



MIT MUSEUM PRESS RELEASE

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The Heart of MIT: Twenty Years of Photography by Donna Coveney

January 29 – September 21, 2007

Location

**Compton Gallery
77 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge MA**

CAMBRIDGE, MA – For twenty years, photojournalist Donna Coveney has covered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with talent, vigor, humor and compassion. Now, in a retrospective at the MIT Museum’s Compton Gallery, a range of her black and white and color photographs, taken in and out of the classroom, are on display. For people who have wondered exactly what goes on at MIT, this new exhibition shows the range of experiences that comprise “The Heart of MIT.”

Renown internationally as a pioneering institute of engineering and cutting edge scientific research, MIT has a particular ethos, perhaps more well-known to insiders and those who live locally than to the wider world. While Coveney’s photographs display the achievements of MIT scientists and teachers, they are exemplary in their ability to portray the unique culture that exists at MIT – a culture that is as much about playfulness and pride in hard work, as it is about the innate understanding of the rigor of science and the competitiveness and creativity that are bound together in the people who live, work and study at MIT.

In a photograph marking a signature moment in a parent's excitement over dropping off his freshman, a father dashes from the set self timer on a camera to become part of the family photograph composed in front of MIT's famous dome. The movement in the photograph conveys every parent's desire to remain connected with a child whose own achievements are yet to be fully realized.

Coveney's photographs are a treasure-trove of MIT events, people, places and lore. Moreover, *The Heart of MIT: Twenty Years of Photography by Donna Coveney* is an exhibit that deepens the understanding of one of America's best-known institutions of higher learning. The exhibition will motivate educators, parents and students to better understand the value of hands-on learning, the value of community in an educational setting, and perhaps as well, the value of taking stock every now and then of what you do, and sharing that with the wider world.