2008 Barrett Prize

J. Colin Hill SB ’08

Thesis advisors: Claude Canizares, Kenneth Rines

The award, established by students, friends, relatives and colleagues of the late Professor Alan Barrett, honors his outstanding influence in the education of physicists and his fundamental contributions to the science and technology of astrophysics. A $1,000 prize is awarded annually to a senior undergraduate or graduate student in Astrophysics.

2008 Malcolm Cotton Brown Award

Ruth Shewmon SB ’08

Thesis advisors: Isaac Chuang, Bolek Wyslouch

Awarded to a senior of high academic standing in physics who plans to pursue graduate study in experimental physics. Given in memory of Lt. Malcolm Cotton Brown, Royal Air Force, who was killed in service on July 23, 1918. The fund currently provides a prize of $1,000.

All photos Graham Gordon Ramsay
2008 Burchard Scholars

**Stephanie Chan** SB ’10 Physics, Brain & Cognitive Sciences

**Benjamin Park** SB ’10 Physics

The Burchard Scholars Program brings together distinguished members of the faculty and promising sophomores and juniors who have demonstrated excellence in some aspect of the humanities, arts, and social sciences, as well as in science and engineering. The Burchard Program format is a series of dinner-seminars held during the academic year to discuss topics of current research introduced by MIT faculty members. The Program is sponsored by the Dean’s Office, School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences.

2008 Philip Morse Memorial Award

**Thaned Pruttivarasin** SB ’08

Thesis Advisors: Vladan Vuletic, George Stephans

Awarded to a senior of high academic standing in physics who plans to pursue graduate study in physics. Given in memory of Philip Morse, MIT Professor of Physics, one of the renowned physicists of the 20th century, whose contributions spanned from basic physics to engineering. The fund currently provides a prize of $1,000.
2008 Joel Matthew Orloff Awards

Scholarship
Ziliang Lin SB ’08
Thesis advisors: Isaac Chuang, Bolek Wyslouch

Research
Yeming Shi SB ’08
Thesis advisors: Krishna Rajagopal, Robert Jaffe

Service
J. Colin Hill SB ’08
Thesis advisors: Claude Canizares, Kenneth Rines
Risa Kawai SB ’08
Thesis advisors: Sebastian Seung, Mehran Kardar

The Joel Matthew Orloff Awards were established by Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Orloff in memory of their son Joel, a physics major, who died in an automobile accident shortly after graduation from MIT in 1978. One thousand dollars is awarded to each of several physics majors in the following three categories:

Scholarship—given to the student with either the highest GPA in physics courses or, if a tie, the highest overall GPA.

Research—given to the student with the most outstanding senior thesis.

Service—given to the student with the most outstanding service to the Department, Institute, or community.
2008 Sigma Pi Sigma inductees:

Gilberto Abram
Sarah Ackley
Evan Berkowitz
Theresa Christian
Iolanthe Chronis
David Ely
John Gardner
Matthew Heine
J. Colin Hill
Xinpeng Huang
Jeremy Jacox
YoungHyun Kim
Itamar Kimchi
Hyungjun Lee
Justin Lee
Ziliang Lin
Michael Mooney
Thaned Pruttivarasin
William Putnam
Alexandra Rahlin
Yeming Shi
Aditi Shrikumar
Sarah Trowbridge
Dan Wheeler

2008 Phi Beta Kappa inductees:

Gilberto Abram
Sarah Ackley
Nivedita
J. Colin Hill
Xinpeng Huang
Itamar Kimchi
Hyungjun Lee
Justin Lee
Ziliang Lin
Thaned Pruttivarasin
William Putnam
Alexandra Rahlin
Aditi Shrikumar
Sarah Trowbridge
Other Undergraduate Awards & Honors

Annelise Beck (SB ’08) was named a Barry Goldwater Scholar.
J. Colin Hill (SB ’08) was a Rhodes Scholarship finalist, and awarded a 2008 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.
Itamar Kimchi (SB ’08) was awarded a 2008 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.
Daniel Mokrauer-Madden (SB ’08) received the Priscilla King Gray Award for Public Service.

2007 Martin Deutsch Student Award
For Excellence in Experimental Physics

Thomas Corbitt Astrophysics
Thesis advisor: Nergis Mavalvala
Awarded to a graduate student in the mid-course of research for study in any area of physics, with preference given to experimental physics. The award was created in honor of Professor Martin Deutsch’s outstanding contributions to Nuclear Physics as an educator and researcher and currently carries a prize of $1,000.
2007 Buechner Teaching Prize

Richard Ott Experimental High Energy Physics

Thesis advisor: Joseph Formaggio

Awarded to a graduate student for outstanding contributions to the educational program of the Department during the past academic year. The $1,000 prize was established in 1987 by the late Mrs. Christina Buechner in memory of her husband Professor William Buechner, who served as Physics department head from 1962–67.

Other Graduate Honors & Awards

Georgios Choudalakis (Experimental high energy physics. Thesis supervisor: Bruce Knuteson) was awarded a Grainger Postdoctoral Fellowship from the University of Chicago.

Bonna Newman (Experimental condensed matter physics. Thesis supervisor: Thomas Greytak) was awarded a 2008 Clare B. Luce Postdoctoral Fellowship from the MIT Energy Initiative.

Andréa Schmidt (Physics & Nuclear Engineering. Thesis supervisor: Ron Parker) received the Laya Weisner Community Award of the MIT Women’s League, for “conspicuously effective service… for enhancing life at the Institute and in the world at large.”

Pranesh A. Sundararajan (Astrophysics. Thesis supervisor: Scott Hughes) won the “Best Student Talk” award at the 10th East Coast Gravity Meeting.

Hyun Youk (Biophysics. Thesis supervisor: Alexander van Oudenaarden) was awarded a two-year Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada Postgraduate Scholarship.