**MIT readsies for 159th Commencement**

MIT’s 159th Commencement exercises will be held on Friday, June 3, at 10 a.m. in Killian Court. During the ceremony, 2,177 undergraduates and graduate students are scheduled to receive 1,094 bachelor’s degrees, 1,078 master’s degrees, 257 doctorates and 12 engineer degrees.

Admission for ticketed guests begins at 7:30 a.m. Graduates will robe and assemble in the Johnson Athletics Center, on the second floor, at 7:30 a.m.

Irwin M. Jacobs, co-founder, chairman and CEO of Qualcomm Inc. and an MIT alumnus (S.M. 1957 and Sc.D. 1959), will deliver the principal address. President Susan Hockfield will charge the graduates. Other speakers will include Barun Singh, president of the Graduate Student Council, and Rohit Gupta, president of the Class of 2005, who will present the class gift. Hindu Chaplain Swami Tyagananda will deliver the invocation.

Jacobs is known as an innovative entrepreneur and engineer who greatly values research. He advocates improving U.S. math and science education.

“The extraordinary technological contributions of Irwin Jacobs have transformed global telecommunications. Dr. Jacobs’ career, which began with graduate study and a first faculty position at MIT, has changed countless lives, not only through invention and entrepreneurship, but also through remarkable support of secondary math and science education, and of the arts,” said Hockfield. “We are honored and delighted that he is returning to MIT to inspire our graduates and their families, and to share his unique perspective on technology and education.”

San Diego-based Qualcomm holds nearly 1,400 patents and has more than 2,000 patents pending. The company has been compared to a think tank with thousands of employees.

Hockfield will present the following degrees: bachelor of science; bachelor of science/master of science; bachelor of science/master of engineering; and advanced degrees in the School of Science, the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and the Whitaker College of Health Sciences and Technology. Provost Robert A. Brown will deliver advanced degrees in the Schools of Architecture and Planning; Engineering; Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences; and in the Sloan School of Management.

Following the exercises, a reception will be held for graduates and their guests in the East Campus Plaza.

A special hooding ceremony for Ph.D. See CEREMONY

**Institute Professor Cohen dies**

Morris Cohen, a world-renowned metallurgist and MIT institute professor who received both the National Medal of Science and the Kyoto Prize for Advanced Technology, died May 27 at his home in Swampscott, Mass. He was 90.

Cohen made major contributions to the understanding of the structure of matter and the ways in which materials such as iron and steel can be processed. His work has been central to the development of modern high-strength steels.

“This gracious gentleman transformed the discipline of metallurgy via his intellect, vision and personal effort into modern materials science and engineering. The modern catholic view of materials science and engineering being fostered at MIT continues to influence the materials field worldwide today,” said Edwin L. Thomas, the Morris Cohen Professor of Materials Science and Engineering and director of the Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies.

A native of Chelsea, Mass., Cohen started to think about schools, his host family encouraged him to look at MIT. Cohen was living with a host family and enrolled in high school at 16, he was both the valedictorian and a junior champion tennis player.

In the spring of 1998, Pereverzev decided to pack up, leave his family behind in Kazakhstan and go to the Palmer Tennis Academy in Florida. With very little English, Pereverzev struggled during his first months in the United States. After spending the summer back home, Pereverzev returned to Florida even more determined. Eventually, he became one of the top 10 juniors in Florida.

While playing at Palmer, Pereverzev was living with a host family and enrolled in a local high school. He quickly rose to the top there as well, graduating as valedictorian for the second time. When he started to think about schools, his host family encouraged him to look at MIT.

“They told me MIT was the best,” said Pereverzev. “I knew it was for me. I thought one day God would give me a chance, and I would be able to get in.”

In the meantime, Pereverzev focused his search on state schools with strong tennis programs. He was accepted at the...
MIT readies for 159th Commencement

Sasha Brown
News Office

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Following the exercises, a reception will be held for graduates and their guests on the West Campus Plaza. (See CEREMONY)

A special hooding ceremony for Ph.D.

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Sarah H. Wright
News Office

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“This gracious gentleman transformed the discipline of metallurgy via his intellect, vision and personal effort into modern materials science and engineering,” said Edwin L. Thomas, the Morris Cohen Professor of Materials Science and Engineering and director of the Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies.

A native of Chelsea, Mass., Cohen became interested in metals as an outgrowth of his family’s business in producing and refining the lead-based alloys used in type and solders.

Cohen received the S.B. and Sc.D. degrees in metallurgy from MIT in 1933 and 1936, respectively.

He joined the MIT faculty in 1936, becoming a full professor of physical metallurgy in 1946. He retired in 1987.

“MIT is favored with many great intellects, but none more benevolent than Morrie Cohen,” said Hockfield. “Morris Cohen lived 90 years and contributed to MIT in so many ways. As a scientist, his achievement is in the manner of his influence on the world of materials science. As a gentleman, his influence is on the world of people.”

Cohen received the National Medal of Science in 1992 and the Kyoto Prize for Advanced Technology in 1993. (See COHEN)

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Vitaly Pereverzev has come a long way from his childhood in Kazakhstan to play tennis and study in the United States. "Growing up I looked up to my father," said Pereverzev whose father holds a Ph.D. in physics. "My dream became to go to MIT.”

Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, in 1981, Pereverzev spent most of his childhood either playing tennis or studying. By the time he graduated from high school at 16, he was both the valedictorian and a junior champion tennis player.

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Vitaly Pereverzev is graduating with an electrical engineering and computer science major. He will graduate Friday.

When Vitaly Pereverzev dons his cap and gown on Friday, June 3, he will be fulfilling a dream that began seven years ago when he first emigrated from Kazakhstan to play tennis and study in the United States.

"I would be able to get in." He knew it was for me. I thought one day God would give me a chance, and I would be able to get in.”

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Kidney matches

Many more people could get kidney transplants than do now, according to new mathematical techniques designed to optimize a novel matching program at the national level, according to MIT Sloan School of Management professor Sumner Gentry and her husband, a transplant surgeon at Johns Hopkins.

More than 60,000 patients are awaiting kidney transplants in the United States. About one-third of patients on the waiting list will be excluded from the surgery because of blood type and other incompatibilities.

The team then tested the new algorithm against national KPD program data, and found that the model indeed results in more transplants, better matches and more transplanted kidneys surviving at five years.

The research was funded by the American Society of Transplantation, National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship to Gentry from the U.S. Department of Energy.