In Tribute to Michael Mohr

Mike in 2004 at the AiChE Student Paper Competition.
Celebrating the Life of C. Michael Mohr

To the Many Friends, Students and Colleagues of Michael Mohr:

Many of you have been seeking ways to contribute in Mike's name or to participate in other actions in his memory. There are several memorials and actions being taken in Mike's name and here are some ideas about how you can participate in these efforts.

Read this Memory Book
First, this Memory Book has been created, and updated since last year. It is now also available to share with your friends and colleagues on the web at: http://web.mit.edu/jhamel/Public/

The testimonials are amazing, came from a wide variety of people from all over the world, who knew Mike. Mike's family has especially been touched by your contributions, as he himself would have been.

Contribute to Create the C. Michael Mohr UROP Scholarship
The C. Michael Mohr (1955) Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) Fund was created, based on students' suggestion. The fund will be used preferentially to provide for UROP wages during the independent activities period (IAP) and summer terms, when the UROP is not being performed for credit. From this fund, a C. Michael Mohr UROP scholarship will be awarded for the first time to a Course 10 student, in 2006-2007. Given Mike's dedication to our undergraduates, this scholarship will give the selected student a chance to gain useful practical experience. The fund is wide open to outside contributions and you are urged to consider making a personal contribution or perhaps a corporate contribution to this fund.

To contribute to the C. Michael Mohr (1955) Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) Fund, please send your donation to Prof. Armstrong, Department Chairman, MIT, Room 66-350, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139. The check should be made out to “MIT” with a notationDesignating the contribution with the fund name and account number 3159180.

The Department has renamed the Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award as the “The C. Michael Mohr Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award”
Create a Student Internship Program for Practical Learning At Your
Work Place
MIT ChemE students are available the full month of January, and between early
June and late August. A couple of years ago, the Department started to assist
students in finding summer internships. This has worked well, and a large
fraction of our juniors and sophomores have secured employment throughout
the USA and overseas. However, the sophomores have had a harder time to find
a position, given their lower experience level.

Internships in engineering consulting, biotech/pharma, chemical/petrochemical,
medical or vet school, Wall street, patent law, materials science, and electronics
are all useful to giving our students a view of the real world as they complete
and apply their classroom learning. If you would like to create an internship, for
January or the summer period, please contact the undergraduate internship
coordinator, Jean-François Hamel at: jhamel@mit.edu.

Visit the Department to Share your Experience with Course 10
students
One of the things that made Mike such a great teacher was his sharing of the
“real world” in his teaching. Many students commented on the great value of
this when assessing his classes.

In Mike’s honor, you might consider spending time with our students to pass
along your knowledge and experience. It would be a pleasure to welcome you
to the Department, and to organize an event with our students if you wished to
visit. This could be as simple as a hosted visit to our laboratories, a round-
table discussion on a specific theme (e.g. “my career after earning my MIT
chemical engineering degree”), or a more formal talk. Our two student chapters;
the AiChE Student Chapter and the Society for Biological Engineering Student
Chapter are both eager to host professionals and to learn how their education
can be applied upon graduation.

Communicate with Mike's family
If you wish to communicate with Mike's widow, his brother or his daughter
please let me know and I will be glad to make the connection. They are still so
pleased to hear from his students and friends.

Make Your Own Memorial to Continue his legacy for our Students
Please join all of us in the Course 10 community to mark this occasion by passing
along some kindness in the way Mike would have wanted, with humor, a wry
smile and with our students, primarily, at heart.
# Remembrances of Mike Mohr

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<tr>
<th>Inna Koyrakh</th>
<th>Class of ‘07</th>
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<td>I have only the warmest memories of Dr. Mohr. He was an incredible teacher, who showed sincere care for students. This was especially evident in the way he explained and presented material. I was looking forward to continue taking classes with him, and I will miss him.</td>
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<th>Andrew Spann</th>
<th>Class of ‘07</th>
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<td>Mike Mohr was a great professor. I remember his 10.301 lectures where he covered topics ranging from the Hindenburg disaster to the mathematical derivation of the Navier-Stokes equations. He was always enthusiastic and excited about what he was teaching. Professor Mohr helped me get my current summer internship with Dow Chemical. He was a great man with many contributions to chemical engineering at MIT.</td>
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<th>Rose Lee</th>
<th>Class of ‘07</th>
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<td>I remember that as a freshman I got a UROP in the beginning of the year and really felt that I was in over my head. I was afraid that the UROP coordinator would drill me on the details of the research. That said, I was really surprised at how easygoing and affable Dr. Mohr was - wishing me luck with the project, and hoping my semester would go well. Especially, as a freshman with all these austere-scholarly-MIT-professor preconceptions, it was very reassuring to meet a professor who seemed genuinely nice. It was really a very small insignificant conversation, but I think you can tell a lot about a person by how they deal with people in the casual, everyday sense, and it just makes me disappointed that I never got the chance to get to know him better.</td>
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Moira Kessler  
Class of ’06

Professor Mohr was the most approachable professor I have ever had. He was the only professor who bothered to learn my name and he helped convince me to go to Cambridge on the MIT-Cambridge exchange, which was the best decision of my life. I respected him as a professor and as a person and only wish that I could have known him better. He will be missed by all, and especially by his students.

Christine C. Chiu  
Class of ’06

Dr. Mohr was one of my favorite professors at MIT. It was my honor to be his student in fluid mechanics in spring 2004, shortly before his medical leave began.

I appreciated how much he cared about us students. He paid close attention to how well we absorbed the information in lectures and spent extra time outside of class explaining concepts to us. With his explanation and encouragement, difficult concepts became more intuitive and easier to grasp. And, the material became more interesting at the same time.

I’m really going to miss having a professor whose class I’d always look forward to and whose good teaching I always remembered.

Jia Xing  
Class of ’06

I was very confused about what I wanted to do my freshman year. Dr. Mohr helped me decide on majoring in Chemical Engineering. He had a wonderful sense of humor and a knack for making you feel completely comfortable. I loved it when he winked and had his cowboy grin. He really cared about what he did and had a huge impact on my experience in the major. My classmates and I will miss him tremendously.
I did not know Prof. Mohr that well - I had him as a recitation instructor for 10.301 - fluid mechanics. However, I noticed that almost everyone in my class had an extremely high degree of respect for Prof. Mohr; whenever he spoke, people would listen... Prof. Mohr had a calming effect on anyone around him.

Dr. Mohr was one of the most caring professors I’ve ever had. The moment that sticks out most in my mind was when he began teaching his section of 10.301 (Fluid Mechanics). At the beginning of his first class, he spent 20 minutes on a "calculus review." He made sure that everyone was comfortable with the mathematical tools that we would be using for the rest of the semester. Although this may seem like a trivial point, his understanding of the students’ needs is unique at MIT. While many professors assume that we understand all of the necessary fundamentals, Dr. Mohr didn’t leave this to chance. He ensured that each and every student would be able to follow and understand all of his lectures.

I knew Dr. Mohr as a 10.301 instructor, the AIChE faculty adviser, and as the Course 10 UROP Coordinator. The thing that impressed me most about Dr. Mohr was his dedication to being a teacher--not a professor, but a teacher. There are many faculty members here at MIT who are professors foremost; their research and administrative duties come first, not their teaching. Dr. Mohr was a gem for the department, simply because he was a devoted teacher.

The term I was taking 10.301, a classmate and I once saw him somewhere on campus and wanted to ask him about that week’s problem set. Since he was a distance from us, we hurried to catch up to him while debating whether it was appropriate or not to approach him outside of class without an appointment. We finally caught up to him as he walked out of the building and into Killian Court. There, we saw him leaning against a column and taking a break. My friend and I were somewhat embarrassed about having followed him as we didn’t want to disturb him, but when he saw us he stepped away from the column to address
us. We apologized for interrupting his break and told him we had a question about the problem set. He answered our questions with the utmost patience and did not stop explaining until we fully understood what we needed to know. Walking away after that encounter, I realized I had found a teacher on campus who always made time for his students, a man who truly was a teacher.

I “TAed” Dr. Mohr’s Separations course a couple of years ago. The students absolutely loved him. He was one of those professors who made difficult material seem easy, and the students learned a lot without even realizing it. I was especially struck by his kindness in dealing with the students. During our discussions about which students were having problems in class, he knew them all as individuals and was quick to give them the benefit of the doubt based on their circumstances. He was one of the rare teachers who really, truly cared about each of his students.

Dr. Mohr had a way of integrating himself with student life, rather than directing it. For example, he used Athena, MIT’s Linux-based accounts system, to check his own e-mail and to keep organized -- along with many other students. He was also ChemE’s CME (Cambridge-MIT Exchange) advisor, and for many of the exchange students he played a pivotal role in our own decisions to study abroad. He was a strong proponent of the CME program and also a mentor from abroad, organized, and determined to make the exchange as painless and transferable as possible for us. Once while we were talking about the CME program Dr. Mohr recalled his own undergraduate years at MIT and said that he would have liked to live abroad in England himself at that age.

I sought Dr. Mohr for many things: career advice, graduate school recommendations, and as a overall role model. I was continually impressed with his dedication to teaching and his visibility among the undergraduate students in the department. Dr. Mohr was among the few faculty in my own subject who even bothered to remember my name, and he did so with ease.

Dr. Mohr will remain an eminent part of my life, prevalent in many aspects of my
undergraduate, graduate, and U.K. studies. It is times like this when one realizes that students never would have had a chance without the support of one’s own family, or the faculty or staff at such an institution -- people like Dr. Mohr. My deepest sympathies go to the family and friends of Dr. Mohr; undoubtedly he will be missed by all.

Swapna Panuganti  
Class of ‘05

In an institution so devoted to the advancement of academic research, it is rare to find an instructor dedicated to teaching undergraduate students. Dr. Mohr was one of those rare, treasured professors. Besides being an enthusiastic and engaging instructor, he was also a wonderful advisor. Although I did not have the pleasure of having him as my official academic advisor, he always made the time to listen to undergraduates when they had issues with the curriculum, research, or their personal lives. I remember when several other students and I were very displeased with the instructors in 10.37 and the volume/relevance of the problem sets they were assigning. We contacted Dr. Mohr and he met with all of us the next day. We discussed not only the problems with the class but what the overall purpose of our chemical engineering education was. He made the effort to go beyond the issue at hand and explain to us what his goal was as an educator. Dr. Mohr had a lasting impact on my education and has set an extraordinarily high standard for the education I received both at MIT and beyond.

Katherine Leskin  
Class of ‘05

I know that he did a lot to make the Chemical Engineering Department participate in the Cambridge-MIT exchange. He was my advisor for part of sophomore year and my contact for when I was in Cambridge, and he was always willing to chat and listen.

Curtis Chin  
Class of ‘05

I am saddened to hear of the loss of Dr. Mohr. Dr. Mohr was my advisor when I changed majors to Chemical Engineering. He was very caring and always available whenever I needed advice inside MIT and beyond, in dealing with
personal problems such as coping with my father’s passing. My previous advisor in Environmental Engineering had mentioned that Dr. Mohr was a great person to have as a contact in the department. He had worked with Dr. Mohr before and knew him to be very involved with the undergraduates and took genuine concern in their well-being. Being with Dr. Mohr gave my former advisor comfort in knowing that I was in good hands in the Chemical Engineering department. It came to no surprise later that Dr. Mohr wanted to continue advising me beyond the first contact. He was terrific in understanding and empathizing with pressures of college life, and I would have been at lost without him.

I will miss Dr. Mohr dearly and I will pray for his family and close friends as they cope with his passing.

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<th>Hana Oh</th>
<th>Class of ‘05</th>
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He doesn’t know it, but Dr. Mohr was the first professor at MIT whose office I visited to ask for help. I had never found myself struggling in a class before, and I was too proud to admit that I might need some extra support, so it took me a very long time to gather up the courage to walk into his office. I was also hesitant because, to me, all the Chemical Engineering professors seemed (at the time) so unapproachable, distant, cold; and as I sat there in Dr. Mohr’s office, reluctantly explaining that I wasn’t doing very well in his class, I was scared. I wondered what had brought me to his office. But somehow, it seemed okay to admit all that to him – somehow I felt that Dr. Mohr would know it as an earnest request for help and not as a whining of an unsatisfied sophomore. Still, I was afraid I would be told to go solve my own problems like an MIT student should.

Our meeting was not at all what I expected. Dr. Mohr asked me about my college experience so far, in my dorm, in my musical groups. He asked me about my family, the places I’ve lived in, where I was headed, where I wanted to be. What brought me to study ChemE, and what had brought him. Of course we talked about the course too, and did sample problems, but that was immaterial compared to everything else. Dr. Mohr told me that it was important that I took the initiative to come ask for help, and that, in itself, was a step in improvement; besides, he convinced me, it was almost abnormal for anyone in ChemE not to have a struggling point. He helped me see that my office visit that day was not an admission of defeat but an initiative of challenging myself; I don’t know if he knew.
how much I had hesitated before making that visit but he rewarded me so richly for it.

To him, I was probably one of many, many students who would drop by during office hours for questions and shyly say hello when we met in the hallways. But to me, Prof. Mohr was the first friendly face at MIT who helped me see how eager professors are to provide help and guidance for students who seek it. He was also the one who taught me that sometimes, it’s okay to take a step back and say I don’t understand and I need help – because in the end that takes you even further ahead.

Like many other ChemE students, I will miss him dearly. When I become a professor someday, I hope to do the same things for my students that he did for me.

Priya Shah  
Class of ‘05

I suppose the first memories of Dr. Mohr that come to mind would be learning of McCabe-Thiele diagrams and his strong commitment to the undergraduate Course 10 population through teaching. However, what some members of the Course 10 family may not have seen was his sincere willingness to listen to students about their concerns. He will be missed.

Nancy Chen  
Class of ‘05

I was in Professor Mohr's 10.32 (Separation Processes) class in Spring 2004 but my fondest memory of Professor Mohr wasn't in class; it was during Campus Preview Weekend. My friends and I were eating lunch after class on the Student Center steps that afternoon in April when Professor Mohr walked slowly by with his hat, wheeling a box filled with papers and a big poster board sign that read 'Course X: Chemical Engineering.' We waved at him and he recognized us. He asked us if we were going to stop by the Undergraduate Major Fair for the prefrosh. Feeling guilty that we had not planned on helping out, we said that we might stop by later. He told us he would be there for most of it and encouraged us to visit the booth to talk to prefrosh before he continued walking over to Johnson Athletic Center.
That was when I realized how much Professor Mohr cared about us and the undergraduates here in the Chemical Engineering Department. It made me feel really lucky to have such a wonderful professor who cared so much about the undergraduate program that he would personally take the time to promote the department at a Choice of Major Fair designed for high school students who have not even decided to attend MIT yet.

I did learn a lot from Professor Mohr in class, but watching Professor Mohr walk over to Johnson to setup for the Choice of Major Fair at CPW was one of my fondest memories because it showed so much about him and what he cared about. Most students probably just walked right by him without looking twice. But seeing him drag that box with the sign sticking out from the back that day, really made me very lucky to have such a caring faculty member watching out for us.

**Johanna E. Salazar-Lazaro  Class of ‘05**

To the very beloved Dr. Mohr: I remember going into your office and chatting about how classes were going and anything else that was on my mind. Often, our discussions were those covering subjects such as whether I should drop a class, whether I should take a class, or whether I should even bother with an internship.

This one time, I thought that you were the coolest advisor when you told me to keep your class and receive the less-than-honorable grade. Every time that I look at my report card, and see the lowest grade that I’ve ever gotten, I smile. I smile... and have this image of you saying “Don’t waste your time in retaking the class – just get it over with.” (There’s something you don’t hear from an advisor every day!)

I will always appreciate the time that you spent with me, counseling me, and providing me with support. You will always be remembered... by all of us.

**Henry Bergquist  Class of '05**

Dr. Mohr genuinely cared about his students, and as a student, you really can't ask for anything more. Every university in the world could use more teachers like Dr. Mohr. I am fortunate and grateful to have known him.
Ahmed E. Ismail  
Class of ‘05

I wasn't a student of Dr. Mohr; however, I was an instructor-G for the last course Dr. Mohr taught (10.10, Fall 2004). I remember one particular moment above all: most of the class had gathered in the computer lab for our "office hours," when the other TA and I realized that we had goofed in putting together the problem set: the students didn't have all the numbers they needed to complete the solution. Given the typical MIT student's drive to get the "right answer," we knew we could be in a lot of trouble.

Luckily for me and the other TA, Dr. Mohr was on hand; his quick thinking - and ready wit - were both in abundant display. We taught the class their first real glimpse of engineering that day: the fine art of the engineering approximation. I don't think it would have worked had it just been the graduate students telling the undergraduates what to do; but having a "battle-tested," veteran instructor encouraging the students to make a good guess and justify it, worked well. His obvious rapport with the class and enthusiasm for teaching turned a potentially frustrating moment into an ideal teaching opportunity.

Amy Shi  
Class of ‘04

Dr. Mohr was a favorite among Chemical Engineering students. His door was always open, his ear always available, and he had fantastic advice for us. I remember seeing him walking the halls of Buildings 16/56 and 66, he’d nod hi and smile and ask how I was doing. He really cared about his students. His was a humble, non-imposing, calming presence that was in many ways the support that tied our undergraduate community together. He will be truly missed by all of us.

Reuben Cummings  
Class of ‘04

Even before I met Dr. Mohr, I heard from friends of mine how great he was. It wasn’t until I got the chance to know him as both an advisor and professor that I could truly appreciate his level of commitment to students. Not only did Dr. Mohr make lectures interesting and understandable, he was just as approachable when talking to him in person - a combination not too often found. Even though I rarely went to see Dr. Mohr outside of advisor related issues, I immediately felt that I
could talk to him about anything. Additionally, he was always available and always had time to see students. Aside from class and lunch, he was reliably in his office day in and out despite his consulting commitments and numerous other obligations. It was apparent from every aspect that Dr. Mohr cared about his students at a level unmatched by many other professors and I am glad for having gotten to know him.

Keith G. Reed Class of ’04

I am really saddened by the news of Dr. Mohr's passing. He was my advisor while I was in the Department of Chemical Engineering at MIT, and has made a huge impact on my academic development. One thing that I remember most about Dr. Mohr was his "don't worry about it" attitude. I would frequently come to him in some sort of panic about grades or which classes to take and he was always there in his office, willing to listen to me go on and on, every time telling me "don't worry about it." And I have admit, as many times as I came into his office (never by appointment), I always left feeling relieved. Dr. Mohr taught me how to deal with the many stresses of being at MIT, which we as students tend to make larger than they really are. I can definitely say that if it had not been for Dr. Mohr and is "don't worry about it" attitude, I would not have made it through the Department of Chemical Engineering, and furthermore, I would not have gone on to continue my academic career in graduate school. Dr. Mohr will truly be missed.

Ines Sherifi Class of ’04

Dr. Mohr was truly an amazing teacher and person. I can truthfully say that as a student in his class, for the first time, I actually started to appreciate engineering concepts and how they were applied to solve problems. In addition, I began to start thinking outside of the box and began to apply more creative solutions. Dr. Mohr got many of us to begin thinking outside just the world of formulas (which unfortunately most chemical engineering students are so accustomed to doing) and begin to acquire a deeper understanding of science.

Above all, I remember he always taught us that we needed to have fun while studying. I believe he was one of the only professors to come out to a fraternity party to celebrate the end of ICE.
Brent Schreiber  

Class of ‘03

I came from a small liberal arts high school in Delaware and had never lived in a Big City. 1st term freshman year I was suffocating with the workload. No matter how hard I tried I couldn't seem to hit class average and I was failing 3 courses. My confidence was completely destroyed and I was in the process of transferring. My advisor recommended that I talked to Dr. Mohr before I transferred. At that time, talking directly to a professor was one of the most intimidating things, but Dr. Mohr really treated me with respect. He spent an hour with me talking about my study habits and making suggestions on how to improve myself. He encouraged me to stay another semester and started to give me more confidence that I could succeed. His advice was dead-on and I saw dramatic improvement every semester. Even after my graduation, when the job market was tough, he offered to contact his industry contacts to arrange interviews (one which landed me the job I am now in). Dr. Mohr was a great mentor and a great man. I will truly miss him, and am sorry for the future ChemE's of MIT, they will miss out on one of the best parts of the experience.

Vibha Srinivasan  

Class of ‘03

I was a TA for his course 'Separation Processes' during Spring 2001 (I am now a postdoc at UT-Austin, and was a grad student at MIT during 1997-2003). I remember that he was an extremely dedicated and methodical teacher, and students really loved his lectures. During the final course evaluation, some students had written that they would have changed their majors if not for this course and Prof. Mohr's teaching. It is a very big loss for the ChE department, and I want to convey my heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

Kris Grymonpre  

Class of ‘03

I graduated from Course X in 2003, but I decided to become a middle school teacher at a charter school in Framingham rather than take a job in industry. Looking back at my years at MIT, Dr. Mohr was a big influence. He taught at least three of my classes throughout my education, and each class he taught was special. He was the first teacher I had here that forced me to think on a different level, pushing me out of my comfort zone. As a result, I became a better problem-solver.
and gained all of the material he was teaching us. Dr. Mohr's classes were very clear, and he was always very approachable if we ever needed help.

Although I didn't realize it at the time, Dr. Mohr's commitment to the students and our learning played a large inspirational role in my decision to become a teacher. With his passing, I am reminded of what a great educator can inspire to be.

Rachel Parke-Houben  Class of ‘03

I am so sorry to hear about Dr. Mohr. I was just shocked by the news. He defined the Course X undergraduate experience; I can't imagine what Chemical Engineering at MIT can be like without him. It was a treat to be taught by him and a pleasure to know him. He got to know every one of his students, greeted us by name in the halls, and generally looked out for us. He was adored as a teacher, more universally, I think, than any other teacher I have had in my life. As a sophomore, I remember an upperclassman telling me about the junior-year curriculum: "In the spring, there's 10.37, which isn't too bad, and 10.32, which is taught by Dr. Mohr." (It was well understood that nothing further needed to be said about the quality of 10.32.) People attended his classes even if it wasn't their habit to go to class, and even if those classes were taught as early as (shudder!) 9 am.

He had such regard for us as individuals. It went far beyond making himself available to students. I remember handing my UROP paperwork to him every semester. Unlike most people, who would at glance through the forms to make sure everything was in order, Dr. Mohr would set it aside without even looking at it, instead taking the opportunity to smile and ask me how I was doing. He was pleasant, unhurried, gentle, kind, always pleased to interact with students. I miss him very much.
Dr. Mohr is probably one of the only professors I've ever encountered in life (1) that I liked and (2) that gave me a 'C'. Few other professors in my educational career (now including law school at the University of Chicago) can boast of achieving BOTH feats. It's always been either (1) or (2)...but, rarely (1) AND (2).

I remember meeting with him during IAP, about the first 'C' I had received since 5th grade. It was that infamous ChemE course entitled “ICE”, a course that had consumed several days and nights of my semester. Surely a class that exhausted SO much of my heart, soul, blood, sweat, and tears would merit more than a mere 'C' on my fall grade report...and once I met with Dr. Mohr in person, I was sure that he would agree. He didn't agree. The 'C' remains immortalized in my MIT permanent record. And, I guess I learned a fairly crucial life lesson that day.

A lesson was about focus and direction. As he explained in our meeting, effort is useless unless it is focused in a positive direction. Sure, my partners and I spent just as much time as our classmates: toiling away in the computer lab, typing papers, making calculations, lacking sleep. But, our work wasn't as focused and clear, hence the 'C'.

Greatest advice ever. And, not just for getting an 'A' in ICE, but for getting an 'A' in life (or at least keeping up with the curve). Exist with focus and direction. Have a point. Don't just live life to live life. If you're going to struggle through life, make sure you're struggling toward something worthwhile...something productive...something dream-like...

And, considering the incredible intellectual accomplishments of Dr. Mohr, and considering at all those who learned to admire him by the end of his life, I doubt that anyone could accuse him of being a hypocrite.

It's very sad news to hear of Dr. Mohr's death- he was a great teacher, mentor, and friend to all ChemE undergrads when I was there. I served on the AIChE board with him as our advisor, and I remember feeling that he was truly a professor that cared not just about the education we ChemEs got at MIT, but also
the experience. He was an excellent teacher, and a funny one at times. I remember one story he told us was about the construction of a cooling duct, where in which two fans in parallel were used to expedite cooling. The engineers were baffled that despite the extra fan being used for cooling, there was no improvement. It turned out that each of the two fans were set in opposite directions!

Julie Hong  
Class of ‘02

Dr Mohr is one of the finest instructors I've ever had.

Sam Weinstein  
Class of ‘02

Dr. Mohr was always available when I knocked on his office door. I first had him as a TA in 5.60 and discovered that his teaching style fit my learning style perfectly.

After declaring course 10 as my major I often went to him when I needed help understanding a concept even though he wasn't the professor teaching the class. I always walked away understanding what I came into understand. He was there for personal advice too. He was able to help figure out my next step in life after I decided that I didn't want to go to medical school anymore. I was a wreck as all I had ever thought I wanted to do was be a Doctor. He introduced me to many other careers that I hadn't even considered. After I graduated and moved away for graduate school, I still wrote to him to keep him updated on what I was doing and he always wrote back. When I was in the Boston area and on campus, I always stopped by to see if he was in his office, and when he was, he always took the time to chat and catch up. I will miss not being able to do that anymore. He was a great teacher and mentor and will always remember the impact he had on my college experience and subsequent life choices.

Manoj Viswanathan  
Class of ‘02

I transferred to MIT in the spring of 2001, and Dr. Mohr was my academic advisor. In addition to being the best teacher I had while at MIT, he was always there to talk to me about any problems I had adjusting to my new environment. Dr. Mohr let me graduate on time by helping me get transfer credit for previous courses, and
eventually wrote my recommendations for both law and graduate schools. I'll remember Dr. Mohr not only for how he helped me academically, but for his approachability and the kindness he showed all of his students.

**Dara Jeffries**

Class of '02

The fondest memory I have of Dr. Mohr is that his door was always open to his students. Also, I remember sitting with him at the Muddy Charles listening to him remember his past as a ChemE when he was a student and a member of the faculty at MIT. He was a wonderful teacher and mentor. I feel sorry for any future students who will miss him as a professor.

**Ryan Zeidan**

Class of ‘02

I am very sorry to hear about the loss of Dr. Mohr, he was a very good teacher and a good man. Dr. Mohr shaped the person I am today in many ways. He served as an example of exactly how a teacher should conduct themselves, as well as the energy and genuine enthusiasm for teaching that all teachers should have. He helped me get into graduate schools by taking the time to write many letters on my behalf. He showed me how a teacher should approach teaching in order to effectively get through to a wide range of students.

He was able to get me and all of my classmates truly excited about separations processes, about terephthalic acid production, and reverse osmosis in a way that not many other people on this planet could achieve.

And most importantly, every time I went to his office for help, he was there and would drop whatever he was doing to take the time to explain my questions to me in great detail. And then there was always the occasional Friday lunch time visit at the Muddy Charles, where Dr. Mohr would join us for a few beers and a hot dog or two over lunch, we always enjoyed his company. I went through a very difficult time after leaving MIT, I was being treated poorly by my advisor in graduate school and I decided that it was time to make a change. I wrote to Dr. Mohr and asked for his help in changing labs, and by the time I made it over to the office of the advisor I wanted to speak with about joining his lab, Dr. Mohr had already called him and extended his help with the situation and spoke on my behalf. This was the type of genuinely caring man Dr. Mohr was and will be
remembered as. My deepest condolences to his family, colleagues, and friends. He will be truly missed and MIT will not be the same without him.

Katy Conley Randall  Class of ‘01

I was saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Mohr. He was my advisor and I also did some grading for him. Beyond that, he was my favorite professor at MIT. Dr. Mohr was a warm, kind, caring person and I enjoyed knowing him. His primary focus always seemed to be on the students, rather than on research or other commitments, something that I appreciated. I always looked forward to hearing about his industry experience in class, as that was what I really wanted to do when I graduated, and he was an excellent story teller. Industry experience always seemed to be hard to come by at a place so geared towards research, which is probably why it made such a difference to me. I will likely be doing some recruiting at MIT this fall, and I was looking forward to getting to visit with him. Course 10 will not be the same without Dr. Mohr, but it is undoubtedly a better place because he was there. I will greatly miss him.

Neville Mehenty  Class of ‘01

It turns out the best piece of advice I received at MIT came in my freshman year when I decided to choose Course 10. Somebody (I don’t remember who) told me to try to get Dr. Mohr as an advisor, so I looked into it and got it worked out. Little did I know at the time, this fortunate piece of advice introduced me to a relationship with a man I first looked to as a mentor, then a friend, and then a father figure. Just thinking about how many other people have felt the same way over the years makes me realize how sorely he will be missed. His impact on my life, however, will not be missed, as I will remember and cherish his guidance and kind words forever.

Jose Manuel Otero  Class of ‘01

I have many fond memories of taking classes with and meeting with Dr. Mohr. Dr. Mohr is someone that truly embraced teaching, and interacting with students,
Dr. Mohr was my advisor from 1998 - 2001 when I pursued my undergraduate degree at MIT in chemical engineering. I was also fortunate enough to have him as a professor twice and to interact with him through his role as faculty advisor of AICHE-MIT.

I know that you already know this, but Dr. Mohr was extraordinary. He was always accessible regardless of what I was concerned about or how silly or inconsequential it was. I'd just walk into his office, he'd turn around from his computer (he was always playing solitaire), and he'd listen to all my concerns, help me make decisions, and make me feel better. I hope you know how much his constant support and encouragement meant to us and affected us.

We all loved him. He understood us, and he made sure we all knew that he cared about us. Dr. Mohr was brilliant, yet instead of doing his own research, he dedicated his life to making sure that we were well educated. He was an outstanding professor, and he taught us not just topics in chemical engineering, but really how to problem solve and how to think.

I'm sorry that I will be unable to attend the memorial service this upcoming Tuesday. I will be in training in Philadelphia to become a middle school science teacher - no doubt in part motivated by having Dr. Mohr as a role model. Please know that I will be there in spirit.
Reginald Rogers, Jr.  
Class of ‘01

Dr. Mohr has to be one the most gifted teachers I have ever met. His time and dedication to the students was unmatched and I am always grateful for his guidance in 10.32 and 10.390. Dr. Mohr inspired me to pursue my passion for teaching and I am currently moving along with my Ph.D. program to reach that goal. If I had not had any classes with Dr. Mohr, I don't know I would be where I am today. Thank you always, Dr. Mohr.

Edward Huang  
Class of ‘00

Dr. Mohr was a wonderful teacher and mentor. He was a true advocate for the students. His dedication to student teaching made MIT chemical engineering what it was and had a great impact on our learning experience. He cared deeply about the well-being of his students and provided guidance and support for all of us. He had such elegance and amazing ability to make difficult engineering concepts applicable and understandable for the students. Frankly, most of us would not have made it through chemical engineering without his excellent teaching. He will be dearly missed.

Donna Wrublewski  
Class of ‘00

I was kind of a ghost in course X, I wasn't really very happy with it but was too stubborn to change. I wasn't too involved with the department. But I do remember talking to Dr. Mohr when I was a freshman about double-majoring in X and III and he, oh so wisely, talked me out of it. I only had one or 2 classes with him, Baby ICE and part of ICE. But somehow he knew my name and was happy and surprised I'd made the decision to go to grad. school when I talked with him at some event my senior year. Even a ghost couldn't get by him. He was always nice and pleasant and helpful no matter what, and he was someone who, when he spoke, I listened, as opposed to a lot of other people who were a lot more pompous and useless. I think his classes were the most useful and the ones I most remember.
Dr. Mohr was one of the nicest people on campus, and a gentleman in his own right. During my undergrad years, his office was one of the few places on campus, where I could go to, to ponder the meaning of life. I recall his office as one of great character, reflecting his own rich, genuine character.

Dr. Mohr had this innate ability to bring order to chaos, and always asked me the most thought provoking questions, in the most comical of ways.

He was a teacher, not just of Chemical Engineering, but of life, in general. He advised his students on living a meaningful life, and this extended beyond their years at MIT and beyond the work they did....he was encouraging of students who chose to travel untraditional paths, and told them what they needed to know, and not what they wanted to hear. He talked me through several confused periods during my career at MIT, and was instrumental in my taking a job with Arthur D. Little when I graduated....

His tall lanky silhouette with his hand in his left pocket, walking down the infinite corridor, always had a calming effect on me...and is an image that’s been etched in my mind’s eye over time...

In him, many students saw, a teacher, a guide, a role model, a father, a friend... I hope his final days were peaceful, and that he is now among good friends.

I took 10.390 with Prof Mohr in 1996. Ultimately, I switched to Course VI in 1997 but received a X-C degree in addition to my Course VI work. I will always remember the things I learned in Course X, especially the nature of how chemical engineering principles apply to real world processes and phenomena. Many of those things I took from 10.390 and Prof Mohr’s teachings. Perhaps because I never took ICE, his 'mini-ICE' was all that much more valuable to me. He was always very approachable, knowledgeable, and kind, and I am fairly certain I attended each and every one of his lectures because I enjoyed his class so much. I remember copying down all his drawings and notes, and the thought he put into his teaching and problem sets. I think, in general, Course X students tend to be interested in
different things within the study of chemical engineering in a very hit-or-miss way, but that universally we all enjoyed his class.

I also remember, for some reason (being ill perhaps) not being able to take the final exam that semester and he let me make it up afterward in his office with no trouble. I sat at a round table in his office to take the exam as he worked quietly nearby at this desk. I know I’ve recalled this recently and often, so surely his friendliness has always stuck with me and is one of the reasons I have very fond memories of Course X. I’m sure he will be very much missed within the department and by his students. Many condolences to the department, students, and Prof. Mohr's family.

Phyllis Rodriguez  Class of ‘00

Dr. Mohr personifies my experience at MIT. When prospective students and parents ask me about instructors at my alma mater, Dr. Mohr is always the first person to come to mind. He was an effective lecturer, but even more so, he was an easily approachable person. I could always count on being able to walk into his office and discuss any issue that I had, whether it was educational or extracurricular, even though he was not officially my advisor. The best part, though, of my memories of Dr. Mohr: his dependable sweaters, and the way he always inhaled deeply before answering a question. Those thoughts always bring a smile to my face. My heart goes out to Dr. Mohr's family, and his surrogate family in the Course X department.

Philip Huang  Class of ‘99

I am extremely saddened by the news of Dr. Mohr’s passing. He was always a great teacher who imbued chemical engineering classes with a sense of humor and history. I remember being very careful not to miss his classes because he always had such great stories and challenging industrial problems to share. Water tower design, origin of OJ concentrate, plant design... I loved the way he made us write our problem sets as memos addressed to him as a "Chief Engineer." He will be deeply missed. I send my deepest sympathies to his family.
Marco Mena  
Class of ‘99

Dr. Mohr was certainly one of the best, most caring instructors at MIT. I had Dr. Mohr as an instructor, an AIChE mentor, and also as someone I was a teaching assistant for. Everything he said was always in this calm, reassuring voice. When you were in one of his lectures, you always walked out smarter and more confident. When you were in a meeting with him, you always felt sure that he would guide you the right way, though he would always wait to see if you could figure it out for yourself. Dr. Mohr was clearly many people’s lifeline at ChemE, and was one of those instructors that made MIT a great experience.

Teresa DiGenova  
Class of ‘99

We were all very lucky to have Dr. Mohr; it is difficult to imagine MIT without him.

There were times when our department seemed both incomprehensible and impersonal. Dr. Mohr never did. I looked forward to his classes, with their calm, rational explanations of distillation columns, design economics, and decade-old pranks, like welding an MTA car to the tracks with thermite bombs. One particularly rough day he let me have a good cry in his office, then assured me matter-of-factly that everything would be okay. As usual, he was right.

Lisa Yoonjoo Hwang  
Class of ‘99

Around my junior year at MIT, I decided that I wanted to be Dr. Mohr. He was by far the best teacher I’ve had at both MIT and Stanford. I was one of the many students who took 10.390 purely because it was taught by Dr. Mohr. I also attended every single lecture of 10.32 just because it was Dr. Mohr (even though it was at 9 a.m. and I never made it to my other classes before noon.)

There are so many things about Dr. Mohr that make me feel so lucky to have known him. I remember so many random things. I loved seeing him slowly walk down the hallway wearing his fisherman hat. I remember him telling a story once in recitation: We were talking about heat transfer and he started telling a story about way back when, I think when he was little.
He told a story about when he was a kid, he and his friends would throw snowballs at these refining-type vessels, and they would melt before they hit the walls due to the heat radiating from them. For some reason, picturing Dr. Mohr as a young kid throwing snowballs cracked me up, and I’ve always remembered that story.

He was always so welcoming. I remembering walking into his office area, and it was always such a nice experience. First you’d chat with Carol, then go see him. Hearing the news about Dr. Mohr hit me hard because it also made me remember how sad I was to hear about Carol passing away a few years ago. When I heard about Carol, I remember thinking how much of a loss that was to the department. Hearing the news about Dr. Mohr now is staggering.

As an undergrad, Dr. Mohr is the core of what you remember about MIT. I took all of his classes. He was our AIChE chapter advisor (I remember being really bummed that he couldn't make it with us to the annual meeting in Miami. Most students would be happy that the faculty chaperone couldn't make it, but we were all sad because we knew it would've been even more fun with him there). He wrote so many recommendations for my grad school and job applications. He was there when I needed advice on career plans. He took us on our Merck trip to Rahway. I worked with him when I worked at Merck and got to organize that same trip.

I know this is very long-winded, but I think that's because there are so, so many good things about Dr. Mohr, and it's very difficult to sum them up in just a few words.

I'm really grateful that I got to see him 2 years ago at the AIChE annual meeting in San Francisco. I mentioned earlier that somewhere along the way, I realized that I wanted to be Dr. Mohr. He was one of the most respected and loved teachers at MIT. The night of the MIT alum gathering at the conference, I finally told him that. I also told him that I wanted to know everything about how he got to where he was so that I could do the same. He just laughed when I told him that. He told me it's never a direct path but if I want it, it'll happen. I was really lucky to have known him, and I'm going to miss him.
Olivia Cheo
Classes of ’99 and ’05

There’s so much that I would like to say to pay tribute to Dr. Mohr, but I am unable to find words eloquent enough to do so adequately. Dr. Mohr was simply a great man; he was kind, compassionate, and sincere, not to mention a respected and effective teacher.

Without his guidance and support, I am certain that I wouldn’t have been able to graduate from MIT. He spoke with the CAP on my behalf numerous times, and I am eternally grateful for that.

If I had had a choice, Dr. Mohr was the kind of man whom I would've chosen as my father or grandfather. He was like a living legacy in the department. I looked him up on the alum website at one point, and I told classmates that Dr. Mohr had been in Logs (which is what the alum site says, but not what the News Office's obit says). A friend responded that she was not surprised; you could hear the resonance in his voice.

I felt awed that Dr. Mohr had once endured the same trials that the rest of us had as an undergrad; he knew the joys and the heartaches. I have nothing but the utmost respect and admiration for him, and I find myself crying every time I think of his passing. I hope that he didn't suffer.

I have distinct memories of one particular lecture in 10.32 during the spring of '98. It was the day after an exam, and we were loath to move on to new material. We asked questions along the lines of, "What's the difference between an assistant and an associate professor?" (to which Dr. Mohr responded, "About $20,000.") He spoke of past politics within the ChemE department; the reasoning behind why we weren't allowed to stay at MIT for a PhD. (he asked us if we had ever spoken to professors in the Course 6 department? He said we'd only need to speak to one of them because they all thought the same way!...), while omitting mentioning that HE had done all three of his degrees at MIT; and of a potato chip factory tour where he had the freshest chip he ever tasted straight off the line. He was jaunty, and he made me smile. I miss him very much already. I will always treasure the kind words he shared with me. With love and respect, I’ll close.
Anita Krishnan  
Class of ‘98

I was a graduate of Course 10 in 1998; there are not very many professors that I remember well as we had such big classes, but I will always remember Dr. Mohr's kind words, wry sense of humor, humble manner, and words of encouragement as an advisor when I ran into trouble or frustration during my undergraduate work. Every class or small group he taught was great, and he was one of the best professors at making complicated principles seem simple and accessible. His passing is a huge loss to the department.

Amy Karger  
Class of ‘98

Dr. Mohr was the cream of the teaching crop at MIT. I graduated from MIT in 1998 (S.B. in ChemE & biology), and many of my professors are but a dim memory. Dr. Mohr however still stands out vividly in my mind - his enthusiasm for teaching, his clarity in explaining difficult concepts, his warm personality. During other professors' lectures it was clear that teaching, for them, was a chore. During Dr. Mohr’s lectures, it was clear teaching, for him, was pure joy. He will be greatly missed.

Todd C. Bailey  
Class of ’98

I was one of few transfer students to MIT in the Fall of 1996, and was accepted into the Department of Mechanical Engineering. After listening Dr. Mohr talk about chemical engineering at the department introductions, I decided to change majors, and he was very open and welcoming. I had spent the two years prior at a community college; Dr. Mohr thought it unlikely that I would finish my S.B. in 2 more years, and challenged me to do it. I think we were both surprised when I did, and I don't believe I could have done that without his challenge, mentoring, and guidance. He will be missed, and remains a highlight of my MIT memories.
Dr. Mohr was a great man. I remember when I first arrived at MIT for graduate school in Chemical Engineering, he was one of the few professors that really connected with me when he smiled and said hello in the hallways. Somehow one felt that he was sincere. He was the type of person that really cared for not only the students, but people around him. He will be missed. The few encounters we had in the hallways and brief conversations are part of my fond memories when I was a student there. My condolences to his family. I know how hard it is.

It is very hard for me to hear of the loss of Dr. Mohr. He was an inspirational teacher. Even as a student in his class, I feel that he was a mentor to me in many respects in the way he combined humor and gave advice in his lectures. It is a privilege to have been in his presence. I will miss him.

It was truly sad to learn of Dr. Mohr's passing. Though it has been a few years, I have very fond memories of Dr. Mohr. Most specifically, I recall how supportive he was when I approached him about studying abroad during the Spring semester of my sophomore. I was concerned about missing an entire semester of engineering classes, since I was only going to be studying French for my Language major. He allayed my fears and suggested alternative Course 2 classes that I could take upon my return to make up the Fluids class that I was going to miss. I was so encouraged by his support and his desire to see me succeed, not only in Chemical Engineering, but also in my other chosen fields of interest.

I am certain that void he has left will not be easily filled.
Fred Jao  
Class of ’98

I remember how clear and enjoyable Dr. Mohr’s lectures were on Separation Processes. He wrote recommendations for me several times. He gave good advice about the curriculum. I will always remember his comment that 'Life is an adventure'.

Jeffrey LeBlanc  
Class of ’98

Dr. Mohr was my AIChE advisor and school advisor while I attended MIT (Course X ’98). He was a fantastic teacher, a mentor, and a great friend. While a student, I once asked him how I could best evaluate my life course. His advice was spot on, something I've carried with me to this day: ”on a daily basis, focus on your daily stuff ... don't look ahead too much or too often, or you'll miss what's right under your nose ... every six months or so, lock yourself in a room with a glass of scotch and look back ... it's at these times you can reset your course or ponder life's greater meaning”. He’ll be missed by us all.

Paul Kopesky  
Class of ’98

The news of Dr. Mohr's passing stopped me cold. I can’t begin to put into words Dr. Mohr's impact on my chemical engineering education at MIT. He was very simply the gold standard for teaching excellence. His lectures and classes were truly the cornerstone of my education and his passion as an educator serves as an inspiration for my own pursuits as a graduate student and teaching assistant. My memories of his brilliance are as bright today as they were when I was in his class nearly 10 years ago. His genius will be deeply missed. I send my deepest and most sincere condolences to Dr. Mohr's widow and daughter.

Julia Greer  
Class of ’97

I just wanted to say that I am devastated by the sad news about Dr. Mohr. Out of all of my professors at MIT, he was the only one so dedicated to teaching undergraduates. He was truly an outstanding teacher - always available, always patient, and always took us seriously. He was also a great mentor. I will really miss him.
Ana Sandoval  Class of ‘97

I am so sorry to hear of Dr. Mohr’s passing. I have nice memories of him which I will keep with me.

Nicole Skaf  Class of ‘97

I am very saddened by the news and hope his family is finding consolation and comfort. In my memories of Dr. Mohr from classes, he always had a warm smile on his face and a calm reassuring presence. I always imagine him smiling. I will pray for him and his family; he was one of my most memorable instructors. Peace.

Annie Xia  Class of ‘97

I don’t know how to describe my feelings now. I really feel that I have lost a friend, a mentor and that the MIT Chem. Eng Department has lost one of its most valuable assets.

Dr. Mohr is one of the few professors that made boring Chem. Eng. subjects fun to study. I took one of his classes, Process Engineering (10.390) when I was a junior. He was the first professor that showed us how to use conservation of mass, or energy to tackle real-life process issues. He was the first professor that made me feel like an engineer with real problem-solving skills, instead of a master of equations.

Outside of classrooms, we used to spend a lot of time at Dr. Mohr's office chatting with Dr. Mohr and Carol Phillips who will also always be remembered as a beloved member of MIT Chem. E. family.

Dr. Mohr not only truly enjoyed teaching, but also loved being friends with his students. He was funny, clever, kind and well-respected. It's people like him that makes my MIT education unique and memorable. He will always be in my heart.
Salvador A. Biguria  
Class of ‘97

I will simply say that Dr. Mohr has been one of the best professors I have ever had...Nobody can deny the energy, knowledge and commitment he brought to class every single day...

He was really inspiring... made learning fun... and was tough, but extremely fair... I must truly say that he was one of the highlights of my experience at MIT...

Again, I wish I could have developed a closer relationship with Dr. Mohr... however, I will be happy keeping the great memories I have of my days in class in MIT with him...*(writing from Guatemala)*

Ivette Johnson  
Class of ‘96

• Dr. Mohr is one of those people you never forget – who makes a sometimes hellish place like MIT so much more bearable. For me he was truly one of the most impactful people I met while at MIT.

• I remember Dr. Mohr spending just as much time with the good students as the ones who were in trouble (myself being one of the ones often in trouble!). He knew how to adapt to every student’s needs – in contrast of so many MIT professors who were brilliant but couldn't get their point across to students. This showed how Dr. Mohr placed the development of his students above every other objective.

• As a person who was constantly involved with minorities working on the OME and being on different boards for minority groups, I know Dr. Mohr was a huge supporter of advancement of minorities and really took the time to help us out.

• Dr. Mohr was our AIChE Board Advisor and made my year as AIChE Vice-President one of the most enjoyable ones at MIT – especially when we all got to fly down to Miami for the National AIChE meeting in a much needed winter cold blast!
**Shelly Sakiyama-Elbert  
Class of ‘96**

I'm so sorry to hear of Dr. Mohr's passing. He was such a wonderful teacher and role model. He provided an excellent example of outstanding teaching style for so many Course X students. I had him as an instructor for 10.37 and ICE. I also knew him as the advisor for AIChE, of which I was a student officer. His support allowed us to organize many great events for the students. I still look to his example today as an instructor and as advisor to the student chapter of the Biomedical Engineering Society at Washington University, where I am currently an assistant professor. Dr. Mohr's great warmth and caring for undergraduates was critical my years at MIT, as well as for countless other undergraduates. His presence will be greatly missed in Chemical Engineering. My thoughts are with his family.

**Ana Echaniz  
Class of ‘96**

I respected Dr. Mohr for bringing his experience in industry to the classroom and for always being an advisor, even after graduation. I enjoyed seeing him up until a couple of years ago at local AIChE student nights where he always brought students to help them get their feet wet with local engineers. I will always look up to him for his generosity, compassion, and conviction. I am really saddened by this news, it is a great loss to our community.

**Ethel Garza  
Class of ‘96**

The news saddens me terribly because of all the professors I had during my 4 years at MIT his is the one I remember with the fondest memories. He was so connected to the "real" world and would easily relate academia (theory) to real-life applications. His classes were always enjoyable. It is a real shame that the CHEME department lost him. He and his family will be in our prayers during this trying time.
Todd York  
Class of ‘95

He was definitely one of my key role models for me in my teaching. He knew here to be serious, and was so approachable outside of the classroom. There aren't many days that pass that I don't think about him and the kind of critical thinking abilities he was really working at developing in us. So I can't sing his praises in the classroom and outside of the classroom enough.

I was not the best Chemical Engineering student in the world, and I was never trying to be. I just wanted to know why we were doing things in the first place. What was the point? What was the Application? Why am I here, basically? I felt like more than anyone else, Dr Mohr gave me those answers.

I also served on CAP for two years, and I have to agree that he was one of the few who cared about all of his students, even if he didn't know that much about them. He always advocated on behalf of the student, tirelessly – and with humor too.

I took 10.37 in ’95 and that was when the Oklahoma City bombing happened. Well on the day of the bombing we had an exam, and my dad was scheduled to be in that building that day. I can remember being in a panic that whole afternoon because I couldn't get through to home. It was an evening test and I had planned to study most of the day. So I went to Dr. Mohr and he offered to see how I did (he knew I always did much better under pressure. The intuition of a great instructor.) on this test, and if I did horribly, I could retake it. But, he suggested, go ahead and take the exam since he knew the phone lines were jammed and there wasn't anything I could do. Mike knew I would be better with my mind off of my troubles. Needless to say, that was the best I ever did on a test in Chemical Engineering.

Dr Mohr was very committed to increasing the presence of minority graduates in the department. He was always very committed to Black, Mexican, Puerto Rican and Native American students in the department. His door was always open to us to talk about anything, and he would always provide any support that he could to the minority engineering groups AISES/NSBE/SHPE. We were always on his radar and that was a rare thing. I don't think people ever praised him for that enough. It was something he wanted to do, not something he had to do. There weren't that many of us to begin with. But I know for a fact that he made a difference on almost every minority student to come through the department.
when I was there. Dr. Mohr always seemed to be genuinely concerned about our life outside of the classroom.

**Chitra Viswanathan**

Class of ‘95

Dr. Mohr's passing is a great loss to MIT. I fondly remember many days in his office, discussing AIChE, chemical engineering courses and life issues. He truly was a great student advocate, with his door, ear and heart always open and ready. I will miss him, for even though I didn't keep in touch with him, he was a great presence in my undergraduate life.

**Dr. Stephanie Shaw**

Class of ‘95

Dr. Mohr's was a tremendously bright spot during my 4 undergraduate years in the department – always supportive, always available, and always positive. He was able to make both the engineering and the community of Course 10 seem accessible, to even the novice student.

**Matthew Konosky**

Class of ‘95

Of all the impressions the 4 years at MIT left upon me, I can't think of any that have had a more meaningful or more lasting impact than Dr. Mohr. I was fortunate enough not only to have him as a teacher but as an advisor for 3 years. He will be sorely missed by all.

**Amy Koo**

Class of ‘95

Like many MIT students, I wanted to cram as many experiences into my education as possible. Dr. Mohr was always a good sanity check to make I was still on schedule to graduate with both a Chem. E. B.S. and East Asian Studies minor. He was very accessible, never judgmental, and was a strong reference while I was job hunting. Interestingly enough until reading the obituary I never knew that he
sang with the Chorallaries and was instrumental in founding the Logarhythms. That's just the icing on the cake of an amazing person!

Tyrell Rivers  
Class of ’95

I am truly sad that my friend Mike has passed away. He was my advisor/mentor throughout MIT (1991-1995). We have kept in touch since then and would occasionally see each other during my return visits to Boston or at conferences. I would appreciate it if you could convey to Martha that with a heavy heart, I send my sincerest condolences and thank her for supporting him throughout the years.

Antonio Morales-Peña  
Class of ’95

Prof. Mohr was an excellent teacher, one of my most remembered and cherished ones. I know that this must be a very difficult moment for you all in the Course X faculty. I hope Dr. Mohr’s family and friends find comfort knowing that he is now guiding and teaching us from a better place.

Kristala Jones Prather  
Class of ’94

When I graduated from Course X in 1994, I left MIT with many wonderful memories. Without question, Mike Mohr was a big part of the positive memories I have of the department. Dr. Mohr made chemical engineering “real” to me. It was in his classes (10.32 and ICE) that I first felt an appreciation for what our discipline was, both historically and what its future potential could be. Without question, Dr. Mohr was an outstanding educator. He was remarkably patient and always available – and MIT students can be quite demanding, you know! He took whatever time was necessary to make sure that concepts were fully understand, in the classroom or during office hours, and somehow managed to make even the most frustrated and confused student feel that s/he could succeed.

I cannot imagine how anyone could have better advocated for students in his role as Undergraduate Officer. I served as a student member of the Committee on Academic Performance during my senior year. I remember so clearly Dr. Mohr’s representation of students from Course X with cases under review. It was clear that his interaction with these students went beyond the documents in their files.
He spoke of each as if they were nieces and nephews, and he truly sought to give each person the best advice for them. I even know one student, a close friend, to whom Dr. Mohr gave textbooks when he could not afford to purchase them himself.

One last memory – three years after graduating from MIT, I attended my first AIChE conference as a graduate student. I went to the MIT reception, along with a labmate who had graduated from MIT a year before me. We walked into the reception together and one of the first people we saw was Dr. Mohr. He greeted us both as if we were his own kids just returning home from a great adventure! He congratulated us on our progress-to-date, and with an arm around each of our shoulders, bade us good fortune in the years ahead.

When we leave as undergrads from MIT, we feel as if we’ve created a marvelously diverse, certainly untraditional family. Without a doubt, Mike Mohr will always be remembered as our Beloved Uncle.

Randy West  
Class of ’94

I had Dr. Mohr as a lecturer and a recitation leader. He was one of the few professors whose class I would leave feeling less (instead of more) confused. He was a truly great teacher and was able to bring the concepts home by relating theory to things that mattered in my everyday experience (like getting dishes clean with a minimum amount of work). Anyway, this is an approach that still serves me well today.

Ji Yoo  
Class of ’94

I’m truly sorry to hear about the passing of Dr. Mohr - as an undergraduate, I remember him as being one of a few distinct great inspirational instructors, someone who genuinely cared about undergraduate teaching and the development of students (perhaps at the expense of doing his own research). I’m sure that he will be missed dearly.
This is sad news indeed. Because I attended MIT as a graduate student, I never had the pleasure attending Dr. Mohr's classes. However, I wanted to share with you the following.

I never heard an unkind word spoken of Michael Mohr. I never saw him without a kind and reassuring smile on his face. I never heard him raise his voice in anger.

Several undergraduate students told me what a wonderful teacher Dr. Mohr was, and I know that hundreds of them benefited from his dedication to the education of young engineers.

Last month, I cleaned out my garage which meant going through all my old boxes of bibles and books. Every three years or so, my husband jokes about those old bibles and books and threatens to throw them all in the trash. I, so far, have always convinced him otherwise. This time I cleaned, I promised that I would actually open up the sealed boxes and evaluate everything inside. I didn't end up throwing much of anything away, but I did enjoy flipping through the notes, lab reports, and tests which took me back to those chemical engineering classes. I remembered Dr. Mohr and how much I loved his classes. I learned AND retained more from his classes than any others at MIT. I was particularly proud of our final ICE project for Dr. Mohr. He taught with amazing clarity - I remember walking out of his classes and saying to myself, "I got that!" He reminded us of the real world challenges in industry and how important it was to communicate clearly whether it was written or verbal. I also loved Dr. Mohr's gentle and approachable manor. Although I was a very good student, I was not confident at all -- I didn't have novel research ideas or exciting UROP projects. Dr. Mohr's door was always open, and you could ask him anything even if he wasn't your advisor. I always felt better after talking to him. I will miss Dr. Mohr dearly.
Jung-hwa Aura Gimm  Class of ‘94

I never had the guts to speak to any of my professors while at MIT but I always wished that I had gotten to know Dr. Mohr. He’s been the inspiration for me for so many years. Now I teach at Duke, a non-tenure track and feel proud to know that the best teacher I had at MIT was like me. I still think about "Separations" as a great subject that I wish I could teach it someday as a philosophy/history course. I can't believe that I never got to thank him in person.

Cherry Wongtrakool  Class of '93

I will always remember Dr. Mohr as one of the caring professors most involved with the undergraduates. As a member of Alpha Chi Sigma, we were always thrilled when Dr. Mohr attended our events. I really appreciated his willingness to help students in whatever aspect he could, whether it was teaching or mentoring.

Michael Kreuze  Class of '93

I am truly sorry to hear about the passing of Dr. Mohr. I remember him as a perennial favorite professor for the class of 1993. He was beloved by his students, as he was rare in that he really cared about them.

Claire L. Hypolite  Class of ‘93

I remember Dr. Mohr very well. He was my freshman advisor when I went to MIT in 1989. He made me feel welcomed and helped me adjust to life far from home. He counseled me and made course 10 more bearable for a freshman who was unsure of her abilities. His office was always a place of comfort: tranquil and welcoming. I even remember the large glass jar he had in his office, slowly filling with pennies. Even after I was assigned another advisor sophomore year, I continued to have conversations with Dr. Mohr about my progress, my concerns and my challenges at MIT. He was the voice of reason in the midst of chaos. I have never forgotten him, nor will I. It is my hope that I will be able to mentor my students with the same compassion and tranquility that he shared with me.
Michelle Arnold  
Class of ‘93

Dr. Mohr was my advisor and seminar leader my freshman year. He found a way to make a personal connection with each of the 10 or so students in our seminar and gave us a lot of open-ended assignments that helped us to grapple with the question of whether we wanted to major in chemical engineering or something else. Sophomore year, he co-taught one of our courses and encouraged us to start finding UROPs or summer internships. Junior year, he taught separations and helped us begin to apply the fundamentals of thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, etc., that we had been learning to practical applications. Senior year, he challenged us to tie together all we had learned through ICE, and he listened and asked provoking questions as we found our first full-time jobs or applied to graduate and professional schools. All the way through, he believed in us. When many people in our class were advised to switch majors after our first fluid mechanics test (the whole class had performed very poorly), he encouraged us to persevere and not abandon our dreams. Very few of the professors knew more than our names, but Dr. Mohr was in the procession of faculty at graduation and as he paraded down the aisle in Killian Court, he turned to all of the Course X graduates, smiled and gave us a big thumbs up. He took time at the chemical engineering reception afterwards to seek out parents and family members and to share specific memories of our 4 years at MIT with them and to let them know he cared about our futures. When I called later to ask him for graduate fellowship recommendations and to be an academic reference for job applications, he not only asked how graduate school was going, but he remembered my non-academic interests and asked about them as well. I think I can safely say that Dr. Mohr was an encourager, a sort of anchor, to many undergraduates in the stimulating, but sometimes confusing, sea of academic and research challenges. We all knew that we could go to him with our questions (whether they were related to his course, another course, a UROP, etc.) and that he would explain the concepts we were not comprehending or point us in the right direction of another book, a T.A., another faculty member or other resource. Dr. Mohr will truly be missed at MIT.
Alice Leung  
Class of ‘93

I remember Dr. Mohr as an amazing teacher. He always made students feel like the material was interesting and important, and that he cared about each student. He would often give students encouragement through casual comments, or just take and interest when he saw us in the hallways. I think these little comments were just second nature to him, but they were very significant to us, because we all had such deep regard for him and because it was such a contrast with the rather impersonal feeling you’d get from the regular part of MIT. Dr. Mohr really stuck in my mind because he embodied the ideal of being an educator. I am very sad to hear of Dr. Mohr’s death. Dr. Mohr was one of the best teachers I ever had.

Colleen Vandevoorde  
Classes of ’93 & ’96

I worked as a teaching assistant for Dr. Mohr when I was a graduate student at MIT. I assisted with his Separations class for juniors. I learned so much from him by sitting in on the lectures, more than I learned from my own Separations class when I was an undergraduate at a different university. I also saw firsthand how deeply he wanted all the students to succeed. He handled their occasional immaturity so well. He helped each student in a different way. He even became a mentor to me, without my knowing it or seeking him out in that way.

I am saddened by this news. I have such good memories of this kind and gentle man.

Joshua Levinson  
Class of ‘93

Dr. Mohr was an inspiring beacon of optimism in a demanding academic environment that often left students overwhelmed. He related well to students and was able to provide sound advice and perspective on career-oriented matters. In his teaching, he had a knack for explaining difficult concepts using relevant and easy-to-understand examples. I remember doing well in his classes, and I can credit him for a significant part of that success. Dr. Mohr shaped the outlook and direction of all his students, and I look fondly upon all my interactions with him when I was an undergraduate.
<table>
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<th>Chris Roberge</th>
<th>Class of ‘93</th>
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<td>I was lucky enough to be able to benefit from knowing Dr. Mohr both as the teacher of my Separation Processes class 1990, and as a faculty advisor helping me prepare for a talk at a student conference. In both cases I saw how Dr. Mohr had a wonderful gift at making difficult material understandable and challenging goals achievable. He understood how daunting being a student could be, and managed to use his kindness and optimism to help me focus on accomplishments and opportunities rather than on the struggles that can sometimes seem so dominating. He was a great mentor and advocate, and an uncommonly warm and caring man.</td>
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| Dr. Mohr taught my Separation Processes class in 1990. I remember visiting Dr. Mohr in his office after learning that I would receive a C grade for the class. 

Not the most diligent student, I had never visited him in his office before. He sat with me and carefully went through my final examination bluebook to add up the points and confirmed that the grade was indeed, right. Looking at my sad and distraught face, he looked at me with the kindest eyes and then smiled the most reassuring smile. He sat with me in silent support for a few moments while I accepted the reality of my poor grade. Now as a busy mom and lawyer, memories of my undergraduate chemical engineering days are growing dim. However, I can still see those warm and generous eyes and his smile as we sat in his office that afternoon. |

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<th>Aquanette Burt</th>
<th>Class of ‘92</th>
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<td>When I was in my junior year at MIT, I had a heart-to-heart with Dr. Mohr about Chemical Engineering and how unsure I was about pursuing it as a career. He encouraged me to continue my studies and also counseled me as to how different my senior year would be because of the emphasis on application of the subject matter I’d learned up to that point. And thanks to him, I went into my senior year with a different attitude and did actually have quite a bit of fun in my classes in</td>
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addition to learning a few things as well (like not to leave E. coli in a homogenizer over the weekend – hope you’ve gotten over that). Since MIT (1992) I’ve gone on to receive my PhD in Chemical Engineering and I feel a huge part of that is due to Dr. Mohr and his caring, encouraging ways.

Again, I’m very sorry to learn of Dr. Mohr's passing. But I also see that he was a good person who led a wonderful life and we should all be thankful that he was with us and helped us for as long as he did.

Pamela Holmes  
Class of ‘92

I am deeply moved to learn of the death of Dr. Mohr. As a 1992 Course X graduate, he is the only professor whose name and image I can recall. During a particularly rough time in the midst of my junior year, he provided support that was critical to the completion of my course of study. I will always remember the kindness in his eyes that lead me through my moment of crisis.

(It is particularly fitting that I will always remember the day of his passing as it was the day of my seven-year old’s public performance debut. One of the songs she played was Debussy’s "The Little Shepherd." an appropriate tribute. Dr. Mohr was certainly a shepherd to many of his students.)

Jennifer Chan  
Class of ‘92

Dr. Mohr was a truly unique individual at MIT. He was a pillar of the undergraduate Chem E. experience at MIT. There probably isn't a Chem E. who took his class that does not remember him. I can talk to Alumni that graduated generations before me, and we can relate to each other concerning our memories of him and his classes. Those of us that were lucky enough to have taken one of his classes will not be able to convey to future generations of undergraduate Chem Es at MIT what they are missing.

Rich Berg  
Class of '89

I am one of the (probably thousands of) people whose lives were enriched or just more fun with Dr. Mohr.
Dr. Mohr was the most down-to-earth lecturer I had met by that time. It was great, and refreshing, to know that there were college teachers that did not fit the "ivory tower" stereotype. One example was his quote about the high number of consulting engineers in the Boston area:

"You can go to Harvard Square, pick up a rock, close your eyes, and throw it in any direction, and it will break the window of a consulting engineer."

That I remember this quote (virtually verbatim) after almost twenty years shows that his easy-going lecturing style made a big impression on me.

Michael Mann  
Class of ’89

I graduated from MIT in Course X in 1989, and Dr. Mohr was the most positive influence on my life as an MIT Chemical Engineering student. It wasn't because he saved me from failing some class or anything like that. He exuded care of the students. He lived it and breathed it, and it seemed to inform his every behavior and mannerism. It's strange and sad that I've met only one other university faculty member that had the same kind of impact on students as Dr. Mohr did--Dr. William Palke of the Chemistry Department at UC Santa Barbara, and he, too, is no longer with us. Both men were walking demonstrations of what the student-teacher relationship could and should be--true rarities. I do, and always will, have the utmost respect for both of them.

Dr. Mohr always had a smile and a hello for students. He was always available for help, and he really seemed to respect the students. When I graduated, Dr. Mohr was the ONLY member of the administration that I insisted my father meet.

Dr. Mohr will be missed. I am particularly sad that future Chemical Engineering students at MIT will not have the pleasure and honor of interacting with him as we did.

Michael Gobler  
Class of ’89

Dr. Mohr was my undergraduate advisor from 1985 to 1989. I remember wondering if he felt like a second-class citizen, being a Senior Lecturer and not a
tenured professor, but I soon learned that he had the best of both worlds. He got to teach and to interact with students, he kept his ties to industry and consulting, and he didn't have to do research. I often thought that I'd like to teach someday, too, and I liked his model.

I remember that one day he took all his freshmen advisees to his house for dinner. We all rode down on the T, and then he piled us all in the back of his pickup truck. He was certainly unlike any of the other faculty members I knew. What a loss.

### Jennifer Raeder-Devens  
**Class of ’88**

Doug Devens and I were classmates in Dr. Mohr’s 10.32 class in 1987, and always sat together in the back near the center. One day Doug and I got to class a little late and sat about two seats to the left of our usual position. Within the first 10 minutes of class, Dr. Mohr was looking for an answer to a question, and he stumbled a little as he searched the class for raised hands. He explained to the class that since the back row was shifted a little to the left, he was entirely off kilter for the lecture! It is an example of how he got to know each of the individuals in every class, and was able to connect with them on more than just the 'lecture' level.

Dr. Mohr was warm, engaging and very smart. I remember talking with him about my post-graduate plans, and really benefited from his advice in that area as well as others.

### Berni Ai-Kuo  
**Class of ‘88**

Mike Mohr was very special to me. He was one of the first professors I met at MIT. The first thing he said was, "Call me Mike." I was shocked to hear that since I come from a rather traditional Chinese family. He was a down-to-earth person who didn't need someone to address him by his title to have respect. I respected him so much more for it. He was a wonderful, caring advisor, who will be greatly missed.
Victor Barocas  
Class of ‘88

Dr. Mohr was without doubt the best instructor I had at MIT, and I had many strong ones - Jeff Tester and Greg Stephanopoulos being notable. The beauty of the man and his teaching style was the ability to bring a certain simplicity to even the most complex concepts. That he was the most popular instructor in the program AND taught thermo (10.13 when I was there) really shows just what a great teacher he was.

Brett Gaspers  
Class of ‘87

Pam and I are sorry to hear of Dr. Mohr’s passing. Both of us really valued his ability to teach in a way that engaged us in the material.

I remember Dr. Mohr’s ability to put together tests that required you to demonstrate a mastery of the material taught. The tests weren't hard IF you understood what had been taught. If you didn't understand, it didn't matter how much math you did, you weren't going to do well on the test. Many of my other MIT professors did not measure up to this standard.

I also valued Dr. Mohr's insights on real-world, not just academic, engineering. I think his consulting experience helped to convey how the chemical engineering theory we were taught actually worked industrial settings (or didn't work, in some cases). Dr. Mohr's class in thermodynamics was the first chemical engineering course I took. I credit fantastic teachers like Dr. Mohr for bringing more students into the field and making Course 10 the success it is today. The Institute would not be the place it is today without teachers like Dr. Mohr.

Moez H. Rawji  
Class of ‘86

MIT can be a tough place. I had my share of personal difficulties, and left for a few years. I did not know Dr. Mohr well; I may have just taken a small seminar with him. He struck me as a very kind person, and it was to him I went to for advice, help, and support when returning. He was wonderful. He helped me finish up, and wrote a successful recommendation for business school. To him, I can only say a heartfelt “Thank you”, and have warm feelings for a very kind, wise, and a
generous person. As a muslim, I say “May Allah bless him and rest his soul in peace.” He lived the spirit of the Quran. I send my condolences to Mrs. Mohr, daughter, Martha, and brother David.

Robert D. Jones  Class of ‘86

I first met Dr. Mohr in 1983 as a first year undergraduate student at MIT. He was my teacher for Process Synthesis, my first chemical engineering course. Drawn in by Dr. Mohr’s magnetic teaching style and very personable demeanor, I developed a relationship that continued beyond my four years at MIT. He provided recommendations for my successful business school applications and, most importantly, served as a friend. Dr. Mohr imparted to me one of my most valuable learning to carefully weigh one’s options in applying knowledge so as to be most effective. We kept in touch over the years. Dr. Mohr was out of office when I last visited the Chemical Engineering Dept. about two years ago. Consequently, my last memory of him was a very jovial one --- warmly greeting each other at a Chemical Engineering holiday party in 2002. I believe he truly lived a fulfilled life, an example that I strive to emulate. Dr. Mohr, you will be missed. From his student, advisee, and friend.

Joel Plawsky  Class of ‘86

My wife, Gail and I were very sorry to hear about Mike’s passing. We will truly miss him. Whenever I get caught up in the role of Professor, I always think about Mike, his philosophy on life and work, and the advice he gave me when I was a student at MIT and now that I am a professor at RPI. His wisdom never fails to restore my perspective, remind me of what’s truly important, and help me be a better teacher and person. If I am very fortunate, perhaps I will have as great an influence on one my students as Mike had on me, and I will be remembered as fondly and with as much respect.
Sew-Wah Tay  
Class of ’86

I had Dr. Mohr on my first year at MIT. And I can tell you that he awed and impressed me with his boots and accent. It was hard to understand to my foreign ear but his easy manner and sense of humor encouraged me to stay and finish his course. It is a big loss to the department.

Arthur Lee  
Class of ’85

My first contact with Mike Mohr was in 10.13, the first chemical engineering thermodynamics class, in the fall semester of 1982. Over the years, I have come to appreciate Dr. Mohr’s teaching skills and the care he puts into the problem sets and quizzes. He knew the material can be tough for many of us; and some of us were loaded up with 10.301 as well, which meant we had a very difficult schedule with difficult problem sets from both classes.

Most of all, I value the advice Dr. Mohr gave me when I was a confused senior, unsure of whether I could get into Practice School, and when I did, unsure of whether Practice School was the path I wanted to get into. Although Dr. Mohr was not my advisor, he was very willing to give me some time on his schedule to talk to me and discuss with me what I really wanted to do.

Although I have not kept up with Mike Mohr over the years, I recall seeing him and talking to him the last time at the centennial of the department. He still cared about what I was doing. He was the first person at MIT to tell me that “out of everything you will have learned from us, from chemical engineering, it may not be the course material, but what you learn in approaching the problems.” There would be others who said the same to me during my time there, but he was always the one who said that in the beginning and then at the end, when I was the confused senior. I will miss him.

Linda Sheehan  
Class of ’85

I remember Dr. Mohr as being the professor who made chemical engineering cool and fun. I was so grateful to have his easy camaraderie to offset the stresses of other MIT experiences. He was particularly helpful to me personally in providing guidance and assistance in my participation in the AIChE’s New England Student
Chapter public speaking competition; with his help that was an extremely positive experience in my life.

Dan Crean  Class of ‘85

Among the many experiences I had with Dr. Mohr was his teaching of the old class 10.13, Mass and Energy Processing. More than any other class, 10.13 made me a chemical engineer and taught me to think in terms of processes. I remember Dr. Mohr always extolled the virtues of mass balances and energy balances as powerful tools in design and diagnosis of systems. He turned out to be right, as I found repeatedly in my professional career.

Dr. Rodrigo Antonio Treviño Lozano  Class of ‘85

Prof. Mohr was a member of my thesis committee. I will always remember him because he brought a point of view to my thesis that showed years of practical experience. While other members of the committee worried about purely theoretical concepts, Dr. Mohr reminded us that engineers should keep a practical mind. He was an outstanding teacher and guide as well.

Ali Alwattari  Class of ‘85

I remember Dr. Mohr as a relaxing break from the stress of studying hard subjects because he spoke gently and as a real teacher – someone who shared with you what he knew in a clear and simple way rather than forcing information onto you. I am sad to hear of his death and may God rest his soul.

John M. Taylor  Class of ‘84

Whenever I look back at memorable experiences and influential people during my undergraduate years at MIT, one person consistently comes to mind: Dr. Michael Mohr. As a recent high school graduate thrown into a sea of confusion and infinite information, Dr. Mohr was always there to distill that down and keep me focused on LEARNING. That big piece of chalk in his hand shone like a beacon, keeping
my mind tuned to the important concepts and shedding a light of understanding into the darkness of complex thought. To this day, over 20 years since graduating MIT and as a testament to his abilities, I still rely on lessons learned in Dr. Mohr’s classroom to help me solve complex problems and even carry on the most routine of everyday activities. I believe that he was a gift from God to help others see and understand the potential of their academic talents, and use those talents successfully to go on and do God’s work in their own lives. His life gave meaning to others, and I will miss him.

**John Linton**  
Class of ‘84

I had Dr. Mohr for Process Synthesis as a freshman in 1981. One day during lecture, some nerd asked Dr. Mohr if what he was teaching that day would be important in the "real world". Dr. Mohr looked at him for a long time, and then said, "No one will ever hire you for something you already know how to do". For Dr. Mohr, the important thing was learning how to problem solve, and learning how to approach situations. It wasn't about the particular mass balance around that particular process. Dr. Mohr taught everyone in the class a lot that day.

**David MacKay**  
Class of ‘84

My memory of Dr. Mohr was one of compassion and caring. During an especially difficult time, he represented my interests to an academic review board. His efforts enabled me to continue in my degree program and avoid losing my scholarship which would have curtailed my opportunities at MIT. His efforts on my behalf were a source of encouragement and inspired me to greatly improved performance during the rest of my time at MIT. Dr. Mohr has positively impacted throughout his life.

**Jean Tom**  
Class of ’84

Dr. Mohr was a wonderful lecturer and as an undergraduate, I felt fortunate to have had him for 5 of my chemical engineering classes. We felt the Department should be renamed "Department of Chemical Engineering as taught by Dr. Mohr". Even in the large classes (>100 students), Dr. Mohr got to know us personally and was so approachable, it made the dept seem less intimidating than it was. I will
always remember Dr. Mohr and how he helped me with recommendations for graduate school and later for industrial jobs. He will be sorely missed and I will always think of Dr. Mohr when I recall my MIT years.

Hendrik Meerman  
Class of ‘84

It was with great sadness that I received the news of Dr. Mohr’s passing, having lost his fight with lung cancer. At Genencor we are working diligently to create new targeted therapeutics for oncology, hoping to prevent future cancer deaths.

As a member of the class of ’84 in course X, Dr. Mohr taught all or part of several of my core classes, and had a profound effect on my decision to complete my S.B. in ChemE. Coincidently, this August I am participating in the 18th Annual Swim Across the [Long Island] Sound, a 25 km marathon swim whose purpose is raise funds for cancer prevention, support and education programs (http://www.swimacrossthesound.org/events/swim_marathon.cfm). Please pass along to Dr. Mohr’s family that I plan to dedicate my swim to his memory, as shown on my fundraising page at <http://www.active.com/donate/SAS2005/HendrikMeerman>.

Richard A. Register  
Class of ‘84

I had the pleasure of taking 3-1/2 courses from him during my time as a Class of ‘84 undergraduate (10.13, 10.32, 10.36, and part of 10.14), starting with Thermodynamics (10.13 and 10.14). I especially recall two things: his lectures were models of clarity, and the assigned problem sets were carefully designed to demonstrate and reinforce the concepts presented in lecture. When my turn came to teach Thermodynamics to Princeton undergraduates, I worked hard to emulate these two key points (though I doubt I achieved the same level of success). Though we will all miss him, his influence continues through the many students he taught, and is being passed through us to another generation of students.
Dr. Mohr was a cheerful, friendly person, and an excellent mentor. I was involved with him while studying for my M.S. Chem. Eng degree back in 1984, and worked with him as one of his tutor assistants. Please extend my sincere condolences to his family. (Durban, South Africa)

I have nothing but good memories of Professor Mohr. As I’m sure you’ll hear from many others, he was a great teacher and a special person. I’ll always remember his warmth and sense of humor and the fact that he really got to know the undergraduates as individuals. I can truly say that, in all my years of Chemical Engineering education, he was the only person that actually had me looking forward to a thermodynamics class!

It is hard to say anything new or original about a favorite professor who was also everyone else's favorite professor. But Professor Mohr was everyone's favorite professor for a reason: he was a great teacher, a great mentor and colleague, and a great person and friend. I got to know Professor Mohr as a Course X undergraduate in the early 1980s. He ended up being my undergraduate thesis advisor. I will always remember how much he cared about all his students, his kindness, his warmth, and his "human-ness" -- all welcome traits at a place like MIT. He will be sorely missed. But he made a difference in so many lives.

My husband and I, both ChemE alums of MIT, were greatly saddened by the news of Professor Mohr's passing. Professor Mohr was the unofficial favorite teacher of ChemE students. His easy manner, quick wit and practical teaching approach was a rare combination at MIT. But most of all, he was accessible and encouraging to students of all backgrounds. As an African American woman, that last trait was what endeared him to me. He'll be missed but I pray his family his encouraged by
his life and all those he touched and by the memories of those special moments with them.

Michael Lopez  
Class of ‘83

I first met Dr. Mohr as he taught 10.10 Introduction to Chemical Processes. In his calm way he revealed a way of looking at the world that has clicked for me everyday since then. He could lay out the workings of the world in boxes and arrows and eventually draw conclusions beyond my understanding and then somehow encourage me to look at the world his way to see the same intricacies and beauties.

He showed himself to be a gentleman. I came back to MIT as an alum with an idea for a business. He was the same as I remembered - collared shirt in a pleasant bright color with turned back sleeves. Relaxed, he listened, over a plate at Legal Seafood in Kendall Square. He had some ideas. He agreed with some of my conclusions. He encouraged a bit more work. We walked back to the Institute and I thanked him for his time. For that moment he made me feel as all other concerns were in the background and that I had his attention - a gentleman.

So I am truly saddened to hear the news of his passing. The world is a lesser place for me today.

David Cipolla  
Class of ‘83

Dr. Mohr was the best chemical engineering teacher. I can still picture his image. I had him for a couple of classes, and I learned the most from him. He made difficult concepts easier to understand and he had good examples from industry to apply to the theory, making it more relevant. He was more accessible and I felt like he cared for the students well being more than the other faculty. It is a grave loss.

Stephen Lubiak  
Class of ‘83

Dr. Mohr taught 10.10, one of my introductory courses to ChemE in 1980. He was a great professor to teach an introductory course for sophomores, since his real-
world experience as a consultant provided great context. It connected us all to the careers we would eventually have.

**Joseph D. Kuhach**  
Class of ’83

Dr. Mohr was a wonderful teacher and mentor to me during my time at M.I.T. More than any staff that I had the benefit to study under, he was able to connect with the student and impart an understanding of the material. It was quite obvious that he truly cared about his students. He will be greatly missed.

I extend my deepest sympathies to his wife and family. I hope they find solace in knowing of the great number of lives that he touched.

**Adrian Yovanovich**  
Class of '83

Well, that is quite sad. I can only say, quite simply, that I would never have been a Chemical Engineer, and what I am today, without him.

**Eric Johnson**  
Class of ‘83

Dr. Mohr introduced Chemical Engineering to me through 10.10 in my freshman year. Yes, Michael Mohr was beloved as a teacher, a mentor, and a friend. That he could assume all of those roles so effectively, with so many people, at a place as hectic and competitive as MIT, was just short of incredible. As a student, I knew he was special. Twenty five years later, I now know that Michael Mohr is unique.

**Peter Balbus**  
Class of ‘82

Dr. Mohr had the greatest impact on my education and MIT experience. It was so apparent that Dr. Mohr truly loved teaching and engaging with his students. At one point when I was struggling with process synthesis, I went to Dr. Mohr to discuss whether I should drop the class. He had more confidence in my abilities than I did and convinced me to push on and not give up. He also shared some insights that completely shifted my perspective on the subject.
During that office visit, I felt an ability awaken within me and a real excitement to take on the challenge of passing the course. Not only did I pass, but completed it with the highest class score on the final exam and earned a solid A overall. I was stunned when he offered me the opportunity to be an undergraduate teaching assistant for the class the following semester -- a rare honor for an undergraduate and it came with the most coveted of all ChemE student perks -- a private office (with a telephone) and the opportunity to really learn the material while tutoring other students who were struggling as I once had.

Today, more than 20 years later, whenever I'm confronted by a seemingly impossible challenge, I recall his words of encouragement and their effect on me -- they are resources I use to push myself beyond my perceived limits and reach objectives that first seemed beyond my grasp.

Jeff Sakaguchi  
Class of ‘82

Dr. Mohr was the one professor at MIT with whom I had kept up at all, which I have to say wasn’t enough. But that was the impact he had on me. Although I enjoyed him as a teacher, being one of the most down-to-earth professors I ever had a MIT, I think he had more impact on me after graduation. He was my one valued contact within the MIT community when I led campus recruiting efforts first for Chevron, and then later McKinsey & Company and Accenture. He helped make MIT more "real" for me. And he was the most accessible and personable faculty member I ever had. A true loss for all of us.....

Lewis Bender  
Class of ‘81

It is with great sadness that I learn of the passing of Dr. Mohr from your below email. Dr. Mohr, was the first professor I had in chemical engineering (I still remember the number 10.10, intro to ChemE) freshman year. I was also a TA for him for that very same freshman course four years later. I never met a warmer, more caring, approachable professor than Mike Mohr. He treated everyone with the same kindness and respect, whether they were an incoming freshman, a graduate student or full professor. In the late 70s early 80s it seemed Mike Mohr was annually voted the best teacher in ChemE. There is no doubt in my mind that he was.
Timothy P. Cleary  
Class of ’81  

I was saddened to learn of Mike Mohr's death. He was an inspiration to me during my time at MIT. He was creative yet extremely practical, always approachable, always willing to share his experience, his time, and (thankfully at MIT) his sense of humor. He was a model teacher. In my freshman year he taught Process Design. His enthusiasm for the profession was contagious. My condolences to his family. I mourn Mike’s passing. I am glad to have had the opportunity to learn from such a fine example.

Sally Wolford  
Class of ‘81  

My life as a chemical engineer was enriched by Dr. Mohr. My life was positively shaped by Dr. Mohr. He was one of the most "human" of all of the professors I had at MIT and kept a good perspective on where chemical engineering fit in the big picture. I would not have lived as balanced a life if I had not known him; my college experience would have been much more mundane had I not taken classes he taught. I learned many things from Dr. Mohr.

Alfonso Canella  
Class of '80  

He was the only professor in engineering, science, and math that was a good teacher. In that, he was unique.

Jerald Applestein  
Class of ‘80  

You can not underestimate the power of this man's ability to engage a large audience of students. When he began to discuss making presentations and answering audience questions as part of our 10.26 work, he showed us an example of what not to do. Even though he told us up front that he was depicting the worst example of how to answer a questioner, and how to lose an audience as a consequence, I was stunned and angry with Dr. Mohr just the same.
How powerful a public speaker and educator can you be, that you can induce such emotional reactions from your students even when you up front make sure to tell us that you are role playing! Dr. Mohr commanded enormous respect, he was larger than life, and comfortable as anyone I’ve ever seen in the role of educator. I had the good fortune of meeting his brother and sister-in-law at the recent Chemical Engineering Open House during reunion festivities. While we have lost one of the great ones, Dr. Mohr's positive energy lives inside of all of us who had the honor and privilege of being under his incredible watchful mind and engaging heart. I will miss this great man.

John Chon

I do remember him being that rare breed of instructors at MIT who truly cared about the well-being of the students and sincerely tried to teach so that the students would learn and understand. He always wore this friendship bracelet that was made and given to him by one of his former students. One thing I remember very vividly about him - before every exam, we would ask him what will be in it. He always responded "the exam will consist of material that was covered in the course up to now with emphasis on the material since the last exam." He used to drive us crazy with this answer.

Ken Hellyar

In the Fall of 1973 I entered the ChE graduate program at MIT. I left MIT in the Fall of 1979 and Boston in the Fall of 1982. I remember Mike Mohr as a visiting professor, returning to MIT from ADL. Among those who began in the Fall of 1973 were a number that had worked or earned advanced degrees already.

So, we did not differ too much in age and had many interests in common with Mike. He often joined us for lunch and at the Muddy Charles. I remember discussing careers in chemical engineering with an advanced degree...without doing research. It is a tribute to both Mike and the Department that they found a way for a great research organization to find a home for a great teacher who did little research. Mike's interests were in teaching and consulting. In retrospect, it all looks pretty clear. In the mid-70s it was a challenge. Mike met that challenge and had a very successful and satisfying career.
It was (ahem..) about 30 years ago in 10.10 that I had Prof. Mohr. There was an error in a text book and the problem was over specified with conflicting information. When the students complained, he said "The boss want the answer on his desk tomorrow morning; he doesn't want to hear excuses. What are you going to do?" Such as he was with life where things do not always have the single correct answer and one must evaluate what things one believes and doesn't and what to do where there is not one answer. This is one of several Michael Mohr stories I have repeated to many young engineers. Michael Mohr’s lessons will live on for many generations longer than he could have ever imagined.

Dr. Mohr was one of the best teacher's I ever had, but it was not his class room teachings that most affected my life, it was his spirit. So much of what we accomplish in life happens because someone believes in us. Dr. Mohr was the person who believed in me. In 1975, I had no role model for what an engineer should be. I really didn't know what engineer's even did. Dr. Mohr didn't just relay knowledge; he helped you to understand what you could do with that knowledge. He let you see that endless possibilities existed and that you could be a part of those possibilities. He imparted a sense of hope and promise to my life and for that I am profoundly grateful.

Dr. Mohr was such an important part of my life at MIT. It wasn't easy being a black student in chemical engineering at MIT -- especially from 1974 through 1978. There were only two professors who acted as if they believed we belonged at MIT. Dr. Mohr was one of them. He was my advisor and my mentor. He was funny and warm and witty. I can still see him in my mind’s eye, lecturing with those silver bracelets jangling on his arm. I always thought that he was so cool... He will be sorely missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.
Leslie Field
Class of ’78

Dr. Mohr taught an introductory class I took in my freshman year in 1974. The wonderful problems he posed and his enthusiasm for my freshman-level solutions convinced me that Chemical Engineering was the right field for me - that it had room for creativity and humor - and that I could be good at it. This was wonderful encouragement for a young woman in those "ancient" times when women were, I think, only about 10% of the undergraduate population at MIT. Dr. Mohr was an outstanding teacher. He will certainly be missed.

Cordelia Price
Class of ’78

I am one of Dr. Mohr’s many students. He taught me Process Synthesis, Fluid Mechanics, Separations Processes, and Process Design and Economics.

I graduated from MIT in 1978 with my SB in Chemical Engineering. I am very active in the MIT Alumni Association and would frequently cross paths with Dr. Mohr on my visits back to MIT. We would always stop and chat and I’d talk about what I was doing with my chemical engineering degree. I especially remember him at my 25th reunion from MIT in 2003 when Dr. Mohr attended a reception for MIT chemical engineering alumni who had returned to MIT for alumni reunion week. I have a picture of him and several of my classmates to remember him by from that reception. Dr. Mohr was a really nice man with a very pleasant way about him.

Dr. Mohr was a constant while the world was changing. Seeing him when returning to MIT gave me a feeling of comfort and security to know someone who was integral to my chemical engineering education was still around teaching students many years younger than I am. I’m not a student anymore but I find it hard to imagine MIT Chemical Engineering without Dr. Mohr. Besides, I think Dr. Mohr was one of the few professors who actually knew who I was and remembered me. I will never forget him and I hope MIT never forgets him.
Alice Campbell

I was fortunate to take probably the first class Dr. Mohr taught at MIT upon his return to MIT in 1974, a survey class on "what is chemical engineering" when I was a freshman. It was probably one of the reasons that we had the largest class in Course X ever---I think there were ~180 who declared the major as sophomore and ~160 who graduated in the department. I still use the first assignment in my volunteer efforts as an Educational Counselor interviewing high school students: design a home kit for someone who has one maple tree in their yard to make maple syrup (given the sugar concentrations in the sap and final syrup, and boiling points). My "design" was a fireproof bucket with a thermometer and a specific gravity meter, heated over an outdoor fire made of tree limbs and charcoal, to ensure minimal expense. I got an A while most of my classmates who had specified stainless steel systems with automated metering/heating/measuring systems that would have cost tens of thousands of dollars didn't---his point being that you could never separate economics from engineering AND that engineers should never design systems that needed an engineering degree to operate (the annual end product would never exceed three gallons of syrup).

When I graduated and started work at Pillsbury in Minneapolis in Feb.1979, I didn't know anybody except co-workers and the local MIT club was in one of its inactive phases, so it was incredibly lonely. Somehow I found out that Mike was coming to town on a consulting gig with Control Data's education projects, called, and he agreed to have dessert at Cafe Latte with me after an exhausting day of consulting meetings. I'm sure he just wanted to go to his hotel and crash, but he graciously took on the role of lifeline to a scared 23 year old and in just a couple hours had me feeling like a successful "grown-up" who had moved from teacher-pupil relationship to working-adult-peer. That's because he was always the teacher!

As I subsequently changed careers and moved away from engineering, Mike was the Course X professor I could still count on, to not only be genuinely happy to see me on my infrequent visits to campus (my thesis advisors are certainly welcoming as well), but also with whom I could have a long fun conversation. We could talk about singing, or we could revel in the entertainment aspects of whatever was going on in the department, my career, the state of the world-- because the stories were as important as the technologies.

I hope MIT is able to encourage more academicians to focus on teaching as primary, research secondary, because I see that as Dr. Mohr's legacy---gifting his
enthusiasm for ChemE to his students. I suppose I hope he's NOT one of a kind, because I want future generations of students to have someone just like him.

**Frank Gay**  
Class of '78

Dr. Mohr is the reason I studied Chemical Engineering at M.I.T. I took Introduction to Chemical Engineering from him. His obvious love of his work as well as his interest in us was a rare combination even at an institution like M.I.T. While future students will not be able to benefit from his teaching, his spirit will live on at the school he loved.

**Scott Berger**  
Class of '78

I have Mike Mohr to thank for my choice to become a chemical engineer. His course 10.07, process synthesis, which I took in my Freshman year, kindled my excitement for chemical engineering, which never faded. I took other courses from him, too, and ultimately worked under him as a TA. I had the great fortune in course X to interact with many fine professors whose names are inscribed in the legends and literature of chemical engineering, but in the classroom, none of them came close to Mike Mohr. Fortunately, I had a chance at a MIT reception at an AIChE meeting a year or two ago to thank Mike in person. He was most humble, and quickly changed the subject, wanting to know about my career. That pretty well sums Mike up - to him, students came first. What a loss for MIT course X.

**Barbara Belt**  
Classes of '77 and '78

I can't top the obituary on the News Office page, but I can tell you that I'm still regularly using what he taught me in 1975, 1976, and 1977 - and that's more than I can say for any other professor. I think it was his obvious enthusiasm that led me to reaction modeling and process synthesis as a technical specialty in my career.
My class with Dr. Mohr was in the fall of 1973!!! The class was 10.12, and introduction to Chemical Engineering. In the highly theoretical atmosphere of most MIT classes, Mike Mohr was a "breath of fresh air" -- he used plain language to explain difficult concepts and held your interest. Here are some of the quotes I remember: "The molecules in this reaction.......don't give a good goddam what this reaction does!" - AND –

When asked how to solve a particular Chem E problem, the following dialog ensued: Student: "This problem requires six equations in six unknowns" Mike: "Like hell it does!".

Dr. Mohr was paramount to the undergraduate chemical engineering experience at MIT. While the institute emphasis is on excellence in research, Dr. Mohr took the time to focus on teaching and educating young engineers. There are few others that I can remember who can match his dedication to the students, particularly us undergrads. He was adept at drawing from his industry experience, to present real world chemical industry examples to apply the theory and principles of each lesson. His assignments were challenging, but memorable due to the palpability of the material. We, as undergraduate students, thanked him for this dedication, by bestowing him with the undergraduate teaching award in the department year after year.

My most memorable experiences of Dr. Mohr were in 10.390 in the fall of 1995. This class, Intro. to Chemical Engineering design, was one of the first classes in the undergraduate curriculum that begins to apply all of the principles from the core classes. Dr. Mohr developed very realistic chemical engineering problems that were simple, yet tricky and challenging. The key principle that Dr. Mohr emphasized in this class was balancing attention to detail with the big picture. In one particular assignment, Dr. Mohr intentionally presented the available process data in incompatible units of measure. I have very vivid memories of spending all night in the Athena cluster - trying to get my program to converge to solve the problem. It wasn't until 6 AM, that I realized that I had not properly converted the units of measure to compatible values, and thus my equation was unsolvable. This was a valuable lesson that I still draw from today.
Dr. Mohr was responsible for many of the things that I learned at MIT. He was a great teacher, mentor and friend. The MIT undergraduate chemical engineering experience will not be the same without his presence. Those that had the opportunity to be taught by him will be forever blessed with a gift.

Stuart Kreloff  
Class of ‘77

I had the pleasure of being taught by Dr. Mohr in the mid ’70s. I believe that it was 10.10 Process Synthesis - probably in 1976. He was a very inspired and enthusiastic teacher - he made the subject live and interesting.

I recall one story from his consulting days - the one about visiting a steel mill and seeing a huge ingot coming off the line still glowing red hot. He told us of throwing a snowball at the ingot but the heat transfer rate was so high that the ball melted before it could strike the steel. I have told this story many times, even to my own children, and would really like to have someone else verify it [memory can sometimes play funny tricks over the years].

Please send my condolences to Dr. Mohr's family and friends at this sad time.  
(From the United Kingdom)

Bernie Tao  
Class of ’76

I am saddened to hear of Mike's passing and have jotted down a brief memory of him for inclusion in your collection of memories for his memorial.

I remember Mike from my undergraduate days in Course X at MIT in the early 1970's. He made a strong impression on me with his graciousness to students in the classroom, as well as the pipe he often chewed on during lectures. He always had a warm kindness in his manner with students, along with patience and generosity of time when we didn't understand something from class. As former president of the MIT AICHE student chapter, I still remember the day he handed out our copies of Perrys Handbook of Chemical Engineering after class and he said to me that I would earn my living working in industry using this text. While this hasn't turned out to be true (I became an academic, distinguished professor and endowed chair in bioengineering), I have kept that copy of Perry's on the shelf
above my desk to remind me to extend Mike's gracious teaching style to students who come to my office every day.

**Stephen Michaels**  
Class of ‘76

I knew Mike had been very ill so this sad news was not a surprise. Still it's another one of those unhappy milestones we encounter.

I didn't get to work with Mike when I was here as a student, nor to interact with him more than socially since returning to MIT seven years ago, but he always recognized and remembered me when we encountered each other on campus, and I always enjoyed our conversations. He was always a warm and welcoming representative for the department and many will miss him.

**Sam Fleming**  
Class of ‘70

Unfailingly pleasant and genteel! Who can forget Mike's projection of warmth, or the smile? When I hear the name "Mike Mohr," the mental image I get immediately is his smile! For sure he was the epitome of a "Scholar and a Gentleman." His wife, family and other friends are in my prayers today.

**Debi Mukherjee**  
Class of ‘69

I completed my graduate studies in 1969 as a result I did not come in contact with Dr. Mohr that much. But I distinctly remember (as much I can - it has been more that 30 years!) that I studied his notes on unit operations problems and solutions for my doctoral written examinations. At that time I heard from my fellow graduate students how much helpful Dr. Mohr was to his students. I am sure entire MIT community will miss him.

**Jerry Gizinski**  
Class of ‘67

I was a teaching assistant to Dr. Mohr for an honors course in Heat, Mass and Energy transfer. He was a kind, patient and very dedicated teacher. He willing
dedicated any amount of his time to the undergraduate students so that they could absorb the material. For an undergraduate, learning this material was no small feat. As a graduate student I spent 2 to 3 hours on each assignment (homework and tests) to prepare the answer sheets. Based on the undergraduates’ performance I notified Dr. Mohr who required extra tutoring. He then arranged after hours meetings to bring the students up-to-speed. If the student did not improve after an initial meeting he would meet them again. He felt responsible for the student’s performance as long as the student demonstrated the desire to work and learn. His dedication went far beyond the span of patience of most educators.

Frank March

I had Dr. Mohr as a professor in Course X in the 1966-67 time frame. Of course, I remember his sense of humor, his humanity and his friendliness.

There was one brief story I remember him telling us in class one day. I think he was doing some consulting for Gillette or one of the other razor manufacturers. He told us that most of the failure of razor blades was due to corrosion. He said if we coated the razor blade with stopcock grease every night, it would last almost indefinitely. I remember trying this, with

But the thing that I wanted to share was that he told us that he came to class every day with a half-day growth of beard. He said he shaved in the evening every day. He explained that it was his priority to have a freshly-shaved face for his wife every night rather than for us students every day. I though he had his priorities right! I see from the more recent photos, however, that he solved this dilemma by not shaving at all.

I had lost touch with Dr. Mohr over the years, but my memories of him are as one of the most personable professors I ever had at the Institute. I am sure he affected generations of students in a positive way, as he did me.

Peter James

I remember Dr. Mohr most for engaging class discussion. You didn't space out during derivation of a space velocity equation --you watched for the subtle error that you were expected to catch.
I was struck by Dr. Mohr's frank admission that when he taught a course for the first time, he was often just a day or two ahead of his class!

Max Iacono     Class of ’67

Thank you for this message. I received it only now Tuesday June 28th late evening on return to my home in Bangkok Thailand from a business trip to China. (yes globalization has hit us all) You communicate this sad news (which brings back many distant memories) and ask for a "few rembrances of Dr. Mohr" and I have to reach way back to 1964 (a mere 41 years ago) when I was a sophomore at MIT in course 10. Dr. Mohr taught what then were 10.12, 10.30, 10.31, 10.31 N and several other key courses in thermodynamics and other areas. My own life took a different path after graduating from MIT in course 10 and I went on to get a PhD at the University of Michigan in Industrial Psychology and then had a career unrelated to chemical engineering, (first with some U.S. multinationals and then at the World Bank and now at the International Labour Organization) (and I say "unrelated" in the sense of "not directly related" although what I learned generically about science and engineering at MIT and the related underlying methods and intellectual cultures served me exceptionally well throughout both my professional and personal lives)

However what I think I remember most about Dr. Mohr and what I learned from him were these three things: 1) his kindness, his measured nature and teaching pace, and his understanding of the learning processes of his students (well before "learner centered" approaches and etc. had become popular) and his resulting superior teaching or learning facilitation skills. Secondly, his profound understanding of science and of the scientific method, taken broadly. These two aspects in addition to his technical command of both the basics and advanced notions and practices of chemical engineering make him in my own estimation simply the best professor I had at MIT (in the physical sciences/engineering). I also had the opportunity of taking what were then 14.01 and 14.02 (the basic courses in economics) from Paul Samuelson. And finally I sat in (but did not take for credit) two courses in linguistics from Noam Chomsky and later kept close to his writings and thinking in the political sphere as well. Those three professors were, in retrospect, the figures that most shaped my personal and professional life, thinking and intellectual development to follow, to my great benefit and overall intellectual enrichment. Thanks again for having sent out this message and for
giving me (us all) this opportunity to reach way back, remember and comment on that period and on one of the kindest and best professors I can remember.

| Michael Potash | Class of ’66 and the MIT Logarhythms Alums |

On a musical note, Michael Mohr was one of the first MIT Logarhythms, while a student at MIT in the early 1950s. He and his brother Dave were a cappella performers at MIT during the early years of the Logs. We were happy to have him join us in song during some of our Logs reunions from 1999 on. He was unable to sing with us the past couple of years, and now I guess we know why. We too will miss him, and we'll remember his calm presence.

| David Claypool | Class of ’63 |

I am so, so sorry to hear of his passing. Prof. Mohr was an example of the kind of person that made an undergraduate education worth while. He stood out in the Department in both his ability and his interest in teaching us kids. I will never forget those small help sessions with Prof. Mohr -- the only Prof I can remember going to for special help. This was back in ’61 - ’63. I'm not so sure it was the help I got that was as rewarding as the ability to talk with a Prof. on such a personal basis. He showed that he really cared and he was a really pleasant guy.

I was devastated and livid when I heard that he was let go by the Institute for not publishing enough. I wrote letters to the school. During a reception at Dr. Gray's at one of our reunions (probably 25th), I complained about the school's lack of support for good TEACHERS. I said there was room in an institution like MIT to have recognition for specialists in all disciplines and fields -- including teaching. I think Prof. Bose at the time expressed a similar view on the subject in a reunion lecture.

What else can I say? I don't have that many personal memories of pros at MIT or the other 2 schools I graduated from, except for Prof. Mohr. It was because he seemed to be the only one who really cared. We need to use him as an example of what makes students skyrocket to the top.
Dave Sabo  Class of ’61 & ’63

My earliest recollection of Mike Mohr was as an undergraduate. Mike was a graduate student and the teaching assistant in one of my classes. He would occasionally substitute for the professor to teach our section. Even at that time, I can recall that he was an excellent articulate teacher. But the one story that sticks in my mind the most from that period was how he and his roommates survived as grad(?) students by eating nothing but spaghetti at the end of the month because it was inexpensive and they ran out of money! My more recent contact with Mike was as a campus recruiter for Amoco (now BP) Corporation from 1979 until my retirement in 1999. During that period, I visited the MIT campus about twice a year. I knew him as a reserved man, not to bring attention to himself; and a man of great intellect and a big heart.

Since Mike was so knowledgeable of the students’ capabilities, quite often he was used by students as a reference. He always had a good comment to say about any student. At the same time, when I met with the students, I would often ask the students who were the best teachers that they had. Invariably, Mike Mohr was mentioned. To me, that is his legacy.

Mike was a real treasure to MIT; he leaves a void that is difficult to fill. But I know that he lives on in the hearts and minds of the thousands of students that he taught.

Aton Frabetti  Class of ’58

I go back a ways but I always remember Mike as a very kind and humble person. He was very patient with my dumb questions. One of the few at MIT without an ego problem. It’s sad to hear that he is no longer around. I guess all good things really do come to an end..... My deepest sympathy to his family.

Robert Kaiser  Class of ’56

I have known Mike, of and on, for about 50+ years, since we were both undergraduates. He was a class ahead of me, but I caught up with him in grad school (or so I think). Afterwards, we took separate paths that managed to cross every once in a while.
I will remember Mike as a being gentle, erudite, and a great guy to discuss anything on any topic. I have always enjoyed these exchanges, and am sorry that there will not be anymore of them in the future.

Richard Bergman  Classes of ‘55 & ‘56

It's hard to know what learning experiences along the way may have shaped the career of the great teacher and mentor which Mike became, but here's one which could have.

Some number of those of us graduating in Course X in June 1955 went on to the Course X-A Practice School Masters Degree program that same year. Among them were Mike Mohr and me. September 1955 found us living on Forest Avenue in Bangor, Maine just down the road from the then-Practice School Station at the Eastern Paper Mill in Brewer, Maine. I felt fortunate that for the very first project, Mike and I were assigned to work together. After all he was clearly one of the brightest students, helpful, easygoing, and a good teacher, even then.

We were assigned to study a newly installed automatic device controlling the density and flow rate of the pulp mixture fed to the Foudrinier screen at the start of a high speed paper making machine. Mike and I developed a plan of research, showed it to the Station Director (the even-then formidable P.L. Thibaut Brian) and began to collect and analyze data. As our project continued, Thibaut would periodically ask us if we needed help or suggestions on our assignment. Nope we answered. We have everything under control.

We proudly turned in our report, which Thibaut promptly cut to shreds, for a variety of very good reasons as I recall. Mike and I both had reinforced in us the dictum advanced during our undergraduate courses that one should be sure they understand the parameters of the problem being addressed before trying to solve it. We also learned that maybe it was a good idea to take advantage of expert advice when proffered. And hopefully we also learned not be so cocky, even though we had earned S.B. degrees in Chemical Engineering from MIT.

We both did graduate with our Masters Degrees in Chemical Engineering Practice in June of 1956. After that, for some years I would bump into Mike periodically when I visited MIT. Then I didn't see him for a while. Then more recently we
caught up some at several Departmental receptions held during Reunion Weekends. I had expected to see him at the Reunion just a few weeks ago since we both were celebrating our 50th. Of course he wasn't there, and another attendee explained that he was quite ill. I'm one of those who will miss this gracious and competent soul.

Dell Lanier Venarde  
Class of '55  
*(the only "coed" in chemical engineering at that time)*

That's the way I knew him, for Charlie (Michael’s real first name) was a member of our undergraduate class at MIT. I suspected he was brilliant. He was quiet, gentle and soft-spoken but clearly serious. I never suspected that he would become the terrific lecturer that he became, though I am sure that he would overcome any obstacles to being an excellent lecturer once he decided to become a lecturer. I am not surprised that he became the outstanding mentor that he was however. He was basically just that kind of person. Surely his role as advisor to students and others and his role as teacher were both part of the same determination to give his students the best he could give them.

James Wei  
Class of '54 /former Department Head

Let us remember Mike Mohr as a wonderful human being, a good friend, and a person who enormously raised the average teaching quality of the department. He was much esteemed and beloved by the students, and who would dare to schedule a class after his class?

When I first showed up in 1978 as department head, and made a number of changes in the department, Mike came to see me one day to ask whether he has a future in this department. I said "If you can continue to teach like this, I am more certain of your future in this department than my future." The moral of the story? Department heads come and go, but great teachers are forever. Let us salute Mike, a great fellow and a friend forever.
ChoKyun Rha  Class of ’62 and Faculty Member

Dr. Mohr was truly a dedicated and devoted teacher, always ready to deliver a well-organized, substantive lecture in his low-key, assuring way. It was immediately obvious that teaching was most important to him and that he was totally committed to it.

I took my first fluid dynamics course from Dr. Mohr. The whole class benefited enormously from his lectures, as we were only beginning our academic careers in chemical engineering and were still unsure of ourselves. In his easy manner, he patiently showed us that we had picked the right discipline. We depended on the discussions by the blackboard after class, and I still remember his conscientious effort to properly answer questions like, "How is the information in flowing fluids transmitted above Mach II?"

His complete dedication to teaching was unfettered, and he shunned any outside activities that might interfere with his teaching. He did however take on the administration of UROP, and was able to help students even more by helping them to secure a head start in research as well as in the classroom. His contribution to the thousands of students whose lives he touched and the Institute to which he devoted his life and career cannot be measured. We will miss him very much.

Daniel Blankschtein  Faculty Member

While I do not deal much with undergraduate education, it was clear to me that Mike played an essential role in navigating every aspect of the department’s undergraduate education. His teaching skills were legendary, as reflected in the awards that he won year after year, and more importantly perhaps, in the love and appreciation for the subject that he instilled in the students that took his courses.

He also cared enormously about the general well-being of the undergraduates, and served as a father figure to those seeking professional and personal advice. A great void has now being created that will be very difficult to fill.

As a colleague, Mike was unassuming, thoughtful, very knowledgeable, dedicated, and extremely caring. He will be missed by all those who came in contact with him. I will certainly miss his deep, radio phonic voice in the elevator early in the
mornings when he greeted me: "Good morning Daniel, have a good day", to which I always replied: "Same to you Mike ".

We have lost a great teacher, scholar, and friend. The department will not be the same without Mike Mohr. May God bless his soul!

Karen Gleason  Faculty Member

Mike was a beacon of reason, joy, wisdom, and humanity amidst the frenetic sea of technology and institutional bureaucracy. His light will be long remembered and sorely missed.

Jeff Tester  Faculty Member

Mike must be remembered for all of his good work with the Practice School and for the amazing legacy he left during his time at the Oak Ridge Station as a Director.

Larry Evans  Faculty Member (Emeritus)

I first met Mike Mohr when I came to MIT in September of 1962 to join the faculty as an Assistant Professor fresh from my PhD at the University of Michigan.

Mike was one of the few people in the Department who was working in my field of process control. We were struggling to establish ourselves as very junior faculty members in a Department for which the giants of the profession were still very active. I remember going to Mike to learn the ropes since he had been here as a graduate student and knew his way around.

In those days the pace of life at MIT seemed more relaxed and humane. The Department served coffee for the faculty in a conference room at 10:30 each morning. Many of the senior faculty - people like Tom Sherwood, Doc Lewis, Bob Reid, Ray Baddour and many others -- would come to expound on the topics of the day. Mike was a fixture at these gatherings and he could always be counted on to offer a unique perspective on whatever was being discussed.

Over the years, we kept in touch as he first left MIT to work at Arthur D Little and
then returned to take a leadership role with the undergraduate program. It was in this latter role that he really came into his own and became the best undergraduate educator in the history of the Department. He won the "Outstanding Teacher" award so many years in a row that I believe we should rename the award in his honor.

Mike had such a common sense approach to life and a philosophical view that it was always rewarding to spend time with him. He had a great sense of humor, too, and it brightened the day just to be around him. I feel honored that I knew him and that we had such a shared experience for so much of our lives. He is one person I will remember always.

Edward W. Merrill  
Faculty Member  *(Emeritus)*

It would be appropriate to note the service Mike rendered to the department and its undergraduates, and to what were called registration officers in representing cases before the CAP (Committee on Academic Performance) and similar Committees. He was always calm and nonetheless effective in his presentations. While many of the faculty, myself included, did not personally witness his teaching style which brought recognition year after year, most of us- and certainly I- benefited from his experience and expertise in matters of advising the students and unraveling complicated cases.

Arnold Stancell  
Former Visiting Faculty Member

I knew Mike when we were graduate students together and then over the years when I was at MIT teaching or in my career with Mobil Oil. He loved to see his students learn and taught them with enthusiasm and great skill. He was the heart and the pillar of the chemical engineering undergraduate program, and he will be greatly missed as a teacher and a caring person.

Beth Tuths  
Mike’s Assistant

Over the past 4 years, I have shared a suite with Prof. Michael Mohr, and watched the daily influx of undergraduate students in and out of his office. Time and time
again, I observed students entering our suite eagerly looking for a 'chat' with Dr. Mohr. And each time a student entered, I witnessed Mike welcoming them into his office, always with a smile, always with an encouraging remark or two, and always giving them whatever time they needed. I never once saw or heard Mike claim that he didn't have 'the time right now,' or to 'come back at a more convenient time.' Students were completely at ease and reassured by Mike's gentle way of supporting them in whatever way they needed it. It was very clear, as each student left his office, that they felt fulfilled and encouraged in the information Mike had given them. As evidenced by an alumna who dropped by the office a few weeks ago, even those whose lives Mike touched as a teacher from past years, are still very moved by him. When I told him the saw news of Mike's cancer, he couldn’t find words to express his sorrow.

Prof. Mohr was certainly a unique teacher, as his numerous awards from the students over the years testifies. They will all miss him, but always remember him as a wonderful mentor, and I know their lives have been largely shaped by Mike’s generous spirit as a teacher, a confidante, and a special person.

| Greg Stephanopoulos | Faculty Member |

Mike was indeed a very special person. Humble, certainly, but thoughtful and perceptive too. He always had the right thing to say at the right time. Who can really forget his remarks at critical faculty meetings, his advice to students, or his memorable introductions at each year's Christmas skits?

I am sure our alumni and students will speak volumes about Mike's teaching and advising. There is not much to add here to these first hand experiences. I should only note that Mike dispensed his advice to our students at good times and bad. He showed understanding when they had difficulties and tried very hard to set them straight when they run into trouble. He was their teacher and trusted friend, someone they could count on to represent their case at Institute Committees, write letters on their behalf, or help them find jobs.

Our community will miss Mike. I will miss his humor and hearty laugh and his plain, sincere, and constructive comments whenever he felt he had something useful to say.
Bernhardt Trout  Class of ’90 and Faculty Member

Mike Mohr was an inspired and inspiring teacher. His character was mild, and it is hard to imagine him ever getting upset. Nevertheless, he was a tremendous motivator of students, because of his impeccable delivery of lectures and his ability to engage students so that they could learn in ways most suitable for them.

Paula Hammond  Class of ’84 and Faculty Member

I first knew Mike when I was an undergraduate student in the early 80’s; he was, to me and my classmates, the one member of the faculty who actually understood us, "got" how important it was that we make a connection between our class work and the real world, and made Chemical Engineering fun – and fascinating - to all of us. I cannot think of any of my fellow alumni who do not have wonderful memories of Prof. Mohr teaching in his calm, clear, and engaging manner, putting all the pieces together, and encouraging each of us to take an active part in the discussion and in our future careers.

I then got to know Mike as a colleague when I joined the faculty - and I began to understand why he was such a cornerstone to our undergraduate program. His thoughts and insights into what the students needed, his ability to innovate around new ideas and concepts as our courses and labs evolved over time, and his never ending interest in the education, first and foremost, of our future leaders, was a critical piece of our department's identity and success. He was an educator, but somehow managed to be a friend - to all of us, students, staff and faculty - and that is a treasured gift.

Jodie Lutkenhaus  Graduate Student

As a bartender at the Muddy, Mike was a regular lunch time fixture with his seat at the corner of the bar. He was a welcome member of our lunch time gang, and we will miss him dearly.
Charles L. Cooney
Faculty Member

Humor, optimism, insight, warmth, generosity – yes, these are amongst the many attributes I associate with Mike. Yet, none fully convey the sincere caring he felt for the undergraduates that passed through our department over the many years that Mike taught them the fundamentals of chemical engineering. For so many years, no students missed having Mike as teacher and they were all better off for it. Most important they recognized how much his mentoring, admonishment when deserved and nurturing helped them.

As a faculty colleague, I looked to Mike for his insight, both technically and personally. Every time I called with a problem, often seeking advice to help an undergraduate, he responded quickly with the correct and fairest answer. I will continue to reflect on what would Mike advise me to do, how would he guide this student and how would he explain this concept to make it clear and long lasting. I have and will continue to aspire to the excellence Mike displayed as a teacher and colleague. He is missed but will always be present.

William Dalzell
Class of ’58 and Lecturer

I first met Mike more than 30 years ago and it is hard for me, as I am sure it is for others, to imagine the Chemical Engineering Department without him. Mike was the "go to" person for everyone, faculty and students, who needed guidance and encouragement. He knew the MIT people, rules, and culture so he could always "make the system work." Mike treated everyone as his friend and doled out his wisdom calmly with clarity and compassion. There was never a hidden agenda with Mike.

I believe Mike will be missed most by his students. He was a truly great teacher, and they loved and respected him. When things weren't going quite right the students always knew Mike was there to listen, guide, and counsel them.

As for me, I remember a couple of Mike's comments:
- "Just because something was covered in a course doesn't mean that the students learned or remember it."
- "You can't teach them everything."

I miss him and will always remember him as a wise friend.
Tony Modestino  Staff

I first met Mike when he was at MIT before he started his company. I can recall a couple of instances, back then, if Adel and I had a question or a problem with something, we would run it by Mike to get his input and he was always more than willing to help. Adel and I would consult for him from time to time when he was first starting his company in Framingham so as you can see I interacted with Mike in many different business relationships. The two things which always stood out about Mike were his outgoing friendliness and his willingness to spend time with people to help them solve a problem. Whenever he was visiting MIT and even after his return to MIT, Mike would go out of his way to stop in 66-125/153, from time to time, just to say hello and ask how Adel was doing. Whenever there was a function, if Mike saw me in the crowd, he would go out of his way to come over and say hello. I also recall Mike consulting with students on a 10.26 project even though he wasn’t associated with the project.

Jean-François Hamel  Class of ’85 and Lecturer

Mike was a magician with our students; teaching, mentoring and nurturing them. I heard that he was demanding, that he held students responsible for the highest standards but his students weren’t burdened by his high targets, they were inspired. Our students were Mike’s foremost priority and they could feel it.

This became most apparent to me in the early 1990’s when I was working with the students in lab each afternoon and listening to them enthuse and vent about their morning classes. Mike’s classes were consistently the highlight of their stories; they loved their classroom time with him. I could tell from how they glowed that Mike was a superb and beloved teacher. They felt understood by him, willing to put themselves out because they were safe with him. I gathered from their stories that with Mike the students were inspired by his common sense, his decency and his irreverent sense of humor. Mike was simultaneously serious and bemused. The students loved this!

I admit that I became curious about what teaching skills made the students so excited - what magic Mike performed in the classroom. Then, in the fall of 1996, I spent a term sitting in on Mike’s Process Design course (10.390) and experienced his magnetism first hand.
In fact, in the classroom, Mike was more like a conductor, interacting with his musicians. Not only could he deliver well-prepared material, with poise and clarity, but he could also connect with each student it seemed, with his gentle approach and his reassuring eyes. Week after week that term, his class was full, and I learned a great deal about teaching simply watching him. I remain impressed by the effectiveness of his teaching and by his connection with his students. The tributes and the annual teaching awards make this obvious point but it was his joy and the pleasure he took in teaching that really touched me.

Outside the classroom, Mike was also a teacher and mentor. For example, in preparation for AiChE student presentation competitions, Mike guided his students, sharing his professional contacts and showing his students how to make the transition from scholar to professional. He would even drive the students all over New England, to these competitions. I have had accompanied Mike and his students on several occasions and could see the positive and calming effect that his presence had on nervous presenters.

I must say that Mike has had the same calming effect on me and I am going to miss him. I will always remember the times he provided me with clear and thoughtful guidance on how I could best advise a troubled student or how to handle grading papers that were difficult for some reason. I trusted him – because he was wise and solid.

In the last few days, as I started soliciting remembrances from Mike’s students, graduates and colleagues, I have been floored by the depth and breadth of the sentiments Mike’s passing has stirred. Mike’s orchestra again responded; soon, the response was incredible and moving, not only because of the incredible number of messages sent from all over the world, but especially because of the emotional connection and the gratitude that the ex-students and colleagues have conveyed. Reading how Mike has touched so many generations of students, colleagues and friends has been inspiring to me personally and makes me realize how fully he continued to live on in the hearts and minds of so many. In his memory, I will keep reaching out to our students, continuing to follow Mike’s lead and to play in his magic orchestra.
Barry Johnston  Senior Lecturer

I must have met Michael during my job interview at MIT, and yet I have the strange sense of having known him longer. Perhaps it was from the fifth-year students, coming term after term through Practice School, that he became somewhat of a legend, someone I should always have known about. And such an approachable legend: I sought his advice as I prepared my first lecture course, and time after time in matters of advising and teaching.

I am grateful that I was permitted to see him on several occasions during his months of illness. It was during that time, as I attempted to carry out his duties in his absence, that I realized all the more what he has meant to this Department. Dear Michael, you leave your work in lesser hands, but in your memory they will find strength.

Russ LaChance  Graduate Student

I had the privilege and honor of being a Teaching Assistant (TA) to Dr. Mohr for 10.32, Separations Processes, in the Spring of 2004. During that semester, I was able to see first hand what a gifted lecturer and beloved teacher he was. Dr. Mohr was given the task of transforming 10.32 from a 12 credit hour course to a 6 credit hour course for that semester. As we navigated our way through that transformation, Dr. Mohr's first concern was always for the students. He went to great lengths to evaluate each change he made to make sure students were not overloaded with work and were grasping the major concepts. Every student in that class loved Dr. Mohr and appreciated his concern for their education and his style of teaching.

Dr. Mohr also took the time to educate me on MIT's undergrad ChemE program and related issues. His counsel will benefit me greatly in my next assignment as the Chemical Engineering Program Director at the United States Military Academy at West Point. Dr. Mohr's years of experience, teaching and mentoring will be fondly remembered by so many of us and are sure to live on for generations of chemical engineers to come! May his soul rest in peace.
Alina Haverty                                  Staff

I would like to say that Dr. Mohr always had time to help me out—he always knew the answers. He was witty and was a pleasure to work with.

Heartfelt Condolences to the Family are also being sent by:

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<td>Stefan Bewley</td>
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<td>Bryan Poltlove</td>
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<td>Mark Manton (and wife Kate Sawallisch)</td>
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<td>Chris Knudsen</td>
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<td>Peter Farrell</td>
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<td>N. G. Ashar (Faculty member 1958-61)</td>
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<td>Regis Schultis</td>
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<td>David Goldstein</td>
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<td>Frederick W. Gander,</td>
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Michael Mohr’s Memorial Service  
June 21st 2005, at the MIT Chapel

The memorial service was held at the MIT Chapel on a sunny June 21st and started at 2 pm. As one was walking toward the Chapel, a bagpipe musician was playing Scottish music. It is music Michael would have enjoyed.

The MIT Chapel, on the left, and the Kresge Auditorium, in the back, right.
The service was coordinated by Dean Randolph, who was both a friend and colleague of Dr. Mohr. The chapel was full, and included a combination of Michael’s students, graduates, colleagues and friends. The speakers at the service were Dean Randolph, Bob Armstrong, Ken Smith and me. At the end of the service, I handed copies of Michael’s album to his family, which included Michael’s widow, his daughter and in-laws. The album was 69 pages long and filled with your many loving and memory-filled tributes.
This picture was taken immediately after the service. The Chapel was full, a few minutes earlier.

After the service, a reception was organized in MIT's Student Center (the concrete building, on the right) during which Michael's album was circulated. Left to the Student Center is the new Zesiger Sports Center.
Mike Mohr at the AiChE Student Paper Competition, held at the Northeastern University, in April 2004. This photo was the cover of Michael’s album.

(Photos by J.-F. Hamel)