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Want to join the newsletter team?

Email: cgammal@mit.edu

Contributors

- Albert Chang
- Prof. Terry Orlando
- Dr. Ann Orlando
- Bridget Wall
- Denise Lanfranchi



Welcome-Albert Chang, Ashdown House Executive Committee

by Albert H. Chang

Dear Ashdown Residents,
Welcome to Ashdown! On behalf of the Ashdown House, please allow me to extend a warm welcome to all residents of our community, especially to those who are joining us this year. I look forward to meeting you at the orientation events over the next few weeks.

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve on the Ashdown House Executive Committee (AHEC) this year. As AHEC members, we oversee most aspects of the dorm life, including budgeting and running events for residents, set-

ting policies within the dorms, managing a team of officers, and most importantly, striving to make Ashdown House more than just a residence. AHEC comprises five students elected each year by the house. The five positions include Chair, Treasurer, Operations Officer, Officer Coordinator, and Secretary. I currently serve as the Chair on the committee.

So, what is MIT like? Before you decide to come to MIT, have you ever envisioned what your life is going to be like in graduate school? I did give it a little thought two years ago. As much as I can recall, I thought MIT graduate students would

stay in lab all day, put up pennants with "IHTEP" on their walls, and are often socially disconnected with other graduate students in the community. Well, this is the stereotypical MIT, not the real MIT (at least not the socially disconnected part :). The years at Ashdown have been the most rewarding times of my life in Boston. The community is welcoming and warm. I meet new people almost every week during various events happening in Ashdown. It is also a truly international place. Our dorm's residents come (Cont. on page 2)

Welcome-Housemasters

by Prof. Terry Orlando & Dr. Ann Orlando

Dear New Ashdown Residents,
Welcome to Ashdown House! We are so glad to have you join our community.

As Housemasters we have the privilege of living with you here at Ashdown. We are responsible for some of the so-

cial, cultural, and intellectual activities in Ashdown House. Allow us to introduce ourselves: Terry, a professor in EECS for over 25 years, specializes in superconducting electronics. He is also the head of the graduate office in EECS. Ann holds a doctorate in theology and teaches Catho-

lic Church History at a nearby seminary. We also have a married daughter, a pediatrician, who has one child. We think you will find many, diverse activities to enjoy at Ashdown House. One of the things that makes Ashdown House so special is the (Cont. on page 2)

Welcome-Albert Chang, Ashdown House Executive Committee



Albert

Ashdown House Executive Committee Chair



Housemasters

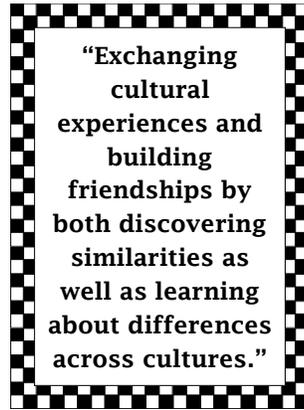
Prof. Terry & Dr. Ann Orlando

from all over the world, exchanging cultural experiences and building friendships by both discovering similarities as well as learning about differences across cultures. While everyone focuses on how MIT can help us grow intellectually, we often overlook that MIT is a great place to help us grow socially as well.

Ashdown House is not just a place to sleep. You will have many opportunities to know your neighbors, your officers, and the Housemasters, Ann and Terry. Often, our residents grow emotionally attached to the dorm because they've met many friends here outside their research labs. Many had started helping and initiating events at Ashdown and eventually join our government. All the programs and resources are made possible with the support of our residents like yourselves. I'd like to invite you to volunteer and play an active role in our community. We really need your enthusiasm to help Ashdown House become more successful.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesi-

tate to contact us (AHEC@mit.edu) or any of the officers listed on the government page (<http://ashdown.mit.edu/government.php>). I've also included a list of contacts for your reference. I hope you enjoy your stay at Ashdown. Again, welcome to the family and I look forward to meeting you soon.



Relevant Contacts Within Ashdown House:

Housemasters: Professor Terry Orlando (orlando@mit.edu) and Dr. Ann Orlando (aorlando@mit.edu)

Housemasters are very involved in Ashdown community. You will have a chance to meet them during the House-

master dinner or weekly coffee hour. They offer great advice and are always eager to share their experience with us. Feel free to contact them with personal issues or emergencies.

House Manager: Denise Lanfranchi (dlan@mit.edu) Denise and her staff of mechanics and custodians take care of the rooms and the building facilities. Denise also manages room and BBQ grill reservations. Please help them by reporting any problems you see around Ashdown and being careful while using the common facilities.

Ashdown House Executive Committee (AHEC): Five elected residents (AHEC@mit.edu) AHEC members oversee most aspects of the dorm life. Front Desk: Cissy Giannino, Kristin O'Halloran, Pamela Collymore, and Maria Rodrigues.

The front desk manages mail, movie and equipment check out, and resident check out. The front desk phone number is 617-253-2961. Since there are no phone lines in rooms, we encourage you to give your cell phone number to the front desk in case of emergency.

Welcome-Housemasters

active participation in Ashdown House activities of so many residents. Among the regular events are:

- * Weekly Coffee Hour, every Thursday from 9 to 10 pm in the Hulsizer Room (First Floor)
- * Monthly Sunday Brunches

- * Frequent cultural activities
- * Frequent Housemaster Dinners
- * Large parties twice a semester

In addition to these year-round events, there will be numerous Ashdown orientation events; we look forward to meeting you soon at one of these events.

Or you can call us for a chat (617-225-9195) or drop by our apartment to visit, #5047.

We look forward to meeting you soon.

Sincerely,

Prof. Terry Orlando & Dr. Ann Orlando

MIT Recycling – New and Improved!
by Bridget Wall

As recycling at MIT has recently changed, the environmental officers would like to offer a refresher on recycling here...as students come from all over the country and world, we understand that things can be confusing! Heck, I was confused my first couple days here...green glass? Cardboard? Bottle caps? But – here in this article (and in a future announcement in your mailboxes) we have all the information you'll ever need to recycle!

First, ALL recycling at MIT is now single stream! This means that all of the below items can be recycled together (even if containers are labeled "only cans" or "only paper" --- tricky? Yes! But we now have lasers and density gradient sorters to do the hard work for us.

Things which CAN
be recycled:

- newspapers
- magazines
- catalogs and telephone books
- junk mail
- envelopes (even with window!)
- paper (all colors! And don't worry about staples and paperclips if you don't have time to remove them)
- paperboard (cereal boxes and shoe boxes)
- milk/juice cartons
- cardboard/brown paper bags
- plastic bottles and containers numbered 1-7
- soda/juice/water bottles (glass or plastic)

- milk jugs, bleach/detergent bottles
- shampoo bottles
- glass bottles and jars (any color)
- aluminum (pie plates, trays, and foil)
- metal cans (tin, steel, aluminum)



Things which CANNOT
be recycled:

- foam and styrofoam
- unmarked plastics (toys, laundry baskets)
- dishes, pyrex, ceramics
- aerosol cans (paint, hairspray, cleaners)
- windows, light bulbs
- food waste

Ashdown also has special recycling downstairs at the front desk:

Plastic caps --- from shampoo, water, soda, milk and other beverage bottles, flip top caps on tubes and food product bottles (such as ketchup and mayonnaise), laundry detergents and some jar lids such as peanut butter will be recycled with Aveda

(see <http://aveda.aveda.com/aboutaveda/caps.asp>)

Cosmetics containers --- primary packaging of cosmetics (glass and plastic jars, bottles, tubes, caps, lipstick covers, compacts) will be recycled at Origins (see <http://www.origins.com/about/index.tml?page=recfaq>)

Plastic bags --- from Target, Star Market, etc will be recycled at Star Market.

Technocycle --- old electronics and battery recycling will be funneled through MIT's traditional recycling system.

Also, don't forget about MIT's reuse list serve for those things that someone else could use (especially tech-related items), or the Furniture Exchange for larger items. You can also donate packing peanuts to MIT mailing services for reuse. Additionally, there are a Salvation Army and Goodwill on Massachusetts Avenue in Central Square for donating home goods, clothing, and other items.



The Official Newsletter of the Ashdown Community

Housekeeping and Maintenance at Ashdown NW35

by: Denise Lanfranchi

Hello everyone and welcome to the NEW Ashdown, NW35! The following is some information regarding housekeeping and maintenance. My staff and I are committed to maintaining your comfort and safety here at Ashdown.

Maintenance Mechanic: John Gallagher. John will take care of any maintenance issues, such as clogged toilets, broken window shades, common area repairs, etc. If you have any wall hangings/pictures, please contact John and he will install for you. The link for dorm repairs: http://web.mit.edu/sapweb/PS1/facilities_home.shtml. Be sure to enter "ASHDOWN" as your location and NOT NW35.

Housekeepers:

Lenny Ferrari –First floor common areas and building 5 floors 1-3.

Pablo Lara– First floor common and residential areas.

Jeannie Drohan– Residential/Common area of floors 2 and 3.

Maria Miguel: Residential/Common areas of floors 4 and 5.



Areas of Responsibility:

Trash/Recycling

Our housekeepers will collect your

trash and recycling daily. Please leave your trash and recycling outside your door in the common hallway and the housekeepers will take it away in the morning. They will also leave fresh trash bags.



Cleaning

Our housekeepers will clean all **common areas**: Common rooms, common hallways, lounges, public/floor kitchens, stairways, etc.

Our housekeepers will not be cleaning inside any dorm rooms, suites or apartments.

Once a year (summer), our staff will clean ALL suites and apartments. Apartments and bedrooms in suites will be cleaned as they become vacant to accommodate new residents.

Residents are Responsible For:

-Keeping your bedrooms/bathrooms/suites clean.

-Stocking your own toilet tissue, paper towels and cleaning supplies (we have vacuums available to borrow at the front desk)

Recommended Cleaning Supplies:

We recommend "green" cleaning supplies such as Simple Green products which are widely available.

Please do not use abrasives, steel wool, etc. Soft Scrub may be used for the sinks.

We value your feedback. If you have any comments or concerns, positive or negative, we want to hear them. I am available Monday through Friday, 7:30 – 3:30. Feel free to call or e-mail, and my door is always open.

HVAC System

During the warm seasons our system is designed to provide A/C when the outside air temp reaches 70F and maintains it for four consecutive hours. In the cool/cold season the outside air must drop to 65F for 4 hours before the heat turns on.

Thermostats: Set the desired temperature, press the "hand/finger" button and be sure the thermostat is set to "auto" to maintain your desired temperature. **Do not turn your heat off when the outside temp is 40F or lower, keep the temp at least 60F.** Doing so can result in a burst pipe.

Again, welcome to the NEW Ashdown!

Denise Lanfranchi
Ashdown House Manager
617-253-2963

Website

<http://ashdown.mit.edu/>