Welcome

The MIT International Development Initiative (IDI) exists to help you engage fully in international development at MIT and beyond. As we celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the International Development Fair, we welcome you. The Fair introduces incoming students and other members of the MIT community to the many student groups, classes, centers, programs and academic departments at MIT who, through their activities, have demonstrated an interest in sustainable international development.

IDI joins forces with the Technology and Culture Forum several times throughout the school year to organize large-scale, Institute-wide events spotlighting and celebrating aspects of international development at the Institute. In addition to the IDFair, we host many events including the International Development Night in early Spring, and the end-of-semester Spring Showcase event featuring student projects from the D-Lab family of classes.

The content of this guide and other useful information can be viewed online at our website web.mit.edu/idi. We welcome your suggestions, questions, and ideas on advocating a greater understanding of the Institute’s potential to be a global leader in innovations that positively impact people the world over.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone who contributes to our vibrant global community at MIT.

Laura Sampath
International Development Initiative

Patricia Weinmann
Technology and Culture Forum

Special thanks to Joost Bonsen, Nathan Cooke and Christina English

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Introduction to International Development @ MIT

Joost Bonsen

The lack of clean water, nutritious food, sustainable energy, accessible communications, effective healthcare, efficient transport, affordable financial services, and basic education are each among the global giga-challenges affecting at least one billion people worldwide. It is central to achieving MIT’s mission that we proactively seek solutions to these pressing international problems, and indeed, there is substantial and growing faculty research throughout MIT’s five schools and myriad labs towards these ends. Furthermore, student contributions, both through experiential-learning Action Lab classes and extracurricular clubs, teams and initiatives are hugely important and are central to MIT’s learning-by-doing ethos.

The full range of international development activities at the Institute can, however, be a bit difficult to grasp quickly or in its entirety. To help anyone interested in development meet one another and learn of the many opportunities at the Institute, a team of students and staff from the International Development Initiative (IDI) have rallied together a larger network, created the annual International Development Fair (IDF) hosted early in the Fall, and published this related Guide, all to showcase the many groups, projects and activities at the Institute that engage students in international development activities and provide the opportunity for students to meet and connect with others involved with practical and actionable global development at MIT.

Throughout the year, student clubs in energy and sustainability host regular talks and discussions. MIT’s graduate student-run Muddy Charles Pub in Walker Memorial hosts informal development drinks and dinner gatherings to bring together Harvard and MIT students, as well as Monday Culture Nights featuring foods from different countries. The Technology & Culture Forum at MIT (TAC) offers public lectures and symposia throughout the year, often focused on development-related issues. In the Spring, the MIT Museum hosts the International Development Night to welcome both attendees of the Harvard-MIT International Development Conference (IDC) and our community at large.

The MIT IDEAS (Innovation-Development-Enterprise-Action-Service) Global Challenge support teams that develop and implement projects that will have positive impact in the world. With the support of IDEAS, student teams can make progress toward solving challenges faced by communities, all driven by the spirit of public service and student enterprise. The most promising projects continue on beyond IDEAS, with further prototyping and field trials. They may form the basis for an entrepreneurial startup company, with many IDEAS participants also entering a business plan in the MIT $100K Entrepreneurship Competition -- including Sanergy, OneEarthDesigns, EGG-Energy and Global Cycle Solutions over just the last few years. In the past ten years, IDEAS and $100K winners have secured millions of dollars in follow-on funding for their service projects from sources including USAID, the World Bank Development Marketplace, angel financiers, and venture capitalists.

Several project-oriented development classes prepare students during the regular semester for time in the field during MIT’s Independent Activity Period (IAP) in January or over the summer. These classes include the D-Lab offerings, or Development-Design-Dissemination Labs, including the D-Lab Waste, Energy, Cycle Ventures, ICT4D, and Health classes as well as the joint Media Lab / Sloan course on Development Ventures (DV), and Sloan’s Global Entrepreneurship Labs (G-Lab) offering on Global Health Delivery, the S-Lab classes on Sustainability, and L-Lab class on transformative leadership. Dozens more courses in Urban Planning, Architecture, the Media Lab, Sloan School, the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences as well as Engineering and the Sciences have international development aspects.

Anyone interested in international development at MIT can find information in this Guide and online via the IDI website. One growing focus of attention is the MIT International Development
Initiative (IDI) as it brings together groups working on appropriate design solutions, engaging students in collaborative designs, and ultimately implementing and disseminating technologies in partner communities throughout the world. The International Development Group (IDG) within MIT’s Department of Urban Studies and Planning conducts research and assists in the planning practice in countries around the world striving for social, political, and economic development. The Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) in MIT’s Economics department concentrates on poverty research based on randomized trials leading to clear scientific results that enable policymakers to more successfully combat poverty. These are only a few of the development initiatives at the Institute; there are many more focused programs in water and sanitation, clean energy, educational technology, and beyond.

Solving global giga-challenges requires a concert of methods, including cross-cutting approaches drawn from various emerging sectors, all while harnessing the full power of our triad of research, education, and extracurricular activities at MIT. Only through novel technological and social innovations can we address the greatest problems facing our planet.
Guide to Organizations

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)

Website: www.povertyactionlab.org/
Contact: Dina Grossman <dina_g@mit.edu>

Description: The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) is a center within the Department of Economics that aims to reduce poverty by ensuring that policy is based on scientific evidence. J-PAL serves as a hub for a network of more than 55 affiliated professors at universities around the world who are united by their use of randomized evaluations to answer questions critical to poverty alleviation. J-PAL professors and staff work with NGOs, international organizations, and others to evaluate programs aimed at reducing poverty, and identify the most effective ways to achieve policy goals based on this rigorous body of research. These policy lessons are disseminated among policymakers to promote the scale-up of highly effective policies and programs in areas as diverse as boosting girls’ attendance at primary schools, improving the output of farmers in sub-Saharan Africa, racial bias in employment in the US, and the role of women political leaders in India.

Participation: Recently matriculated undergraduates may apply for the opportunities posted at www.povertyactionlab.org/about-j-pal/jobs. UROP opportunities starting in the spring semester will be available for students who have taken 14.74 Foundations of Development Policy and 14.32 Econometrics.
Accelerating Information Technology Initiative (AITI)

Website: aiti.mit.edu
Contact: Michael Gordon <aiti@mit.edu>

Description: AITI is a multidisciplinary organization of MIT that promotes economic development in emerging regions by cultivating young technology entrepreneurs. AITI organizes mobile and Internet technology incubator courses at top universities in Africa and South Asia. Furthermore, AITI bootstraps entrepreneurial networks and structures required to nourish our students’ startups. Instructors are sourced from MIT’s student community.

Participation: AITI seeks motivated graduate and undergraduate students to send to Africa or South Asia as instructors for our mobile and Internet technologies incubator courses. Our ideal candidates have either software development or business / entrepreneurship experience. Generous stipends are provided, plus full travel expenses are covered.

Association of International Relations and Model United Nations (AIRMUN)

Website: web.mit.edu/airmun
Contact: Executive Board <airmun-exec@mit.edu>

Description: The Association of International Relations and Model United Nations (AIRMUN) is a group that organizes trips to Model United Nations conferences, hosts guest speakers relevant to current global issues, international development and international relations, and organizes a high school Model United Nations conference, MITMUNC.

Participation: Any member of the MIT community

China Development Initiative (CDI)

Website: web.mit.edu/cdi/
Contact: <mit-cdi@mit.edu>

Description: China Development Initiative (CDI) is a student-run organization that is focused on providing sustainable programs related to China’s development for MIT students. The goal of CDI is to provide MIT students with more opportunities to learn about China’s development.

Participation: Any MIT undergrad or grad students
Community Innovators Lab (CoLab)

Website: web.mit.edu/colab
Contact: Libby McDonald <libmac@mit.edu>

Description: Community Innovators Lab (CoLab) is a center for planning and development within MIT’s Department of Urban Studies and Planning. We work with low-income communities in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean, putting their assets to work to help strengthen civic life and use the market as an arena for achieving social justice. CoLab’s Green Hub is a center of research and practice that supports social movements, local governments, and businesses, primarily in major urban areas, in their efforts to leverage the emerging “green” economy for poverty reduction and social inclusion. Green Hub focus areas offer significant potential for addressing CO2 emissions and income generation/job creation. Green Hub also develops research programs in partnership with universities in the global South that support the development of models, tools, and analytical frameworks for green + equity.

Participation: Students interested in participating in a CoLab project (see our website for particulars) can contact Libby McDonald at libmac@mit.edu.

D-Lab

Website: d-lab.mit.edu
Contact: <d-lab@mit.edu>

Description: D-lab is a program that fosters the development of appropriate technologies and sustainable solutions within the framework of international development. D-Lab’s mission is to improve the quality of life of low-income households through the creation and implementation of low cost technologies. D-Lab’s portfolio of technologies also serves as an educational vehicle that allows students to gain an optimistic and practical understanding of their roles in alleviating poverty. There are currently thirteen different academic offerings that make up the suite of D-Lab classes, falling into the broad categories of Development, Design and Dissemination. All D-Lab courses are based on the same values and principles of providing experiential learning, using technology to address poverty, building the local creative capacity, promoting local innovation, valuing indigenous knowledge, fostering participatory development and co-creation, and building sustainable organizations and partnerships.

Participation: Students who register and take each class, graduate students interested in leading trips or mentoring projects, or international student groups that would like to host a field site.
Department of Urban Studies and Planning (International Development Group)

Website: web.mit.edu/dusp/idg
Contact: <idginfo@mit.edu>

Description: The International Development Group, which is composed of graduate students and faculty in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, conducts research and help with planning practice in low-income countries around the world that are striving for social, political, and economic development. IDG covers issues ranging from comparative urban development, human rights, land use and property rights, regional planning, the role of law in development, infrastructure, labor and employment, municipal finance, and distributional consequences of development in general. IDG faculty and students believe that effective planners operating in today's world must acquire an institutional and integrated view of economic, physical, political, legal, and social factors and be able to link issues at multiple scales while looking for solutions.

Participation: Students from all departments are encouraged to take IDG courses and participate in IDG activities. To facilitate exchange among faculty and students, we encourage participation in IDG events and with the Special Program for Urban and Regional Studies (SPURS) who hosts an annual cohort of development experts, scholars, and practitioners from the developing world. Please contact idginfo@mit.edu for more information.

Developing World Prosthetics (DWP)

Website: dwplab.mit.edu/
Contact: Ken Endo <kene@mit.edu>

Description: Developing World Prosthetics (DWP) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the design and deployment of prosthetic limbs, orthotic braces, mobility aids, and fitment and rehabilitation devices for patients in developing nations. In collaboration with the Jaipur Foot Organization (JFO) and other multinational rehabilitation organizations, we are increasing the number and quality of low-cost, specialized mobility devices that are specifically designed for large patient throughput. This fall, projects are continuing through UROPs, and undergraduate mechanical engineering theses. We are also offering a class, Developing World Prosthetics SP.714, in the spring semester as a part of the D-Lab family of classes.

Participation: Anyone; particularly looking for members to help with website design, grant writing, pursuing relationships with other non-profits, CAD and machining prototypes.
Development Ventures Initiative

Website: developmentventures.org & admissions.media.mit.edu/admissions/program-overview/entrepreneurship-program

Contact: Alex (Sandy) Pentland <pentland@mit.edu>, Joost Bonsen <jpbonsen@alum.mit.edu>

**Description:** The MIT Development Ventures Initiative (DV) focuses on design and implementation of commercially sustainable products and services for low-income people around the world. DV helps students invent new technologies and organizations, increases their understanding of the challenges faced by low income communities, connects them to other resources at MIT and elsewhere that may help them design and implement sustainable ventures, and conducts research that may be useful to entrepreneurs and enterprises. DV strives to provide support for MIT-related entrepreneurs focused on low-income communities, providing travel funds and project Seed and Action Grants to develop their ideas, along with a vibrant network to help them grow and nurture their dreams. DV is part of the growing Media Lab Entrepreneurship Program and operates in conjunction with the MIT Entrepreneurship Center, the MIT International Development Initiative (IDI), and the MIT Design Lab (1) to offer instruction in development-oriented entrepreneurship, including running the D-Lab Development Ventures class since 2001; (2) to work with the International Development Network (IDN) on development-oriented programs and activities at MIT; (3) to build the Global Venture Network (GVN) in partnership with the MIT Alumni Association and MIT Enterprise Forum Global; (4) to engage Media Lab and MIT-related and sponsoring companies around development-oriented product lines and corporate ventures, and (5) to support innovation challenges, including the student-run MIT $100K Entrepreneurship Competition Development Track.

**Participation:** Anyone interested

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e-Luma

Website: www.e-luma.org
Contact: Mauricio Gomez <maugomez@mit.edu>

**Description:** The main goal of e-Luma is to capture the true potential of electricity in rural areas of developing countries. The project addresses the barriers to growth that rural entrepreneurs face through a holistic approach that aims to foster strong and stable electricity consumption patterns in the productive sector. This facilitates the sustainability of rural electrification projects, while sparking business growth and community development. The first deployment of the e-Luma project will be the Sierra Leonean town of Yele, where a rural electrification project is set for inauguration in early 2012.
Engineers Without Borders – MIT Chapter (EWB-MIT)

Website: ewb.mit.edu
Contact: <ewb-exec@mit.edu>

**Description:** Engineers Without Borders (EWB) is a national, non-profit, humanitarian organization aiming to improve the quality of life in developing communities worldwide through the implementation of technology, education, and lasting community relationships. EWB-MIT partners with communities to design and implement technologies and has current water and energy projects in Uganda.

**Participation:** All MIT undergraduates, graduates, faculty and staff

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Evolving Technologies

Contact: Avi Latner <latner@sloan.mit.edu>, Sassan Zelkha <szelkha@mit.edu>

**Description:** Using frugal innovation techniques we developed a light, portable endoscopy prototype for a fraction of the price of existing solutions. We also developed a LED based, portable, medical light source, that works in conjunction with our endoscopy camera. Physicians operating in developing regions rarely have access to minimally invasive surgical (MIS) equipment to perform medical procedures that are routinely performed in the developed world. Our devices will enable these physicians to use MIS techniques and more effectively treat patients and reduce costs to patients, medical providers and governments. Medicine for Humanity, an NGO, used our endoscopy for diagnosis and vesico vaginal fistula (VVF) repair procedures in Uganda. We also partnered with CareGo and equipped one of their clinics in Kenya with our device.

**Participation:** We are looking to partner with health NGOs, physicians working or volunteering in developing countries, and anyone with connections to clinics or hospitals in developing countries. We are also looking for students, most likely on volunteer basis, who are knowledgeable in one of the following: industrial design, image processing, UI and Skype add-ons development.
Expediting Access to Standard Education (EASE)

Website: web.mit.edu/ease
Contact: <ease-exec@mit.edu>

Description: MIT Expediting Access to Standard Education (MIT EASE) works hand-in-hand with EASE Ghana to ensure that under-privileged children in rural parts of Ghana receive basic education; school fees and other requirements for school are provided.

Participation: Anyone who is interested

Foreign Languages and Literatures Section

Website: web.mit.edu/fll
Contact: Andrea Wirth <awirth@mit.edu>

Description: Students at MIT have the unique opportunity to combine an extraordinary professional training with a first-rate humanistic education. MIT’s educational mission involves providing students with the tools for a sensitive and successful involvement in the global community. The Foreign Languages and Literatures Section (FL&L) contributes in significant ways to the internationalization of MIT’s education. MIT provides a unique perspective on foreign languages because of the opportunities available to integrate the study of natural languages with the latest technological advances in multimedia and interactive language learning. FL&L-affiliated faculty are exploring and implementing methods in which multimedia technology can be used to make learning a foreign language a more authentic experience.

Global Education and Career Development (GECD)

Website: gecd.mit.edu/
Contact: globalmit@mit.edu

Description: GECD offers global education and career development services to students from all majors. This includes exploration of global experiences and career plans through personalized counseling and programs, as well as specialized help and resources in preparing for global experiences and connections to employers, fellowships and graduate schools. Ultimately we help students to become leaders in a diverse society and prepare them for the globalized world of work.

Participation: All MIT students
Global Poverty Initiative (GPI)

Website: gpi.mit.edu
Contact: gpi-board@mit.edu

Description: The Global Poverty Initiative at MIT is a student-led organization that directly engages the MIT community in the fight against global poverty. Over 4 years ago a small group of undergraduates dedicated to raising awareness about the need for more support for international development. GPI envisions a broader MIT international development community where departments and programs are coordinated in a way that maximizes the impact of their projects and is accessible to undergraduate and graduate students alike.

Participation: All people are encouraged to participate as a GPI team member, volunteer and/or event attendee.

International Development Club (IDC)

Website: web.mit.edu/idc
Contact: <idc-exec@mit.edu>

Description: MIT International Development Club (IDC) pairs passionate MIT students with exciting international development projects on four continents. We serve as trusted advisers to global non-profits on three continents by delivering customized solutions and implementation assistance to ensure that our clients attain greater efficiency and sustainability in their development efforts.

Participation: Any MIT student

International Development Design Summit (IDDS)

Website: www.iddsummit.org
Contact: Eric Reynolds <info@iddsummit.org>

Description: IDDS is a month-long, intense design experience that brings together students, faculty, and community members from all over the world to create technologies and ventures to improve the lives of people in the poverty. IDDS 2011 occurred in Ghana, and this year, IDDS is growing. Three summits will take place in 2012 - in Brazil, Zambia and India - allowing the summits to be more regionally focused and further enabling participants to work collaboratively with potential end users and customers throughout the entire design process. IDDS is a joint effort, organized by MIT, Olin College, Cooper Perkins, Colorado State University, University of Sao Paulo and others.

Participation: Students and members of the MIT community may join the organizing committee or may apply to participate in the summit www.iddsummit.org/apply

Photo courtesy of Nathan Cooke
IDEAS Global Challenge

Website: globalchallenge.mit.edu
Contact: <globalchallenge@mit.edu>

**Description:** The annual IDEAS Global Challenge encourages teams to collaborate with a community partner to develop and implement projects that reduce barriers to well-being. IDEAS – which stands for Innovation, Development, Enterprise, Action and Service – awards up to $10,000 in implementation grants to teams demonstrating the greatest innovation, feasibility, and impact. Start a team. Or come join our volunteer crew.

**Participation:** Start a team or be involved as volunteer. All teams must be composed of one-third full-time MIT students who must contribute significantly toward the innovation. Development grants are available to assist teams refine their project proposals. More details available online. Volunteers: Sign up at our site and email us with your interest.

International Development Initiative (IDI)

Website: web.mit.edu/idi
Contact: Laura Sampath <idi@mit.edu>

**Description:** The International Development Initiative (IDI) contributes to strengthening the international development ecosystem at MIT. An ever-growing area of interest for students and faculty, IDI aims to serve the MIT community through programs, including the annual Muhammad Yunus Innovation Challenge to Alleviate Poverty and the Technology Dissemination Fellowships. IDI also runs several campus-wide networking events annually and maintains a website offering a comprehensive overview of the various ways to get involved in International Development at MIT. In addition, IDI serves as a resource for the MIT community offering advice, guidance, and connections for best practices.

**Participation:** Open to MIT students and others in the MIT community.
iHouse: International House for Global Leadership

Website: web.mit.edu/ihouse
Contact: <ihouse-announce@mit.edu>

Description: The International House for Global Leadership, or iHouse, is a living-learning community consisting of 21 undergraduate students passionate about international development. iHouse was established on the vision that a community promoting a combination of academics, project-based learning, mentorship opportunities, and leadership skills development is necessary at MIT to foster the next generation of global leaders solving international problems. Our mission is to complement the academic offerings in international development at MIT with the principles, tools, networks, and experiences necessary for undergraduates to become leaders in international development. To fulfill this mission, we have created a close-knit, collaborative community that promotes the international development-related programs that MIT offers, encourages project-based learning, exposes students to various opportunities that enhance leadership skills, and provides a strong mentorship network for students.

Participation: Undergraduates of all class levels can apply to live in iHouse. Social membership is also an option.

Indian Mobile Initiative (IMI)

Contact: Aakriti Shroff <imi@mit.edu>

Description: Indian Mobile Initiative (IMI) facilitates social enterprise and entrepreneurial education through mobile innovation. After identifying the magnitude of the mobile phone revolution that was occurring in India, IMI encouraged students to use their technical skills to develop mobile applications that focused on the India-centric societies. This summer, the IMI team traveled to seven academic institutions in India and interacted with over 2000 students. The team rose seed funding for seven student application ideas that will be launched during the academic year 2011 - 2012.

Participation: Students, faculty, sponsors and investors

Innovations in International Health @ MIT

Website: iih.mit.edu
Contact: Jose Gomez-Marquez <jfgm@mit.edu>, Anna Young <akyounge@mit.edu>

Description: The Innovations in International Health program aims to accelerate the development of global health technologies that address the needs of patients and physicians in resource-poor settings. Working with a network of researchers, doctors, inventors, and clinicians, IIH enhances the sustainability of its technologies by bridging the gap between the invention, funding, and clinical trial stages of medical products aimed at patients in the developing world. Our members’ presence in more than 15 countries, including 3 H-Lab medical innovation sites, gives our group effective global reach in medical technology transfer, scaling up, and saving lives. In addition, our D-Lab Health academic offering teaches students the current state of global health and how to structure innovative responses to healthcare challenges. Students will employ hands-on medical-technology-learning modules, experience on-site visits in Nicaragua, and participate in real-world design collaboration with international partners.

Participation: Opportunities are available for UROP positions, open to undergraduate students, and volunteer positions, open to graduate students and other members of the MIT community. Contact helloiih@mit.edu for more information.
Innobox

Contact: <innobox@mit.edu>

**Description:** The InnoBox is a unique, modular, transportable, and optimal educational kit for children around the world. It includes multimedia training tools for teachers and mentors, project guides for student teams, scientific equipment and supplies, and self-assessment instruments for over 50 different projects. Several projects result in a useful device such as a water purifier or electric generator, without sacrificing the learning of underlying scientific and engineering principles instrumental to the educational process. We believe that this kit will shape the path towards increased accessibility to science and engineering education for children living in underserved communities.

**Participation:** Anyone with a passion for increasing access to education for children. Individuals with skills in multimedia development, interests in kit development, etc.

Komaza

Website: web.mit.edu/komaza
Contact: <komaza-official@mit.edu>

**Description:** Komaza is a unique student-run magazine featuring the international development experiences of MIT students and alumnae. Issues of Komaza have a bright design, an informal style, and ample amounts of eye-catching photos. We present diverse content ranging from students’ project details to their cultural experiences in a fun and easy-to-read format.

**Participation:** Undergraduate and graduate students. Experience in writing or editing is helpful but not necessary. Komaza staff have the opportunity to learn about a variety of ID projects firsthand and to share that information with the MIT community. Faculty and staff are invited to be a part of our advisory board.

Nurses in Ocotal using the MEDIKit to create their own foot-powered nebulizer.

Photo courtesy of IIH
Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship

Website: legatum.mit.edu
Contact: <legatum@mit.edu>

Description: The Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship at MIT was founded on the belief that economic progress and good governance in low-income countries emerge from entrepreneurship and innovations that empower ordinary citizens. The center administers programs and events that promote and shape discourse on bottom-up development, including a highly competitive fellowship for MIT graduate students who intend to launch enterprises in low-income countries. In addition, the Center convenes an annual conference; hosts a lecture series; and supports, with seed grants, teams of MIT students passionate about starting viable businesses in the developing world.

Participation: The application process for fellowships for the 2011-2012 academic year runs from September to January and is open to current or incoming MIT graduate students from any degree-granting Institute program. Graduate and undergraduate students from MIT are eligible to apply for seed grants. The annual conference and lecture series are open to the MIT community.

$30,000 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize

Website: web.mit.edu/invent/a-student.html
Contact: Shannon O'Brien <lemelson_awards@mit.edu>

Description: The prestigious $30,000 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize serves as a catalyst to help today’s young inventors develop into tomorrow’s technological and entrepreneurial leaders. The prize is awarded annually to an inventive graduate student or graduating senior at MIT. The publicity received from the award can lead to invaluable exposure to science, business, and investment communities. Past winners and finalists include: Alice Chen, for developing a humanized mouse liver; Amy Smith, who invented low-tech devices that address problems in developing countries; Nathan Ball, who invented life-saving technologies such as a device for rapid vertical mobility; Aviva Presser, for her work with microbial fuel cell technology; and Miles Barr, for his paper solar cells. The Lemelson-MIT Program recognizes outstanding inventors, encourages sustainable new solutions to real-world problems, and enables and inspires young people to pursue creative lives and careers through invention.

Participation: MIT seniors and graduate students can apply online at: http://web.mit.edu/invent/a-student.html.

Middle East Education through Technology (MEET)

Website: http://meet.mit.edu
Contact: <info@meet.mit.edu>

Description: MEET is an innovative educational initiative started in 2004 that aims to create a common professional language between Israeli and Palestinian leaders. Working together with students and faculty at MIT, MEET has created a three-year computer science and business program for Palestinian and Israeli high school students.

Participation: Anyone, especially MIT affiliates
MIT $100K Business Plan Competition: Emerging Market Track

Website: www.mit100k.org
Contact: Lilian Tse <ltse@mit.edu>

Description: Now in its 20th year, the MIT $100K Entrepreneurship Competition has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash and business start up services to outstanding teams of student entrepreneurs for new ventures showing significant business potential. The competition has three parts (Elevator Pitch Competition, Executive Summary Competition, and Business Plan Competition) designed to help students hone in the critical skills for launching a start-up. The MIT $100K launched the Emerging Market Track in 2006 to create transformation change in emerging markets through business. Since its inception, the Emerging Market Track has helped launch over 50 revolutionary business ideas, ranging from income-generating bicycles to cell phone-enabled medical diagnostics for the rural poor.

Participation: All teams must have at least one MIT student to be eligible.

M-Lab (Mobility Lab)

Website: mlab.mit.edu
Contact: Amos Winter <awinter@mit.edu>, Mario Bollini <mbollini@mit.edu>

Description: M-Lab is an organization that is focused on improving the design and distribution of mobility aids worldwide while training MIT students as global citizens. M-Lab fosters international partnerships and cultural exchange by sponsoring student travel to community partner organizations to develop, test, and implement new designs, as well as bring mobility experts from around the world to interact with the MIT community. As an academic entity, M-Lab provides a physical space to develop projects as well as a group through which students can pursue theses/independent research projects, publish papers, and attend conferences.

Participation: Any MIT students interested in improving mobility aid design and distribution in developing countries

Photo courtesy of MIT Public Service Center
mSurvey

Website: msurvey.co.ke
Contact: Kenfield Griffith, <team@msurvey.co.ke>

Description: mSurvey is a social for-profit enterprise that offers insight and gauges impact using technologies that connect clients with communities in developing countries and emerging markets. We focus on bringing insight to our clients at our clients’ convenience. mSurvey enables social enterprises and development agencies to communicate with their customers and communities through the use of cost effective, large-scale, quantitative queries and answers using Short Message Service (SMS) texts to any mobile phone.

Public Service Center

Website: web.mit.edu/mitpsc
Contact: Sally Susnowitz <susnowit@mit.edu>, <psc@mit.edu>

Description: The PSC offers advising, planning, and financial assistance for students interested in all types of public service work, including international development work. Through a range of exploratory and implementation programs, including Internships, Fellowships, Grants, Service Learning, the MIT IDEAS Global Challenge, the PSC supports students by providing effective and collaborative services for communities worldwide. Some of our programs also support alumni participation.

Participation: Continuing MIT undergraduate and graduate students can use all PSC resources. Grants and planning assistance are available to all MIT community members for projects that involve MIT students in public service.
Sabre Foundation Volunteers

Website: web.mit.edu/sabre
Contact: <sabre-exec@mit.edu>

Description: The Sabre Foundation runs a fun weekend volunteering activity in which you can support fellow academics in developing countries and war-torn regions. We provide roughly 25,000 textbooks per year to universities in Iraq, Liberia, Pakistan, Rwanda, and other nations. Volunteers help sort and pack the books, which cover science, medicine, and engineering.

Participation: All MIT community members (including staff, postdocs, faculty, undergrads and grad students).

Safe Water for 1 Billion People (H2O-1B)

Website: web.mit.edu/watsan
Contact: Susan Murcott <murcott@mit.edu>, Eric Adams <eeadams@mit.edu>

Description: Since 1998, the Civil & Environmental Engineering Department’s Master of Engineering program has engaged graduate students in multi-disciplinary teams (with students from Sloan GLab, Urban Studies and Planning and other departments) to work on water and sanitation projects in developing countries, including sites in Asia, Africa and Latin America. We call this effort “Safe Water for 1 Billion People (H2O-1B).” Throughout the academic year, students work in teams with local partners to assess water quality, design treatment systems, emphasizing appropriate and sustainable development concepts. Teams travel to field sites during IAP to gather data and implement best solutions. A student’s Masters thesis is usually derived from their group project work.

Participation: Most participants are enrolled in the department’s 9-month Master of Engineering Program, but graduate students from other departments and some undergraduate UROPs and have also participated in multi-disciplinary teams.

Safe Water World

Contact: Sam O’Keefe <water.startup@gmail.com>

Description: Safe Water World is a company dedicated to meeting the need demonstrated by the international community for low cost water quality testing methods that can be used for emergency, mid-term and long-term evaluation and monitoring of drinking water sources. In response to this demand, we have developed portable, low-cost testing kits that contain easy to execute microbial tests in a design that is durable enough to be used in the field. The kits do not require the use of electricity for sample incubation and contain all the necessary materials to gather and test water as well as interpret and record results.

Participation: We are looking for people with experience in product design and development, procurement and web design/development. Contact water.startup@gmail.com.
Southeast Asian Service Leadership Network (SEALNet)

Website: www.sealnetonline.org
Contact: <sealnet-exec@mit.edu>

Description: SEALNet is a nonprofit organization established in 2004. Its mission is to promote the spirit of service leadership in Southeast Asia. Every year, SEALNet sends teams of college students to Southeast Asian countries to conduct summer projects with local communities and students. These projects focus on various social issues, such as health, arts revival, education, and environment. Although the projects only take place during the summer, the bonds forged through SEALNet are long-lasting, creating a support network of service leaders spanning the globe.

Participation: Anyone who is passionate about the development of Southeast Asia, and interested in bringing service and teaching leadership skills to empower the youth of Southeast Asia.

Special Interest Group in Urban Settlement (SIGUS)

Website: web.mit.edu/sigus
Contact: <sigus@mit.edu>, <rgoethert@mit.edu>

Description: SIGUS explores methods for promoting affordable and equitable housing for low-income communities, with focus in developing countries. It champions participatory technique through short workshops and courses, and undertakes research on innovative approaches in support of low-income housing. It concentrates on the new professionalism emerging for designers, architects, and planners demanding a shift in practice and teaching. SIGUS has over 15 years of experience in Action-Learning workshops. It has lead programs in Peru, Ecuador, Poland, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, India, Bhutan, Syria, and Ethiopia; hosted by governments, development agencies, or NGOs, with local universities as counterparts. Current focus on incremental housing as a proactive strategy for urban areas, and effective rebuilding in Haiti.

Participation: Open to all
Sloan Africa Business Club

Website: web.mit.edu/sloanafrica
Contact: <africanbcofficers@sloan.mit.edu>

Description: Our mission is to share with the wider MBA community Africa’s opportunities and to encourage their focus and investment in Africa. As a club, we strive to increase awareness of entrepreneurial and individual opportunities in Africa interesting to members of the MIT Sloan community. We also act as a resource to prospective students interested in attending MIT Sloan. Finally, we aim to act as a catalyst in uniting all MIT Sloan alumni who are on the continent and/or of African descent or interest.

Participation: The club is open to all persons affiliated with MIT with an interest in Africa.

Sloan Entrepreneurs for International Development (SEID)

Website: web.mit.edu/seid/
Contact: <seidofficers@sloan.mit.edu>

Description: Sloan Entrepreneurs for International Development (SEID) seeks to drive sustainable global development through entrepreneurship by fostering productive collaborations between students and new ventures in emerging markets and by raising awareness of current challenges and success models. Throughout the school year, SEID helps students at Sloan and across MIT engage in international development by offering a series of events and speakers, developing short-term consultancy projects and providing career-related networking opportunities.

Participation: While membership is restricted to MIT Sloan students, all SEID events are open to the entire MIT community.

Special Program for Urban and Regional Studies (SPURS)/ SPURS Fellows

Website: web.mit.edu/spurs/www/
Contact: Bish Sanyal <sanyal@mit.edu>, Nimfa de Leon <nvdeleon@mit.edu>, Roberto Guerrero Compeán <rgc@mit.edu>, Xin Li <xinli@mit.edu>

Description: The Special Program for Urban and Regional Studies (SPURS) is a one-year, non-degree program designed for mid-career professionals from newly industrializing countries. Founded in 1967 in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning (DUSP), SPURS has a long-standing commitment to bringing outstanding development planners to MIT to reflect on their professional practice. The program is designed to nurture individuals, often at turning points in their professional careers, to retool and reflect on their policy-making and planning skills. SPURS Fellows return to their countries with a better understanding of the complex relationships between local, regional, and international issues. SPURS has hosted over 550 women and men from more than 90 countries in Latin America, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Eastern and Central Europe. SPURS enables the MIT community to build professional and personal connections with these advanced professionals from the developing world. In 2010-2011, there are 16 SPURS Fellows, ranging from politicians to planners and engineers.

Participation: The program is open to through two streams: 1) to individuals who apply and are accepted by the Hubert Humphrey Fellowship of the Institute of International Education (IIE), and; 2) to individuals sponsored by institutions, governments or personal funds applying to directly to SPURS.
Sustainability @ MIT

Website: sustainabilityatmit.wordpress.com
Contact: Nancy Kim, Sam Crawford  <sustainability-exec@mit.edu>

Description: Sustainability@MIT is a collective of students and MIT community members that works to improve sustainability on campus and beyond by providing resources, hosting events, and supporting other sustainability-related groups and initiatives on campus. Members coordinate and support these efforts in order to foster student and staff engagement and realize ideas to make the campus a healthier and more sustainable place. In 2011 we are starting a new speaker series that will engage speakers and issues that affect the global community.

Technology and Culture Forum (T&C)

Website: web.mit.edu/tac
Contact: Janie Donohue <jdonohue@mit.edu>, Patricia Weinmann < weinmann@mit.edu>, Christina English <cenglish@mit.edu>

Description: The Technology and Culture Forum at MIT sponsors lectures, symposia and two undergraduate seminars that address critical issues of our time. We explore the role of science and technology in promoting positive social, ecological, and economic change. In addition, T&C stimulates discussion about the ethical implications of scientific discovery and technological innovations. During the 2011-2012 academic year, offerings will include a year-long series on violence and women, a program on surveillance and citizenship, religious pluralism in Post 9/11 America, events on international development, sustainability and the environment, and two undergraduate seminars on ethics.

Participation: A Steering Committee, comprised of students, faculty and alums, plans and coordinates events. All MIT students, faculty, staff and the public are invited to most events.

Technology and Development Program (TDP)

Website: web.mit.edu/mit-tdp/www
Contact: Susan Cass <tdpmail@mit.edu>

Description: TDP provides developing nations greater access to scientific and technological capabilities through collaborative research and educational programs. TDP’s most recent collaborative program is the Masdar Institute of Science and Technology in Abu Dhabi. The need for regional and global energy sustainability is the driving force behind the establishment of The Masdar Institute of Science and Technology. This graduate level university is dedicated to the development of new and viable energy technologies and policies. The Masdar Institute, established with the assistance of TDP, is working with the Government of Abu Dhabi and industry to offer a landmark opportunity for world-class graduate level research and education.

Participation: MIT graduate students may participate as teaching or research assistants with the agreement of the MIT professor or principal investigator. Undergraduate students may consider applying to Masdar for postgraduate study.
The future of D-Lab.

Photo courtesy of MIT Public Service Center
Development Related Resources at MIT

Funding

**Carnegie Endowment for International Peace**
Website: web.mit.edu/cis/fo2_9.html

**Purpose:** Carnegie runs an annual national competition to select from 8-10 graduating seniors to be research fellows in its DC offices. Successful applicants are matched with a senior associate—academics, former government officials, lawyers and journalists from around the world—to work on a variety of international affairs issues.

**Amount:** $2,750 per month; Full benefits package also provided

**Time Commitment:** 1 year

**Eligibility:** MIT graduating seniors or have graduated from MIT within the past year

**Timing:** December

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**Carroll L. Wilson Award**
Website: entrepreneurship.mit.edu/wilson_award.php

**Purpose:** To provide opportunities for MIT graduate students to study an important societal problem with international dimensions.

**Amount:** Four or five $7,000 awards each year

**Time Commitment:** Approx. six weeks

**Eligibility:** MIT graduate students selected through a competitive evaluation of proposals by the Carroll Wilson Award Selection Committee

**Timing:** January

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**CIS Summer Study Grants**
Website: web.mit.edu/cis/fo2_2.html

**Purpose:** To support dissertation research primarily on international aspects of such issues as energy and the environment, and the relationship between energy and security, although a broad range of international issues will be considered.

**Amount:** $5,000

**Time Commitment:** Summer

**Eligibility:** Doctoral students studying international affairs

**Timing:** February
Echoing Green Fellowship

Website: www.echoinggreen.org

**Purpose:** For individuals with innovative ideas for creating new models for tackling seemingly unsolvable social challenges. These Fellowships offer them the opportunity to develop and test their ideas.

**Amount:** $60,000 for individuals, $90,000 for partnerships

**Time Commitment:** 2 years

**Eligibility:** Applicants 18 years and older

**Timing:** Early December

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Eloranta Fellowship

Website: web.mit.edu/eloranta

**Purpose:** Student-originated and/or directed research, investigation, or creative study in any field.

**Amount:** $6,000; Allowable expenses: living, travel, or materials and service costs

**Time Commitment:** Full-time summer occupation

**Eligibility:** MIT undergraduates (including June graduates)

**Timing:** Early April

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Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship

Website: web.mit.edu/scholarships/details/fulbright-hays.htm

**Purpose:** To support dissertation research in foreign languages and area studies.

**Amount:** Average fellowship amount is $32,356

**Time Commitment:** During doctorate

**Eligibility:** Graduate students

**Timing:** MIT Deadline in Late September – Early October

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Fulbright Program for US Students

Website: web.mit.edu/scholarships/details/fulbright.htm

**Purpose:** Advanced research, graduate study, or teaching at the university, secondary or elementary level.

**Amount:** Travel & educational expenses; language or orientation courses; maintenance for one academic year; supplemental health and accident insurance

**Time Commitment:** During graduate studies

**Eligibility:** Graduating seniors or graduate students

**Timing:** MIT Deadline in Late September – Early October
Harry S. Truman Scholarship Program
Website: web.mit.edu/scholarships/details/truman.htm

**Purpose:** Graduate studies in government, non-profit sector, or public service areas.

**Amount:** $30,000

**Time Commitment:** During graduate studies

**Eligibility:** Juniors

**Timing:** MIT Deadline in Mid-November

Kelly/Douglas Traveling Fellowship
Website: web.mit.edu/shass/inside/kelly_traveling.shtml

**Purpose:** To enable MIT undergraduates who are committed to further work in the humanities, arts, or social sciences to travel in order to pursue an independent project in an HASS field, or to collaborate in a humanitarian project.

**Amount:** Up to $1,000

**Time Commitment:** Summer or IAP

**Eligibility:** Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors

**Timing:** November for IAP; April for Summer

Legatum Center Fellowship
Website: Legatum.mit.edu/fellowship

**Purpose:** The Legatum Center administers a competitive fellowship program for incoming and current MIT graduate students, across all academic disciplines, who demonstrate the potential to create sustainable, for-profit enterprises in low-income countries. Southern Africa.

**Amount:** Varies

**Time Commitment:** September - June

**Eligibility:** Enrolled in or accepted to an MIT graduate degree program

**Timing:** Deadline for applications in January

Legatum Center Seed Grant Program
Website: Legatum.mit.edu/grant

**Purpose:** The Legatum Center administers a competitive seed grant program for teams of MIT students who are working on innovative, sustainable projects in low-income countries during the IAP session and summer period.

**Amount:** Varies

**Time Commitment:** IAP or summer

**Eligibility:** Undergraduate or graduate students at MIT

**Timing:** IAP and Summer break; check website for details
Morris K. Udall Undergraduate Scholarship

Website: web.mit.edu/scholarships/details/udall.htm

**Purpose:** Students studying environmental or related fields, or health care or tribal public policy (Native American and Alaskan natives only).

**Amount:** Up to $5000

**Time Commitment:** During undergraduate studies

**Eligibility:** Sophomores and juniors

**Timing:** MIT Deadline in February

Muhammad Yunus Innovation Challenge to Alleviate Poverty

Website: web.mit.edu/idi

**Purpose:** Each year the Muhammad Yunus Innovation Challenge to Alleviate Poverty highlights a pressing need of the world’s poor and enables MIT students to develop solutions through a variety of mechanisms, including Public Service fellowship grants, the IDEAS competition and D-Lab. The Challenge, named in honor of 2006 Nobel Prize winner Dr. Muhammad Yunus, was initiated and is supported by MIT alumnus Mr. Mohammed Abdul Latif Jameel, benefactor of the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab at MIT (J-PAL).

**Amount:** DEAS awards range from $10,000 to $5,000. Fellowships: vary. D-Lab: class projects

**Time Commitment:** varies

**Eligibility:** See IDEAS, PSC Fellowships and D-Lab Sections of the guide

**Timing:** Varies

ODGE Fellowships

Website: http://odge.mit.edu/finances/fellowships/odgefellowships/

**Purpose:** The Office of the Dean for Graduate Education (ODGE) administers a number of endowed fellowships through an annual competition in March. All nominations (both for new awards and for renewal requests) must be submitted by the departmental graduate office on behalf of the student.

**Amount:** Varies

**Time Commitment:** Varies

**Eligibility:** MIT Graduate Students

**Timing:** March

Program on Human Rights and Justice

Website: mit.edu/phrj/internships.html

**Purpose:** To provide MIT students the opportunity to study human rights issues firsthand at the field level or through applied research.

**Amount:** Up to $5000; Living and travel expenses

**Time Commitment:** 8-12 weeks in summer

**Eligibility:** All students

**Timing:** April
Public Service Center Grants

Website: web.mit.edu/mitpsc/whatwedo/grants/

**Purpose:** Community service work covering a wide range of projects; Conference attendance grants for conferences tied directly to public service leadership activities; and Summer housing grants for residence-hall students working on public service projects in the summer.

**Amount:** Varies; Materials and transportation expenses

**Time Commitment:** During student studies

**Eligibility:** MIT students who will be enrolled for at least one semester following the grant project

**Timing:** Applications accepted monthly

Public Service Center Fellowships and Internships

Website: web.mit.edu/mitpsc/whatwedo/internshipsandfellowships/

**Purpose:** Capacity building community service projects in any field around the world. Fellows and Interns work with community-focused organizations such as non-profits, government offices, international aid agencies, schools, grassroots groups, student-initiated service enterprises and even for-profit businesses if the business is using a social-entrepreneurship model to address the needs of an under-served community. Students in these programs receive a stipend for their work, which typically goes towards living and travel expenses.

**Amount:** Stipend depends on project budget

**Time Commitment:** IAP, Spring, Summer or Fall

**Eligibility:** MIT students (undergrad and grad) who will be enrolled for at least one semester following the funded project, plus limited funding for graduating students for up to 3 months after graduation

**Timing for application deadlines:** IAP: October; Spring: Rolling; Summer: March; Fall: Rolling

US Ashoka Fellowship

Website: usa.ashoka.org

**Purpose:** For leading social entrepreneurs who are recognized to have innovative solutions and the potential to change patterns across society.

**Amount:** Varies

**Time Commitment:** None

**Eligibility:** Everyone

**Timing:** Rolling