culturally sensitive as a result."



Igor Demchenko, PhD Candidate, History

Host: Israel Antiquities Authority/ International Conservation Center, Akko

Project: Document a part of the city's fortification system to prepare an account of its history, construction techniques, and ways of reuse.

"Working at the Conservation Center gave me a unique insight on the politics and practices of heritage preservation in the state of Israel. I developed useful skills in preparing documentation files for the conservation of architectural monuments."

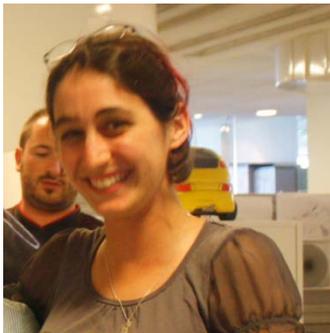


Jessica Fain, Masters Candidate, Urban Studies and Planning

Host: Professor Hatuka, Tel Aviv University

Project: Urban + Design Research for Better Cities

“In the face of contemporary challenges to our society, our economy, our environment, and our everyday lives, it is key for urban renewal planners to find solutions for the complex problems and opportunities related to the unprecedented growth of cities.”



Jasmine Florentine, Senior, Mechanical Engineering

Host: Keter Plastics

Project: Automation system for packaging small parts to reduce the number of workers required to produce a product, reduce the mistakes made by workers, and make the line more consistent.

“Working abroad is an eye opening experience. Being in Israel has allowed me to think about a different way of life, and has helped me personally grow in a way that I would not working in the US.”



Noa Ghersin, Freshman, Brain and Cognitive Sciences

Host: Dr. Lessick, Rambam Hospital, Haifa

Project: Mapping the 3D structure of the mitral valve annulus and the circumflex artery in the heart

“MISTI provides a great opportunity to explore one’s interests through a ‘hands on’ experience in new surroundings.”



James Griffin, Junior, Chemical Engineering

Host: Professor Zitoun, Bar-Ilan University

Project: Silicon nanomaterials as anode for Li-ion batteries



Elise Hens, Junior, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Host: Professor Oren, Bar-Ilan University

Project: Determine the sustainability of different companies.

“MISTI has actually changed my life. From dealing with homesickness to how to translate Hebrew webpages, coming to Israel forced me out of my comfort zone and allowed me to grow as a person. There were a lot of things that were tough about this summer, but all of it has helped me to become a more competent and confident person.”



Emily Hupf, Freshman, Mechanical Engineering

Host: Professor Krasik, Technion

Project: Diagnostics of nanosecond discharge in pressurized gas initiated by runaway electrons emission.

“MISTI Israel gave me the invaluable opportunity to experience a new culture while simultaneously gaining essential knowledge in the field in which I wish to pursue a career.”



Zheng Jia, Masters Candidate, City Design and Development

Host: Israel Antiquities Authority/ International Conservation Center, Akko

Project: Documentation report of a historic site, with historic, architectural and urban documentation as well as evaluations and recommendations.

“The internship with IAA is one of the most amazing experiences I had. I think it is very unique and valuable.”



Bat-ami Katzman, Sophomore, Chemical Engineering

Host: Professor Peer, Tel Aviv University

Project: Understanding the interaction of targeted nanoparticles with subsets of leukocytes

“I wanted a chance to go work in another country, which MISTI could not be set up better to do.”



Molly Kozminsky, Junior. Chemical Engineering

Host: Teva Pharmaceuticals

Project: Process development, parameterization, optimization and scale up of synthetic API substances

“MISTI Israel gave me the opportunity to explore an entire country and learn about the unique culture, history, and people.”



Kathleen Kraines, Sophomore, Mechanical Engineering

Host: Keter Plastics

Project: Manufacturing process for outdoor storage units.

“Every student should participate in MISTI (and I highly recommend Israel) because while MIT may be an unparalleled place to learn, the world teaches far more than any institute could hope to.”



Bin Li, Masters Candidate, Architecture

Host: Israel Antiquities Authority/ International Conservation Center, Akko

Project: Conservation of the historic city of Acre.

“The learning from practical conservation and especially material in use will help on further understanding in architecture in my studies at MIT.”



Sophia Li, Recent Graduate (BS), Chemical Engineering

Host: Dr. Segal, Weizmann Institute

Project: Data analysis of a sequencing library.

“Through this internship I developed not only my technical proficiency but become a global citizen.”



Eric Lubell, Senior, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Host: Professor Fish, Ben Gurion University

Project: Ultra Low-Power VLSI Circuits for Security Applications

"I learned a lot about interacting with people from different backgrounds."



Tomer Mangoubi, Freshman, Brain and Cognitive Sciences

Host: Friedman Lab, Ben-Gurion University

Project: Creation of a system for real-time Seizure detection in Epilepsy patients.

"Aside from providing excellent career opportunities, MISTI allowed me to live in Israel for an extended period of time. Living in a country is a very different experience from touring one, and MISTI makes this opportunity easily accessible to MIT students both financially and logistically."



Ting Mao, Sophomore, Economics and Math

Host: Dr. Rigby, Ben Gurion University

Project: Investigate whether traffic enforcement measures improve road traffic safety, and to rank different enforcement measures according to their success in improving traffic safety.

"MISTI MIT-Israel Summer program is a superb cultural and professional experience for MIT students to see the world, through a highly diverse and thriving land."



Patricia Mayer, Freshman, Chemical Engineering

Host: Professor Gedanken, Bar Ilan University

Project: Conversion of glucose to ethanol for energy

"I was so ready to continue my stay here, explore the country, and be exposed to all the different aspects of Israeli culture."



Timothy McKinley, Recent Graduate (BS), Political Science

Host: Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies

Project: Israeli National Security Policy, Middle East Peace Process

"This internship and experience in Israel has brought to life the issues and conflicts that previously I could only attempt to understand through books and lectures."



Ari Miller, Recent Graduate (BS), Mechanical Engineering

Host: Jerusalem Museum of Science

Project: Developing light based exhibit

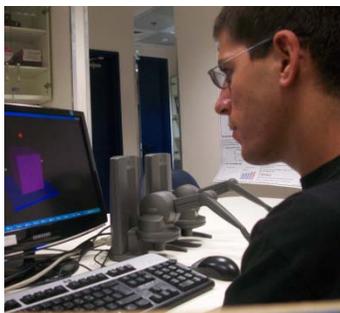


Nathan Monroe, Sophomore, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Host: Professor Tischler Bar-Ilan University

Project: Improving the efficiency of thin-film organic and hybrid solar cells

"MISTI MIT-Israel was a once in a lifetime experience. A summer where I got to do cutting-edge research while also exploring the Middle East was more than I could have asked for. Not many college students can say that!"



Ofir Nachum, Freshman, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Host: Professor Karneil, Ben Gurion University

Project: Using Turing-like tests to understand motor control involved in handshakes.

"During the past 3 months, I not only developed technical skills, enriched my knowledge of computer science, and gained valuable professional contacts; I also experienced a unique culture, a storied history, and some amazing sights. And I think that's the greatest and most valuable aspect of the MISTI MIT-Israel program."

David Reens, Recent Graduate (BS), Mathematics

Host: Netvizio and Afeka

Project: Prototype video object tracking and identification algorithm

"I gained much more work, life, and cultural experience than I had thought possible in Israel. MISTI Israel was an amazing investment of my time."



Mariana Rodriguez, Freshman, Chemical Engineering

Host: Professor Gedanken, Bar Ilan University

Project: Conversion of glucose to ethanol for energy



Ron Rosenberg, Sophomore, Materials Science and Engineering

Host: Professor Kribus, Bar-Ilan University

Project: Measurement of performance of a high-temperature solar absorber encapsulated in vacuum under concentrated radiation from a solar simulator

"I would highly suggest any MIT student to partake in MISTI. My experience with MISTI-Israel was nothing short of transformative. Not only was I able to partake in a great research project, but I was also able to revel in travel and exploration of a new culture."



Maja Rudolph, Sophomore, Mathematics

Host: Professor Rudnik, Tel Aviv University

Project: Explore arithmetic models of quantum systems, testing various conjectures about the energy spectrum and the wave functions and attempting to formulate new ones.

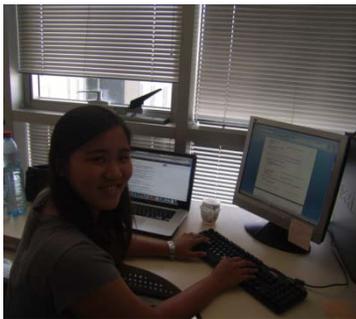


Krista Speroni, Junior, Brain and Cognitive Sciences

Host: Professor Gilboa, Bar Ilan University

Project: 1. running + analyzing data on a project examining endocrine response to ostracism. 2. A set up, running + analysis on an eye-tracking paradigm examining the temporal unfolding of attention to emotional faces by socially anxious and non-socially anxious individuals.

“Overall it was a great environment and I'm very thankful I had the chance to experience things from the other side of the world!”



Patricia A. Suriana, Freshman, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Host: Professor Dolev, Ben Gurion University

Project: Unique Permutation Hashing

“MISTI-Israel is the best program I have ever participated in so far. It is a good way to spend your summer.”



David Thomas, Junior, Mathematics

Host: Professor Holzman, Technion

Project: Mathematics research at the Technion in the field of combinatorics.

“The Technion and MIT have very strong math departments with many key researchers in the field of combinatorics. It was awesome to bridge the geographic gap and make connections.”

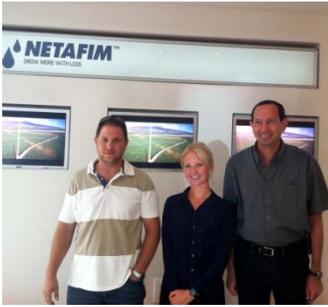


Bethany Tomerlin, Junior, Materials Science and Engineering

Host: Professor Eni-Eli, Technion

Project: Investigating Dye- Sensitized Solar Cells

“This was an incredible opportunity to interact with different people and different cultures and to think about the way the world works.”



Elizabeth Turner, Senior, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Host: Netafim

Project: Business Development



Chika Ugboh, Sophomore, Chemical Engineering

Host: Professor Paz, Technion

Project: Developing and testing bismuth-oxide-based materials, to be used for photocatalysis and photoinduced splitting of water.

"I get the opportunity to do what I do at MIT in a different country and at a place that has as high a standard as MIT, so why NOT MISTI!"



Mary Wang, Junior, Chemical Engineering

Host: Professor Margel, Bar Ilan University

Project: Polymerization of a monomer containing bisphosphonate

"My supervisor was incredible supportive, knowledgeable, and organized. I learned a lot from her about organic chemistry as well as how to conduct general scientific experimentation."



Fulton Wang, MS Candidate, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Host: Professor Shamir, Tel Aviv University

Project: (1) Theoretical analysis of cancer karyotypes (2) Statistical analysis of gene set enrichment algorithms.



Dong Wang, MS Candidate, Urban Studies and Planning

Host: Professor Alterman, Technion

Project: Case study of Israel's public land leasehold system, with focus on evaluation of land rent charges

"I greatly appreciate MISTI's organization and support for my internship in Israel. It has greatly enriched my research experience and made me better prepared for my future professional career."



David Weinberg, PhD Candidate, Political Science

Host: INSS, Tel Aviv University

Project: Building a diplomatic history of US efforts to influence internal Israeli & Palestinian politics

"MISTI MIT-Israel helped me do crucial field research for my Ph.D. dissertation. Thank you for your generous support!"



Kwami Williams, Junior, Aeronautics and Astronautics

Host: Professor Gurfil, Technion

Project: Vision-Based State Estimation of Autonomous Robots

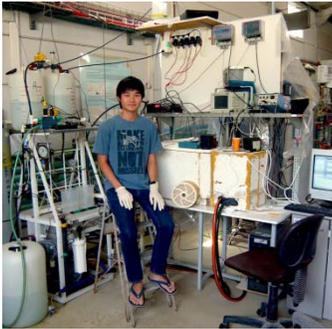
"I am more certain than ever that I would like to pursue engineering as it relates to global development."



Micaela Wiseman, Sophomore, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Host: Professor Bne Yakov, Ben Gurion University

Project: Designing and constructing switched capacitor converts circuit systems



Kevin Wong, Freshman, Chemical-Biological Engineering

Host: Dr. Gilron, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Project: Utilization of ultrasound for early detection of scaling on reverse osmosis membranes

"I learned how to navigate in the workplace, especially in an academic setting. I also learned that creativity and having initiative is greatly appreciated"

Jhanel Chew, Sophomore, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Host: Professor Arnon, Ben Gurion University

Project: The effect of water chemistry on aggregation and settling of TiO₂ nanoparticles



Jakob Forester, Senior, Physics

Host: Dr. Ulanovsky, Weizmann Institute of Science

Project: Writing an algorithm that extracts 3D angles from a 2D image. This algorithm will be used to investigate the existence of head direction cells in bats - if found these would be the first 3D head direction cells in the world.

"I think MISTI is a great framework - there is no way I would have gone to Israel if it was not for the support of the program."



Teresa Kreiger, Junior, Physics

Weizmann Institute of Science

Project: Computational biology research group, investigating the evolution of cancer epigenetics using methods of statistical physics and mathematical models.

"Not only have I learned about computational biology and improved my research skills, but I have also been able to meet fascinating people, see interesting places, learn some Hebrew, and begin to understand a country and a region I had previously been unacquainted with."



Phuree Smittinet, MBA Candidate, Sloan School of Management

Host: Ramot-Tel Aviv University

Project: Technology Commercialization



Jaime Young, MA Candidate, City Planning

Host: Professor Potchter, Tel Aviv University

Project: Climatic planning through urban form of ancient cities in the land of Israel and, climatic adaptation and typology of urban parks in Tel Aviv, considering their impact on urban heat island effect.

“Israel has so much innovation and buzz in energy, business, and entrepreneurial spirit, and I find Israeli culture outgoing and welcoming.”

IV. Host Remarks

The majority of our hosts were very satisfied with the students doing internships. Almost all of them are interested in hosting next year also. Several could not because of scheduling or project issues. Some comments from our hosts:

“We at Netafim found that having an MIT graduate for a summer project is beneficial beyond the project itself which did provide the results we expected. Exposing local employees to young and bright minds from one of the most advanced engineering schools in the world is an asset to be reckoned with.”

Ervin Leibovici, VP, Netafim

“It was a great opportunity for my graduate students to experience working with people from different cultures and languages. It also contributed to the forming of a vibrant, dynamic atmosphere in the group.”

Prof. Yaron Paz, Technion

“Having MISTI MIT-Israel interns at Keter was a great opportunity to meet, learn and promote projects in a different environment.”

Gavin Suss, VP Corporate Keter Group

“A great cooperation. Brought fresh ideas and enthusiasm to all participants. Had great opportunity to expose Israel and Afeka to the student, and to get exposed to a brilliant graduate.”

Eyal Katz, Afeka College/Netvizio

“In the past two summers, MIT students have brought seriousness and enthusiasm to my laboratory.”

Prof. David Zitoun, Bar Ilan University

“Nathan was very well prepared, integrated perfectly in the Bar Ilan culture, and did fantastic research for which we plan to publish at least two papers.”

Prof. Gilbert Daniel Nessim, Bar Ilan University

“Having an MIT student join our team was a tremendous success. Having a fresh mind join our brainstorming discussions assisted our project greatly.”

Prof. Noam Shomron, Tel Aviv University

“It has been an amazing experience having a student from MIT.”

Prof. Dan Peer, Tel Aviv University

“This program is a great opportunity to show Israel and Israeli science to MIT students, and to forge contacts between groups in Israel and at MIT.”

Prof. Ron Shamir Tel Aviv University

“Tomer has improved our software, by giving users the ability to create new classifiers of various characteristics.”

Prof. Alon Friedman, Ben Gurion University

V. Country Specific Preparation

Hebrew.

Based on the strong interest of our prior classes of interns and other MIT community members to learn Hebrew, MIT-Hillel, in collaboration with MISTI, is continuing to run an Ulpan (Hebrew Language Class) with different levels of study and an opportunity to practice speaking Hebrew. It had close to 60 participants. The program is taught by volunteer MIT students, Hillel staff and community members and will continue this coming year. Beginner level classes were taught during IAP as two day courses and from February to May, two hours each week, and two-day spring courses. MISTI MIT-Israel students that did not know any Hebrew were required to do the Ulpan.

“Israel – History, Culture and Identity” Course.

Sixty students took this for-credit MIT course with **Professor Nahum Karlinsky and Mr. Ehud Eiran** (12 credits during the spring semester/ 9 credits during winter IAP). As with all MISTI programs, students need to acquire country-based knowledge in order to prepare themselves for their internship abroad. In addition to MISTI students, additional MIT students also enrolled.

The purpose of this course is to give a basic understanding of modern Israel to MISTI MIT-Israel students and the general MIT student body through lectures, discussions and projects. The course provides insight into modern Israeli politics, culture and identity. Among the topics explored are: the geography of Israel; Israeli political regime, society and economy; the Arab-Israeli conflict; the Holocaust and its impact on Israel, its history and identity; Jewish ethnic relations in Israel; the Palestinian-Arab minority in Israel; is there a unique Israeli culture?; Israel's settlement projects; the struggle for Israel's identity. We also ran an intensive for-credit 8-hour class for Sloan Students on Israel and entrepreneurship.

Training Sessions.

This year we again organized the full suite of our student preparation: for- credit course “Israel – History, Culture and Identity”, Hebrew training and hands-on training sessions and retreat. We were fortunate to have new presenters this year: Shai Bazak, the new Israeli Consul to New England who spoke about Israeli current affairs; Dr. Gavin Suss, VP Corporate Keter Plastic who spoke about the inspiring story of Keter Plastic “from a small manufacturing workshop in old Jaffa to the largest plastics manufacturing company in the world”; Theresa Tobin, Head of Strategic Initiatives, MIT Library, shared with the students the MIT resources that are available to them while they are overseas and practical ways in which they can use them. We also ran the following training sessions: Arab-Jewish Relations in Israel- Challenges, Opportunities and the impact on Israeli Society through multiple lenses, Ofir Abu; Israeli Folk Dancing, Kfir Mizrahi and Meir Sherer; A Road Map to Navigating Israeli Culture; Personal aims of internship; MISTI MIT-Israel alumni - What to expect and how to prepare; Prof. Christine Ortiz, Faculty Director MIT-Israel- Preparing for your Internship and making the most of it; “Tourism in Israel - Hummus And More”- Geography of Israel and things you should do/see in Israel with Eliad Shmuel of Hillel; Peter Krause, Center for International Studies/past MISTI MIT-Israel intern: Traveling in the Region; Meeting with Israeli MIT students and hearing about what Israeli culture means to them.

VI. In-Country Seminar and Events

During the students stay in Israel they took part in several organized activities aimed at deepening their understanding of Israeli society and widening their network:

- An event in July with Israeli MIT alumni (organized by the **MIT Club of Israel** and MISTI MIT-Israel)- “ with **Noam Lanir**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Livermore Investments (formerly Empire Online)
- A five day educational seminar run by **Shdemot – The Center for Leadership at Oranim Academic College of Education**. The aim of the seminar was to introduce students to Israeli politics, society and technology and their impact on Israel and Israeli behavior and give students the understanding of the context and culture of a society and how it impacts the workplace in order to support them in their future global careers. The highlights were: meeting with Daliah Rabin, Chair of the **Yitzhak Rabin Center** and visiting the Center, visiting **Keter Plastic** and hearing about Israeli entrepreneurship; drumming with Shlomo Bar; **Yad Vashem** (Holocaust Museum) and processing how the Holocaust impacted Israeli society and behaviour; session with David Dolev- exploring how to realize their internship goals and overcome obstacles; meeting with members of the Israeli-Palestinian Parents Circle Families Forum. The detailed itinerary is provided below.
- *Peer Matching*. During the students stay in Israel this summer they built on their pre-internship preparation training with an exciting new initiative organized by the MIT Alumni Club of Israel (special thanks to Galya Racine and Dan Grotsky and all the alumni hosts!). The club organized one-on-one matchings for most of the MISTI MIT- Israel students. This helped connect the MIT students to the wider Israeli society and bring together the MIT community. In most matchings, students were hosted in alumni homes and had the opportunity to meet alumni families.

Itinerary of Five Day Educational Seminar in Israel:

Thursday, June 30th

- Visit Emefcy – “Israeli Environmental Innovations” – Tour of laboratories and presentations by Ely Cohen, VP of Marketing, Eytan Levy, Co-founder and CEO of Emefcy and Ronen Shechter, Co-founder and CTO of Emefcy
- Keter Design, Herzliya – “Technology and Design” presentations by Gavin Suss and his Design and Engineering Interns and tour of the design workshop
- Music and drumming workshop with Shlomo Bar at his music studio in Herzliya
- Dinner at Dr. Shakshuka in Jaffa
- MIT Alumni Event at the Tel Aviv Sheraton

Friday, July 1st

- Beach walk and mini-tour of Caesarea National Park, and ancient multi-cultural center in Phoenician, Roman and Byzantine times
- Visit the Israeli Museum at the Yitzhak Rabin Center and meet Dalia Rabin, daughter of the late Yitzhak Rabin and former politician: “Impact of Yitzhak Rabin’s Murder on Israeli Society”
- Travel to Jerusalem
- Presentation and discussion with Ayelet and Tzvika Shahak and their Palestinian partner, Ali Awad, both bereaved families
- Shabbat experience at the Western Wall
- Shabbat dinner

Saturday, July 2nd

- Meeting with David Dolev: personal internship goal and ways to overcome obstacles
- Walking tour of the four quarters of the Old City of Jerusalem
- Panoramic view of Jerusalem from the Haas promenade
- Evening and dinner on Ben Yehuda Street

Sunday, July 3rd

- Guided tour of Yad Vashem, Israel’s National Holocaust Museum
- Meet with Dr. Rachel Korazim to learn about the impact of the Holocaust on Israeli society
- Tiberias Hot springs
- Lecture: “Building Peace through Multicultural Education” with Noha Khatib of Hand in Hand: Center for Jewish-Arab Education

Monday, July 4th

- Travel to the Upper Galilee
- Visit Kibbutz Dafna, the first tower and stockade settlement in the northern Hula Valley. Lecture about “Kibbutz: Then and Now” by Shlomit Zimring, and tour of the kibbutz
- Travel to Kfar Blum for rafting
- Druze lunch and learning about Druze religion and culture
- Closing Activity

VII. Additional In-Country Activities

MIT Hillel/ MISTI MIT-Israel Joint Initiative¹³

MIT Hillel together with MISTI MIT-Israel organized a 4 day June Tech in Israel trip, led by Hillel Program Director Eliad Shmuel, for MIT students in Israel on other programs. The group of eight MIT graduate and undergraduate students had the unique opportunity to see the amazing high-tech and science and technology side of Israel while exploring opportunities for internships and meeting MIT alumni. The trip included visits to MISTI MIT-Israel host companies: Heliofocus, ETV Motors and RAD BioMed startup incubator/accelerator and meeting MIT alumni Kayla Jacobs (06',07'), Chaim Kutnicki (07), Matt Cons (07'), Josue Sznitzman (02'), Shmuel Korb (04'), Jeremy Barkan (81') .



“Over the trip, a group of eight MIT students got a slight glimpse into Israel’s recent technological developments after getting a brief but comprehensive view into Israeli culture, politics, geography, and history. Over this trip we had several meetings with rising and well grounded technology companies, two of which worked in the field of energy.”

-Bezalel Flamholz, incoming MIT freshman

Globes Israeli Business Conference

In Israel, we set up an agreement with the Globes Israeli Business Conference to host MIT staff and faculty at the conference and co-sponsored, with the MIT Alumni Club of Israel, an event at the conference for MIT alumni with: Prof. Eytan Sheshinski '66, Chairman, Advisory Committee to the Israeli Government regarding royalties from natural resources and Hebrew University; Ms. Pat Gercik, Associate Director of the MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI) and Managing Director of the MIT-Japan Program; Mr. Jerome Smith Co-Director, MIT Venture Mentoring Service (VMS).



VIII. Reflection

Both in Israel and upon their return to campus, students were given various opportunities to reflect upon their time spent overseas. Students were asked to submit cultural reflection essays, as well as a comprehensive project report requiring them to reflect and draw upon their diverse experiences. Upon returning from abroad, re-entry sessions were organized in order to facilitate self-reflection, articulation and a deeper understanding of what students encountered and took away from their internships, relationships, and time spent in Israel.

Universally, the students reported international experience as life-changing in terms of the way they view themselves, Israel, MIT, the United States, and the world. The cultural differences they encountered provided insights into their own upbringings, local communities, and educational experiences. The students became more sensitive to communication styles and learned how to more effectively communicate in multinational teams by adjusting their own communication style to accommodate others. Numerous students reported increased self-confidence and the valuable learning experience of navigating new cultural norms and mores. Some reported the need to be more assertive in the workplace in order to overcome cultural and language barriers. Many gained an appreciation for diversity and how it relates to academic excellence, creativity, and innovation. Other students realized the importance of networking, the fact that it was more challenging in a multinational environment, and that new strategies needed to be developed for its most efficient use. A majority of students reported high satisfaction with the technical level and quality of the research projects arranged for them. Regarding the research process, the students were exposed to different academic, pedagogical, and scientific styles (e.g. one-on-one apprenticeship, hierarchical teams, etc.), interdisciplinary research, and varied organizational structures. Lastly, many stated (as well as their supervisors) that they had made significant scientific contributions and had an impact on the groups in which they were placed.

IX. Evaluation and Future Plans

The goals of the MISTI MIT-Israel Program for the upcoming year (pending fund-raising) include; increasing the number of students in the program, raising the number of students that are drawn to the program for professional reasons (in addition to cultural reasons), fine-tuning pre-internship training module, continuing to grow the MIT alumni connection with students while in-country, exploring a dedicated MIT-Israel seed fund to enable collaborations between MIT and Israeli scientists built on the MISTI Global Seed Funds model.

Meetings with students and supervisors were carried out, reports received from students and supervisors, an online student survey, student cultural essays and final projects, and a post-internship meeting. Overall, both students and supervisors had very positive and beneficial personal and professional experiences. The following improvements will be explored based on feedback from the assessment.

(1) Preparation:

All of the students are required to take the on-campus Israel class, training sessions and 8 hour Hebrew training (for those with no Hebrew knowledge) (organized by Hillel with MIT-Israel)

support). We will continue with all of these components but fine tune them. We will do some preparation sessions separately for graduate and undergraduate students, put more emphasis on learning Hebrew phrases, and will continue to develop the mentorship program we started this year (with MISTI MIT-Israel alumni).

(2) In-Country Practical Challenges:

The Tel Aviv area students do not have the option of staying in university dormitories; finding lodging was very challenging. At times finding efficient modes of transportation was also challenging (distance from internship and constraints regarding traveling on busses). We are continuing to work with our host institutions and on developing a list of agents and apartments where students can stay.

(3) Internships:

In some cases improved communication would have been beneficial between student and host regarding internship expectations. We will continue to make the utmost effort to either meet or have a liaison at the host organization meet with direct supervisor to clarify expectations and promote pre-internship conversations between students and their direct supervisors.

(4) Seminar in Israel:

92% of the seminar activities were rated highly by the participants. Participants appreciated being exposed to the mix of cultures in Israel and to the issues confronting the state. They enjoyed touring, the cultural experiences and interaction with fellow students. Impressed with the calibre of speakers, they valued the different voices of Israeli society, especially Yad VaShem, Dr. Rachel Korazim, the Israeli and Palestinian bereaved families, and Noha Khativ of Hand in Hand. Participants critiqued two issues: a) the schedule for the first evening which seemed cumbersome and b) the large size of the group which made certain touring experiences unwieldy.

When asked about the highlights of the trip, some students wrote:

“ The visit to the Yad Vashem really touched me because it’s the first time I actually learn[ed] about the Holocaust. “

“Hanging out with MISTI students in this gorgeous country was the highlight. Experiencing ancient places with new friends and learning about this culture with classmates from my American cultural background has been an incredibly enriching experience.”

“ Learning about Israeli society from Israelis themselves, and understanding the depth of the situation here”

Several students looked forward to utilizing their newfound cultural knowledge in their current internships and studies:

“Just be more aware and also more confident in interacting with local Israelis”

“ Learned about aspects of Israeli society that will be incorporated into my work”

“ Gave me a better way to understand the people I’m working with, how to work better with them”

Based on the success this year, we will continue with the 5 day seminar in the same general format. We will explore:

- The logistics of meeting on the first day
- Dividing the group into smaller groups for some of the activities.
- Options for independent activities in Jerusalem

Photos from 5-Day Seminar



Students with Daliah Rabin at the Rabin Center



Students at Emefcy- Bioenergy Systems with Ely Cohen, VP of Marketing



Students at Drumming Workshop "East Meets West" with Shlomo Bar



MIT Student Kathleen Kraines with Sami Sagol and Gavin Suss of Keter

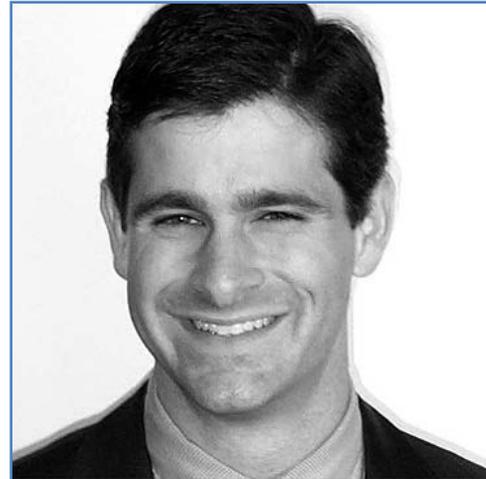
X. MISTI Staff Highlights

Lawson named MISTI director

Political science associate professor succeeds Suzanne Berger

May 31, 2011

Chappell Lawson, an associate professor of political science at MIT and a member of the MIT Center for International Studies, has been named director of the MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI). He succeeds Suzanne Berger, the Raphael Dorman-Helen Starbuck Professor of Political Science, as MISTI's director. Lawson will assume his new responsibilities on July 1.



MISTI connects MIT students and faculty with research and innovation around the world. MIT's primary international program, MISTI is a pioneer in applied international studies — a distinctively MIT concept.

"Chap will be a tremendous leader of MISTI and its most ardent champion in the days ahead," said Deborah Fitzgerald, the Kenan Sahin Dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences at MIT. "He has a contagious enthusiasm for teaching and mentoring MIT students, and an eagerness for innovation both in the classroom and beyond. His deep experiences abroad have given him a true love for global education. I very much look forward to working with him on MISTI's future."

"Chap, a fine scholar with real world experience, also embraces the MISTI philosophy of 'applied international studies.' We are delighted he will take MISTI to the next level," said Richard Samuels, Ford International Professor of Political Science at MIT, director of the MIT Center for International Studies and the founding director of MISTI's MIT Japan Program.

Lawson's research focuses on Mexican politics and political communication. From September 2009 through February 2011, Lawson was on leave from MIT as a political appointee in the Obama administration, serving as executive director and senior advisor to the commissioner at U.S. Customs and Border Protection. He previously served as director of Inter-American Affairs on the National Security Council staff in the Clinton administration. Lawson received his PhD from Stanford University in 1999, joining the MIT faculty that year.

"MISTI is one of MIT's great treasures," Lawson said. "I am honored to take up where Suzanne Berger is leaving off and look forward to building on what she, Dick Samuels, and the other faculty and staff at MISTI have created."

XI. Host Companies and Institutions

Our list of participating companies and institutions and willing to host MIT student is continually growing and currently includes:

Bar Ilan University



Hebrew University



Weizmann Institute of Science



Afeka



Students that intern at Netvizio are part of a relationship we have with **Afeka College**. MIT students work on a joint project with Afeka College students for Netvizio, developing modules for advanced Augmented Interactive online video system.

Brightsource Energy



BrightSource Energy's mission is to make solar energy cost competitive with fossil fuels by developing, building, owning and operating the world's most cost-effective and reliable large-scale solar energy projects.

Ben Gurion University of the Negev



Tel Aviv University



Jerusalem College of Engineering



ORT Braude College



Students that will intern at Keter are part of a relationship we have with **Ort-Braude College**, in which MIT students live on-campus and work at Keter Plastic.

Bloomfield Science Museum Jerusalem



The Bloomfield Science Museum Jerusalem is an informal cultural and educational institution that presents exhibitions consisting of interactive exhibits on subjects of science and technology, and integrates these exhibits into a context through a wide range of educational activities.

Haifa University



Technion – Israel Institute of Technology



Amdocs



Arava Power Company



The Arava Power Company (APC), formed in 2006, is Israel's leading solar developer, seeks to supply 10% of Israel's electricity needs.

Covertix



Provides organizations with the power to control and protect their Information Assets - track, monitor and control documents and files anytime

eCamp



Israeli technology summer camp in Israel for children and teens, ages 8-18.

EPOS



EPOS brings advanced positioning technology to an everyday tool that people of all ages are already familiar with

ETV Motors



Founded in 2008, research, development and commercialization of critical EV components and their integration into turbine-powered Range-Extended Electric Vehicles.

Galilee Foundation For Value Education



The Galilee Foundation for Value Education - engaging in education for intergroup understanding since 1992: Jewish - Arab, Jewish - Jewish, and Israel - Diaspora.

Given Imaging



Given Imaging is a world leader in developing and marketing patient-friendly solutions for visualizing and detecting disorders of the GI tract.

Google



In Israel, Google is committed to focus on Israeli Web surfers, advertisers and Web site operators in addition to development for worldwide operations.

IMI Tami



IMI's primary goal is to expand the business of the Israel Chemicals Group by improving existing chemical production processes for "me-too" products.

Intel



Intel is developing small, fast, and energy-efficient technologies to help create the next revolutionary step in mobile, desktop, and data center computing—as well as technologies that power the engine of change for our entire industry.

Israel Antiquities Society/International Conservation Center- Acre



The Center aims to: provide training in conservation professions; serve as a place of study for researchers and students; develop new public and community programs that target all tangible and intangible heritage values of the city.

ISCAR



ISCAR is a dynamic full line supplier of precision carbide metal working tools, producing a wide range of carbide inserts and carbide end mills covering most metal cutting applications.

Keter Plastic



Keter Plastic Ltd. is one of the world's leading manufacturers and marketers of resin-based household and garden consumer products.

Kivunim



Promoting Youth with Special Needs.

Naiot Venture Accelerator



Helps entrepreneurs translate innovative ideas into commercially-viable businesses.

Nasvax



Develops improved vaccines and immunotherapeutics.

Netafim



The global leader in smart drip and micro-irrigation solutions since introducing the world's first drip irrigation solutions in 1965.

NDS



Creates innovative technologies that allow pay-TV operators to generate revenues by securely delivering digital content to various devices.

Netvizio



New age video communication technology company pioneering the emerging and fast growing market of unified video communications, interactive digital media, TV widget and Web 2.0 convergence.

Neurophage Pharmaceuticals



NeuroPhage's breakthrough protein disaggregation platform for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases is based on the pioneering discovery of Professor Solomon from Tel Aviv University.

Provigent



PROVIGENT is the industry's leading merchant of "Systems on Chip" (SoC) products for the wireless transmission industry.

RAD Biomed



The incubator provides physical infrastructure, seed capital, business development and a wide range of related services to help entrepreneurs establish companies that will join the flourishing Israeli biomedical industry.

Rambam Health Care Campus



Northern Israel's largest hospital and a tertiary referral center for 11 district hospitals and the North's address for advanced surgical departments in all specialties and subspecialties.

Ramot



Mission is to foster, initiate, lead, and manage the transfer of new technologies from the laboratory to the marketplace and to strengthen the relationship between Tel Aviv University's research community and the business community.

Shatil



Increasing citizen involvement in the processes of government and the quest for equality and Justice.

Teva Pharmaceuticals



Specializing in the development, production and marketing of generic and proprietary branded pharmaceuticals as well as active pharmaceutical ingredients.

Tsofen



Advancing equal opportunity and minimize the inequality faced by Arab citizens of Israel by accelerating their entrance into the hi-tech industry.

Yedioth Information Technologies



Yediot Information Technologies is an independent company serving as the Information Technology (IT) body of the Yediot Ahronoth group. YTI is in the forefront of technology in the publishing field.

Zenith Solar



ZenithSolar concentrated solar energy generation system is based on a new paradigm in optical design and high-efficiency solar cells.

XII. On-Campus Events

This past year we sponsored or co-sponsored 13 Israel-related events on the MIT campus and several events in Israel. Among the highlights at MIT: “The Struggle for Israel Economy, Science and Society”, Knesset member Einat Wilf ; “Making Peace on the Ground-Arabs and Jews Working Together in Israel”, Mr. Kher Albaz, International Center for Conciliation; “Ethiopians and Israel Immigration, Integration and Assimilation”; “Israeli Innovation and Tech Transfer”, Larry Loev, Ramot; “The Israeli Cleantech Perspective”, Itai Karellic, Greenlet Technologies.

A full listing of events we organized or co-sponsored this year:

Israel, Washington, and the Threat of Nuclear Iran

Monday, October 18, 2010

Speaker: Neil Lazarus

Neil Lazarus is an internationally acclaimed expert in the field of Middle East and effective communication training. He will be discussing the threat from Iran, troubled US-Israel relations, and the stalled peace process having created a violent reality for Israel. Participants will be provided with an understanding and overview of Israel's position in a changing Middle East and the major issues confronting countries in the region. Hamas, Hezbollah, the Golan Heights, Lebanon, the future of the territories and the changes within the Israeli Government will also be discussed.

Sponsor(s): MIT Students for Israel, Hillel (MIT), MISTI MIT-Israel Program

The Struggle for Israel: Economy, Science and Society

Monday, September 20th

Speaker: Knesset member Einat Wilf at MIT

Born and raised in Israel, Dr. Wilf served as an Intelligence Officer in the Israel Defense Forces and holds a BA in Government and Fine Arts from Harvard University, an MBA from INSEAD in France, and a PhD in Political Science from the University of Cambridge.

Sponsor(s): MISTI MIT-Israel with MIT-Hillel , the MIT Israeli Association, and the Sloan Israeli Business Club

In Between: A One Man Show In Between by Ibrahim Miari

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

Speaker: Ibrahim Miari

In Between is a semi-autobiographical one man show that portrays the complexities and contradictions inherent in Palestinian-Israeli identity. On the precipice between two cultures stands Ibrahim Miari, son of a Palestinian Muslim father and Jewish Israeli mother. During an interrogation by Israeli airport security, he recalls his childhood in Acco, memories of his Jewish and Palestinian grandmothers, of war. Questions surrounding his identity become even further complicated by his imminent marriage to a Jewish American woman.

Sponsor(s): Center for International Studies, MISTI MIT-Israel Program

Israeli Pub Night

Monday, November 1st

Israeli Pub Night - Israeli food, drinks, music and a lot of Israelis!

Sponsor: Israeli Student Club with MIT Hillel and MISTI MIT-Israel

The Israeli Cleantech Perspective

Speaker: Itai Karelic

Wednesday, November 3rd

About Greenlet Technologies

Greenlet Technologies offers electric utilities with fully automated system that provides verifiable demand response without the need for professional installation at customer site.

About Itai Karelic

Itai heads the US office of Greenlet Technologies and is responsible for the company's sales, business development and strategic alliances. He helped form Greenlet's strategic direction prior to the company securing seed funding and joined the company at its inception in September 2008 once such funding was awarded.

Making Peace on the Ground-Arabs and Jews Working Together in Israel

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Speaker: Mr. Kher Albaz

Mr. Kher Albaz, a senior fellow and trainer for the Boston-based International Center for Conciliation (ICfC), is Director of Social Services for the Negev Bedouin community (Segev Shalom) and a well known leader in the Israeli Bedouin community. Working with a wide range of Jewish and Arab groups, he is a pillar in Israeli society building bridges between different ethnic groups in Israel. Mr. Albaz will share his experience about the peace-building work at the community level.

Sponsor(s): MISTI MIT-Israel Program with Center for International Studies, Hillel (MIT), Addir Fellows - MIT Interfaith Dialogue, International Center for Conciliation

The Annual Hummus Taste Off

Wednesday, January 26, 2011

The MIT Hummus Experience began in 2008. Last year, it was the highlight of MIT's IAP (Independence Activities Period). It might be the health trend or just pure curiosity which brought 150 people to the Hummus Taste Off, a competition where professors and students had to rank different hummus brands and student creations by aroma, taste and texture.

Sponsor(s): Students for Israel, MIT - Israeli Association, Hillel (MIT), MISTI MIT-Israel, Large Event Fund (LEF)

Ethiopians and Israel : Immigration, Integration and Assimilation

Thursday, March 03, 2011

When the Beta Israel tribe, a population of black Jews in Ethiopia, became endangered by widespread famine and the instability of political turmoil, the Israeli government decided to undertake a mass rescue of the Ethiopian Jewry. Operation Solomon, among others, airlifted thousands of Ethiopian Jews to safety in Israel, but left the new emigrants with the challenge of integrating into Israeli society. The arrival of the Ethiopian Jews greatly diversified the population of Israel, and while many were absorbed easily into Israeli society, others found the transition very challenging.

The Ethiopian Israelis make up an indispensable part of Israeli society, and can really attest Israel's diversity and multifariousness.

Sponsor(s): MIT Students for Israel, MISTI MIT-Israel Program, Black Students Union

Israeli Innovation and Tech Transfer

Monday, March 07, 2011

Speaker: Larry Loev

Featuring Larry Loev, the Director of Business Development (Physical Sciences) at Ramot, the technology transfer company of Tel Aviv University. As Director of Business Development at Ramot, Mr. Loev works with entrepreneurs and industrial partners to commercialize a portfolio of 100 technologies related to cleantech, medical devices, communications, optics, and electronics. Drawing from his Israel experience, Mr. Loev will share about the challenges and keys to success in commercializing technology.

Israel Amidst an Unstable Middle East

Efraim Inbar, Professor of Political Studies, Bar-Ilan University, Director of the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies

Sponsor(s): Center for International Studies with MISTI MIT-Israel Program

Kita Aleph: Hebrew for Beginners

Time: Sundays, 12pm-2pm and Wednesdays

This event occurs on Wednesdays through June 29, 2011, except March 2, 2011, March 23, 2011, February 9, 2011, April 6, 2011, April 27, 2011, May 25, 2011, June 1, 2011, February 2, 2011 and April 13, 2011.

Sponsor(s): MIT Hillel and MISTI MIT-Israel

Meeting with the Sloan Israeli Business Club

April 14, 2011

Speaker: Gil Pruess

Meeting with Gil Pruess, Executive *Vice President* of Combined Jewish Philanthropies(CJP) to discuss the local Jewish community; the diverse activities of CJP and economic connections to Israel.

Israeli Dancing

Year-long (once a week)

Sponsor(s): Folk Dance Club with Hillel (MIT), MISTI MIT-Israel Program

XIII. Donor Acknowledgements

We are thankful to the many who have helped us launch and continue and to grow the program, including the following supporters:

Eran Broshy '79 and Feigue Berman-Broshy

Larry Broutman '59, SM '61, SCD '63

Arie and Ida Crown Memorial Foundation
(Charles Goodman '54)



Jay '77 and Shoshana Dweck

Fisher Family Foundation (Ron Fisher and
Lisa Rosenbaum '77)

Lionel C. Kimerling, Thomas Lord Professor,
Department of Materials Science and
Engineering

The Kogan Family

Robert and Myra Kraft Family Foundation

Rebecca and Laird M. Malamed '89

Arthur Reidel, B.S. '73

Janice Rossbach '51

Edwin Roos

Edward M. '59 and Harriet Safran

Joshua and Eileen Schein

Arlene and the late Harold Schnitzer '44

Jake Seid BS '98 and M.Eng '98

Alan Sicherman ('69,'75)

Mr. Philip J Solondz '48

Arnee R. and Walt A. Winshall '64

XIV. Further Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all of the student host sponsoring organizations and faculty hosts for their generous financial and administrative contributions: Acre's International Center for Conservation/Israel Antiquities Authority, Bloomfield Science Museum Jerusalem, Google, Keter Plastic via Ort Braude College of Engineering, Netafim, Netvizio via Afeka College of Engineering, Rambam Healthcare Campus, Ramot, Teva Pharmaceuticals via the Jerusalem College of Engineering, Bar Ilan University, Ben Gurion University, Tel Aviv University, Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, and The Weizmann Institute of Science.

Susan Hockfield, President of MIT

Philip Khoury, Ford International Professor of History and Associate Provost, MIT

Phillip Clay, Former Chancellor, MIT

MIT Hillel and its Director, Rabbi Michelle Fisher and Eliad Shmuel, Program Director, MIT Hillel

Deborah Fitzgerald, Kenan Sahin Dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, MIT

The MIT Israeli Association: Itai Turbahn '11, Tal Tchwellia '14 and Orit Shamir Phd Candidate, Co-Presidents

MIT Sloan Israel Business Club: Tal Snir, Roy Stern, Co –Presidents, Liron Wand, Ohad Tzur, Myriam Bin-Nun, Noam Josephy

Eran Ben Joseph, Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning; Chair, PhD program, MIT

Debbie Berechman, Former Executive Director, MBA Program, Sloan School of Management

Rod Garcia, Senior Director of Admissions, MIT Sloan School of Management

Ora Gladstone, Addir Fellows

Daniel Jackson, Professor of Computer Science, MIT

Joseph Jacobson, MIT Associate Professor of Media Arts and Sciences

Richelle Nessralla, Associate Counsel, Office of the General Counsel

Ezra Zuckerman, Sloan School of Management, Nanyang Technological University Assoc Professor

The MIT Club of Israel:

Past President, Haim Alcalay, EECS '61, President, APA Advanced Technologies

President, Galya Racine, MBA '02, Strategic Innovator, Innovation Wise

President MIT Sloan Club of Israel, Dan Grotzky, MS EECS/MBA '02, CEO, Cressca
Boaz Tamir, PhD, '87, Political Science Department, Montefiore Partners Venture Capital fund
Jonathan Shapiro, Boston-Israel Cleantech Alliance

BioAbroad: Rami Lotem, Eytan Abraham, Natalie Artzi, Ronen Eavri

Consulate General of New England: Nadav Tamir/Shai Bazak, Consul General of Israel to New England,
Rony Yedidia/ Ronit Nudleman Pearl, Deputy Consul General of Israel to New England, Shira Gareh, Adi
Golani, Oshrat Hason, Hilla Hoitash, Dikla Kravitz, Einav Laser, and Ilana Snapstailer.

The Department for Jewish Peoplehood- Oren, Shdemot: Roberta Bell- Kligler, Lori Abramson, Shlomit
Zimring

Israel-America Chamber of Commerce: Tamar Guy, Executive Director

New England-Israel Business Council: Tami Durst, Yuval Malinsky

Joel Berkowitz, New England Region Director of the American Technion Society
Ruth Gold, The American Technion Society

MIT Israel Enterprise Forum and its Director, Ayla Matalon

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⁹ Association of Alumni and Alumnae of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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¹¹ Schwab, Klaus . *The Global Competitiveness Report 2010-2011*. Geneva: by the World Economic Forum, 2010. Print.

¹² "Israel Ranked 17th in IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2010." *Israel Ministry of Finance*. N.p., 19 Sept. 2010. Web. 8 Aug. 2011. <<http://www.financeisrael.mof.gov.il/FinanceIsrael/Pages/En/News/201001.aspx>>.

¹³ MIT Hillel Newsletter