Honors & Awards

John W. Belcher, Professor of Physics and Class of 1960 Faculty Fellow, received a 2015 MIT Excellence Award.

The Annals of Physics dedicated its January 2015 edition to honoring the achievements of Professor of Physics Emeritus Wit Busza.

Joseph Checkelsky, Assistant Professor of Physics, was awarded a 2015 Amar G. Bose Research Grant (MIT).

Min Chen, Professor of Physics, received the 2014-2015 Phi-Tau-Phi Outstanding Achievement Award.

Ibrahim Cissé, Assistant Professor of Physics, received a 2014 NIH Director’s New Innovator Award.

Mildred Dresselhaus, Institute Professor Emerita, was awarded a 2014 Presidential Medal of Freedom; received a 2015 IEEE Medal of Honor; and inducted into the Inventors’ Hall of Fame.

Joseph Formaggio, Associate Professor of Physics, was appointed Division Head, Experimental Nuclear and Particle Physics, effective July 1, 2015.

Liang Fu, Assistant Professor of Physics, was awarded a 2014 Packard Fellowship; and received the Alexander M. Cruickshank Award of the Gordon Research Conference.

Nuh Gedik, Lawrence C. (1944) and Sarah W. Biedenharn Career Development Associate Professor of Physics, was named an Experimental Investigator in Quantum Materials by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.

Thomas Greytak, Professor of Physics Emeritus, was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; and named one of three winners of the 2015 Senior BEC Award, sponsored by TOPTICA Photonics AG.

Alan H. Guth, Victor F. Weisskopf Professor of Physics and MacVicar Faculty Fellow, was named a Golden Plate recipient of the American Academy of Achievement.

Aram Harrow, Assistant Professor of Physics, received a 2015 National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development Award.
Scott A. Hughes, Professor of Physics, was named a 2015 “Outstanding Referee” by the American Physical Society.

Gian Michele Innocenti, Postdoctoral Associate, MIT Laboratory for Nuclear Science, received a 2015 Infinite Kilometer Award from the MIT School of Science.

Pablo Jarillo-Herrero, was named an Experimental Investigator in Quantum Materials by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.

John D. Joannopoulos, Francis Wright Davis Professor of Physics and Director, Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies, was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; awarded the American Physical Society’s 2015 Aneesur Rahman Prize for Computational Physics; and received the 2015 Max Born Award of the Optical Society of America.

Daniel Kleppner, Lester Wolfe Professor of Physics Emeritus, was named one of three winners of the 2015 Senior BEC Award, sponsored by TOPTICA Photonics AG.

Yen-Jie Lee, Assistant Professor of Physics, received a 2015 Early Career Research Award from the U.S. Department of Energy.

Katie Lewis, former Graduate Administrative Assistant, Physics Academic Programs, received a 2015 MIT School of Science Infinite Mile Award.

Hong Liu, Professor of Physics, was one of two recipients of the 2014 Buechner Faculty Award for Teaching.

Nergis Mavalvala, Curtis and Kathleen Marble Professor of Astrophysics, has been appointed Associate Department Head of Physics, effective February 1, 2015.

Chanda Prescod-Weinstein, 2011-2014 Martin Luther King, Jr. Visiting Scholar (MIT), was named one of “5 Amazing Women Astronomers You Should Know!” by DiscovHER.

Krishna Rajagopal, Professor of Physics and MacVicar Faculty Fellow, was appointed Chair of the Faculty, MIT, after serving as Chair-Elect during the prior academic year.
Sean Robinson ’99, PhD ’05, Lecturer and Head Instructor, MIT Physics “Junior Lab,” received a 2015 MIT School of Science Infinite Mile Award.

Nancy Savioli, Undergraduate Administrative Assistant, Physics Academic Programs, received MIT’s 2015 James N. Murphy Award, given annually to “a non-faculty employee whose spirit and loyalty exemplify...inspired and dedicated service, especially with regard to students.”

Sara Seager, Class of 1941 Professor of Physics and Planetary Science, was elected to the National Academy of Sciences (2015); and was awarded a 2015 Amar G. Bose Research Grant (MIT).

Tracy Slatyer, Assistant Professor of Physics, received a 2015 Early Career Research Award from the U.S. Department of Energy.

Marin Soljačić, Professor of Physics, was named a 2014 Blavatnik National Laureate/Blavatnik National Award for Young Scientists.

Max Tegmark, received the 2015 Great Prize from KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden.

Jesse Thaler, Class of 1943 Career Development Assistant Professor of Physics, was one of two recipients of the 2014 Buechner Faculty Award for Teaching.

Matthew Toups, Senior Postdoctoral Associate, MIT Laboratory for Nuclear Science, received the 2015 Tollestrup Award of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

Frank Wilczek, Herman Feshbach Professor of Physics and 2004 Nobel Laureate, was honored by Zhejiang University of Technology, Hangzhou, China, which named its new initiative in fundamental quantum physics research The Wilczek Quantum Center, as well as appointing him an Honorary Professor; and was a co-winner of the 2014 Award for Essays on Gravitation by the Gravity Research Foundation.

Boleslaw (Bolek) Wyslouch, Professor of Physics, was appointed Director of the MIT Laboratory for Nuclear Science.
Promotions

Nuh Gedik to Associate Professor of Physics with tenure.

Jeff Gore to Associate Professor of Physics without tenure.

Pablo Jarillo-Herrero to Associate Professor of Physics with tenure.

Jesse Thaler to Associate Professor of Physics without tenure.