"Education is a human right with immense power to transform. On its foundation rest the cornerstones of freedom, democracy and sustainable human development." — Kofi Annan

To learn more about how you can become involved in the International Development Network at MIT, visit our website:
http://web.mit.edu/idn/
Dear Members of the MIT Community:

It is my pleasure to welcome your participation in the International Development Network (IDN) at MIT. Since 2002, the IDN has organized an Activities Fair, published this Guide, and provided an essential introduction to the many MIT clubs, classes, competitions, and laboratories involved in global development efforts.

The Institute offers rich opportunities for active participation in development issues both on-campus and beyond, and I urge you to explore them. MIT’s newest living group, the International House for Global Leadership (iHouse), for instance, enables residents to support one another’s international interests and participate in an integrated development curriculum. Hundreds of students travel overseas every year through PSC fellowships or MISTI internships or curricular field experiences such as D-Lab or G-Lab. And a growing number of students and faculty study or take a sabbatical abroad for a semester or a year, an experience many find transformative and rewarding.

You might participate in research projects on development-related themes ranging from sustainable urbanization and off-grid energy generation to inexpensive health diagnostics and open-source business models. Student teams participating in extracurricular MIT competitions such as IDEAS and the $100K develop and deploy projects and ventures which will have positive impact in the world. And an increasing number of initiatives attract visitors and students from developing countries to the Institute for study, for instance the International Development Design Summit, the SPURS/Humphrey Fellowships, and the new MIT Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship.

We at MIT are proud of our long tradition of practical engagement in development issues. MIT has played a special role in building intellectual capital and spreading educational opportunity and in helping establish and strengthen universities around the world. Both grassroots student initiatives and more formal MIT research continue to spur the creation of new businesses and even new industries to meet pressing human needs. Alumni and alumnae-founded companies and NGOs, in turn, are part of a vibrant and growing international network connected both with one another and back to the Institute.

MIT’s mission is to bring knowledge to bear on the world’s great challenges, and our students, faculty, and staff do this with tremendous intensity and passion. It is precisely such a combination of innovation and commitment that we need in the field of sustainable development. I encourage you to make your own contributions to this vital effort.

Sincerely,

Susan Hockfield

The MIT International Development Network (IDN) is pleased to welcome you to the 2007/2008 school year, a year that we hope holds many opportunities for engagement in international development.

This year marks the sixth annual MIT International Development Fair, organized by IDN, on October 5. The goal of the fair is to introduce incoming students and other members of the MIT community to the student groups, classes, centers, programs and academic departments at MIT who, through their activities, have demonstrated an interest in sustainable international development.

We encourage you to familiarize yourself with the student groups, classes, centers, programs and departments mentioned in this guide. They represent opportunities for MIT students to become informed participants in the global effort to promote justice and sustainable development.

The content of this guide and other useful information can be viewed online at our website: http://web.mit.edu/idn. We welcome your suggestions, questions, and ideas on promoting a greater understanding at MIT of the Institute’s potential to be a leader in sustainable international development.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone who contributes to this vibrant international community at MIT.

Sincerely,

The IDN Planning Team

Elizabeth Basha          Sunita Darbe          Amy Smith
Kimberly Benard         Xaq Frohlich          Sally Susnowitz
Joost Bonsen            Malgorzata Hedderick Patricia Weinmann

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Three-quarters of humanity live beyond rich country borders, all too often in tragically impoverished areas. Access to clean water, food, energy, communications, healthcare, financial services, and education are all global giga-challenges, each affecting over one billion people worldwide. It is a central aspect of MIT’s Mission that we work to address these international development challenges, and indeed, there is substantial and growing faculty research throughout MIT’s five schools and myriad labs towards these ends. Furthermore, student action through classes and extracurriculars is hugely important and is especially worth emphasizing: whether via experiential-learning classes or through club events or extracurricular projects, students play a vital role working on tangible development projects, all while learning-by-doing in classic MIT-style.

There is so much going on that the landscape of international development activities at the Institute can be a bit difficult to grasp quickly or in its entirety. To help everyone interested in development meet one another and learn of things more rapidly, a team of students and staff from the MIT International Development Network (IDN) created the annual International Development Fair (IDF or Fair) hosted early in the Fall semester. The Fair showcases 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 international development at the Institute.

Throughout the year, student clubs in Energy and Sustainability host regular talks and discussions. Design-for-Change runs special international development projects and helps organize gatherings such as Impact 2008: A Socially and Environmentally Conscious Career Expo. The Muddy Charles, MIT’s graduate student-run Pub in Walker Memorial, hosts both monthly informal development drinks and dinner gatherings to bring together Harvard and MIT students, as well as frequent Monday CultureNights featuring foods from different countries each week. 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 a Friday evening Development Innovations Reception to welcome attendees of the Harvard-MIT International Development Conference (IDC).

The MIT IDEAS (Innovation-Development-Enterprise-Action-Service) Competition, a joint program of the MIT Public Service Center and Edgerton Center, supports 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. Over the past 6 years, IDEAS winners have amassed over $1m in follow-on funding for their service projects from sources including USAID and the World Bank Development Marketplace.

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-Labs, or Development-Design-Dissemination Labs, the joint MediaLab/Sloan course on Developmental Entrepreneurship (DE), and Sloan’s Global Entrepreneurship Lab (G-Lab); Social Entrepreneurship, Practicing Management, and new S-Lab classes. 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 an international development aspect.

Anyone interested in International Development at MIT can find information in this Guide and online via the IDN website. The Public Service Center and the Edgerton Center jointly support the MIT International Development Initiative (IDI) as it pursues appropriate design solutions, engages students in collaborative designs, and ultimately implements and disseminates technologies in partner communities throughout the world. The new Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship supports entrepreneurial students who aspire to build businesses to design and deploy commercially sustainable products and services for emerging markets. The Poverty Action Lab (PAL) concentrates on poverty research based on randomized trials leading to clear scientific results that enable policy makers 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 research, education, and extracurricular triad of activities at MIT. Only through novel technological and social innovations can we have sustainable and viable global impact.
The following broad categories should give some sense of the range of activities at the Institute:

**Broad, Multi-Sector** – A variety of groups cut across many sectors of global development, including the Alliance for Global Sustainability, Design for Change, the Global System for Sustainable Development, the MIT IDEAS Competition, the MIT Public Service Center, the Technology and Culture Forum at MIT, and the International Development Initiative.


**Business, Finance, and Entrepreneurship** – At the intersection of business and finance and development are the Legatum Center for Development & Entrepreneurship, the MIT Entrepreneurship Center, the Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation, and the MIT $100K Entrepreneurship Competition.


**Communications, Computing, and Media** – The Media Lab, the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL), and several departments engage in a wide variety of analysis and development projects related to next generation communication devices, network infrastructure, and higher level applications.


**Education** – The Media Lab, through programs such as Lifelong Kindergarten, is creating tools to expand the range and reach of creative educational possibilities. MIT’s OpenCourseWare provides high quality course material to people around the world via the web. Other groups that are heavily involved in educational development include the Middle East Education through Technology (MEET), Expediting Access to Standard Education (EASE), the Global System for Sustainable Development, Learning International Networks Consortium (LINC), the MIT-Africa Internet Technology Initiative (AITI).


**Energy** – The Energy Initiative highlights how MIT expertise can address the world’s energy crisis through research and education, for example, via the work in the Laboratory for Energy and Environment (LFEE), or on energy conversion technologies in the Microsystems Technology Lab (MTL). The student-run MIT Energy Club provides a cross-disciplinary forum for literature reviews and discussions of emerging energy technologies and runs the annual MIT Energy Conference.


**Environment** – Understanding and working within Earth’s ecological constraints requires reliable scientific data about the evolution and current state of our planet. This is the goal of a number of different programs at MIT, including the Earth System Initiative, the Alliance for Global Sustainability, the Laboratory for Energy and the Environment, Students for Global Sustainability (SfGS), and the Technology and Culture (TAC) Forum at MIT. The Environment at MIT website surveys the research and education landscape and highlights on-campus initiatives.


**Health Care and Life Sciences** – There is substantial fundamental through applied research at MIT in prosthetics, medical diagnostics, molecular therapeutics, and tissue engineering, just to name a few. Advanced research on infectious disease genomics and proteomics happens at the Whitehead and Broad Institutes. Low-cost X-Ray and agri- and bio-diagnostic labs-on-a-chip are among the research supported by the Deshpande Center in the School of Engineering. Activities such as the student-run United Trauma Relief (UTR) tackle emergency health concerns in developing countries.

Impact Assessment – The Poverty Action Lab (PAL), based in the Department of Economics, assesses the effectiveness of development efforts around the world through randomized trials of policy interventions, much like the clinical trials to validate the efficacy of pharmaceuticals.
http://www.povertyactionlab.org/

Labor, Migration, and Social Justice – The Migration and Development Working Group and Students for Labor Justice focus on issues in labor and development, including international and regional migration, fair trade, working conditions, and offshoring employment practices. Amnesty International and the MIT Program on Human Rights and Justice span the spectrum ranging from proactive tactics and advocacy through research and policy-making.

Law, Regulation, and Dispute Resolution – The Technology and Law Program bridges policy and technology, with special focus on sustainability, trade, and the environment. The MIT-Harvard Public Disputes Program seeks to understand mediation and other forms of consensus building to resolve public disputes surrounding resources, priorities, regulations, and other sources of conflict.

Security and Disaster Relief – The Security Studies Program connected with the Political Science Department is a focal point for work in understanding the political, cultural, and strategic dimensions of conflict and international security. Other groups working in this area include MIT Humanitarian Demining, the Program on Human Rights and Justice, and United Trauma Relief.

Shelter and Urbanization – The Department of Urban Studies and Planning, particularly through the International Development Group (IDG), helps advance the state of the art in sustainable urbanization. The MIT Building Technology Program participates in cooperative projects to develop sustainable urban housing. The Smart Cities group is one of several efforts to pursue urban innovations.

Transportation – The Center for Transportation and Logistics (CTL) is a major node for research in ground transportation for people and freight, while the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics focuses on air transportation innovations. The SmartCities group CityCar is one example of a School of Architecture and Planning-based effort to improve urban mobility. The Sloan Automotive Lab is one of the energy-related efforts focused on transportation fuel efficiency.

Water – Major research into water and sanitation systems is centered in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department (See entry: “Water and Sanitation in Developing Countries Projects” further on in this Guide) and in Urban Studies and Planning, including both big infrastructure projects as well as highly distributed grassroots solutions. The Center for Ocean Engineering and Sea Grant Programs are foci for understanding soundly managing marine resources.

Over the summer, 50 people from 20 countries came to MIT to participate in the first International Development Design Summit. At the final presentations they shared their ideas and projects with the MIT community.
Guide to Organizations

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)

Website: http://www.povertyactionlab.org/
Contact: Rachel Glennerster <rglenner@mit.edu>
Description: The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab serves as a focal point for development and poverty research based on randomized trials. The objective is to improve the effectiveness of poverty programs by providing policy makers with clear scientific results that help shape successful policies to combat poverty. The Lab works with NGOs, international organizations, and others to evaluate programs and disseminate the results of high quality research. We work on issues as diverse as boosting girls’ attendance at school, 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: There are a number of opportunities for economic graduate students and recently matriculated undergraduates to work with J-PAL. Opportunities (aimed at those with bachelors degrees) are posted at http://povertyactionlab.org/getinvolved/?type=3. A few UROP opportunities are available for students who have taken course 14.74 Foundations of Development Policy.

AID-MIT

Website: http://web.mit.edu/aid-boston
Contact: Nitin Mittal <aid-boston-exec@mit.edu>
Description: Association for India’s Development (AID) strives to empower rural communities by funding people-centered initiatives targeted at improving health, education and general welfare. Sustainability, local acceptance and community involvement are central aims of AID-supported initiatives. AID MIT is a student chapter dedicated to raising awareness about social issues such as poverty, illiteracy, and inadequate healthcare. We collaborate with other AID chapters to raise funds for development projects in India. We also host visits by volunteers from NGO’s who are working at the grassroots level in India, in order that the MIT community can learn from the volunteers’ experiences in the field. In addition, we run an annual seminar series focusing on the interface between technology and development, featuring guest speakers who are researchers in medicine, science and engineering. The seminar series highlights ways in which technology is being applied or could be applied to improving the welfare of people in developing countries.
Participation: Any member of the MIT community or the Cambridge/Boston area.

Amnesty International

Website: web.mit.edu/amnesty
Contact: Shankar Mukherji, Kayvan Zainabadi <mitai-exec@mit.edu>
Description: Amnesty International is a non-governmental, non-partisan organization working for the protection of human rights. As one of the largest human rights organizations in the world (over 1 million members in 45 countries), Amnesty International uses its broad international membership to publicize cases of human rights abuse and brings international pressure to bear on the governments in question, thereby aiding the development of political and human rights around the world.
Participation: Chapter meetings are open to all.

Center for Bilingual/Bicultural Studies

Website: http://web.mit.edu/cbbs/
Contact: Andrea Wirth <awirth@mit.edu>
Description: The Center for Bilingual/Bicultural Studies at MIT is an interdisciplinary center in Foreign Languages and Literatures devoted to examining the multifaceted intersections between languages and cultures in the global environment of the 21st century. Since its inception in 1999, CB/BS has been committed to exploring the impact on art, identity, and cultural politics of crossing linguistic, national, and cultural boundaries. Each year the Center sponsors visiting writers, artists, filmmakers and scholars, classes, seminar series, web resources, student projects, faculty research, conferences, audio and video projects, and publications. Please see the web site for a list of current activities throughout the year.
Participation: Anyone!

Children of Guayaquil

Website: www.ChildrenofGuayaquil.org
Contact: Nicki Lehrer <nicki@mit.edu>
Description: Children of Guayaquil is a non-profit organization which provides educational opportunities in a safe environment for street children in Ecuador. In just one year, the foundation has been published in over a half a dozen newspapers, on national TV and national radio in both the United States and Ecuador. Over half the funds needed has been raised to construct a children's community designed by MIT professor Jan Wampler in the southern town of Pascuales, which includes an elementary school, daycare center, medical room, and community room for educational and cultural events. Possible fellowships through the Public Service center are available for application.
Participation: Creative students with motivation to learn, passion to help, and a desire to become a friend to children of Guayaquil.
D-Lab

Website: web.mit.edu/d-lab
Contact: Amy Smith <d-lab-staff@mit.edu>
Description: D-lab is a series of courses and field trips that focus on international development, appropriate technologies, and sustainable solutions for communities in developing countries. In the fall, students learn about international development and appropriate technology through case studies, guest speakers and hands-on laboratory experiences in SP.721/11.025. During IAP, students work in the field with community partners in developing countries to implement projects and identify further technical challenges on which to collaborate. In the spring semester students can take a design seminar (SP.722/2.722J) or a seminar on project implementation (SP.723) to develop solutions to the problems identified during the IAP field trip. Students can return to their host communities over the summer to test their designs and get feedback to refine their solutions. They can also continue working on the projects the following fall in a product development seminar (SP.724) or through independent UROPs.
Participation: Students who register and take the class or international student groups that would like to host a field site.

Design for Change (DFC)

Website: web.mit.edu/dfc/www
Contact: Sunita Darbe, Gwen Johnson, Megan Roberts <dfc@mit.edu>
Description: The Design for Change club at MIT works to empower students and community members to address issues surrounding international development. Through group discussions, mini-projects, and collaboration with other groups, DFC introduces participants to the MIT and greater Boston international development community.
Participation: Anyone interested.

Developing World Prosthetics

Contact: Stephen Samouhos <stratos@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 D-Lab (11.025), UROPs, and undergraduate mechanical engineering theses. We are also working to create a 6-unit seminar on the design and deployment of rehabilitative devices, to be offered this upcoming spring term.
Participation: Anyone. Particularly looking for members to help with website design, grant writing, pursuing relationships with other non-profits, CAD and machining prototypes.

Emergence BioEnergy, Inc. (EBI)

Contact: Iqbal Quadir <quadir@mit.edu>, Firas Ahmad <firas_ahmad@ksg05.harvard.edu>
Description: Emergence BioEnergy, Inc. (EBI) is a Cambridge, MA based company that seeks to establish a distributed energy program for developing countries that provides electricity, heat and other services to rural areas. The energy source is methane gas extracted from biomass, a resource widely available in developing countries. EBI is currently utilizing a Stirling engine, designed by Infinia Corporation, to generate electricity and heat, which will be used for drying food products. The goal of EBI is to develop a franchise model of mini-power plants that can be owned and operated by local people in rural areas, leading to increased opportunity and poverty alleviation.
Participation: EBI is interested in working with students, faculty and experts in addressing some technical issues related to the project, and in particular the Stirling engine.

Engineers Without Borders – MIT Chapter (EWB-MIT)

Website: web.mit.edu/ewb/www
Contact: Nisha Vahora <nish613@mit.edu>, Anthony Fowler <fowler@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 at MIT, in its inaugural year will focus on the implementation of a simple, currently existing technology in a focused region. We are currently looking to build a team of students from a wide range of fields who will concentrate on one, year-long project, travel to a selected developing region, and see the work through to completion. In addition, we will be looking for students and faculty who can assist in the planning and preparation of this and other projects in the future. For more information on EWB-USA, please visit <http://www.ewb-usa.org/>., and for more information on EWB-MIT, feel free to contact us.
Participation: All MIT undergraduates, graduates, and faculty.

Students from Caltech, Olin College and Rafael Landivar University in Guatemala work with a community partner from Tibet to design a pedal-powered hammermill during the International Development Design Summit.
Expediting Access to Standard Education
Website: web.mit.edu/ease/www
Contact: Irina M. Azu <irinan@mit.edu>, Sadik Antwi Boampong <sadik@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 by providing school fees and other requirements for school. This is done through fund raising activities that bring Ghanaian culture to the MIT community to bridge the gap, not just academically, but socially as well.
Participation: Anyone who is interested.

First-Step Coral
Contact: Gerardo la O’ <gjlao@mit.edu>, Martin Lorilla <mlorilla@mit.edu>, Emzo de los Santos <emzodls@mit.edu>
Description: Coral reefs in the Philippines have the highest marine biodiversity in the world and this rich resource provides ~60% of animal-protein consumed. However, ~90% of the country’s reefs are highly threatened by human activities earning the Philippines a number-one rank in the world’s top-10 hotspots for coral reefs. First-Step Coral harnesses vastly untapped renewable energy in the Philippines to grow Biorock assisted coral reefs to enhance reef growth rates, improve resistance to climatic bleaching and, importantly, increase fish populations.
Participation: Anyone interested.

Chris Cleaver, an MIT student, works with girls from the Hindu Girls College on a School Footprinting Initiative in Mauritius, a small island off the east coast of Madagascar.

FloodSafe Honduras
Website: http://groups.csail.mit.edu/drl/wiki/index.php/FSH_Student_Group
Contact: FSH Executive Council <fsh-exec@mit.edu>
Description: FSH is a group of MIT students and affiliates working within Honduras to solve community problems using engineering and science skills. We work with a partner organization called the Centro Tecnico San Alonso Rodriguez. Through their advice and community suggestions, we design and implement projects requiring technical solutions. Current projects include developing an automated flood early warning system called Sistema de Alerta Temprana (SAT) and a series of infrastructure projects in a rural farming community including wind-powered water pumps and biogas generation.
Participation: Anyone.

Foreign Languages and Literatures Section
Website: http://web.mit.edu/fll/www/
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.
Participation: All registered MIT students with an emphasis on undergraduates.

Global Poverty Initiative
Website: http://web.mit.edu/gpi
Contact: Anne Liu (apliu@mit.edu)
Description: Global Poverty Initiative is committed to making poverty MIT’s issue by inspiring and empowering students to take action against this global crisis. Our organization aims to provide a comprehensive perspective on why poverty exists, how it limits lives, what allows it to perpetuate, and what we can do to stop it. With this approach, we strive to engage our audience with the ultimate goal of poverty eradication and equip them with the knowledge necessary to make sustainable decisions to halt the continuation of global poverty.

Our team approaches this vision with the launch of two major events in Spring 2008: Poverty Week at MIT and an informative and interactive global poverty conference open to all college and professional students. In the long term, we are dedicated towards establishing a central hub for development focused groups on campus, connecting students to resources essential to launching poverty-focused projects, promoting service learning at MIT, creating a mentor network between students and professionals who work in the field of international development, and conducting educational seminars throughout the year. Through these various goals, we aim towards creating a force at MIT strong enough to make positive change in the lives of the millions of impoverished people around the world.
Participation: All people are encouraged to participate as a GPI team member, volunteer, and/or conference attendee.
Humphrey-Spurs Fellows
Website: web.mit.edu/spurs
Contact: Nimfa de Leon <nvdeleon@mit.edu>
Description: 19 mid-career professionals with expertise on various development issues are invited to the MIT campus each year. The Humphrey-Spurs Fellows enables the MIT community to establish contacts and create links with the fellows that could lead to collaborative endeavors now or in the future.

IDEAS Competition
Website: web.mit.edu/ideas
Contact: Alison Hynd <ideas-admin@mit.edu>
Description: The IDEAS Competition encourages teams to develop and implement projects that make a positive change in the world. Entries are judged by a panel of experts who focus on the innovation, feasibility, and community impact of the projects. Every year, at least six teams win IDEAS awards of up to $7500 to develop and implement their projects. The IDEAS staff work with teams throughout the year to help them refine their ideas and applications. Development grants are available to assist teams during the application process.
Participation: The Competition is open to everyone, but at least one third of a team must be full-time MIT students.

iHouse: International House for Global Leadership
Website: http://web.mit.edu/ihouse
Contact: ihouse@mit.edu
Description: iHouse is an undergraduate residential living-learning community focused on international leadership through international development work. Residents participate in a range of co-curricular opportunities, including cultural events, speakers, discussions, and active participation in international development projects and other opportunities for experiential learning.
Participation: Undergraduates of all class levels can apply to live in iHouse. Social membership is also an option.

Impact Career Expo
Website: web.mit.edu/impact
Contact: Sunita Darbe, Gwen Johnson, Megan Roberts <impact-bigwigs@mit.edu>
Description: Impact was created to meet the needs of the many students who are interested in pursuing socially responsible careers. These students want to leverage their education in engineering, science, and the humanities to make a positive impact on society. International development is one of the many sectors featured at the fair.
Participation: Anyone with the enthusiasm and initiative to make the event a success.

Innovators in Health
Contact: Manish Bhardwaj <manishb@mit.edu>, Bill Thies <thies@mit.edu>
Description: Innovators in Health is a non-profit staffed by MIT students and alumni with the charter to transform rural healthcare in developing countries via intelligent collection and dissemination of information. Our first initiative is the uBox, a smart pillbox that monitors and improves drug adherence in rural communities. Lack of adherence has tragic consequences in the developing world - tuberculosis alone leads to 1.7 million deaths despite the availability of free drugs. The uBox tracks drug adherence of every patient and healthcare worker activity. It enables timely and targeted intervention, and supervising and rewarding health care workers. Our first trial with 100 uBoxes is scheduled for Feb’08 in Bihar in India, where the uBox will be used to monitor a 6-month long TB treatment trial. The uBox won MIT’s inaugural Yunus Challenge to Alleviate Poverty and was featured in the N.Y. Times. Recently, the project became one of 15 nationwide to receive a grant from the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (NCIIA).
Participation: Students interested in applying the uBox in communities where long term drug adherence continues to be a problem; also students interested in innovation in the area of inexpensive data gathering.

International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE)
Website: www.iaesteunitedstates.org
Contact: Zheng Gong <zhengg@mit.edu>, Julia Fong <jcfong47@mit.edu>
Description: IAESTE is a global organization with more than 80 member countries dedicated to providing international internships in technical and scientific disciplines. IAESTE has matched nearly 300,000 student interns with more than 100,000 employers. IAESTE’s local chapter at MIT is a voluntary, student-run group, dedicated to providing MIT students the opportunities to have internships abroad, as well as providing services to the foreign students who have internships in Boston area.
Participation: Everyone.

International Development Design Summit
Website: www.iddsmit.org
Contact: Amy Smith <idds@mit.edu>
IDDS brings together students, faculty, and community partners from all over the world to create technologies to improve the lives of people in the developing world. This month-long intense design experience takes place over the summer.
Participation: Students and members of the MIT community are welcome to join the organizing committee or may apply to participate in the summit.
International Development Group (Department of Urban Studies and Planning)

**Website:** http://web.mit.edu/dusp/idg/

**Contact:** Diane Davis <dedavis@mit.edu>, Jean Farewell <jeanmf@mit.edu>

**Description:** The International Development faculty, in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, conduct research and help with planning practice in low-income countries around the world that are striving for social, political, and economic development. The faculty cover issues from allocating resources regionally and sectorally, to examining urban, regional, and national socioeconomic impacts of major public and/or private investments, to solving the problems of squatter housing, to addressing issues of un- and under-employment, municipal finance, metropolitan sprawl, and social disparities at a variety of scales. IDG faculty and students believe that effective planners operating in today's world must acquire an institutional and integrated view of economic, physical, political, and social factors.

**Participation:** Students from all departments are encouraged to take IDG courses and participate in IDG activities. To facilitate exchange among faculty and students, IDG and the Special Program for Urban and Regional Studies (SPURS) sponsor a weekly luncheon seminar series on Mondays from 12:15pm-2:00pm in 7-338 at which noted development experts, scholars, and practitioners share ideas with students, Fellows, and faculty. For more information about the seminar, please contact Nimfa de Leon at nvdeleon@mit.edu.

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International Development Initiative

**Website:** http://web.mit.edu/idi

**Contact:** J. Kim Vandiver, Sally Susnowitz, Amy Smith, <idi-admin@mit.edu>

**Description:** The MIT International Development Initiative (IDI) is a joint program of the Edgerton Center and the Public Service Center, created to expand opportunities at MIT for work in international development, particularly for students. Our programs enable us to provide tangible assistance to developing regions in defining community needs and finding appropriate design solutions, implementing and disseminating technologies, and capacity-building and maintaining relationships with community partners. Current opportunities available through IDI include D-Lab, the IDEAS Competition, International Fellowships, International Development Grants, and U2U.

**Participation:** Open to MIT students and others in the MIT community.

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Legatum Center for Development & Entrepreneurship

**Website:** http://www.lcde.org

**Contact:** info-legatum@mit.edu

**Description:** The Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship at MIT is founded upon the idea that bottom-up entrepreneurship is the central driver of both economic development and the emergence of good governance in developing countries. The Legatum Center is seeking applications for Legatum Fellowships for the 2008–2009 academic year from graduate students at MIT. These fellowships will provide financial support to students who are motivated by a desire to apply their talents to grassroots commercial solutions in developing nations. The Legatum Fellowships, drawn from across the five MIT schools will be engaged in a number of programs, including developmental entrepreneurship education through action labs; special events and activities bolstering development-oriented entrepreneurship; connections with the International Development Network (IDN) of programs and initiatives at MIT; helping build the developmental entrepreneurship network (DEN); and participation in MIT-wide competitions fostering invention and entrepreneurship for development.

**Participation:** Any MIT affiliate may engage with Legatum programs, talks, and open activities. Fellowships are specifically targeted to current or upcoming MIT graduate students from any Institute program.

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Middle East Education through Technology (MEET)

**Website:** meet.csail.mit.edu

**Contact:** Anat Binur <info@meet.csail.mit.edu>

**Description:** MEET is an innovative educational initiative started in 2003 which aims to create a common professional language between Israeli and Palestinian young 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. The program, which takes place in Jerusalem, consists of intense summer sessions taught by instructors from MIT and year long projects led by local high tech professionals. The program enables its participants to acquire advanced technological and leadership tools while empowering them to create positive social change within their own communities.

**Participation:** Anyone.

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MIT Africa Internet Technology Initiatives

**Website:** http://web.mit.edu/mit-africa/www

**Contact:** Bryant Harrison <mit-aiti-exec@mit.edu>

**Description:** MIT-AITI is a program based around students helping other students. We teach an intensive six-week curriculum of Java, entrepreneurship, and more to high school and university students across Africa. Our goal is to expose students to the rapidly growing field of information technology and its applications. MIT-AITI has worked in Kenya, Ghana, Ethiopia, and Zambia and provides MIT students a rigorous yet fun way to spend a summer and help out others a continent away. We are always looking for enthusiastic students to participate in the wide range of AITI activities throughout the year!

**Participation:** All MIT Undergraduate and Graduate students.
Women in Ghana, and many other parts of the developing world spend literally hours each day processing maize and other agricultural products.
Muhammad Yunus Innovation Challenge to Alleviate Poverty

Website: http://web.mit.edu/ideas/www/challenge.htm
Contact: Alison Hynd <hynd@mit.edu>
Description: The Muhammad Yunus Innovation Challenge to Alleviate Poverty is an annual challenge coordinated by the MIT International Development Initiative and named in honor of 2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Muhammad Yunus. Every year the Yunus Challenge will focus on a different problem faced by some of the poorest communities in the world in an effort to bring these problems to the forefront of the academic community. For this year’s Yunus Challenge, we will focus on improving indoor air quality to break the cycle of poverty. Indoor air pollution kills 1.6 million people per year, yet efforts to prevent, monitor, and improve the situation remain seriously under-studied relative to other global health issues on a comparable level. There is ample opportunity for innovation in public awareness, technical interventions, monitoring programs, and more, to reach the estimated 3 billion poor worldwide who are affected by pollutant levels often 100 times greater than the recommended thresholds.

Participation: MIT students and their collaborators may participate through the IDEAS Competition (two IDEAS Awards will be teams who address the Yunus Challenge). MIT students only may also participate in the Yunus Challenge as part of the D-Lab class or through the Public Service Fellowships program. We will be hosting a number of events throughout the year to enable people to learn more about the challenge and find team members to work with.

Model United Nations

Website: http://web.mit.edu/mun
Contact: Executive Board <mun-exec@mit.edu>
Description: Model United Nations is a simulation of the United Nations system. At conferences, students research, debate, and try to solve global issues with peers from around the world. Common committees that focus on international development include the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR); the World Health Organization (WHO); the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM); and the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO). MIT Model United Nations extends beyond preparing and sponsoring students to attend conferences. By hosting lectures, panels, and discussions on campus, we aim to foster interests in international issues throughout the MIT community. We hope to help students develop intellectually and discover the impact they can make in society.

Participation: Any member of the MIT community is welcome to attend our events.

Philippine Emerging Startups Open (PESO)

Website: web.mit.edu/peso
Contact: Artessa Saldivar-Sali <artessa@mit.edu>, Roanna Padre <rpadre@sloan.mit.edu>
Description: The objective of this project is to establish the PESO (Philippine Emerging Startups Open) Challenge, a business plan competition in the Philippines to promote world class, innovation-fueled entrepreneurship that will contribute to Philippine economic development. PESO is intended to be a vehicle to not only provide monetary incentives for new Philippine-based startups, but also to transfer knowledge and expertise from MIT, and to promote closer collaboration between the academic, professional, industrial and financial communities in the Philippines. In the long run we envision that this competition would become an annual event and lead to the establishment of many Philippine startups some of which would grow into thriving enterprises that would create jobs, improve the quality of life for Filipinos, and make a significant positive impact on the national and international economy.

Participation: Any MIT student or alum.

Share a Vital Earth (SAVE)

Website: http://web.mit.edu/save
Contact: Froylan E. Sifuentes <froy@mit.edu>
Description: From rising sea levels in Pacific Islands, to more and harsher droughts in Africa, from chemicals in water systems, to pollution in the air and soil, our energy consumption and life style choices create a negative impact on the lives of others. We work in creating awareness on how our ways of living affect the environment and others, and how we can help reduce that impact. We are currently planning a campus-wide teach-in on climate change with an emphasis on how the diverse fields of study represented by the different departments can contribute to solutions to climate change, especially regarding increased efficiency in the United States and discovery and dissemination of sustainable technology for developing countries.

Participation: Anyone from the MIT community: undergraduates, graduate students, faculty.
Sloan Fellows Social IMPACT Group  
**Contact:** Rohit C N Kashyap <rcnk@mit.edu>, Virgil Chan <virgchan@mit.edu>, Andrea Whitson <awhitson@mit.edu>  
**Description:** We are a group of Sloan Fellows (Class of 2008 and alumni). Through our diverse backgrounds, our common mission is to reinforce and advance the Sloan Fellows’ knowledge in the realm of sustainability and social change, to interact and learn from individuals and organizations involved in these areas and to explore practical and profitable applications to businesses and the community. We are also interested in supporting one or two business ideas for the MIT $100K Competition (Development).  
**Participation:** Anyone interested.

Sloan School Laboratory for Sustainable Business (S-LAB)  
**Website:** [http://mitsloan.mit.edu/sustainability](http://mitsloan.mit.edu/sustainability)  
**Contact:** Sarah Slaughter <slaughte@mit.edu>  
**Description:** S-Lab is a unique course at the MIT Sloan School of Management. It is a blend of traditional classroom learning, focused on teaching students about an array of sustainability-related issues and practices, matched with an applied team project. Sustainability offers new opportunities to companies and countries, and firms and organizations can not only operate in sustainable ways but also play a positive role in the regeneration of the planet and the support of human health and welfare. We use the broad definition of sustainability that includes economic development, social equity, and environmental restoration at all levels, from individual to organization, community, region, nation and world-wide activities.  
**Participation:** MIT Graduate students.

South Asian American Students  
**Website:** [http://web.mit.edu/saas/www/](http://web.mit.edu/saas/www/)  
**Contact:** Desh Mohan <mdesh@mit.edu>, Neeharika Bhartiya <neehu@mit.edu>  
**Description:** MIT SAAS maintains an active participation with various international development groups. SAAS plans large-scale events on campus that promote South Asian culture, and the proceeds from many events go towards international development. For example, after the Asian Tsunami, SAAS members organized a Tsunami Fundraising Relief Dinner, from which thousands of dollars were donated to relief efforts. Also, SAAS partnered with ASHA for Education for an Indian a capella concert to raise money for educational resources in South Asian countries. SAAS looks forward to a successful year in raising awareness for international efforts.  
**Participation:** All members for the MIT Community and non-MIT are welcome to participate in planning and attending SAAS’s community service events.

Special Interest Group in Urban Settlements (SIGUS)  
**Website:** [web.mit.edu/sigus](http://web.mit.edu/sigus)  
**Contact:** Reinhard Goethert <rgoethert@mit.edu>  
**Description:** SIGUS explores methods for promoting affordable, equitable and efficient 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 shelter needs. It concentrates on the new professionalism emerging for designers, architects, and planners demanding a shift in practice and teaching. SIGUS has over 10 years of experience in Action-Learning workshops. Previous workshops have been in Peru, Ecuador, Poland, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, India, Bhutan, Syria, and Ethiopia; hosted by governments, development agencies, or NGOs, with local university counterparts.  
**Participation:** Open to all.

Students for Global Health  
**Contact:** Vivian Tang <vivian.tang@sghealth.org>, Justin Tan <justin.tan@sghealth.org>  
**Description:** Students for Global Health is an organization that fosters a community of students dedicated to international healthcare. Together, we will provide the information and resources necessary for active involvement initiatives on an annual or semi-annual basis. The goals of these initiatives will be to provide a sustainable difference for impoverished healthcare institutions around the world. It is made up of an idealistic group of students dissatisfied with the deficiencies in our academic experience and determined to change them. We have enlisted the resources of both our peers as well as experienced professionals both locally and abroad. Together, SGH will offer students, like ourselves, the opportunity to learn about and contribute to international development—the development of a greater universal quality of healthcare for humans around the world.  
**Participation:** Anyone.
Study Abroad and Distinguished Fellowships Office
Website: http://web.mit.edu/studyabroad
Contact: Kimberly Benard, Jennifer Cook, Nancy Crosby, Malgorzata Hedderick <studyabroad@mit.edu>
Description: The Study Abroad and Distinguished Fellowships Office provides support to MIT undergraduates and graduates whether they are studying abroad for a summer, semester or year or are applying to a prestigious scholarship such as the Marshall, Rhodes or Fulbright.
Participation: MIT community only.

The Technology and Culture Forum at MIT
Website: http://web.mit.edu/tac
Contact: Amy McCreath <mccreath@mit.edu>, Patricia Weinmann <weinmann@mit.edu>
Description: The Technology and Culture Forum at MIT sponsors lectures, symposia and meetings that address critical issues of our time. The programs explore the role of science and technology in promoting positive social, ecological, and economic change. In addition, the forum stimulates discussion about the ethical implications of scientific discovery and technological innovations.
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.

Water and Sanitation in Developing Countries Projects
Website: http://web.mit.edu/watsan and http://cee.mit.edu/index.pl?id=3684
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. 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. The 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 have also participated in multi-disciplinary teams.

Western Hemisphere Project
Website: http://web.mit.edu/hemisphere
Contact: Kendra Johnson <kendraj@mit.edu>
Description: The MIT Western Hemisphere project is a group of students, faculty, and community members dedicated to exploring issues of politics, economics, cultures, and societies across the Americas. We organize events, film series, and forums to discuss issues of sustainable development, indigenous rights and culture, and recent developments in the Western Hemisphere. We also host a weekly radio show Spherio, from 4-5pm on Thursdays on the MIT radio station, WMBR 88.1FM, on which we feature different guests each week who share their experiences and perspective on these same themes.
Participation: Anyone can be a member of Western Hemisphere Project: undergraduates, graduates, faculty, and non-MIT community members.

Wheelchair Design in Developing Countries Class
Contact: Amos Winter <awinter@mit.edu>
Description: The Wheelchair Design in Developing Countries class will give students the chance to better the lives of others by improving wheelchairs and tricycles made in developing countries. Lectures will focus on understanding local factors, such as operating environments, social stigmas against the disabled, and manufacturing constraints, then applying sound scientific/engineering knowledge to develop appropriate technical solutions. Multidisciplinary student teams will conduct term-long projects on topics such as hardware design, manufacturing optimization, biomechanics modeling, and business plan development. Engineering theory will further be connected to real-world implementation during guest lectures by MIT faculty, with community partners from developing countries, and US wheelchair organizations. Funded opportunities for summer travel to implement class projects into wheelchair workshops will be available.
Participation: MIT students (both undergraduate and graduate) from all academic disciplines are encouraged to participate.

Please send comments or corrections to idn-contact@mit.edu

Aimee Beasley, (Year 4, Civil and Environmental Engineering) works with boarding school children in Tocantins, Brazil, designing appropriate solutions to health, sanitation, and other issues.
Index of Development-Related Resources at MIT

The following pages encompass the spectrum of resources available both at MIT and externally. For those looking to learn more about international development issues, see the class listing; for those looking for funding for a project or research, see the funding section; and for those seeking careers in development, see the opportunities offered by the MIT Career Office.

Funding

A variety of financial opportunities assist students in their international development endeavors. Below are listed many of these opportunities from fellowships for research studies to grants for project work. Additional funding resources may exist through departments, administrative offices, and student government, dependent on the current funding cycle. New programs and fellowships appear often so check online for the latest information and good luck!

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

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

Website: http://web.mit.edu/cis/fo2_9.html

Carroll L. Wilson Award

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

Amount: Four or five $5,000 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

Website: http://entrepreneurship.mit.edu/wilson_award.php

CIS Summer Study Grants

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

Website: http://web.mit.edu/cis/fo2_2.html

Echoing Green Fellowship

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

Website: http://www.echoinggreen.org

Eloranta Fellowship

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

Website: http://web.mit.edu/eloranta

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship

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

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

Fulbright Program for US Students

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

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

Mario Bollini, (Year 3, Mechanical Engineering) works on a prototype for a hand-powered tricycle in Nairobi, Kenya. Mario worked with the Association for the Physically Disabled of Kenya (APDK), an NGO that manufactures and distributes mobility aids throughout East Africa.
Harry S. Truman Scholarship Program
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
Website: http://web.mit.edu/scholarships/details/truman.htm

John S. Hennessy Fellowship
Purpose: To support environmental studies.
Amount: Tuition, student health insurance and a stipend of $2,220 per month
Time Commitment: Fall semester
Eligibility: Any graduate student pursuing environmental studies
Timing: March
Website: http://web.mit.edu/gso/financialaid/intfellowships.html#hennessy

Kelly/Douglas Traveling Fellowship
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; March for Summer
Website: http://web.mit.edu/shass/inside/kelly_traveling.shtml

Martin Family Society of Fellows for Sustainability
Purpose: To support and connect MIT’s top graduate students in environmental studies, and fosters opportunities for multi-disciplinary cooperation in both the short- and long-term.
Amount: One semester tuition
Time Commitment: Year
Eligibility: Second or third year graduate students in, or about to enter, a PhD program and should be resident of MIT during Fellowship period
Timing: May
Website: http://lfee.mit.edu/metadot/index.pl?id=2448;isa=Category;op=show

Morris K. Udall Undergraduate Scholarship
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
Website: http://web.mit.edu/scholarships/details/udall.htm

Program on Human Rights and Justice
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
Website: http://mit.edu/phrj/internships.html

Public Service Center 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
Website: http://web.mit.edu/mitpsc/grants/

Public Service Center Fellowships
Purpose: Capacity building community service projects in any field.
Amount: $10 per hour for Focus, Independent and Vector; Materials and transportation expenses for Network
Time Commitment: IAP, Spring, Summer or Fall
Eligibility: MIT students who will be enrolled for at least one semester following the fellowship
Timing: IAP: October; Spring: Rolling; Summer: March; Fall: Rolling
Website: http://web.mit.edu/mitpsc/fellowships/

US Ashoka Fellowship
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
Website: http://www.ashoka.org/us-canada/main/home.cfm
Classes at MIT

Sunita Darbe

Classes touching on various aspects of international development are available through almost every academic department at MIT. Some classes give students the technical skills to get their hands dirty building or designing. Business, entrepreneurship, language and communication classes provide instruction of nontechnical skills. Regional and global context classes cover topics such as the culture, history, and current political situations of developing nations. Project classes incorporate the other three categories throughout the process of creating a product to aid the developing world.

The breadth of classes related to international development at MIT allows anyone to find something that suits his or her interests. From Introduction to Latin American Studies through the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences to the Global Entrepreneurship Lab at the Sloan School of Management, Water Resource Systems in the School of Engineering to Sustainable Settlement Design in the School of Architecture and Planning, and Alternative Energy Sources in the School of Science to Health Economics at the Whitaker College of Health Sciences and Technology, there is something for everyone. You can find the full list of development related classes, searchable both by department and category, at http://web.mit.edu/idn/getinvolved.html. If you see something missing from this list, please email idn-contact@mit.edu, so that we can ensure that it is a thorough and useful resource.

Service learning provides another academic venue for pursuing an interest in international development. Service learning grants are available to students and faculty for class projects that serve communities. For example, classes in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning have traveled to Peru, India, and Mozambique to work on issues they have studied in those areas. Students can also participate in the Service UROP program, which empowers them to extend their academic interests into fieldwork or other forms of research that yield community benefits. If you are interested in learning more about service learning grants and Service UROPs, check out http://web.mit.edu/servicelearning/.

Good luck exploring!

http://web.mit.edu/idn/getinvolved.html
Innovators present solutions for developing world - Question: What do a pedal-powered grain mill, a Guatemalan bicycle mechanic, and MIT students have in common? Answer: The first International Development Design Summit, where participants have been busy solving problems in the developing world. August 7, 2007 http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2007/summit-0807.html

Student team cooks up simple fuel recipe - A team of MIT students is working to bring affordable, environmentally friendly cooking fuel to developing countries. The technique, which grew out of an MIT class, offers a simple way to produce charcoal briquettes from organic waste material. August 1, 2007 http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2007/charcoal-0801.html

Development Initiative wins Lemelson Grant - The Lemelson Foundation has awarded the MIT International Development Initiative (IDI) a grant of $650,000 to support opportunities for MIT students to work on sustainable solutions to problems faced by community groups in the developing world. July 18, 2007 http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2007/idi-lemelsongrant-0718.html

MIT International Review eyes global solutions - A pair of globally minded MIT students have launched a new journal that aims to hash out solutions to major world problems with the kind of cross-disciplinary zeal that is becoming commonplace at the Institute. July 5, 2007 http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2007/mitir-0705.html

Student blogs portray MIT's international projects - MIT students currently working internationally on sustainable solutions for health access, computer literacy and wheelchair accessibility are maintaining blogs to keep friends, family and the wider Institute community up-to-date on their experiences. June 27, 2007 http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2007/blogs-intl-0627.html

CMI students celebrate exchange program - More than 400 students have participated in the Cambridge-MIT Exchange (CMI), which began in 2000. The exchange is now firmly established as an integral part of MIT undergraduate programs, now administered by MIT Study Abroad. June 6, 2007 http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2007/cki-30606.html

MIT-led team ID's malaria-inducing protein - An international team of researchers led by an MIT professor has demonstrated how a key protein in the malaria-inducing parasite Plasmodium falciparum infects red blood cells, causing them to lose their ability to flow through tiny blood vessels. May 21, 2007 http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2007/malaria-0521.html

Kenyan center supports literacy, development - Aisha Walcott, a graduate student in electrical engineering and computer science, recently traveled to Laare, Kenya, as a representative of the Imara outreach program, which was funded by a grant from the MIT Public Service Center. May 2, 2007 http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2007/kenyacr-0502.html

Co-engineers share designs on clean water - An MIT engineer working toward clean drinking water in Nepal describes in a recent issue of the Journal of International Development how people from developed and developing countries can work together to solve key humanitarian problems. March 5, 2007 http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2007/nepal-water.html

Caribbean Club conference calls for creative action - Prime Minister Patrick Manning of Trinidad and Tobago will be on the MIT campus Oct. 7 to give the keynote address of the first MIT Caribbean Students Conference. The speech will be followed by a series of workshops on issues facing the Caribbean today. October 6, 2006 http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2006/caribbean.html

MEET to graduate first class in Jerusalem - The first class of Israeli and Palestinian high school students enrolled in Middle East Education Through Technology (MEET), an MIT-led nonprofit and nonpolitical grassroots summer program, will graduate this year in Jerusalem. July 11, 2006 http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2006/meet.html

MISTI interns fan out across globe - More than 200 MIT students are spending this summer on internships organized by the MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives, or MISTI program. This year, MISTI has organized internships in 10 countries. July 5, 2006 http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2006/misti-summer.html

Additional stories can be found on the MIT News Office website http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice
A central mission of the MIT Careers Office is to help students connect what they are learning at MIT with the work they want to pursue in the ‘real world.’ The Careers Office can provide students with an opportunity to clarify values, develop and explore career options, and formulate a strategy for pursuing these goals, including resume, cover letter, and interview preparation.

The Careers Office can serve as a resource to students who are seeking international development related careers. These students are likely to use strategies such as networking, research on contacts, exploration and a targeted job search rather than on-campus recruiting. We can offer expertise in the use of these strategies.

Please visit our website <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/services/> to take advantage of any of our services. You may schedule an individual appointment with a career professional to discuss any career concerns, by phoning us at 617-253-4733. Students are welcome to use our services at any time of year to help you hone your networking and job search skills but some of our services (workshops, walk-ins, and mock interviews) are limited to the fall and spring terms only.

Student organizations and MIT programs connect the MIT community with opportunities to make a difference in international development. See: http://web.mit.edu/career/www/graduate/fieldinfo.html#international

Examples of Reference Materials

Career Opportunities for American Planners in International Development, APA, 1994
[Rotch Library - Reference Collection | HD87.55.C67 1994 ]

[Dewey Library - Stacks | AS29.5.G66 1993 and see http://goodworksfirst.org]


[Dewey Library - Stacks | HF549.5.S45.G79 1993]

World Directory of Environmental Organizations
[Science Library - Reference Collection | S920.W67]


OTHER INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT-RELATED LINKS*

Columbia University’s School of International Public Administration offers many links http://sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/career_services/current_students/career_resources/web_links.html

– Choose a topic, such as International Development, International Economic Policy, International Energy, International Trade, NGO’s, etc.

UCSD Graduate School of International/Pacific Studies offers links to many international development resources: http://www-irps.ucsd.edu/resources/cccr_internet.php


Database of international health organizations: http://www.lcdb.org/iphw/links.htm

International Development & Environment Jobs & Consultancies: http://www.devnetjobs.org/

The Venture Consortium resources to explore options in public interest work: http://www.theventureconsortium.org/public_interest/

Michigan State University graduate program on Women and International Development: (Select internet resources for general links and then links by continent) http://www.wid.msu.edu/

Duke University’s Intergovernmental Organizations: http://docs.lib.duke.edu/igo/subject.html

The Italian Mission to International Organizations in Geneva website on international organizations: http://missions.itu.int/~italy/vacancies/vaclinks.htm

International students or students with multiple citizenships might have an advantage. For example, opportunities available for Swiss people in various international agencies: http://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/e/home/foreign/intorg/iojobs/news.html

International students should check their state department’s webpage.

State Department - Bureau of International Organization Affairs (IO): http://www.state.gov/p/io/empl/

US AID - Features career resources (including internships and new professional programs) that might be of help: http://www.usaid.gov/careers/


*With thanks to the Graduate Counselors’ Consortium, made up of over 60 AAUP research universities in the US*
Notes

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