

**The MIT Sloan Alumni Office, in partnership with local alumni clubs and student groups, organized over 50 events around the world during the six months since the fall issue of *MIT Sloan* was published.** These events focused on connecting alumni to the School, and on building the alumni network, through content and conversation. Read on for a look back at some of these events, and then visit <http://mitsloan.mit.edu/alumni/events> for full event information and additional pictures. For individual updates on your classmates around the world, check out the Class Notes beginning on page 43.

## September / October

**Boston**-area alumni had the opportunity to reconnect with each other and to meet new and returning students at the Welcome Back C-Function on the Sloan plaza. This event was hosted by MBA Student Affairs, in partnership with the Alumni Office, and was followed by an after-party at Flat Top Johnny's.

In September, **Gerrit Lydecker, SF '66**, organized a reunion for the MIT Sloan Fellows from the class of 1966. The group of 20 alumni and their guests reconnected at the Ocean Edge Resort in **Brewster, Massachusetts**.

Sean Brown, SM '94, director of the MIT Sloan Alumni Office, hosted a brunch at the Brockton Villa Restaurant in **La Jolla** on September 24, 2005, for San Diego area alumni. He shared an update on current happenings at MIT Sloan.

Many **Boston** area alumni attended a Meet the Faculty C-Function on September 29, hosted by MBA Student Affairs, the MBA Student Activities Board, the Vintners Club, and the MIT Sloan Alumni Office. At the C-Function, they had the opportunity to visit with favorite faculty members and meet current MBA students.

In October, the MIT Sloan Alumni Office invited **Boston**-area alumni to participate in MIT Sloan Innovation Period (SIP) workshops for the first time. SIP began in 2003, when the School replaced its traditional 13-week semester with six weeks of coursework on either side of an intense week of experiential leadership learning and exposure to groundbreaking faculty research. Over 65 local alumni participated in SIP and enjoyed many workshop offerings focused on both leadership and research.

The **MIT Sloan Golf Club** invited local alumni to join their fall golf tournament on October 16, 2005. Several alumni participated in the festivities, both on teams and as individuals.

The **MIT Sloan Club of New York** hosted a wine-tasting dinner event in mid-October. The six-course dinner included a very fine selection of wines.

**Denver** alumni gathered at the Wynkoop Brewing Company on October 15, 2005, for a chance to reconnect with fellow graduates and hear updates on current happenings at MIT Sloan from Sean Brown, SM '94, director of the Alumni Office.

*Pictured (l to r): Haakon Brown, MBA '01; Noah Rumpf, MBA '03; and Dave Harellick, MBA '02, at the Welcome Back C-Function in September.*



*Meet the Faculty C-Function (l to r): Jon Dablke, guest of Charlie Lieu, LFM '05, and Christine Kelly, senior lecturer.*



## November / December

In November, the **MIT Sloan Alumni Club of Boston** hosted *Business Leadership in the Nonprofit World*, an event which gave attendees an opportunity to meet key leaders and board members associated with well-recognized nonprofit organizations in the region. Through a panel discussion, attendees gained firsthand insight into nonprofit-sector careers, transitioning from the private to the nonprofit sector, and joining nonprofit boards.

The **MIT Sloan Alumni Club of Boston** partnered with the School to hold the 3rd annual MIT CFO Summit on November 18, 2005. The event was another resounding success with a sold-out audience of over 525 CFOs, controllers, and financial executives in attendance. Speakers included MIT Sloan alumni **William Aulet, SF '94**, senior vice president and CFO of Viisage Technology; **Bob Blakely, PhD '70**, former CFO of MCI and current CFO of Fannie Mae; and **Paul Thomson, SF '97**, vice president of Otis Elevator Company. Save the date for this year's event, which will take place on November 17, 2006, at the Newton Marriott.

Members of the **MIT Sloan Club of London** board worked with the student organizers of the 2005 **Euro Trek**—the largest MBA recruiting event in Europe, which brought together over 400 MBA students and 100 companies—to plan a gathering on November 23, 2005, at The Abbaye. This was a great opportunity for local alumni to reconnect and welcome current students to London.

Several MBA students traveled to Texas for the **Austin Tech Trek** on October 27–28. As part of the Trek, students gathered with local alumni and learned more about career opportunities in the Austin area.

Over 60 MIT Sloan students gathered with local **Montreal** alumni in late October as part of the **Montreal Trek**.

*In September 2005, MIT Sloan Fellows from the Class of 1966 reconnected at the Ocean Edge Resort in Brewster, Massachusetts. Pictured (l to r): William Linko, James McGowan, Thomas Hasbrouck, Robert Lord, Bill Zeigler, Walter Johnson, Ralph Pickard, and Robert Anderson.*



## January / February

Over 120 Bay area alumni gathered with 80 current MIT Sloan students on January 3 for the annual **Silicon Valley Tech Trek** reception at the Menlo Circus Club. **Brad Peterson, SM '89**, CIO of eBay, talked about his professional experiences and reminisced about his participation in the Silicon Valley Tech Trek as a student. Sean Brown, SM '94, director of the MIT Sloan Alumni Office, gave an update on the School. Margaret Andrews, SM '92, former executive director of marketing, and Dave Weber, SM '83, director of MIT Sloan corporate relations, were also in attendance. Special thanks to our sponsors for this event, Jerry Burnett, Brad Peterson, eBay, and VMware.

*Sergey Perov, MBA '07; Yu-Im Lob, MBA '07; Sean Brown, SM '94; and Yen Lee, MBA '96, at the annual Silicon Valley Tech Trek alumni and student reception at the Menlo Circus Club.*



On January 5, **Hong Kong**-based alumni gathered with the 20 students participating in the **Asia Trek** for a reception at Grappa's Cellar. **Henry Tan, MBA '04**, worked with the MIT Sloan Alumni Office and with the students to coordinate the event. The students were thrilled to learn more about Hong Kong's culture and companies, as well as about the experiences of the alumni who work and live there.

Thirty **Los Angeles**-area alumni welcomed the 15 students on the **Los Angeles Trek** for a reception at Gardens on Glendon. The event offered students the opportunity to meet and learn about the experiences of local alumni,

*An MBA '04 mini-reunion at the Massachusetts Tech Trek reception in Cambridge. Pictured (l to r): Aaron Kechley, Ori Spigelman, and Mary Wheeler.*





*Pictured (l to r): Christopher Barrett, MBA '06; Chas Lavine, SB '70; and Steve Cohn, MBA '07, at an alumni and student gathering in L.A.*



*Pictured (l to r): Justin Harper, LFM '07; Tina Laforteza, MBA '04; and Jeff Uller, MBA '03, networking in Detroit.*



*Pictured (l to r): Thomas Duterme, MBA '07; Chike Farrell, MBA '04; Mike Dean, MBA '05; and Daniel DiLorenzo, MOT '99, connect in Seattle.*

while broadening their MIT Sloan network. Sean Brown, SM '94, director of the MIT Sloan Alumni Office, shared an update on MIT Sloan. In addition, several alumni talked about professional opportunities for graduates in Los Angeles.

Each year, LFM students participate in a plant tour which takes them to several cities around the United States. This past January, the MIT Sloan Alumni Office helped to coordinate a reception where these students were welcomed to the **Detroit** area by members of the local **MIT Sloan Club**. A brief update on current happenings at MIT Sloan was delivered by **Tom Kochan**. George M. Bunker (1931) Professor of Management.

Over 25 **Seattle**-area alumni attended a reception at Fado Irish Pub with current MBA students visiting for the 2006 **Seattle Tech Trek**. Alumni and students alike enjoyed the opportunity to network and connect at this event. Dave Weber, SM '83, director of corporate relations, shared news about MIT Sloan with the alumni.

The MIT Sloan Alumni Office was happy to invite **Boston**-area alumni to attend the 2006 **Massachusetts Tech Trek** reception at the Charles Hotel. With over 200 people in attendance, the event provided a great networking opportunity for current MIT Sloan graduate students, alumni, and local corporate representatives. Mitch Tyson, CEO and director of

Advanced Electron Beams, gave the keynote address. General Catalyst graciously sponsored this exciting event. Sean Brown, SM '94, director of the MIT Sloan Alumni Office, gave an update on MIT Sloan.

The **MIT Club of Southwest Florida** welcomed **Dean Richard Schmalensee** to a buffet luncheon in late January. The dean talked about the unique relationship between MIT and MIT Sloan.

The MIT Sloan Alumni Office hosted the annual **Alumni Student Mentor Program** reception on February 12. Nineteen student mentees met and networked with 16 alumni mentors over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the Faculty Club.

In February, the **MIT Sloan Club of Northern California** hosted a talk on *Doing Business in the Flat World* with Jim Champy, chairman of Perot Systems Corporation's worldwide consulting practice. Champy is a leading authority worldwide on management issues surrounding business reengineering, organizational change, and corporate renewal. Members of the newly admitted MBA Class of 2008 attended the event as well, where they also met and networked with local alumni.

As part of their Third Tuesday Series of networking events, the **MIT Sloan Alumni Club of Boston** invited alumni to a special *Chocolate Tasting Experience* at Azure restaurant in Boston. **Suzanne Oakley, MBA '95**, founder of Experience: CHOCOLATE™, organized a chocolate scavenger hunt designed to increase the chocolate savvy of attendees and showcase gourmet chocolate in various forms.

Also in February, **Ken Morse**, managing director of the MIT Entrepreneurship Center, visited the **MIT Club of Minnesota** to talk about *Critical Success Factors in High-Tech Entrepreneurship: What's Hot and What's Not*. Morse cofounded six companies in his career, including 3Com and Aspen Technology, and has led the charge in nurturing startups out of MIT.

*Cathy Campaigne, MBA '99, and Ben Cohen-Leadholm, MBA '07, connected at the MIT Sloan Alumni Student Mentor program reception.*



## March / April

The MIT Sloan Alumni Office, in partnership with spring trip and trek organizers, hosted a series of March events for students and alumni in **Dubai, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Mumbai, Shanghai, Taipei, and Tokyo**. The gatherings coincided with student trips to China, India, and Turkey as well as the Japan and Middle East Treks. For more information on the student trips, see pages 8 and 9.

The **MIT Management Club of Korea** hosted an alumni and student dinner during the student trip to Korea. **William Pounds**, Dean Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of Management, and **Hae-hyeong Cho, SB '58**, president of the MIT Management Club of Korea, spoke at the event. Sean Brown, SM '94, director of the MIT Sloan Alumni Office, also gave a brief update. The dinner took place at The Korea House in **Seoul**.

The **Association of MIT Alumnae**, in collaboration with the **MIT Sloan Alumni Club of Boston**, held the first event of a three-part Alumnae Leadership Series, a panel discussion on *Work & Family Integration*, on campus on March 8. Panelists included Ann Bookman, executive director of the MIT Workplace Center and **Ruby Chandy, SM '89**, vice president of marketing and commercial excellence for Thermo Electron Corporation, as well as

several other prominent speakers. Save the dates—June 8 and September 15—for the next two events in this series.

The **MIT Sloan Club of New York** held a night of poker titled *Know When to Hold 'em, Know When to Fold 'em*. **Rob Varkonyi, SB '83**, World Series of Poker 2002 champion, led attendees through the secrets of how he became the first amateur player to beat the pros at the World Series of Poker. He then walked participants through key hands from the 2002 World Series.

The MIT Sloan Alumni Office, in partnership with the MBA Program Office, hosted a reception in **Tel Aviv** for local MIT Sloan alumni, admitted members of the MBA Class of 2008, and current students participating in the Israel Trek. Debbie Berechman, executive director of the MBA program, shared updates on current happenings at MIT Sloan.

As a result of the popularity of the Sloan Innovation Period (SIP) Workshops in the fall, **Boston**-area alumni were invited to attend SIP workshops again in March. Over 55 alumni participated in 30 workshops over the course of the week.

## Look for us in a city near you

**MIT Sloan staff and local clubs will soon be hosting events in your area. The locations listed below will be home to MIT Sloan events this summer and fall.**

<b>Austin</b>	<b>Los Angeles</b>
<b>Beijing</b>	<b>New York City</b>
<b>Boston</b>	<b>Paris</b>
<b>Cambridge</b>	<b>San Francisco</b>
<b>Cape Cod</b>	<b>Seattle</b>
<b>Chicago</b>	<b>Shanghai</b>
<b>Dallas</b>	<b>Silicon Valley</b>
<b>Detroit</b>	<b>Singapore</b>
<b>London</b>	

Are you interested in adding an event in your city to this list? Contact Kristin LeClair, assistant director of special events, at [kleclair@mit.edu](mailto:kleclair@mit.edu).

During SIP, **Ken White, SM '69**, career advisor in the MIT Sloan Alumni Office, offered a session titled, *Continuing Education and Career Advancement*, where attendees had the opportunity to discuss continuing education opportunities and how to leverage them in the context of career advancement.

Alumni leaders in the **MIT Club of Beijing** collaborated with the MIT Sloan Alumni Office to plan a dinner for local alumni and newly admitted MIT and MIT Sloan students. Sean Brown, SM '94, director of the MIT Sloan Alumni Office, talked about current happenings at the School during the dinner.

Additional welcome receptions were held in **Cambridge, New York City, and Washington, D.C.**, in honor of the admitted members of the MBA Class of 2008. The events were attended by alumni, staff, and other members of the MIT Sloan community, and they provided a great opportunity for admitted students to learn more about the School.

*Eric Rosenblum (left), MBA '97, dines with admits at the Beijing MIT reception for newly admitted students.*



*Rebecca Schechter, MBA '96, and Audrey Daum, SM '88, at the Association of MIT Alumnae's panel discussion on Work & Family Integration.*



## Oh, the places they go!

**C**hina. India. Korea. Turkey. Four disparate places with one thing in common: This spring, they played host to inquisitive MIT Sloan students as part of the much-anticipated spring international trips. These trips, long a favorite for participating students and alumni, serve as an opportunity for the student travelers to witness firsthand—and hopefully gain a greater appreciation of—the culture, economy, and history of a country different from their own. Travel groups are often made up of students who are native to a particular country and wish to share some of their homeland with their classmates; other students are seeking a greater understanding of the country's business trends as they entertain the possibility of working there upon graduation. Whatever their reasons for undertaking these trips, each student comes away with knowledge and memories that they remember as one of the highlights of their MIT Sloan experience.

While each of this year's trips offered numerous opportunities to learn about business from different perspectives—and to meet with local MIT Sloan alumni in both professional and social environments—they also had separate goals specific to the countries they visited.

**CHINA** China has long held a mystique in the eyes of the western world. The goal of the 2006 China trip was for participants to see past that mystique and understand how government, business, and culture are evolving in such a dynamic country.

The MIT Sloan group also visited government offices and manufacturing, technology, and finance companies headquartered in three cities: Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Taipei. The flow of money and ideas among these cities has made them an increasingly interdependent economic entity, and the students learned about the shared economic activities among the cities as well as the resulting marketing dynamics. The visit to Shanghai had an added bonus: Because the city is considered the hottest place in

China right now, the group was able to investigate what role Shanghai wants to play in the nation's future economic growth.

**Carrie Huang, MBA '07**, one of the trip's organizers, says the highlight of the trip was by far the visits with local governments. She says that in China, the local governments have a great deal of authority, so the students learned about each government's positions and how it wanted to grow economically. Huang also said that such economic growth and emerging patterns are new phenomena in traditionally communist China and is something the country has only undergone within the last seven or eight years.

"The trip was valuable because it gave some participants their first look into China and served to dispel many myths," says Huang. "The alumni were instrumental in this learning process because they offered practical business and career advice for those who plan to be in China in the future. Whether it is sourcing components or working there soon after graduation, the trip gave a ground-level view of the opportunities offered by one of the most exciting regions of the world."

**INDIA** As was proven by its prevalent position in Tom Friedman's bestseller, *The World is Flat*, India is an important economic entity right now. But for five of the 32 students traveling there this spring, India is also home, and a place they wanted their classmates to understand beyond what they could learn in a book.

Visiting Bangalore, Delhi, and Mumbai, the trip participants got to experience a great deal of India's diverse culture, as well as gain a greater understanding of how business is done in the country as a whole.

The students were able to meet with top government and business leaders across a variety of industries, including Genpact, the largest business process outsourcer in India; Infosys, India's IT leader; Westbridge Capital, one of the biggest VC firms in the country; and ICICI, India's largest private bank. In addition,



*Mystique solved? Students on the China trip enjoyed learning about the region's rich history and exciting future.*



*A visit to the Taj Mahal was one of many cultural and corporate highlights on this year's India trip.*



After a four-year hiatus, the Korea trip was back, exploring both the rich cultural history and the dynamic economic growth of the country.



In addition to delving into the challenges faced by local business, participants on the first-ever Turkey trip took in a historical Ottoman city and a solar eclipse.

the group met with Azim Premji, the wealthiest man in India, to talk about his nonprofit endeavors; they also ventured to Bollywood film production company Adlabs to check out the business side of entertainment. These visits created a very balanced picture of where business is going in India.

Perhaps most important, the native Indian students were able to share with their classmates the shift in India itself, a shift away from a history of economic isolation to a place where business leadership (capabilities) and education are world-renowned.

**KOREA** During the 1990s, the spring trips to Korea were focused on the shipbuilding and steelmaking industries. But as the focus of the Korean economy has changed, so has the focus of the student trip. Back after a four-year hiatus, this year's Korea trip explored the transition from the old to the new, from a manufacturing economy to one that is more focused on technology and related services.

Transition and adaptation are nothing new to Korea. This world-class economy has seen astonishing development since the 1950s, culminating in the technological marvel the students witnessed this spring.

Visits to high-tech powerhouses such as Samsung, LG, and SK Telecom provided the students a window into the success of these corporations. Such company visits were interspersed with a myriad of culturally focused endeavors, including a kimchi-making workshop, a visit to a traditional Korean fishing village for a fresh sushi dinner, a tea ceremony, and tours of some of Seoul's many palaces.

Lest the students leave without an appreciation of Korea's political situation, the group visited the Ministry of Information and Communication and spent the greater part of an emotional day viewing the demilitarized zone (DMZ). The latter visit illustrated for the non-Korean students the social and cultural differences between North and South Korea and the realities of living in a country still so divided.

Trip organizer **Joonki Song, MBA '06**, attests to the success of the trip: "Everyone loved the cultural events, the Gyeongju tour, and the DMZ visit. They also appreciated the opportunity to witness firsthand Korea's development in IT. Our endeavors were detailed for posterity by many Korean media outlets!"

**TURKEY** The 2006 Turkey trip came about in the same way that many other student initiatives do at MIT Sloan: Students saw a void to be filled, and they took steps to fill it. Believing that some students on last year's trip to Dubai (which included a side visit to Istanbul) had misconceptions about Turkey, their fellow travelers decided a dedicated Turkey trip was in order. Those student organizers wanted to highlight how Turkey is different from surrounding Muslim countries; to educate their peers about Turkish business and culture; and to combat misconceptions by letting their classmates see things with their own eyes.

Key among these misconceptions is the role of women in Turkish society. It is not widely known that some of the most powerful positions in the country are held by women, including that of prime minister.

And then there's Turkey's reputation in the business world. The trip organizers contend that Turkey is more integrated into the world economy than expected, and wanted to look at challenges faced by Turkish businesses.

In addition to the business and governmental visits typical of such trips, the Turkey trip also had some unique elements. As part of the organizers' commitment to both MIT Sloan and the education of their countrymen, the students visited two universities to meet with their students to talk about MIT Sloan. The Sloanies shared their experiences and helped potential applicants understand more about the School. They also discussed the future of Turkey.

Turkey's past also got some attention during the trip. At one point, the students stayed at a historical Ottoman hotel in Istanbul, where everything is done traditionally. The group visited museums, palaces, churches, and other key Ottoman and Byzantine cultural landmarks. They also were able to lunch with the head of parliament and attended a meeting at the U.S. Consulate.

But there's one experience from this particular trip that is unlikely to be duplicated on any Turkey trips held in the near future: While in Istanbul, the group witnessed a total solar eclipse.