A Letter from the President

On behalf of the Executive Board as well as our six Panhellenic chapters, I would like to thank you for your interest in our community, and would like to welcome you to learn more about Greek life at MIT. As sorority women, we strive to uphold the values of our respective organizations while holding each other and ourselves to a high set of standards.

It is through my sorority and my involvement in Panhellenic that I have come to know an amazing community of women. These women hold research positions at esteemed labs at MIT, start their own businesses, and intern at some of the most successful companies in the world. Additionally, they hold leadership positions all across campus, and are involved in a multitude of different clubs, sports teams, and organizations. They are some of the most well rounded women I know. More than this, they are my friends. Sororities provide an unbelievable network of support that should not be trivialized. The women in my sorority are women that I can count on, women that I can have fun with, and women that I can look up to.

As Panhellenic President, I have the honor of working with an exceptional executive board. We pride ourselves in advocating for the Panhellenic community, and are continually striving to foster a sense of community at MIT. This year, we hope to promote collaboration and transparency with the faculty and administration at the Institute, as well as to work towards partnerships with other student organizations on campus.

MIT is an amazing place to go to school, and the opportunities here are endless. We hope that you will take the opportunity to learn how you can become more involved in Panhellenic at MIT, or to learn more about the value of our organization as a whole. Please reach out to myself, or any member of the Executive Board, should any questions arise.

All the best,
Philine Huizing
Panhellenic President 2013
Meet the New Faces of Panhel 2013!

**Panhel Executive Board**

- **Carrine Johnson**
  Executive Vice President
- **Philine Huizing**
  President
- **Stephanie Holden**
  VP Recruitment
- **Katie Chasins**
  VP Recruitment Programming
- **Andrea Gutierrez**
  VP Programming
- **Varsha Raghavan**
  VP Public Relations
- **Yasmin Inam**
  VP Finance & Administration

“We pride ourselves in advocating for the Panhellenic community, and are continually striving to foster a sense of community at MIT.”

-- Philine Huizing

**Panhel Cabinet**

- **Victoria Jensen**
  General Publicity Co-Chair
- **Maya Ramachandran**
  General Publicity Co-Chair
- **Claire Lee**
  Greek Unity Chair

**Junior Panhel**

Congratulations, New Chapter Presidents!

2012 Faculty Event Recap

By Christine Lai
Former Panhel Executive Vice President

On December 10, 2012, women from all sororities gathered to converse with professors and Housemasters over hors d’oeuvres. The MIT Panhellenic Association held its first faculty reception in the R & D Lounge on the 4th floor of Stata. Attendees included Chancellor Grimson and Professor Jamison of the notorious classes 5.12 and 5.13. Professor Reddien, whose lab researches the regenerative properties of planaria (otherwise known as flatworms), shared with students his wisdom and passion for biology research. Many other faculty generously shared their academic passions with our sorority sisters and continued fruitful conversations through the evening.

Last year, Panhel asked all sorority women which faculty they would like to converse with at the faculty reception, and invitations were sent to those faculty. Overall, the faculty informed Panhel they very much enjoyed the conversations. In addition, they were flattered by your invitations! A shout-out to the sorority sisters on the Faculty Event Planning Committee: Amelia Brooks, Philine Huizing, Whitney Loo, Anna Merrifield, Keerti Shukla, Denzil Sikka, and Paula Trepman.
Clockwise from top left: Stephanie Holden teaching hands-on science experiments at middle schools in the Limpopo Province of South Africa; Lauren Allen teaching 7th and 8th grade students in Florida about climate change, air composition, and chemical reactions as part of a joint program through the MIT PSC and Edgerton Center; Liz Kilbane in South Africa exploring the safari there; Kelly Wang (left) and Laura Stilwell (right) in Sao Paulo, Brazil for D-Lab Development, working with small communities on urban agriculture and income generation projects; Katie Chasins learning how to TIG-weld; Hilary Mulholland (left) and Keerti Shukla (right) in Italy with the MISTI Global Teaching Labs exploring the sights; (left to right) Sharon Hao, Rachel Hunt, and Tamara Pena playing on MIT’s Varsity Basketball team; Priya Kalluri working with locals to create a sustainable source of clean drinking water in Tamale, Ghana; Julia Berk visiting chapter alums in San Francisco.

Center: Ann Alampi in the Mojave Desert in Southern California to help create a geological map of two mountain ranges for 12.115 (field geology)
Sister Spotlights

Chelsea Finn, Alpha Chi Omega
Class of 2014

Chelsea Finn epitomizes the Panhellenic value of scholarship. As a junior in Course 6, she is a lab assistant for 6.141, an upper-level undergrad robotics class, and is taking two graduate level classes. Chelsea also does research with Professor Sai Ravela in the Earth Signals and Systems Group working on image processing algorithms to identify individual whalesharks by comparing patterns of spots between pairs of images. She plans to co-author a paper on her work in the near future.

Last summer, Chelsea interned at Google, working on backend and frontend software in the Google Translator Toolkit, and this summer, she plans to return to work with the Google Play Movies team on video processing.

Whether it is serving as VP Public Relations and Marketing on the executive board or helping sisters with their work, Chelsea is actively involved as a leader within her sorority. Chelsea goes out of her way to assist sisters in whatever way she can, and she even received a scholarship from Alpha Chi Omega last fall for her outstanding academic achievements and contributions to her chapter.

Hannah Barrett

Janille Maragh, Alpha Epsilon Phi
Class of 2013

Janille (Affi) Maragh has a warm and fun personality that is easy to love, and her confidence and commitment makes her an effective leader. As AEPhi Recruitment Chair, Affi led our chapter to the most successful informal recruitment ever. In one semester, we nearly doubled our chapter size, while keeping to the values and goals of our chapter. AEPhi does not have a house, and many members are strongly involved with their dorm culture. Affi is no exception, and has demonstrated her strong leadership skills beyond AEPhi.

Affi is passionate about advocating for student well-being and happiness at MIT. As President of Burton-Conner House for 2012, she represented Burton-Conner at DormCon meetings and UA Council meetings, ensuring that student voices were heard. She steered Burton-Conner through a change in housemaster, by helping interview candidates in the housemaster selection process.

On DormCon, she was also Executive Vice President. She helped run DormCon exec as well as dorm president meetings, acting as an interface between dorm residents and the administration.

Affi demonstrates support and leadership not only in AEPhi, but also at MIT and beyond. In the future, she hopes to continue with graduate school and will surely continue to be a strong and admirable leader.

Laura Matloff
This past IAP, we traveled to Kenya as part of the initial stage for the Lenana Project. We are looking to implement a sustainable waste management solution for Lenana, a slum community outside Nairobi. Specifically we intend to implement a biodigester at the new community secondary school built by our partner NGO, The Supply Education Group. Biodigestion converts organic waste into methane gas and fertilizer sludge. We hope this will provide the students with a cleaner learning environment as well as the opportunity to take part in an engineering project.

Yuchen Feng & Janet Lin

In a place as stressful as MIT, having a community to support and push you is a critical part of succeeding. Luckily, the sisters in each of our chapters provide that, by truly living up to the word "sisterhood." But what we often forget is that this sisterhood extends far beyond our own chapters.

Two summers ago, I was interning in D.C. While dashing down the street, late for an event, I saw a girl wearing a "Theta loves CASA" shirt. A quick internal debate later, I turned and sprinted after her. "I saw your shirt...I'm a Theta too!" was all the explanation I could sheepishly offer. Her reaction? "No waayyy! We have to take some pictures together, this is so cool!" After that, I didn't expect to see her again. But this fall, she came to Boston in the fall for an internship, and I helped her find housing. She visited our chapter, hung out at our house, and attended our philanthropy event. This summer I'm going back to D.C., and she's helping me find a roommate. All of this, just because seeing the word "Theta" on a random person's shirt reminded me that the sisterhood of sororities extends beyond my own chapter, and she felt that too.

Shini Jayaram
**Vynnie Kong**, Pi Beta Phi  
*Class of 2015*

It is no secret that MIT sophomore and Pi Beta Phi sister Vynnie Kong loves birds, the color purple, and double checking random facts with Google. Over a decade of close friendship has me convinced that she is perhaps the most genuine, kind and easygoing individuals I will ever meet. A lesser-known fact about Vynnie is that she is currently ranked among the Intercollegiate Tennis Association’s top 25 collegiate female tennis players in the Northeast.

While young Vynnie and I took tennis lessons together at one point, it is safe to say that years of impeccable drive and talent propelled just one of us to tennis greatness. Upon Vynnie’s arrival to MIT as a highly coveted recruit, she was first team All-NEWMAC at No. 5 singles and finished a perfect 11-0. In the past fall 2012 season as a sophomore, she again finished undefeated 8-0 at No. 2 singles, helping the varsity team to a first place title at NEW-MAC—the team’s first championship in ten years.

Despite her multitude of accomplishments on the court, Vynnie is most proud of the cohesiveness of the MIT Women’s Tennis Team and the tremendously supportive culture they have fashioned. Beyond athleticism, what is most impressive about Vynnie to me is her ability to seamlessly transfer her poise and modesty as an athlete into her everyday life, specifically in her personality and relationships. In our over twelve years of unofficial sisterhood I have amassed heaps of respect for and learned so much from her, both athletically and holistically. It is a joy to know that Vynnie’s achievements, charm, and all that she embodies will bring so much to Pi Phi and the Panhellenic community.

*Stephanie Chen*

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**Amanda Zhou**, Sigma Kappa  
*Class of 2016*

Amanda Zhou, SK 2016 from Lake Forest, Illinois, has not let her grueling course load get in the way of her musical and culinary pursuits at MIT. In fourth grade, Amanda picked up an instrument almost as large as she is—the cello. She continued playing the cello in her high school’s Symphony Orchestra and was the president of the orchestra senior year. During her time in high school, she studied under renowned cellist Hans Jorgen Jensen, a professor of cello at Northwestern. She was selected to be a member of the Midwest Young Artists, the largest youth ensemble music program in the Midwest. Amanda brought her talents to MIT, joining MITSO last fall. If Amanda is not at MITSO practice, she may be in the kitchens whipping up a new culinary delight. Rumor has it her Christmas cookies were the most popular in the state of Illinois.

*Elizabeth Murphy*
Pi Beta Phi

Read. Lead. Achieve.
focus on children’s literacy

Events:

◊ **Arrowspike** (September)
  Volleyball tournament and carnival activities

◊ **Ransom for Reading** (March)
  Members of the MIT Community are “kidnapped” and are “ransomed” for monetary or book donations

◊ **Daisy Sales** (March)

The Panhellenic Creed

“We, as undergraduate members of women's fraternities, stand for good scholarship, for the guarding of good health, for the maintenance of fine standards, and serving, to the best of our ability, our college community. Cooperation for furthering fraternity life, in harmony with its best possibilities, is the ideal that shall guide our fraternity activities. We, as fraternity women, stand for service through the development of character inspired by the close contact and deep friendship of individual fraternity and Panhellenic life. The opportunity for wide and wise human service, through mutual respect and helpfulness, is the tenant by which we strive to live.”