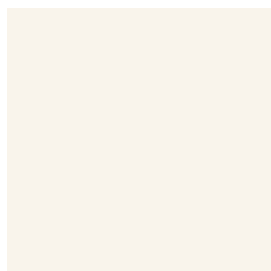
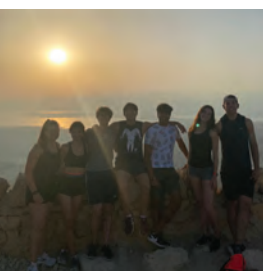
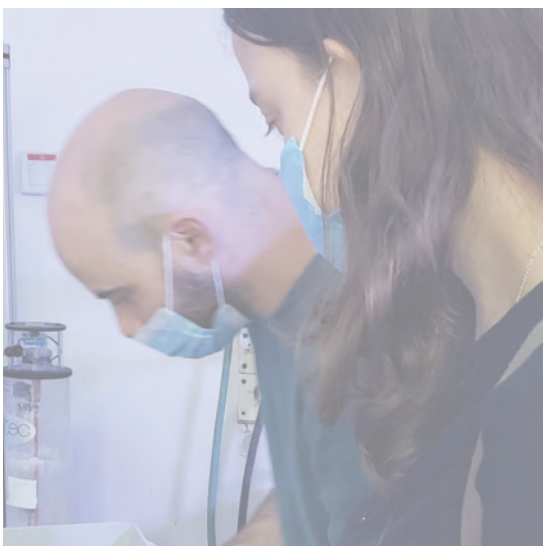
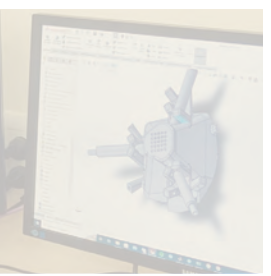
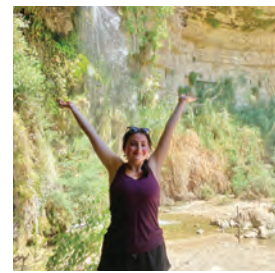
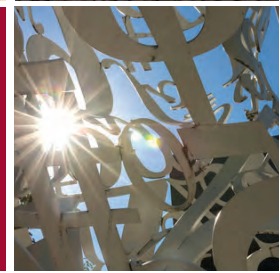
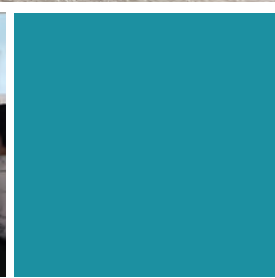
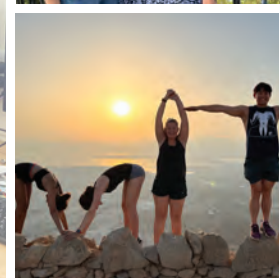
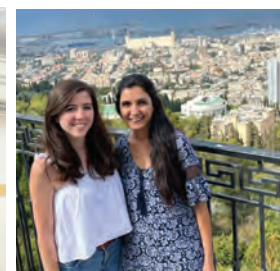
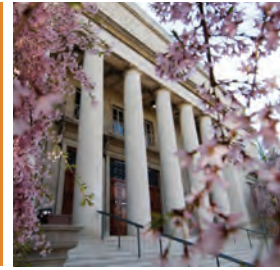
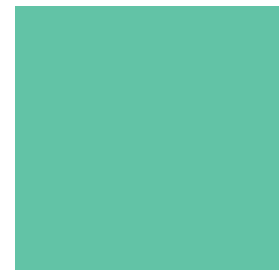
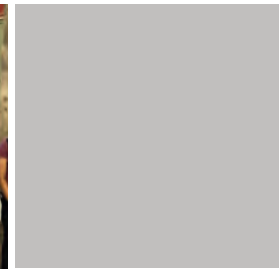
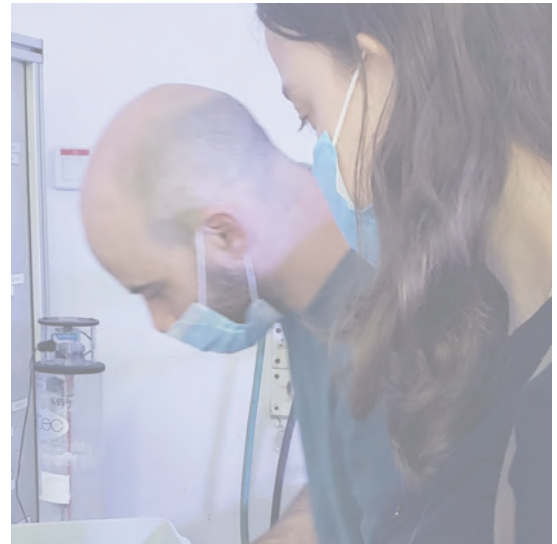
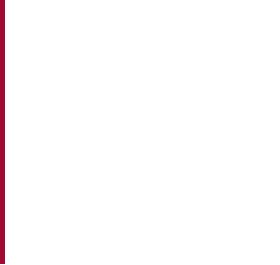
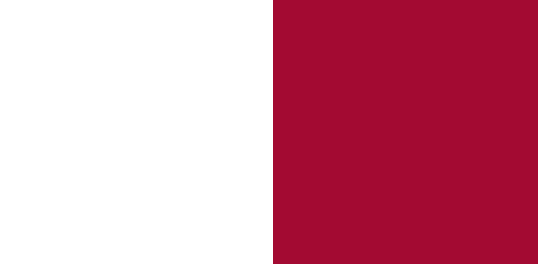
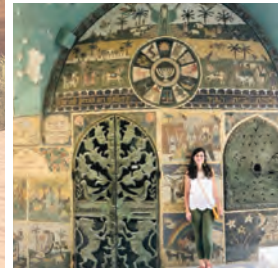




Annual Report

MIT-Israel Program | 2021-2022





Faculty & Staff



Eran Ben-Joseph
Department Head & Professor, Department of Urban Studies and Planning
Faculty Director, MISTI MIT-Israel



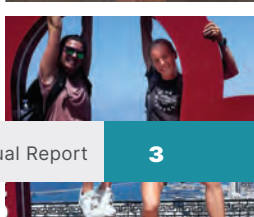
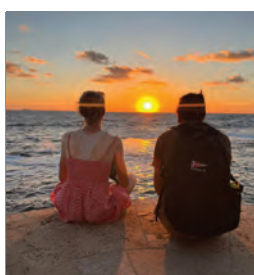
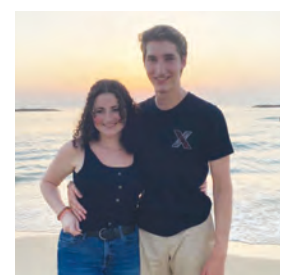
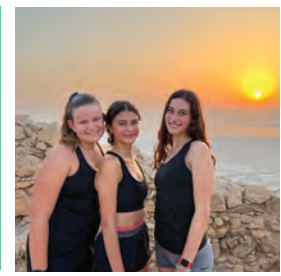
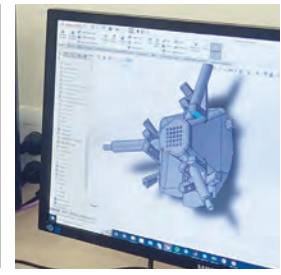
Christine Ortiz
Professor, Materials Science and Engineering
Faculty Advisor, MISTI MIT-Israel



David Dolev
Associate Director, MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI)
Managing Director, MISTI MIT-Israel



Rachel Buonaiuto
Program Coordinator, MISTI MIT-Israel



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MIT-Israel

Overview

Creating bridges between MIT and Israel

While international travel remained challenging due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this past year we were able to send 28 MIT students to Israel to participate in internships at 5 different Israeli universities and 11 companies. Students interned at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv University, Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, and the University of Haifa. Other students worked with companies or organizations such as Axonius, BrainQ Technologies, Dodo Smart, Hour25.ai, Lynxight, Optibus, Savy, Tech2Peace, The Knesset Research & Information Center, and Yotpo.

In addition to running our internship program fully in person for the first time since the start of the pandemic, we also awarded eight grants through our **MIT-Israel Seed Funds** to support MIT and Israeli faculty collaboration and engage additional students in collaborative research. This work was made possible by the MIT-Israel Zuckerman STEM Fund, the MIT-Israel Lockheed Martin Seed Fund, and the MIT-Israel Broshy Brain and Cognitive Sciences Fund.

To keep the MIT community engaged with Israel, we hosted a joint event with the Consulate General of Israel to New England titled Inspired by **Israel: Arts, Education, and Innovation at MIT**. The event featured Nobel Laureate Prof. Joshua Angrist and included remarks from other speakers including Israeli artist Shuli Sade, whose artwork is featured on the MIT campus. We also hosted a webinar in collaboration with the New England-Israel Business Council: **MIT educated Israeli AgTech entrepreneurs fighting global warming**, featuring MIT alumni Niztan Haklai, Dan Grotsky, and Dror Sharon, moderated by Adi Vagman.

In the 2022-2023 academic year, we plan to send even more MIT students and faculty to Israel to participate in in-person internships, teaching experiences, and research opportunities. We thank you for your support, which has been critical in providing these opportunities for our students and faculty and expanding collaboration between MIT and Israel.

“Doing MISTI-Israel truly immersed me into another culture and I enjoyed learning everything about it- the history, traditions, the cuisine... the place itself is like a Wikipedia page. It is a pleasure to find those differences and learn how they came to be; the historical context behind it that I would have never realized if I had stayed in MIT.”

Maya Makarovsky '25





Preparation, Training & Education

The MISTI MIT-Israel program includes comprehensive educational arch for students that travel to Israel.

Pre-departure training

As a prerequisite for the internship program, students gain a deep understanding of Israel's history, politics, and culture by taking a for-credit course at MIT. In addition to the class, all students participate in MIT-Israel training sessions aimed at preparing them for their experiences in-country, covering topics such as how to navigate the Israeli workplace, cross-cultural communication skills, and safety and security in the region. MIT-Israel also provides students without prior Hebrew skills six hours of instruction to cover the Hebrew alphabet, key phrases, and relevant vocabulary.

In-country learning

Interns participate in a five-day group seminar in which they travel around Israel to better understand the country. Students' professional experiences are augmented by in-country programming and assignments which include meeting with MIT alumni and leaders in their internship fields, as well as writing an essay analyzing a cultural experience they have had in Israel.

Post internship

Upon completing their Israel experience, students are required to submit a post-internship evaluation and an in-depth final assignment designed to help them process their experience and synthesize critical lessons they learned about themselves and life in Israel. Upon return to campus students take part in re-entry sessions to take their reflection one step further and explore how to move forward on their global path

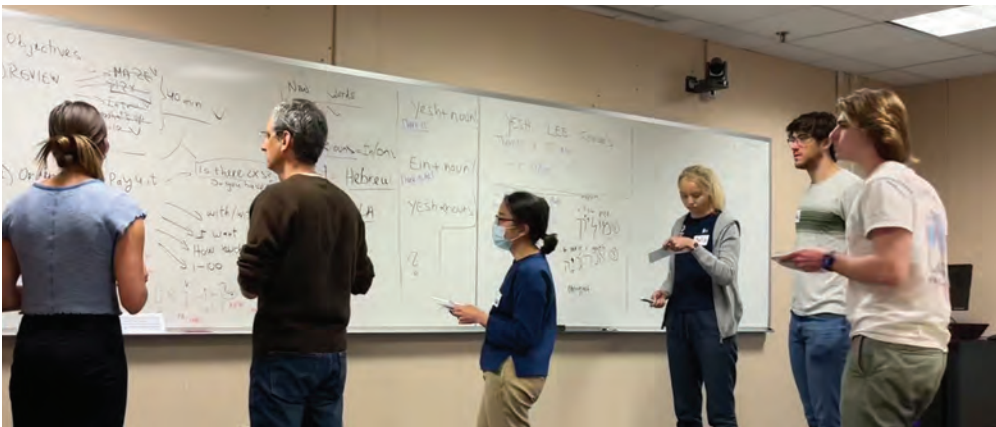
Moving forward

We continually look for ways to keep students engaged in the MIT-Israel program throughout the rest of their time at MIT, by offering them mentorship roles for future students and inviting them to be involved in future Israel-related events and initiatives on campus.



“I was exposed to amazing people who constantly offered help – both personally and professionally. Choosing MISTI Israel allowed me to challenge myself and grow as an individual.”

Angelina Xu '25



MIT students taking part in pre-travel preparation



Student Interns

Adriana Rivera Socarras '25

Finance with Computer Science and Economics



HOST Knesset

PROJECT Provided urgent, reliable data to parliament members and conducted a comparative analysis regarding how different countries fund their education systems.

"MISTI Israel was an eye-opening experience. Not only did I get to gain professional experience in a field I had never had exposure to, I also got the opportunity to learn hands on what living in an entire different society feels like. I am certain that if I had not gone through MISTI Israel, I would not be the person I am today."

Alex Freedline '24

Chemical Engineering



HOST Tel Aviv University • Professor Brian Rosen

PROJECT Researched new platinum based catalysts using MXenes for use in hydrogen fuel cells.

"It was the most learning and exploring I have ever done in a summer."

Angelina Xu '25

Electrical Engineering & Computer Science



HOST Lynxight

PROJECT Worked on migrating microservices infrastructure for Lynxight, an AI startup that uses computer vision to prevent pool drownings.

"I loved how flat the organization was at Lynxight. Despite having no industry experience, my opinions were encouraged and valued, allowing me to have an impact on the company."

Bridget Li '24

Computer Science and Molecular Biology



HOST Tech2Peace

PROJECT Taught at an intensive seminar that provides tech training and peace-building to Palestinians and Israelis.

"What I enjoyed most was the people. All of the participants were so driven, smart, fun, friendly, and compassionate. I'm grateful that I got to interact with them and see things from their point of view."

Camila Moran-Hidalgo '25

Mathematics and Computer Science



HOST Yotpo

PROJECT Worked with the business strategy team doing data analytics to determine where they should invest their resources. Determined the share of the market using "headless e-commerce" technologies.

"My internship at Yotpo really pushed me to go outside my comfort zone by forcing me to seek help from people working for the company all over the world. I quickly realized that we were all trying to achieve similar goals and most people enjoy speaking about their area of expertise."

Claire Camacho '25

Computer Science and Neuroscience



HOST Axonius

PROJECT Worked on a data analysis and software engineering project that groups and analyzes web-scraped data. This project will improve Axonius's crisis response time to security breaches.

"My experience at Axonius was unique and exhilarating. My first few weeks were remote from my dorm room at MIT, after which I traveled to Tel Aviv to complete my internship in-person. This gave me the space to adjust to intern life while still getting to experience office life. During my workdays in office I enjoyed meeting new people, learning about Israeli culture, and making avocado toast from the fully stocked startup kitchen! Free avocados aside, my wonderful supervisor was the highlight of my Axonius experience. When I felt overwhelmed by my project, he guided me to take charge of my own potential while also providing a backbone of support. My time at Axonius was truly unforgettable, and I am more skilled and passionate about CS as a result."

David Koplow '24

Computation and Cognition



HOST BrainQ Technologies

PROJECT Used signal processing, machine learning, and natural language processing to find insights in EEG data that can help the company better understand how their medical device affects the brain.

"I feel so thankful for this opportunity to deepen my understanding of these fields while immersing myself in the culture of another country."



David Vulakh '24

Computer Science and Engineering

HOST Technion - Israel Institute of Technology • Professor Keren Censor-Hillel

PROJECT Studied algorithms that examine properties of graphs and have discovered a nearly-optimal deterministic algorithm to perform the task of distributed clique listing. Our work was accepted to the ACM Symposium on Principles of Distributed Computing, a leading conference in the field.

"I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to join the Technion's world-class scientists in the search for something beautiful and new in the world of computer science theory."



Ezra Gordon '24

Chemical-Biological Engineering

HOST Tel Aviv University • Professor zxNoam Shomron

PROJECT Assisted research on intra-host evolution of COVID-19 in immuno-compromised patients to learn about the emergence of variants of concern. Worked on the molecular simulations of mutated COVID-19 proteins to investigate how mutations impact their transmissibility and immune evasion.

"I really enjoyed the ability to dive into a new field that I wouldn't have ever learned about otherwise."



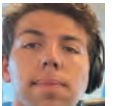
Jonathan Berger '21

Double major with Computer Science, Data Science, and Economics and Finance Training

HOST Optibus

PROJECT Led Business Operations team in acquiring, configuring, and developing a new software integration tool for Salesforce and Jira. Also worked on data validation and visualization projects, helping managers analyze company and consumer information.

"From my first day in the office, the Optibus family welcomed me with open arms, and I couldn't have asked for a better place to work. Getting the chance to intern in Tel Aviv, let alone Optibus, taught me several technical and life skills, and I couldn't have made a better decision than participating in MISTI-Israel!"



Eli Scharf '25

Computer Science and Molecular Biology

HOST Tel Aviv University • Dan Peer Lab

PROJECT Worked on developing drugs to help cure lung and liver cancer in a biology lab.

"Don't be afraid of getting close to others in your workplace. I would try to have lunch with my coworkers everyday. They all had incredible stories to share and very different outlooks on life. Many of my coworkers became some of my closest friends during my internship."



Maya Makarovsky '25

Mechanical Engineering with a concentration in Business

HOST Tel Aviv University • Professor Gili Bisker

PROJECT Worked on researching optic nanosensors and imaged and analyzed stained cells transfected with single-walled carbon nanotubes.

"Working in a different country is a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in a different culture and way of life. It was a special experience for me that has made me open-minded and curious, and has given me the ability to adapt to different environments. As I continue on with my career, I feel better equipped to network with others and excel in various working environments."



Emily Scherer '23

Mechanical Engineering

HOST Technion - Israel Institute of Technology • Professor Alon Wolf

PROJECT Prototyping a haptic feedback computer mouse that gives the sensation of whatever image you scroll over. The device gives texture using a series of pins and geometry using a moving platform.

"My project at my lab taught me so much related to my field of study, both technical skills and interpersonal skills from working in a country that is pretty different from the US. Between work and touring Israel, this summer has been unforgettable and I will take everything I've learned forward with me to the next thing in life!"



Student Interns

Melissa Stok '24

Materials Science and Engineering and
Electrical Engineering and Computer Science



HOST Technion - Israel Institute of Technology •
Amirav Research Group

PROJECT Designed and tested a flow reactor in which hydrogen and oxygen gases will be generated with a water splitting reaction. The flow cell is intended to allow for the input and output of chemical solutions and gases while keeping nanorods that do photocatalysis in the reactor. When an LED light is shined on the rods, hydrogen gas is generated and released through the gas output valve.

"Having never worked in a chemistry lab before, it was very exciting to learn how to use new tools in the lab while also getting to work on a project that involved components that were more familiar to me."

Michael Wong '25

Artificial Intelligence and Decision Making



HOST Hour25.AI

PROJECT Created a productivity app by developing a data scraper on App Scripts that collect users' data from Google Calendar and Chrome Extensions. Processed data through Google Query and Excel and analyzed a model that measures productivity quantitatively. Implemented machine learning models to gather data and process data more accurately.

"MISTI Israel changed my life forever."

Michelle Spektor '23

PhD in History, Anthropology, and Science,
Technology, and Society



HOST Center for Cyber Law and Policy • University of
Haifa

PROJECT Conducted research for doctoral dissertation on the shared history of British and Israeli biometric identification systems since 1904. Visited archives in Israel where I collected materials related to fingerprint systems developed by the Palestine Police under the British Mandate from the early 1920s to 1948.

Mohamed M '24

Aerospace and Computer Science

HOST Ben-Gurion of the Negev • Oren Yiftachel

PROJECT Worked on promoting digital literacy within the Bedouin community.

Rebecca Glasgow '23

Master in City Planning + Master of Science in
Real Estate Development



HOST The Urban Clinic (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
and the Arab Center for Alternative Planning

PROJECT Project was to research U.S. funding and organizational structures that support the financing and development of affordable housing to evaluate what approaches could be applicable to Palestinian towns.

"I chose this internship to learn how housing finance and development operate in a complicated part of the world. Despite these challenges, it was energizing to work for progressive organizations like the Arab Center for Alternative Planning and the Urbanic Clinic. Both organizations serve as think tanks and advocates for change in Israel so that all residents can succeed regardless of identity, political affiliation, and socio-economic class."

Sabrina Liu '24

Biological Engineering



HOST Ben-Gurion University of the Negev •
Itzik Mizrahi Lab

PROJECT Analyzed the gut microbiome of marine iguanas from the Galápagos Islands in hopes of identifying microbes that might allow for them to digest an invasive brown algae species. Extracted DNA from around 130 fecal samples and conducted 16s PCR, as well as qPCR, in order to sequence the samples and analyze the results. I am currently using Qiime2 and R to analyze the sequencing data.

"I have met some of the most interesting and funniest people through this experience, and I've learned so many more wet lab and data analysis skills that I will definitely use at MIT."

Sara Modiano '24

Biological Engineering



HOST Tel Aviv University • Kupiec Lab

PROJECT Worked in a yeast genetics lab studying the effect of different nutrient sources on biochemical pathways and DNA damage repair. Their genetic information is simple to manipulate. I performed numerous assays on various yeast strains mainly to differentiate their gene expression in glucose and ethanol. I also helped perform a genetic screen to identify genetic modifications that increase survival for yeast lacking DNA damage repair mechanisms.

"This summer I was able to have my first hands-on experience in wet-lab biology. While I was worried about my skill level going in, I quickly gained experience to work independently on experiments. It was such a rewarding experience to perform experiments that directly reflected the classes I have taken so far at MIT."

Sarah Lu '25

Computer Science

HOST Tel Aviv University • Sharif Lab



PROJECT Worked in the Privacy, Learning, Usability, and Security (PLUS) Group at Tel Aviv University developing a new and more comprehensive scale that accurately predicts people's digital security behavior, including whether they are likely to fall more phishing and malware scams.

"This internship helped me realize how interesting data and cybersecurity is to me! I also enjoy solving the problems that computer science poses to me and society."

Sofia Haug '25

Bioengineering

HOST Ben-Gurion University • Gonen Ashkenasy Lab



PROJECT Determined the optimal conditions and kinetics of the nucleopeptide self-assembly reaction and characterized the resulting 3D structures.

"This internship developed my communication skills and made me more confident to express my opinion in both professional and social settings. I got to work on my own project which meant I had a lot of freedom, but also had to justify my decisions and explain my results to my supervisor. This was the greatest practice of scientific argumentation I have ever had."

Sophie Reynolds '24

Computer Science

HOST Savy



PROJECT Implemented additional features and addressed bugs in their existing app, a tool to improve communication for deskless teams. Built a back-office web version of the current app so that the company could analyze current usage and test additional features.

"Working at such a small startup, I was able to work on so many different projects and learn about so many different parts of the company. The Israeli startup scene is unique and I am so glad I had this opportunity!"

Tova Kleiner '25

Mechanical Engineering

HOST DodoSmart

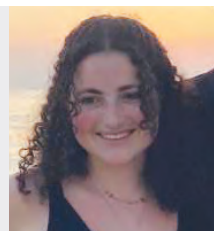


PROJECT Created graphic materials primarily for publicity and marketing. This included social media and website content, and one animation. Also worked on designs for use in the DodoSmart games, from editing and tuning existing content to creating new backgrounds for the games. I worked in the Adobe Suite, in Photoshop, Illustrator, and AfterEffects.

"I enjoyed the warm working environment at DodoSmart, and the opportunity to grow both technically, as I honed my graphic design skills, and personally."

"It was such a rewarding experience to perform experiments that directly reflected the classes I have taken so far at MIT."

Sara Modiano '24



Student Interns

Yajvan Ravan '25

Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

HOST Hour25.AI



PROJECT Worked on creating an extension of a productivity app to be used by developers during work. Built a Google Chrome and a Google Calendar extension that monitored user behavior and delivered feedback to the users about their productivity habits and statistics.

"Thanks to Amir and Yair's teaching, I learned about all the ins and outs of how startups worked from the technical to product management to networking and even investment."

Yuka Machino '25

Mathematics

HOST Technion- Israel Institute of Technology • Professor Keren Censor-Hillel



PROJECT Conducted research in Theoretical Computer Science, specifically on distributed algorithms.

"Make the most of whatever situation you are in: I learned many things throughout the internship, culturally about the conflict and history of Israel, and academically through my research. There were many different types of experiences, and I felt like these experiences enriched me in many different ways."

Zack Duitz '25

Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

HOST Tel Aviv University • Professor Yossi Yovel



PROJECT Worked in a lab that studied bats coding a program to help analyze the GPS data of bats in order to determine their foraging patterns.

"I learned a lot about what it means to have your own project, problem solve on your own, and have other people dependent on your success in your project."

Zoe Pasetsky '24

Biological Engineering

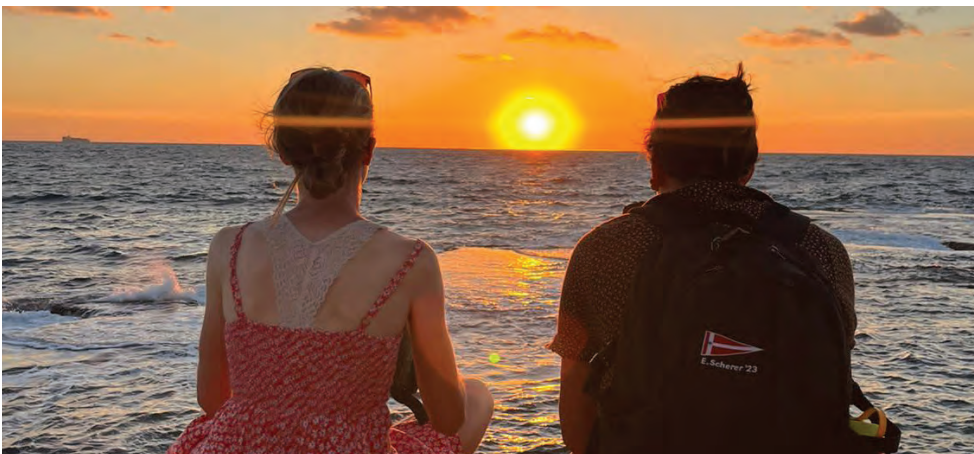
HOST Tel Aviv University • Dan Peer Lab



PROJECT Worked with mentor to develop a lipid nano particle (LNP) encapsulating IL-10 mRNA for the purpose of treating acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).

"My internship allowed me to experience a lab in which people were collaborative, intelligent, and dedicated scientists, and made me sure I want to go to graduate school."





Alumni Spotlight

Lori Ferriss

Architecture '09

GS Structural Engineering '10



What did you study at MIT? When did you graduate?

I studied architecture as an undergrad (class of '09) and structural engineering as a graduate student ('10).

What is your current profession? Tell us more about what you do every day?

I am a practicing architect with a passion for reusing historic buildings as a climate action solution. As Director of Sustainability and Climate Action at Goody Clancy, a design firm in Boston, I lead architecture and research projects and work to continually evolve and elevate our sustainable design practice to maximize our positive impact on people and the planet. This includes setting sustainability goals for our portfolio, overseeing our firmwide standards for healthy materials and performance analysis, mentoring staff, and exploring new knowledge areas for our practice. Additionally, an important aspect of my role is outward facing as an advocate and educator for climate action through design. This can take



Lori as Director of Sustainability and Climate Action at Goody Clancy, a design firm in Boston

the form of speaking and writing on topics around sustainable design and preservation, acting as a technical advisor for City of Boston climate policy, chairing the American Institute for Architects' Committee on the Environment, and serving on the steering committee for the Climate Heritage Network.

When did you participate in MISTI Israel? What did you do during your MIT-Israel internship experience(s)?

I participated in MISTI Israel the summer after my junior year. I lived in Tel Aviv and worked as an intern for the municipality's Department of Conservation. In that role, I took on several projects, including a general study of the architectural values of Tel Aviv; a study of the implementation of signage regulations of approximately 50 historic Bauhaus buildings; and a comparative study of buildings that had been recently renovated with additions and conservation work

according to the municipalities' conservation guidelines. These projects allowed me to get to know the culture and people of Tel Aviv, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, by observing the historic landscape up close and experiencing how it contributed both to the historical and present day sense of place.

What were the highlights of your time in Israel?

One of my favorite aspects of my time in Israel was being able to explore the country. Thanks to my network of MISTI Israel friends and the new friends I met while living there, I was able to visit every region of the country from Haifa to Eilat, learn about the culture and history, and meet people engaged in a broad range of work. It was also enriching to be immersed in a local experience: I learned enough Hebrew to take group exercise classes, navigate the city, and order my lunch without tomatoes (which is akin to blasphemy).

How did your internship in Israel impact your personal and professional development?

My internship with the Tel Aviv Department of Conservation was a foundational experience for me as a preservationist and climate activist. It instilled in me the critical importance of historic buildings as a physical marker of our cultural identity and heritage. Through studying and connecting with the magical Bauhaus architecture of the White City, I took away a respect for design as a vital response to time and place. These lessons guide my approach as an architect and fuel my advocacy for the critical need to leverage and honor our built heritage to create a better future.



MISTI Global Seed Funds

MISTI's Global Seed Funds (GSF) help MIT faculty create exciting new connections by supporting early-stage collaborations with researchers at peer institutions around the world. There are three funds available to those wishing to build research connections in Israel:

- MIT-Israel Zuckerman STEM Fund
- MIT-Israel Lockheed Martin Seed Fund
- MIT-Israel Broshy Brain and Cognitive Sciences Fund

This past year we awarded eight new grants to support MIT and Israeli faculty collaboration and engage additional students in collaborative research.

TOP RIGHT: MIT Team meeting with: Bhav Jain, MIT student; Leo Celi, Principal Research Scientist and Zuckerman Seed Fund awardee; Dvir Harris, Zuckerman Israeli Postdoctoral Scholar; and James Gertler, Zuckerman Institute Trustee.

BOTTOM RIGHT, Left to right: Megan Hinckley, Senior Leadership Giving Officer at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences; James Gertler, Zuckerman Institute Trustee; Eran Ben-Joseph, Faculty Director MIT-Israel; and David Dolev, Managing Director, MIT-Israel.



MIT-Israel Lockheed Martin Seed Fund

PROJECTS

Automatic 3D Design and Editing

Justin Solomon
Professor, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Raja Giryes
Tel Aviv University

MIT-Israel Zuckerman STEM Fund

PROJECTS

Israel's Community-Based Healthcare, Urbanization and Environment as a Basis for Developing Indicators for Pandemic Resiliency and Planning Healthy Cities

Mariana Arcaya
Associate Professor, Urban Studies and Planning
Noam Shomron
Tel Aviv University

Non-invasive Acoustic Hyperthermia and Local Immunotherapy for the Treatment of Brain Tumors

Natalie Artzi
Assistant Professor at BWH, Institute for Medical Engineering and Science

Haim Azhari
Technion - Israel Institute of Technology

Integrating Machine Learning Methods and Discrete Choice Models

Moshe Ben-Akiva
Edmund K. Turner Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Tomer Toledo
Technion - Israel Institute of Technology

Vibrational Engineering of Ferroic Order in Van der Waals Materials

Nuh Gedik
Professor, Physics
Dominik Juraschek
Tel Aviv University

How Abstract is Phonology

Donca Steriade
Class of 1941 Professor of Linguistics, Linguistics and Philosophy

Roni Katzir
Tel Aviv University

Time Reversal of Nonlinear Hamiltonians for Quantum Enhanced Metrology

Vladan Vuletic
Lester Wolfe Professor of Physics, Physics

Michael Rosenbluh
Bar-Ilan University



MIT-Israel Broshy Brain and Cognitive Sciences Fund

PROJECTS

Understanding the Behavioral Decision Making Behind Chemical Discoveries

Heather Kulik
Professor, Chemical Engineering

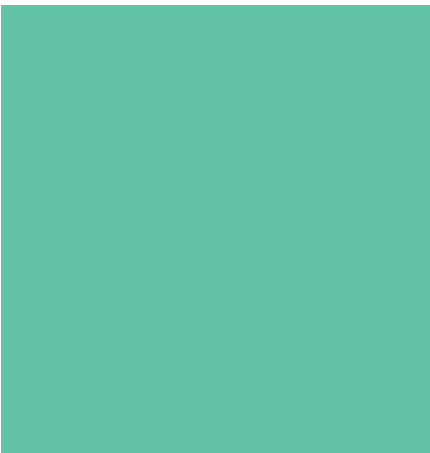
Ori Plonsky
Technion - Israel Institute of Technology

Past Projects Seed Fund Project Outcomes

New book publication: *New Industrial Urbanism: Designing Places for Production*, by 2010 Seed Fund winners Professor Eran Ben-Joseph and Professor Tali Hatuka, Tel Aviv University



MIT Sloan Israel Lab students take a tour of Jerusalem.



Global Teaching Labs (GTL)

Global Teaching Labs (GTL), MISTI's groundbreaking, high-impact teaching program, enables MIT students to become teachers for one month during the January Independent Activities Period (IAP). Undergraduate and graduate students draw from their world-class science and technology education at MIT to develop rigorous curricula in STEM subjects and entrepreneurship, and use innovative, hands-on teaching methodologies to reach hundreds of Israeli high-school students across dozens of communities. This program attracts top students who are passionate about sharing MIT's unique approach to science, engineering, and entrepreneurship.

In a typical year, teams of MIT students are stationed throughout the country and work with the Amal Educational Network; ORT Israel Network; and the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology. This in-depth immersion into Israel's culture exposes students to differences in educational systems while giving them opportunities to sharpen their own skills by teaching what they've learned at MIT, acting as role models to inspire Israeli high school students, and bringing concrete educational value to the schools and students.

While we had planned to send 32 students to Israel to participate in GTL, due to Israel's travel restrictions during the Omicron outbreak we were unable to run the full GTL program. Two students who had traveled to Israel early were able to remain in the country, but unfortunately the rest of the participants were unable to travel to Israel. We plan to send 25 students to Israel to teach in person in January 2023.

MIT Sloan Action Learning

Israel Lab supported by MISTI MIT-Israel

Building on our aims to connect MIT to Israel and Israel to MIT while enabling our MIT students a deep Israel experience, we partner with departments across the campus in order to develop and support tailor-made programs, many of them for-credit.

For the seventh year, we have been able to support Israel Lab, enabling MIT Sloan student teams to partner with Israeli host organizations and work on complex problems in critical areas, including cybersecurity, life sciences, clean technology, analytics, and many more, with an emphasis on early stage ventures and their growth. Israel Lab teams deliver significant, concrete value to their host organizations. Equally important are the unprecedented opportunities for students to apply their leading-edge classroom learning to complex issues of innovation and entrepreneurship in real time.

“This experience also helped ignite my curiosity and questioning of everything around me. After this experience, I hope to go back to classes with a new desire to learn more from my classes and really understand and appreciate them rather than just attempting to get good grades.”

GTL Participant



In addition to continuing the core elements of our program, we also organized events to keep the MIT community engaged with Israel.

We hosted a joint event with the Consulate General of Israel to New England titled **Inspired by Israel: Arts, Education, and Innovation at MIT**. The event featured Nobel Laureate Professor of Economics **Joshua Angrist** and included remarks from various other speakers including Israeli artist **Shuli Sade**, whose artwork is featured on the MIT campus.

We also organized a webinar in collaboration with the New England-Israel Business Council, **MIT educated Israel AgTech entrepreneurs fighting global warming**, featuring MIT alumni **Niztan Haklai**, **Dan Grotzky**, and **Dror Sharon**, moderated by **Adi Vagman**.





Looking Forward Evaluation & Future Plans

The MIT-Israel Program continues to be a bridge between MIT and Israel, enabling MIT students to grow professionally and gain a deep understanding of the region.

Aligned with the MIT mission of global impact, MIT-Israel will continue to pursue hands-on opportunities for education, research, and innovation.

The program will promote MIT and Israel engagement and raise the profile of MIT in Israel and of Israel at MIT by offering internships, events, and international research opportunities.

The overarching goals of the MISTI MIT-Israel program include:

- Supporting student internships, research, and teaching opportunities in Israel
- Developing synergies across campus to offer faculty and students opportunities to engage with Israel
- Developing programming that will enable MIT students taking part in Israel experiences a wide regional understanding
- Building on research opportunities for students and promote faculty seed funds to promote short-term educational seminars in Israel and Israel-anchored courses
- Offering MIT students new opportunities aligned with MISTI's impact areas: climate and sustainability, global health, artificial intelligence, and social impact
- Strengthening organizational infrastructure to support Israel-related activities across the Institute, by offering training, safety, and security expertise, and financial resources to help fund new initiatives
- Strengthening the diversity of students placements beyond the Tel Aviv area
- Securing housing for students in the Tel Aviv area at a very early stage
- Raising expendable and endowment funds to cover the rising costs of opportunities and growing and securing the student and faculty seed fund programs in perpetuity



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