Who’s Who in the MIT Administration

Because of the recent large turnover in the upper administration, the FNL thought it would be helpful to print photos and list top priorities for each of the Deans and Vice Presidents.

Top Priorities:
• academic excellence
  - faculty renewal
  - hiring of well-known and distinguished faculty

• play a greater role in the university
  - more participation in undergraduate programs
  - strengthen offerings in the arts
  - collaboration in MIT initiatives like the energy initiative

• one school identity
  - consolidation of space from six locations into two
  - building collaborations across programs

Adèle Naude Santos
Dean, School of Architecture and Planning

Top Priorities:
• To ensure that the School of Engineering remains the most attractive place of work for the highest quality engineers, educators, and scientists of diverse backgrounds who work together in an exciting academic environment that fosters the creation of knowledge, innovation, and the education of the world’s most gifted students.

• To facilitate new activities aimed at defining and shaping the next frontiers of engineering and technology that will help solve society’s most challenging problems as, for example, those related to energy, global environmental sustainability, and human health.

• To promote innovation in education and research that lies at the intersections of multiple disciplines.

Subra Suresh
Dean, School of Engineering

Top Priorities:
• Strengthen the core educational mission of SHASS by providing MIT students with the analytical and imaginative tools they need to be global leaders.

• Encourage and support innovation in research and teaching.

• Build collaborative relationships with colleagues in the other four Schools.

Deborah Fitzgerald
Dean, School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

Top Priorities:
My dream for the School of Science is that we continue to win a Nobel Prize every other year, help translate basic science discoveries into technology to make the world a better place, and educate the future leaders of the world.

• My first priority is to make it even more attractive than it already is to be a faculty member at MIT, especially for women and minority candidates.

• My second priority is to make life better for our graduate students and postdocs.

• My third priority is to strengthen ties between the School of Science and the other schools, especially the School of Engineering, to make the most of our unique strengths.

Marc Kastner
Dean, School of Science

Top Priorities:
In my current position as Interim Dean, my priorities focus on effective administration of the Sloan School’s programs and initiatives, of which there are many. Here are three of the top priorities:

• Implementation of program and curriculum developments
  - The new Entrepreneurship and Innovation option within our MBA program, a proposed Masters in Finance, and enabling of more international experiences for our students.

• Keeping building E62 on track
  - Construction has begun for the new Sloan building, even while we develop the final design details and create plans for occupancy in 2010.

• Preparations for the new dean
  - I look forward to welcoming David C. Schmittlein as the new dean to the Sloan School and helping to ensure a smooth leadership transition.

Steven Eppinger
Dean (Interim), Sloan School of Management

Top Priorities:
• Working with all the academic units to recruit more women and underrepresented minority graduate students, particularly in PhD programs.

• Expanding the number of fellowships to support doctoral students in their first year at MIT.

• Supporting a strong sense of community among graduate students in general, and providing a wide range of opportunities to graduate students for activities outside their departments, labs, and centers.

Steven Larman
Dean for Graduate Students

Top Priorities:
• Support the curricular reforms outlined in the Task Force for the Undergraduate Educational Commons.

• Provide opportunities for all our students to have global educational opportunities without any penalty.

• Work with the Dean for Student Life in integrating life and learning including developing programs for improving advising/mentoring, understanding how to incorporate diversity in our curriculum and helping the faculty focus on improving learning for our students.

Daniel Hastings
Dean for Undergraduate Education

Top Priorities:
• In coordination and collaboration with others, oversee the completion of NW35, the new Graduate Residence Hall, as well as the initial steps at renovating W1 to open as an undergraduate hall. We expect both halls to be opened by September, 2008.

• Conduct a comprehensive review and analysis of campus dining to insure that our programs and services are as flexible and responsive to the needs of our students, faculty, staff, and visitors as possible.

• Continue to develop our Student Leadership Development initiatives, especially the new Allan G. and Terri Spoon Community Catalyst Leadership Program for rising Juniors who have shown leadership potential.

Larry Benedict
Dean for Student Life
Top Priorities:
• Foster an outstanding research environment for MIT’s faculty, students, and staff.
• Enable major research initiatives that cut across the Institute.
• Maintain a research administration infrastructure whose excellence matches that of MIT’s research itself.

Kik Kolenbrander
Vice President for Institute Affairs and Secretary of the Corporation

Top Priorities:
• Ensure strong corporate governance through effective connections between the Corporation and the Institute’s senior leadership.
• Work closely with MIT’s first Vice President for External Affairs to establish a communications strategy for MIT that serves Institute and external interests through transparent processes.

Deborah Bohren
Vice President for External Affairs

Top Priorities:
• To establish the Office of External Affairs as a respected and valued member of the MIT community with MIT deans, faculty, center directors, and staff.
• To develop a research-based strategic external communications plan in support of MIT’s educational and research objectives.
• To enhance MIT’s relationship with the media, businesses, community groups, and local and state elected officials.

Jared Girshow
Vice President for Information Services and Technology

Top Priorities:
• In association with the Dean for Undergraduate Education and the Director of the Libraries, better coordinate our activities supporting technology used in teaching and learning, including enhancements to Stellar.
• In association with the Dean for Graduate Students, and the Dean for Student Life, develop a vision for future student information systems at MIT, and develop a new approach for provisioning spaces for student computer use.
• In association with the Associate Provost and Vice President for Research, develop plans for supporting research computing at MIT including the potential for shared data centers.

Claude Canizares
Vice President for Research and Associate Provost

Top Priorities:
• Assure that physical and fiscal are integrated by creating a unified financial organization which performs effective stewardship of MIT’s financial assets and recruiting and developing Facilities leadership which provides credible, effective stewardship of MIT’s physical assets.
• Create an environment where we can and do attract the best talent to serve the Institute’s mission and develop collegial, effective working relationships in support of the mission of MIT.

Theresa Stone
Executive Vice President and Treasurer

Top Priorities:
• Integrating the Financial Groups
  • Organizational Dimensions
    - Leadership
    - Structure
    - Functions
  • Roadmapping of Activities
    - Inventorying
    - Prioritizing
    - Trade-Offs
• Fostering Cross-Functional Collaboration
  • Internal
  • External
• Rationalizing Communications

Israel Ruiz
Vice President for Finance

Top Priorities:
• R. Gregory Morgan
  • To build the Office of the General Counsel by aligning the lawyers and staff of the office, in combination with outside legal counsel, to meet MIT’s needs for legal services.
• To bring the office to bear on MIT’s most important risk-management issues.

Jeffrey Newton
Vice President for Resource Development

Top Priorities:
• To develop the campaign plans for the Energy and Cancer Initiatives.
• Complete the silent phase of the Campaign for Students and launch the public phase in October 2008.
• Establish productive working relationships with the academic and development leadership of the Schools and centers.

R. Gregory Morgan
Vice President and General Counsel

Top Priorities:
• Learn from all my MIT constituents what key human resource issues I should help address at MIT.
• To build the community of HR professionals and key administrative officers who are embedded in all the DLCs, so that together we can build effective human resource solutions to faculty and staff alike.
• To build needed HR services, such as more recruiting assistance, broader leadership programs, and more professional development for staff.

Alaa Alon
Vice President for Human Resources

Photo Credits: Donna Covenaey (Deborah Fitzgerald, Daniel Hastings, Marc Kastner, Steven Lerman, R. Gregory Morgan, Subra Suresh); David Lewis (Deborah Bohren, Jeffrey Newton)