2011 Alan Barrett Prize

**Ashley Perko** SB '11

Thesis supervisor: Max Tegmark

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.

2011 Malcolm Cotton Brown Award

**Emma Tolley** SB '11

Thesis supervisors: Richard Milner, Douglas Hasell

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.
2011 Burchard Scholars

**Linda Xinlin Chen** SB ’12, Physics and Philosophy  
**Aditi Verma** SB ’12, Nuclear Engineering and 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.

2011 Philip Morse Memorial Award

**David Ramirez** SB ’11  
**Jaime Varela** SB ’11

Thesis supervisors: Marin Soljačić (Ramirez); Steven Johnson (Ramirez and Varela)

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.
2011 Joel Matthew Orloff Awards

Scholarship
Raghu Mahajan  SB ’11
Thesis supervisor: Allan Adams

Research
Ken Van Tilburg  SB ’11
Thesis supervisor: Jesse Thaler

Service
Fangfei Shen  SB ’11
Joan Smith  SB ’11
Nathaniel Thomas  SB ’11
Thesis supervisor: Alan Guth

Yan Zhu  SB ’12

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.
2011 Sigma Pi Sigma Inductees

Christopher Boyce  Lin Fei  Todd Mooring  Claudia Tenen
Erik Chen        Peter Iannucci  Ashley Perko  Philip Tynan
Linda Chen       Raghu Mahajan  David Ramirez  William Vega-Brown
Yu-Ju Chiu       Jonathan Mailoa  Michael Setrin
George Coss      Eric Marion  Jacob Sharpe
Robin Deits      Katelyn Milkowski  Fangfei Shen

2011 Phi Beta Kappa Inductees

Christopher Boyce  Lin Fei  Eric Marion  Michael Setrin
Linda Xinlin Chen  Pangus Ho  Katelyn Milkowski  Fangfei Shen
Yu-Ju Chiu        Peter Iannucci  Todd Mooring  Claudia Tenen
George Coss       Raghu Mahajan  Ashley Perko  Philip Tynan
Robin Deits       Jonathan Mailoa  David Ramirez  William Vega-Brown
Other Undergraduate Honors & Awards

Christopher Boyce (SB ’11, Chemical Engineering & Physics) was named a 2011 Gates Cambridge Scholar to support graduate study at the University of Cambridge.

Raghu Mahajan (SB ’11, Physics & Mathematics) was named a 2011 Gates Cambridge Scholar to support graduate study at the University of Cambridge.

Nathaniel Thomas (SB ’11, Physics & Mathematics) won a Marshall Scholarship to pursue graduate study at the University of Cambridge.

Anna Waldman-Brown (SB ’11, Physics & Writing & Humanistic Studies) was awarded a 2011–12 Fulbright Scholarship for travel to Ghana to research sustainable energy solutions.
2010–2011 Henry Kendall Teaching Awards

The Kendall Awards are given semi-annually to graduate student Teaching Assistants (TAs), whose teaching work for the department is considered outstanding and beyond that which is expected of a good TA.

September 2010 Award Winners
Richard Ott (Experimental Neutrino Physics. Thesis supervisor: Joseph Formaggio) 
“For being a patient and engaging teacher, always ready to think through a problem with students and provide them guidance in doing the experiments in 8.14.”

Obioma Ohia (Plasma Physics. Thesis supervisor: Jan Egedal-Pedersen)
“For connecting well with his 8.02 students, both in class and one-on-one outside of class.”

David Mross (Condensed Matter Theory. Thesis supervisor: Senthil Todadri) “For his teaching in 8.311 that made him the best TA that Prof. Levitov has had in 10 years.”

February 2011 Award Winners
Francesco D’Eramo (Theoretical Nuclear and Particle Physics. Thesis supervisors: Krishna Rajagopal and Hong Liu) “In recognition of his teaching contributions in 8.09, for his proactive and responsible way of working with students.”


Duncan Ralph (Experimental Nuclear and Particle Physics. Thesis supervisor: Markus Klute) “In recognition of his taking on a great deal of responsibility in Junior Lab and for doing so with a great sense of humor.”

Phillip Zukin (Astrophysics. Thesis supervisor: Edmund Bertschinger) “In recognition of his flawless performance as a TA in 8.21, with almost no background in the subject; for learning the subject over the summer; and for his enthusiastic teaching as a section instructor.”
The following graduate award recipients for the 2009–10 academic year were announced in September 2010. The winners of the 2010–11 awards will be published in the Fall 2012 issue of physics@mit.

2010 Buechner Student Teaching Prize

**Arghavan Safavi-Naini** Condensed Matter Theory

Thesis supervisor: Senthil Todadri

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.

2010 Martin Deutsch Student Award

For Excellence in Experimental Physics

**Monika Schleier-Smith** Atomic Physics

Thesis supervisor: Vladan Vuletic

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.

2010 Andrew M. Lockett III Memorial Fund Award

**Nabil Iqbal** Theoretical Nuclear and Particle Physics

Thesis supervisor: Hong Liu

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.
Other Graduate Honors & Awards

Alexei Bylinskii (Atomic Physics. Thesis supervisor: Vladan Vuletic) was awarded a National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada Fellowship.

Christopher Chudzicki (Quantum Information Science. Thesis supervisors: Isaac Chuang, Jeff Shapiro) received the Leroy Apker Award of the American Physical Society.

Katherine Deck (Astrophysics. Thesis supervisor: Matthew Holman) was awarded a 2011 National Science Foundation Fellowship.

Benjamin Jones (Experimental High Energy Physics. Thesis supervisor: Janet Conrad) received a 2011 URA (Universities Research Association) Visiting Scholar Award from the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

Matthew Landreman (Plasma Physics. Thesis supervisor: Peter Catto) received the Graduate Student Poster Award at the 2010 Sherwood Fusion Theory Conference.

Brian Munroe (Plasma Physics. Thesis supervisor: Richard Temkin) was the first-place Student Poster Award winner at the 2011 Particle Accelerator Conference.

Eric Oelker (Astrophysics. Thesis supervisor: Nergis Mavalvala) was awarded a U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science Graduate Fellowship.

John Rutherford (Astrophysics. Thesis supervisor: Enectali Figueroa-Feliciano) was awarded a NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship.

Kazuhiro Terao (Experimental Nuclear and Particle Physics. Thesis supervisor: Janet Conrad) was awarded a Chateaubriand Fellowship.

Sarah Trowbridge '08 Physics (Astrophysics. Thesis supervisor: Enectali Figueroa-Feliciano) was awarded a Harriet G. Jenkins Pre-doctoral Fellowship by NASA; and as head coach of the MIT Women's Gymnastics Team, led them to win the 2011 NAIGC (National Association of Intercollegiate Gymnastics Clubs) national championship.

Eugene Yurtsev (Biophysics. Thesis supervisor: Jeff Gore) was awarded a 2011 National Science Foundation Fellowship.