Student Honors & Awards

2009 Barrett Prize
Josiah Schwab SB ’09
Thesis supervisor: Saul Rappaport
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 in Astrophysics.

2009 Malcolm Cotton Brown Award
Robert A. Moffatt SB ’09
Thesis supervisor: Marin Soljačić
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
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.

2009 Philip Morse Memorial Award

Barry J. Bradlyn SB ’09

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.
2009 Joel Matthew Orloff Awards

Scholarship
Hyun Kim SB ’09
Academic advisor: Sean Robinson

Research
Vladimir Rosenhaus SB ’09
Thesis supervisor: Washington Taylor

Service
Anjali Tripathi SB ’09
Thesis supervisor: Joshua Winn
Natania Antler SB ’09
Thesis supervisor: Nergis Mavalvala

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.
2009 Sigma Pi Sigma inductees.

2009 Phi Beta Kappa inductees.

2009 Sigma Pi Sigma Inductees
Annelise Beck
Alona Birjiniuk
Barry Bradlyn
Andrew Brown
Nivedita Chandrasekaran

Matthew Cornachione
Katherine deKleer
Stephen Fried
Forrest Funnell
Jonathan Hanselman
Nicholas Harrington

Miriam Huntley
Hyun Kim
Ruitian Lang
Robert Moffatt
Vladimir Rosenhaus
Josiah Schwab
Bruce Vest
Jacqueline Villadsen
Justin Wu
Li Zeng

2009 Phi Beta Kappa Inductees
Annelise Beck
Alona Birjiniuk
Barry Bradlyn
Andrew Brown
Matthew Cornachione

Stephen Fried
Forrest Funnell
Jonathan Hanselman
Charles Herder
Miriam Huntley

Hyun Kim
Ruitian Lang
Connor McEntee
Robert Moffatt
Vladimir Rosenhaus
Josiah Schwab
Justin Wu
Li Zeng
Other Undergraduate Honors & Awards

**Charles Agoos** (SB ’09) received a 2009 Anthony Sun Fellowship Award from the MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI) program. The award will support a summer internship allowing Charles to work with a China Educational Technology Initiative team to help expand OpenCourseWare programs in Taiwan and Fuzhou, China.

**James Bartolotta** (SB ’09) was selected as the 2009 recipient of the Jostens Trophy. The annual award recognizes outstanding student-athletes in NCAA Division III basketball for “excellence in the classroom, on the playing court and in the community.” James was also named to the 2009 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America men’s basketball team—the first in the history of MIT’s men’s basketball program.

**Nicholas Joliat** (SB ’10) and **Anna Waldman-Brown** (SB ’11) were selected for the 2009–10 MIT Arts Scholars program. The program brings together students who are “passionate about exploring the diverse array of arts available at MIT and in the Boston area.”

**Sukrit Ranjan** (SB ’10) was selected as a NASA Ambassador for the 2009 International Year of Astronomy; was a Kelly-Douglass Fund recipient to support archeological research in Italy during the summer of 2008; and named a NASA Aeronautics Scholarship program winner.

**Anjali Tripathi** (SB ’09) was awarded a 2009–10 Marshall Scholarship for study at the Cambridge University Institute of Astronomy, as well as a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. Additionally, her participation in a 1999 episode of the long-running “Jeopardy” television program led to an invitation this year to participate in a “Kids Week Reunion” sponsored by the game show. As a result of a first-place win, Anjali won the $25,000 cash prize.

**Saad Zaheer** (SB ’09) received the “Peer Award” for Best Poster at the April 2009 Society of Physics symposium.
The following graduate award recipients for the 2007–08 academic year were announced in September 2008.

2008 Buechner Teaching Prize

**Paul S. Nerenberg** Biophysics
Thesis supervisor: Collin Stultz
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 Prof. William Buechner, who served as Physics department head from 1962–67.

2008 Martin Deutsch Student Award

For Excellence in Experimental Physics

**Asher Kaboth** Experimental Particle Physics
Thesis supervisor: Joseph Formaggio
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.

2008 Andrew M. Lockett III Memorial Fund Award

**Michael S. Kiermaier** String Theory
Thesis supervisor: Barton Zwiebach
Awarded to a graduate student in theoretical physics, with preference given to students from Los Alamos, NM, and New Orleans, LA. The award currently carries a prize of $1,000. The award was established by Mrs. Lucille Lockett Stone in memory of her husband, Dr. Andrew M. Lockett, who received his Ph.D. in physics from MIT in 1954.
2008 Sergio Vazquez Prize

**Michael Ghebrebrhan** Hard Condensed Matter Theory

Thesis supervisor: John Joannopoulos

Established in memory of Sergio Vazquez, a graduate student in the Center for Theoretical Physics who was killed in an automobile accident on April 1, 1990. $1,000 to be awarded annually to a graduate student with preference for a student from an underrepresented sector of the population who had to overcome racial, physical or financial barriers.

Other Graduate Honors & Awards

**Grigory Kagan** (Plasma Physics. Thesis supervisor: Jan Egedal-Pedersen) was awarded the “Best Graduate Student Presentation” prize at the 2008 International Sherwood Fusion Theory Conference.

**Georgia Karagiorgi** (Experimental Particle Physics. Thesis supervisor: Janet Conrad) received the Best Poster award at the international Conference on Particles and Nuclei (PANIC08). The award, sponsored by Elsevier’s *Journal of Nuclear Physics A*, honors young scientists.

**Roak Marsh** (Plasma Physics. Thesis advisor: Richard Temkin) was awarded First Prize for “scientific and aesthetic excellence” in the student poster session of the 23rd Particle Accelerator Conference.

**Tai Sakuma** (Experimental Nuclear and Particle Physics. Thesis advisor: Bernd Surrow) was awarded a poster session winner certificate at the 2008 RHIC and AGS Annual Users’ Meeting.