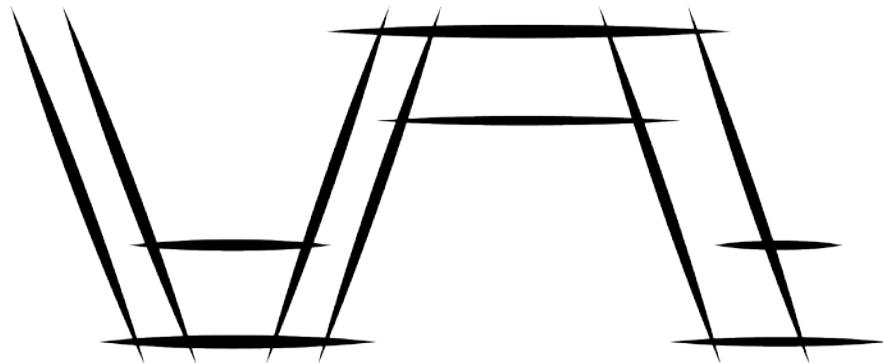




The First 30 Years of Next House

Compiled by Jordan Marks
Class of 2014



Introduction

In the early 1980s, overcrowding was a pressing issue in many of the dorms at MIT. Therefore, a new dorm was born at 500 Memorial Drive. Over time, this dorm became known as Next House and has become home to a few thousand students during their time at MIT.

Through these 30 years, the culture of Next House has flourished, with some traditions that have become timeless as well as drastic shifts in the culture of house. Regardless of what each person remembers, every resident leaves Next with an abundant supply of memories, from hacks to parties to late nights spent completing problem sets.

Thanks to the time and candidness of the dormitory's alumni, the first 30 years of Next House have been reconstructed and recorded here.



What's in a Name?

US Post Office recognizes "Next House"

To the Editor:

Evidently the name "Next House" is finally official, according to the US Postal Service. Within one of the USPS's latest publications, the ZIP + 4 guide for 1985, MIT has been broken down into nearly 100 sections, each with its own nine-digit ZIP code.

For the most part, these sections are listed by their addresses; in some cases, in addition to the address, the name of the building or company is also given. For 500 Memorial Drive, "Next House" is prominently listed. For that matter, "New House" is listed as being next door.

Those interested in the actual codes may call 800-228-8777.

For the three years that I lived in Next House, I always hoped that MIT would officially refer to the dormitory by the name used by its residents. Perhaps now that the USPS has picked it up, MIT will follow.

(The Tech, March 1985)

The names Stata, Koch, McCormick, and Zesiger all have two things in common: they are all buildings at MIT and they are all named after somebody. Many of MIT's buildings are named after generous alumni who contributed large sums of money to enable their construction. However, Next House does not fall into this category.

Finding a name for the dorm was not an easy thing to do, and represented a conflict between the administration and the students living in the dorm.

As the construction of Next House was coming to a close, the administration noticed that they did not have a donor to thank by naming the building after him or her. The largest donation they had received—\$2 million dollars—had been given anonymously. Therefore, the new dorm opened with the name "500 Memorial Drive."

The students residing at this new dorm quickly tired of referring to their home by its street address, so they came up with a shorter name – Next House, aptly named because it was the next one down the street. The administration tried to discourage the naming of the dorm, for they feared a name would discourage future donations. This battle was not long lasting, and the colloquial name stuck.

Until a generous and non-anonymous donor is found, the dorm shall remain "Next House", as it has for many years.

"The name "Next House" started as a codename in the early planning for the dorm. Through the first year, the administration didn't have a major donor for which to name the house. When it became obvious that no major donor was on the horizon, and as the formal dedication of the house approached in the spring of 1982, the administration tried to make the formal name "500 Memorial Drive" stick. That didn't work then, and evidently it still hasn't worked 30 years later...." – Dan Perich, Class of 1981

"MIT called the new dorm "500 Memorial Drive", but we and just about everyone else called it "Next House" for the obvious reason that it was the next house after New House. As the largest donor to the construction fund was anonymous, there wasn't really anyone to complain, although the official name stayed 500 Memorial Drive at least as long as I was a student."

– Joe Pemberton, Class of 1984

Said Sherwood, "President Gray is still trying to find a donor for 500 Memorial Drive so that the building can be named after him. Until possible donations are unlikely, the name '500 Memorial Drive' sticks."

(The Tech, March 1981, quoting Dean for Student Affairs, Robert Sherwood)

The Beginnings

As it opened, Next House was popular for current students and new students alike. The administration wanted a group of upperclassmen to live in Next during the first year to establish a culture of sorts. Many upperclassmen – particularly from MacGregor – were happy to comply. Tempted by the new co-ed dorm and the possibility of leadership, a group of students moved from MacGregor and began to influence the culture. Even so, during the first year, the dorm was largely freshmen.

"During my freshman year (1980-1981), I lived in MacGregor, H-Entry. MacGregor had mostly singles, but was male only at the time. That fall there were about 18 freshman men living in the basement of Ashdown because there wasn't enough room in the rest of the dorms. Because of this overcrowding, no one was surprised when construction of the new dorm started. My friends and I would often take unauthorized trips to the construction site to see how the new dorm building was shaping up. While we were happy to stay in MacGregor singles, my friends and I decided that a co-ed dorm might be a better experience and that we would be very likely to get nice rooms as upperclassmen in the new dorm. Even our Entry Tutors, Charlie and Kathy Rohrs decided to move over with us." – Joe Pemberton, Class of 1984



Next House Room 534 in 1982

"We moved in to Next House while the paint was still drying in the fall of 1981 before REX week started. After REX, many freshmen moved in, lured by the bright new dorm and the good chance at a single in their freshman year. In terms of common amenities, all we had at the beginning was microwave ovens in the large lounges, laundry machines and a few video games (although one of the video games - Missile Command - and one of the microwave ovens "walked away" during the confusion of REX week." – Joe Pemberton, Class of 1984

As with any new dorm, a lot of different things had to be accounted for, from facilities to social activities to making sure that everyone had a room to stay in for the year. Therefore, a very capable executive board was necessary. The first year, they faced many challenges, but on the whole, they succeeded in getting Next House through its first year.

"The first president of Next House was Daniel Perich. He had volunteered to be the REX chair over the summer before the dorm opened and pretty much everyone knew him so he won the first election handily. One of the early decisions we had to make as a dorm was what to do with the four common rooms on the first floor. Some people wanted an exercise room so we bought a Universal weight machine for the room next to the Housemaster's apartment. Because of the noise, the weight machine could only be used until 10pm or so. The other room was used for two CRT terminals to login to your MIT Student Information Processing Board account to write papers. You could print papers out and then pick them up at the SIPB office in building 10. Others wanted a music room so we bought a piano for the first of the two common rooms near the stairs and elevator. We also bought a German made ping-pong table for the open area outside the laundry room and banned beer pong. The other room was a video game and pinball room that provided a supplement to the dorm tax that we mostly spent on the weight machine, ping-pong table and piano. We also ran the soda machines in the basement —one for Coke products and one for Pepsi. We had the only Pepsi machine on campus since Coke had an exclusive contract with MIT. People would come from other dorms to use our Pepsi machine. It was right around that time that Pepsi started their blind taste test commercials that caused Coke to come out with New Coke. We were an equal opportunity soda provider." – Joe Pemberton Class of 1984

"The formal dedication of Next House was in the spring of 1982, after students had lived in the dorm for most of an academic year. The courtyard had not been landscaped up to that point, until sod arrived and was laid down a week prior to the dedication ceremony with the MIT Corporation. There was a lot of rain during the weeks prior to the dedication and the courtyard was one big mud puddle prior to the sod lying. If someone had tried to walk on the sod, they probably would have sunk through to deep mud! But at least it was green and good-looking for the Corporation's visit!" – Dan Perich Class of 1981, First Next House President

"There was a lot of discussion in the year prior to opening about how much of the house would be coed, and how the coed vs. single-sex areas of the house would be arranged. There were fewer women at MIT in the early '80s, and it was felt that any coed floors needed to have a "critical mass" percentage of women to be socially healthy. There would not be enough women residents for the whole house to be coed and still meet the "critical mass" percentage on all floors. As a result, Next House opened with only two floors of coed living, the third and fourth floors, except that the easternmost part of the fourth floor, from about room 454 through room 476, was an all-women's section. (Some referred to this section as the "Prude Wing"....) The second and fifth floors of the house were all-male." – Dan Perich, Class of 1981



One of the first residents - Cuneyt Ozveren circa 1981

"Nobody had told me that I would be needed during Rush/Orientation, so my summer job was planned around my returning several days before classes began - in fact, I arrived on the day that final Housing Assignments were made. Students were expecting to be assigned their rooms THAT day and no planning whatsoever had taken place. Naturally, we had several hundred new students, with overcrowded doubles - and we had to deal with a single-sex women's wing on the fourth floor as well as needing to ensure that no mixed-sex double/triples would take place. We had no computers at the House yet, and this was before anyone had PCs to speak of.

We therefore set up a Room Assignment session in the shortly-to-be-named TFL. Because we had no protocol in place and no algorithm to use, we generated a rapid solution that was guaranteed to annoy people, not because it would annoy people, but because it would result in the quickest solution. We let all the women pick rooms first. Naturally this meant that all the singles went to women, though interestingly, many women specifically picked doubles/triples because they wanted roommates. A lottery was then held separately for the men, and they chose their rooms. Tempers flared over a variety of issues.

I have all the original room charts, dorm selection cards, and other materials from that first year. Undeniably, our protocol for assigning rooms sucked. And there's no question that given about 10 minutes, I can now come up with a dozen different methods of assigning rooms which would have annoyed and distressed fewer people. But at the time, with several hundred enraged students all wanting to come to an impossible to reach consensus, I simply said: This is how we're going to do it. End of discussion. I can't speak at enough length as to how much help I received from Bora and Liba, as well as from the longtime house manager, George Hosker. I wasn't the most beloved person in the dorm for a little while after that fiasco...so when elections came around for our Governing Council, Peachy Keane ran on the platform "I am not Stu Gitlow." As I recall, he won." – Stuart Gitlow, Class of 1985, First Housing Chair

"I served as Facilities Chair for my time at Next House. There was much to do in the facilities domain -- get the dorm finished outfitted with the facilities that students might expect (e.g. TV, Piano, Soda Vending, exercise equipment, and believe it or not, pinball games), and work with the housing office and dorm manager on projects like getting (relatively) functional racks in the bike room and functional bathrooms with a place for residents to store their supplies. There were also small details like lamps in the dorm rooms that had the potential to short out, due to a manufacturing change after UL approval." – Mitchell Tasman, Class of 1982, First Facilities Chair.

First Executive Committee	
President	Daniel Perich
Facilities Chair	Mitchell Tasman
Housing Chair	Stuart Gitlow

Food Options

Arguably, an important part of any experience is the food involved. In the past few years, food has been a very pressing issue on campus as undergraduate students at MIT have been faced with changes to the dining plan. Whether competing to truly take advantage of all-you-can-eat dining or cooking as a wing, meals shared have always offered student a chance to take a break from work and spend time with their classmates.

"The first year we lived at the dorm, the cafeteria was setup as a "commons" cafeteria - which meant you paid a single price to go through the main line once and then have as much salad, PB&J, ice cream and drinks that you wanted. Most dorm cafeterias worked that way. If you lived in the dorm, you were required to buy a minimum meal plan that could be spent at any cafeteria including 20 Chimneys. Back then, 20 Chimneys served beer in pitchers and one of my friends figured out that you could turn some of your meal plan into cash by buying a pitcher of beer on your meal card and putting the pitcher deposit on the card as well. Since they couldn't put money back on the meal card, they would give you your deposit back in cash. Quite a racquet for \$2 cash – I don't know how many parents knew that their kids could use their meal plans to buy beer, but it stayed that way my whole tenure at MIT. Later years the dorm went to an a la carte menu and even offered steak cooked to order for a premium price. The snack bar opened either later that first year or the second year. Joe's Pizza was better, but we couldn't get meal services to let Joe take our meal card." – Joe Pemberton, Class of 1984

Joe's Pizza was a pizza and subway shop run by Joe, a white-haired Italian man. Students relied on Joe to get a late-night snack and would learn his schedule by heart early on in the semester. In 1983, Joe was audited by the IRS and was told that he owed meals tax on all of his sales. Joe had thought that he didn't need to charge meals tax because all of his clients were students. Instead of being out of business, he sold his old truck, bought an RV that he wrote off against his tax bill, took a summer vacation and then reopened with more space to sit, a bigger menu, and a partner — his son, Mike.

"I remember we boycotted lamb curry one night because everyone hated it. I believe that this was a campus wide boycott, and food services agreed to take it off the menu as a result." – Carol Yao, Class of 1985

"Next House used to have a dining hall for breakfast and dinner. I rarely had breakfast there but often had dinner there. Sometimes they would have a fancy/special dinner like Lobster and they would have white tablecloths, plastic lobster bibs and nice plates and silverware! Dinners at Next House were a very important way to unwind with friends from the dorm and share stories. Later in the evening, for those who missed dinner, there was a "snack bar" that would open up and make hamburgers, chicken nuggets, etc. I recall they had pints of Ben and Jerry's ice cream as well. Somehow in those days I was able to eat a whole pint in one sitting." – Michael Rizen, Class of 1991



Next Dining 2009 [Courtesy of Hannah Zhou]

Hacks – An MIT Constant

Hacks have always offered MIT students the opportunity to display their engineering skills in a unique setting. The word “hack” refers to clever and usually benign practical jokes that are amusing to MIT students.^[1] The audience and the extent of the hack is varied, but they all have something in common: an intelligent plan. Next House was very much a part of MIT culture in that regard. From its inception, hacks were done both to and in the building.

“I’m sure that you’ll hear about our hacking of the building the year before it opened....the end result of that hacking is that the big openings in the wall that led from the central lounges up or down to the next floor ended up with big panes of glass across them. Wonder why that was...” – Stuart Gitlow Class of 1985

“When I was a freshman I woke one morning to a call from the manager telling me “don’t worry, we’ll take care of it.” Apparently someone had toilet papered my room while I slept -- not the room itself, but stuffing so many rolls of toilet paper into the door frame that I couldn’t open the door.” – Mark Kantrowitz, Class of 1989

“My fondest memory from Next House was my freshman year, back in the fall of 1998. I was in 3W in 304 and there were 3 guys in 301 and 3 girls in 302. The girls in 302 commandeered the end-lounge for a movie night. While they were asleep, we tiptoed around them and put a bed, a desk, some drawers and chairs in the hallway and put the lounge furniture in their room while they were asleep. They had no idea what happened until the morning and were just incredulous, almost livid. We loved it and still talk about it ‘til this day”. - Rajay Kumar, Class of 2002

“There is a time capsule from spring 1996 -- 15 years old now! -- inside a large filled-in hole in the wall of Room 450. It should be in a plastic bag, tied onto the inside of the wall. I can’t confirm or deny that I have anything to do with the said time capsule.” – Jeremy Sher, Class of 1999

“In my sophomore year, I lived with my best friend, Jelly Netirojjanakul, in Room 564 in 5E. We basically monopolized that small lounge at the end of the hall. We soon discovered that the lounge was a perfect hiding place for surprise birthday parties, etc. For Jelly’s birthday that year, we came up with an elaborate story in which I ran into the room where she was studying and very seriously announced, “Jelly, there’s an octopus in the sink in the bathroom!” Jelly, being her normal gullible self, ran out of the room into the bathroom, completely taking everyone hiding in the lounge by surprise. Her yells of “where are the octopuses?!” can be heard from outside. “Um, Jelly, I think it’s here?” After coaxing her from the bathroom, we were finally able to semi-surprise her and celebrate her birthday”. – Sophia Lee, Class of 2008

“I moved into Next House, room 424, in my senior year and my friend Charles Levine moved next door. Charles and I had been freshman roommates, and were occasionally known to wrestle in the

indestructible hallways of East Campus. Shortly after moving to Next House, we were wrestling in the hall and I went right through the drywall! You can still see a David-sized patch outside room 424. Fortunately, the house manager Norm let us off with just a warning." - David Brahm, Class of 1984

I had heard during Orange Tours that freshmen needed to be wary the night before the first 8.01 exam about the potential of getting forcibly showered by upperclassmen as a "rite of passage." I figured that was something other, older dorms did, but I wouldn't need to worry about it at Next House. So I of course forgot the warnings given in August when it was late September and I was still awake at 3am studying for my first physics exam at MIT. Someone knocked on the door of the room I shared with Liz Umhoefer in 3E and--here's the first thing I did wrong in my freshman naiveté--I opened it without hesitation despite the late hour. A group of upperclassmen were standing outside my door. One asked, "You're a freshman, right?" In my second mistake, I nodded. The same guy asked "Are you studying for 8.01?" And, in my third strike, I nodded again. The next thing I knew I was grabbed and being hauled out in the direction of the bathroom. I started to kick and scream and grab onto the door frame until someone said, "Shh! You'll wake up your roommate!" In the move that finalized my initiation into the 8.01 Freshman Showering ranks, in my sleepy stupor I thought, "You're right!" and ceased struggling. The handicap stall in the far east bathroom on the third floor of next house claimed at least one freshman showering sacrifice that night in September of 2006. – Emily Houston, Class of 2010

Sophomore year, we were wasting time in the lounge one day, probably after a disastrous test, and we were joking about how there should be a club called Stupid People at MIT. There was a whiteboard in the lounge at the time, and some people with some artistic talent drew the original logo on the whiteboard. Someone thought it would look good on a T-shirt, made some calls, and SPAMIT was born. We used the money we raised selling the shirts to pay for a nice pair of speakers for the 3E lounge and for our floor parties. I think I still have a SPAMIT shirt in a drawer someplace. – Steve Daley, Class of 1989

"I remember our freshman year, my friend Nancy and I tried to encourage people to take the stairs. We did this by waiting until the elevator door shut, then we would run down the stairs and each of us would alternate floors and push the buttons so that the elevator would stop on each floor. The trick was to catch the first button, once the elevator stopped once, you could keep ahead of it. We got showered a lot that year." – Lori Reubenstein, Class of 1985



Scott Lichtman (1988) is hauled off to the showers his freshman year by Mike Parker (1988), Ken Szajada (1987) and Andrew Gray (1987)

"The hack involving a room full of packing peanuts was quite amazing. John Olson '89 was the victim, during his senior year. I have no idea how they filled his room with peanuts above desk level, but I have photos of people swimming in the peanuts in his room." – Joanne Spetz, Class of 1990

"There was a condom-cutting ceremony when the condom machines were installed in the basement bathrooms." – John Shield, 3E GRT 1989

"Hack wise, there was someone in the dorm that used to go away each weekend. One time in the dead of winter, folks got the idea of removing every item from his room, and reconstructing it exactly arranged, on the ice in the middle of the Charles River. Fortunately he made it back from his visit, found the masking tape arrow pointing out his window, shouted something amusing that I could make out halfway across the dorm, and was able to recover his gear before it melted through the ice. Another night, the lounge lizards came up with the idea of a yogurt cup contents launcher that would activate by spring when someone opened their mailbox. We started calculating the velocity of launch based on spring, viscosity and vacuum behind the yogurt based on fruit content and amount of mixing, but I don't think it got as far as implementation." – Scott Lichtman, Class of 1988

"Anne Ling, Becky Linden and I noticed early on that there was an emergency phone in each elevator. But what we found most interesting was that the extension numbers for those phones was listed in the Next House phone list. Being good engineers, we soon put that information to use:

*ring, ring, ring...
"uhh, ummm, h-e-l-l-o?"
"Hello. Going up?"
"uh, y-e-a-h?"
"Oh good - 5, please!"*

Elevators on demand, no waiting!" – Sue DiMascio, Class of 1990

"In 1981, the freshman showers before the first 8.01 test did not happen as planned. We had about 300 freshman in the dorm that year, with about 75 or so upper classmen. So the upper classmen got showered..." – Michael Bernard, Class of 1985

"Back in 1985, all MIT dorm rooms had dorm lines. To keep students from accepting long distance calls to their dorm line, when a call came in to your dorm room, a recording would say, "This is MIT. Collect and third-number calls will not be accepted at this number." Because kids were not able to make long distance calls from their dorm line, one of the "hobbies" of some inventive dorm residents was to figure out how to make free long distance phone calls. The more pedestrian way was to accept third party calls from the pay phone in the lobby by the front desk. The operator would call that number and ask the people there if they accept the call as the "third party." This was only free if someone else was responsible for that phone number. Once they got a phone bill with third party charges and complained to the phone company, the phone company would block third party calls from that number. The best trick was when



One thing can be said for MIT students - they don't do anything halfway [Courtesy of Chris Carper 2010]

“some noticed that the phone in the elevator had a dial tone even though it didn’t have a ringer so they figured out what the number was and set up a human chain. One person on the pay phone would call a long distance number as a third party call and when the operator came on they told them the number of the elevator. The human chain was necessary to tell the person on the elevator that the phone was ringing so that they could answer and accept the third party call. Of course they couldn’t call someone they knew too well for fear the authorities would figure out who was making the call in the first place. Eventually the elevator couldn’t accept third party calls anymore, but it was funny while it lasted.” – Joe Pemberton, Class of 1984

“One year we were all assembled in front of the courtyard doors to the TFL, waiting to get our [yearbook] picture taken, when someone decided to dump a bucket of water on the crowd. Since it was a cold spring day, no one was very happy. In fact, the picture that year captured who dumped the water, but the second east tutors kept the picture and had it cropped to protect the person from retribution before it went into the yearbook.” – Joe Pemberton, Class of 1984



[Chris Carper \(2010\) gets his room pranked](#)

“Third East in 1988 was responsible for a minor hack... a large, hairy, 7-foot spider that was found hanging from Lobby 7 ceiling.” – Diane Rucker, Class of 1992

“I will never forget when Varouj Chitilian penny locked me in my room for an hour after showering me “just because.” When he finally let me out, I ran to the bathroom (because after being locked into my room I always had to go to the bathroom!) and when I came back, he had stolen my bed and hid it in the trash closet.” – Liz Pawlowski, Class of 2001



[Cupping \[Courtesy of Chris Carper 2010\]](#)

“When we first moved in, there were no pictures on the walls, as the building was still new. At some point pictures appeared on the walls. Our wing of the building (2 West) was graced with lots of ink line drawings of lotus leaves - just black ink on a white field. Having all of those pictures concentrated in one area of the building was very drab. As you might imagine, this got us upset - especially since other areas of the building were graced with color. One night the glass over all of the lotus line drawings were covered with magic marker (easily cleaned off, of course). While I certainly could not tell you about who might have been involved, everyone from 2W was wearing a t-shirt with a ‘no-lotus’ (black line drawing with red ‘no’ symbol superimposed) the next morning.” – Shabtai Atow, Class of 1984

Next Act

If Next House is known for one thing, it is Next Act. Each spring, a group of dedicated students works endless hours to prepare a show for Campus Preview Weekend (CPW). Through the collective loss of hours upon hours of sleep, the students pull together a show with all expected theatrical components: a cast, a crew, lights, music, costumes — the works.



Anything Goes - 1985

Founded in 1985, Next Act was originally a small musically theater group of Next House residents. That year, they performed "Anything Goes" under the direction of Lauren Singer (1986).^[2] There was no stage, curtain or professional lighting and the costumes consisted of personal belongings. Still, the show was a success. Lauren Singer went on to direct "The Pajama Game" in 1986. Upon her graduation, she passed the role of director to Ivan Deutsch (1987) in the form of the "Director's Hat." The tradition of passing along the hat continues to this day. Next Act has come a long ways since its early days. Today, the costumes and props are from Next Act's collection and the actors perform on a hand-crafted stage illuminated by professional lighting. In the weeks leading up to the production, the TFL metamorphoses into a well-developed theater space. While Next Act has gone through great technical changes, the enthusiasm and dedication of the students has remained the same. Here are some of the fondest memories of Next Act.

"It was spring 1992 and Next Act was staging "Fiddler on the Roof" with Jake Yara '93 playing the leading role as Tevye. I was playing the role of the goofy, easily-intimidated, but ultimately lovable son-in-law-to-be, Mottel the Tailor. Whether I was type-cast in that role because it was all too easy for me to play a "shy-nerdy-nice-guy" stereotype, or because I was one of the only three try-outs who could hit Mottel's tenor notes, (the other two took the roles of Tevye and Perchik) is still a matter of some retrospection for me. Anyway, we were backstage for intermission after a particularly hilarious version of the Russian dance in the bar scene between Tevye and Lazar Wolff. The Russian dancers had managed to make the front-row audience wince and recoil and laugh all at once by tipping a few drops out of their vodka shot-glasses in the direction of the audience on each jump--not quite



First Next Act, featuring Linda Sheehan (1985) as Reno Sweeney in Anything Goes

soaking the audience but getting alarmingly (hilariously) close each time. I was having such a good time that I laughed, squeaked, yammered my approval of that delightful twist on the scene over and over, until my good buddy David Lecompte '93 had to point out, "Ken, it WAS funny but-- you're still talking in character!" I guess I was having too much fun. "Fiddler" has always had a special place in my heart ever since. - Ken Ricci, Class of 1993



Anything Goes - 1985

"When I first took over directing, no one



One of the early Next Act Performances

from the previous year had left any instructions on how to put together the pieces of the Next Act stage! It took a few of us some hours to find an arrangement that worked. But the stage was getting weak, and in winter/spring '93, a brand new stage was built--with very clear instructions and labels on how to piece it together! I have since come back once or twice for Next Act, and have been quite pleased that the tradition lives on, even though the stage pieces are arranged differently." - Pete Tarsi, Class of 1993

Pete Tarsi directed Next Act twice: "Once Upon a Mattress" in 1991 and "Damn Yankees" in

1993. He was the technical director for "Fiddler on the Roof" in 1992.



A big finale in an early Next Act show

"My freshman year (1987) it was Sweet Charity. I think Anything Goes was from spring 86. We did Of Thee I Sing (a Gershwin show) in spring 88, and Sugar (musical version of Some Like It Hot) in spring 89. In Spring 90 we did Brigadoon. I directed with Anita Hsiung Carey '90, and Kathy Vicksne '90 was the female lead. Laird Malamed was going to direct one of the shows (maybe Brigadoon?) and then left at the end of winter semester with his degree because he'd been admitted to USC's film school for a January admission and couldn't turn it down. He worked on sound effects with Spielberg on the Young Indiana

Jones TV series." - Joanne Spetz, Class of 1990



The complete cast assembled!

"Sugar (1989) was directed by Jeff Schwefler, and starred me, Nancy Chan, and Evan Sherbrooke. The Third East guys created a set design that was a mechanical engineering wonder - they painted sheets, mounted them on a rolling system, and hauled the new sets into place after every scene. Brigadoon (1990) was directed by Joanne Spetz, and starred Kathy Viksne and Evan Sherbrooke. Fiddler on a Roof (1992) was produced by Albert Cheng (currently Exec. VP of Disney Digital) and directed (and starring role) by Jake Yara." – Diana Rucker, Class of 1992

The First 10 Next Acts

1985	Anything Goes
1986	The Pajama Game
1987	Sweet Charity
1988	Of Thee I Sing
1989	Sugar
1990	Brigadoon
1991	Once Upon a Mattress
1992	Fiddler on the Roof
1993	Damn Yankees
1994	Kiss Me Kate

Wing Culture

Many students living in Next House grow to appreciate the sub-living groups within the dorm — their wings. Residents find that their neighbors become their pset group, their friends, and often another family. Through the mix of personalities, some traditions and strong bonds are formed, keeping wings together long after the residents have left.

Many of the wings in Next House have been known for having specific cultures, from the parties to video games to music. Within the wings, these cultures adapt over time to the turnover of residents. One thing does remain the same: the community and traditions within these wings are like no other.



Fun in 5E [Courtesy of Sophia Lee]



A study break in 5W

"I specifically remember our Sunday morning brunch tradition on 5W during the 95-96 school years. We would gather around 10 am or so on Sunday mornings in the lounge at the far end of the hall. Everyone who had one brought a hot plate and frying pan. Ingredient purchases rotated by week; we always made bacon and pancakes! The pancakes frequently had chocolate chips in them. This was when I learned how easy it is to turn bacon with chopsticks!" --Emily Viehland, Class of 1997, New House resident, but now wife of Next House 5-West resident Jeremy Viehland, Class of 1996

"Every year 3E would raffle off a date with one of the junior men on the floor. The funds supported a big yearly party. In order to promote the idea that you'd want to go on a date with the eligible junior man, we'd have a photo shoot. A tux was rented, the best photographers on the floor recruited, and the women who lived on the floor would pull out their finest dresses, swimsuits, lingerie, and other things to wear. They then would model with the eligible junior man drinking champagne, him treating them nicely, feeding grapes, etc., and the resulting photos would turn into posters hung all over the dorm. I'm not sure we ever made money on this but it was a ton of fun." – Joanne Spetz, Class of 1990



Sitting in the Halls [Courtesy of Diana Sterk]

"3rd Floor East was party central. It was also where you went to play spades or bridge. The Jonathon E Koch Memorial Lounge Spades Tournament was the annual spades tournament we had there in the 3rd E lounge named after the older transfer student from Georgia Tech, Jonathon, who lived in the large room behind the lounge." – Michael Bernard, Class of 1985



4W Students 1991 [Courtesy of Sanj Kulkarni (GRT 90-91)]



"As far as I can tell from the bits and pieces I learned there, the whole idea of 3E was started 3-4 years before I arrived, yet the spirit was alive and well after the people that launched this idea had left. We had plenty of parties- some well-organized, some improvised, and we even broke out into mini parties or games/activities during the week sometimes at 1:30 AM to have a break in the studies. We financed our parties by selling our signature SPAMIT T-shirts (meaning "Stupid People at MIT" and we even bought our 2 wonderful lounge Bose speakers this way" – Adrian Fay, Class of 1991

Late Night "Studying" in 5E



Having Fun in the Halls [Courtesy of Diana Sterk]

"I was rushing fraternities as a transfer student from the University of Buenos Aires, entering as a sophomore. I later found out that this was trickier than expected, because even though I finished 12th grade barely reaching my 16th birthday whilst in an British School in Europe, after many twists and turns I arrived at MIT at 23, and while my top choice fraternity was interested in me they declined due to my age, since they felt they could not ask of me what was required during the first year. After this big disappointment I tried to see how I could connect with a living group which had a fraternity spirit, but by this stage during rush week I pretty much was out of options outside dorm living. To my delight asking around I was pointed to Next House where people argued 3E was the closest thing to a fraternity on campus. They were correct! I immediately clicked with the group of people living here and found a way to get a room very close to the 3E lounge. Given the pressure of MIT I owe a lot to the 'instant friendship' of everyone at 3E and how much fun I had there." – Adrian Fay, Class of 1991



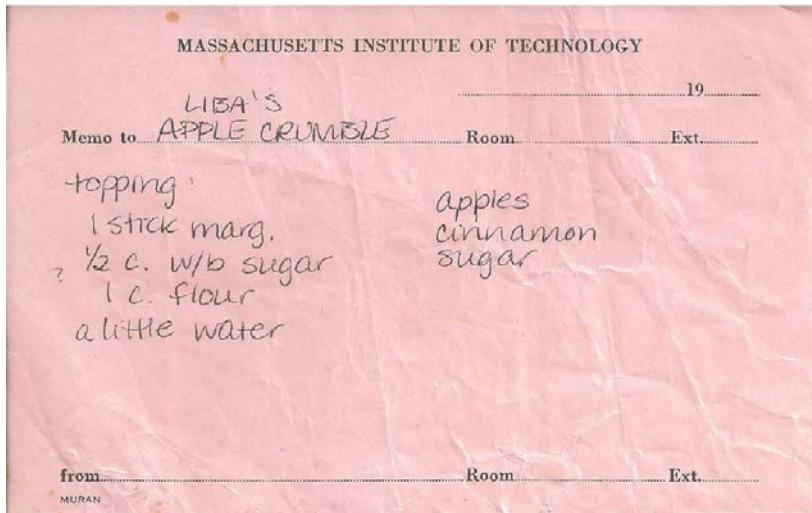
3rd West Lounge Spring 1984 [Courtesy of Scott Lichtman]



Study Break in 5E [Courtesy of Sohpia Lee]

Next Social Events

"When I lived at Next House, our housemasters were Bora and Liba Mikic. They were incredibly warm and generous and friendly to everyone in the dorm, and they regularly hosted dorm-wide brunches that featured Liba's famous apple crumble. I remember standing in ridiculously long lines that snaked up the stairwell, waiting for the delicious, homey, brunches to start, smelling the apple crumble baking. Before leaving Next House, I was able to get Liba's apple crumble recipe." – Caroline Wang, Class of 1986



Liba Mikic's Famous Apple Crumble Recipe written on MIT memo paper



Birthday Celebration from 2003. Aarti Patil, Ashvinit Thammaiah, Veena Ramaswamy, Anita Kris, Tania Das (2006)



A Next House party [Courtesy of Diana Sterk]

"I was the SPAMIT (Stupid People At MIT) Chair during my Sophomore and Junior Years. I have no idea when this group was started or how I came to be in charge of it but Sarah Boucher and I would convince Silvia Cerqueira (honorary Next Houser) to drive us from Brighton (to get the cheapest shirts) to Jamaica Plain to print the shirts and we'd sell them to make money for outrageous parties. There was the Playboy Party (actually sponsored by Playboy!), the Lingerie Parties, and the condom parties, where we actually wore shirts made of condoms." – Liz Pawlowski, Class of 2001

"I was in charge of the event "Bringing Down Next House." MIT Blackjack team came to nest House over CPW. Basically, we invited members of the MIT Blackjack Team to do a few demos and speak about their experiences. It was during CPW and it seemed to be a pretty popular event." - WenHui Tai, Class of 2010



John Hirschtick, an original member of the MIT blackjack team for 10 years, teaches Next House residents how to count cards at CPW 2008

"My freshman year, our housemaster, Liba Mikic expressed interest in starting a dorm service organization. My favorite part was just getting to know people from the dorm I hadn't met before, and we all agreed we'd love to have more events like this. And thus was born Next Service. We started having monthly events where residents would volunteer for a few hours and earn points for their wing and whichever wing earned the most points each month won a delicious dinner prepared by Liba. Liba's cooking was so famous that people were pouring hours upon hours into the projects and raising money however they could. We used the bike auction, a storage auction and a March Madness pool to raise money for causes in Boston and internationally.



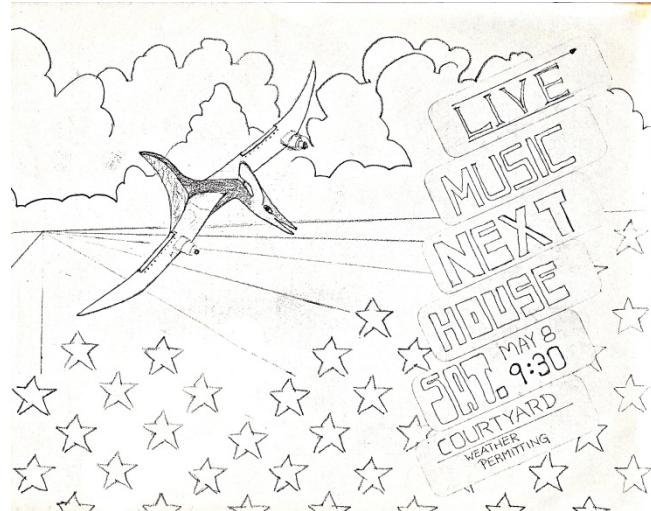
[Courtesy of Cris Fitch (1984)]

The next year, we made our Next Service Chili Dinners a tradition for every semester and started putting on even more exciting events. The service organizers agreed to dye their hair if the dorm raised enough money on the wings, so I was proud to go home for winter break with bright red hair after we raised \$1000 over the course of the semester. We worked at all sorts of exciting organizations on projects ranging from cooking meals at shelters to preparing books for the blind to participating in the Public Service Center's Giving Tree Program. In our first two years, we won the Living Service Award for best service program in a living group and we wanted to keep the momentum going.

My memories of cooking enormous pots of chili or assembling Braille books or cutting back weeds on the Charles have faded considerably. But my memories of meeting new and interesting Nexties at those events are undiminished. It was a really great way of building community and making a difference in the area." - Daniel Mokrauer-Madden, Class of 2008



1982 Next House Concert featuring Roger Pellegrini



Poster Promotion for the Next House Concert 1982 [Courtesy of Roger Pellegrini]

"The once or twice - per semester dinners served by Bora and Liba were the best part of living at Next House. The entire dorm would line up for an hour or more for the food." – John Coffee, Class of 1986

"Eric Liebeler '85 organized paintball games for the dorm from the spring of 1985 through the fall of 1986. We had outings at different sites around Eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Dozens of people participated. We also formed a team, called Black Flag, that was regionally competitive. We even participated in a tournament in New York in the fall of 1986." – John Coffee, Class of 1986

"One of my oldest memories was playing Dungeons and Dragons on the archaic dot matrix printer in the "computer room" with a fellow Next House resident by the name of Bosco So. It was ever so painful to wait for the 'x', 'l' and '' to print line by line every time we made a move. I often fell asleep in between moves because it took so long to draw up the revised scene after you've taken one step forward or opened a treasure or killed a monster." – Katrina Lind, Class of 1986*



[Courtesy of Diana Stark]



People enjoying the courtyard [Courtesy of Cris Fitch (1984)]

"wasn't really an "internet" with portals like Yahoo or Google yet. One of the few classes that had us email in our homework was 1.00 Introduction to C programming." – Michael Rizen, Class of 1991

"A nice feature at Next House back in those days was an Athena computer cluster. It saved us having to walk to the student union on those cold dark winter nights. Very few of us had our own computers in our rooms (and none of us had cell phones). We all used to use the computer cluster to work on problem sets, humanities papers and write our thesis. Back then we used an editor called Emacs and a compiling program called Scribe. Instant messaging was in its infancy using "z-write." We had Unix based X-Windows in which we could run multiple applications at one time. Very few classes had anything online. There

Of course, my years in the dorm had some interesting tidbits. Alcohol was still allowed, so there were some pretty interesting parties, particularly on 3rd East (they had a history of parties), and we had the "Zone" party on 5th East (where I lived throughout). And Next Act was very much in its formative years - I was in it all 4 years--- from Chicago (1989), Brigadoon (1990), Once Upon a Mattress (1991) and Fiddler on the Roof (1992). The last year (1992), the Director was one of my best friends at school and my roommate at MIT for two years-- Albert Cheng-- who just happens to be an EVP at Disney in charge of digital media" – Seth Cohen, Class of 1992

"I actually spearheaded a 10th Anniversary celebration for Next House (in 1991), and we actually had about 75-100 alumni turn out for it." – Seth Cohen, Class of 1992



Next Service 2009



Jon Rochlis, Daniel Morgan, Brian Carty, Stephen Ng, Shabtai Atlow, John Chen, Sue Gierzewski, Charley Marker, Bill Drew [Courtesy of Cris Fitch 1984]



Christmas with Next House friends [Courtesy of Kate Mercurio]

P-Setting...and Not

"There was a group of ex-MacGregor grad students who lived in Tang and called themselves MIE (MacGregor-in-Exile). The ones that made the biggest impression on me were Paul Lagace (now Course 16 professor) and Frank Field (the Third). My class of 1985 was the first set of students to occupy Next House, and MIE came to associate with us frosh because one of their members, Charlie Rohrs, was the 3rd West RA. The MIE group was friends and mentors to us through all my time at Next House. On the nights before our big tests, they would gather a group of us in the 3rd West lounge - the one that has the glass windows looking down to the floor below. And they would use the big windows as whiteboards to do a review of all the course material for us. It was the closest that test review could come to being fun, and was also really helpful. We did many other things together - a weekly ritual of watching "MASH" in Linda Rini's room (she was the only one with a TV), dinners, some strange parties - but the test reviews stick in my mind. It's my recollection that these guys were also responsible for naming the TFL after the lounge by the same name at MacGregor." – Linda Matthew, Class of 1985

"I was part of a group called Beeb and the Nextettes. Beeb (Bill Habib) was our piano player and the rest of us (Mary Bayalis, Lauren Singer, Suzanne Dunbar and me) sang at All Tech Sing for spring weekend." – Lori Reubenstein, Class of 1985

"I remember there was one end of one floor that was all girls and the remainder of the dorm was coed. Our window looked out onto the grassy area between Next and New houses. We had a little lounge on the 4th floor that where we'd sit and relax and the girls in the double at the end of the hall had a color TV so I also spend some time in there." – Liz Barnes, Class of 1985

"One of my favorite pastimes at Next House was playing table tennis in the basement level with my friend Chi Sun Chui. I was a senior and he was a freshman. He came in at age 16 and breezed through his classes with straight A's while I worked hard to get B's! He was a top ranked table tennis player in the US, even while at MIT. My table tennis skills benefitted greatly from this friendship. The back and forth of practice was a comforting sound to me, and often attracted observers from up above." – Peggy Liu, Class of 1990

"I was on the original Art committee that helped choose art for the walls, after they just started slapping art on our walls without asking us what we wanted or how we felt about it. I helped choose the large paintings hanging in the TFL." – Michael Bernard, Class of 1985



A Halloween Party [Courtesy of Cris Fitch (1984)]

"What comes to mind is having the snack bar - pizza and French fries and ice cream to be specific. A great way for us to gain weight and extremely unhealthy, but it was our power snack at 11pm or so to take us into the early morning hours. On so many occasions that snack bar would come in use. The only other excuse we could give I guess was that we lived the furthest away from classes, so we had the most walking or biking to do to work off the excess pounds!" – Ken Bergenthal, Class of 1990

"Another thing that I remember is Elevator parties. People would crowd into the elevators to have a party. Overloaded, the elevators would end up in the basement, out of service. The elevator toga party was particularly popular." – Joe Pemberton, Class of 1984

"Next House seemed to have a critical mass of Course 16 in the '86 class. I remember working on Unified problem sets late most Thursday nights in one of the small 5E lounges with several others from Next House and nearby residences." – John Coffee, Class of 1986



Ready for a Formal [Diana Sterk]

"One of the things I remember is that one day, I bought a jigsaw puzzle that looked like spilled blue paint, with no edges and uniform color. It looked impossible, but I used to love jigsaw puzzles. Since my desk was covered in my room, I put the puzzle on the table in the little alcove (sitting room) across the corridor from my room, and I started solving it. Pretty soon people started joining me. In the following night little by little, we worked on the puzzle while we took breaks from our problem sets. It took us a week or so but we finished the puzzle." – Cuneyt Ozveren, Class of 1984

RBA Program

For the past nine years, all freshmen have experienced the RBA program. The house government of Next House voted to try the Residential Based Advising program largely in order to make the entire dorm eligible for more funding for residential activity.. It was also hoped that the program would build a sense of community and help to focus on the issues that freshmen face in their first year at MIT.

The first year, half of the incoming freshmen were selected for the program and moved to the near vicinity of their associate advisor. The first year, the executive committee was reluctant to require RBA for all of the freshmen. They were afraid that not allowing people to participate in REX would limit the type of freshmen who would come to Next House, so the freshmen were allowed to participate in Residential Exploration before being assigned to the RBA program.

Anderson said that having all freshmen chosen over the summer would also limit the diversity of the type of freshmen living at Next House. "We want diverse freshmen to come to Next House," she said.

*The Tech, Volume 121, Number 12.
March 16, 2001.*

Soon thereafter, Next House did not participate in REX. Upon judging RBA a success, the executive committee decided to adopt the RBA completely.

However, they then received complaints from students. Nobody wanted to be stuck in the dorm, so Exec searched for more flexibility within the program. They got it, and beginning in 2008, the students placed in Next

House over the summer were able to enter the adjustment lottery. In order to accommodate the involvement of Next House, REX began and ended earlier so that freshmen who switched could be assigned to their new advisor. The change was a popular one. Without having to commit fully to it, people were more willing to explore Next House.

Additionally, more people were interested in Next House this year over the previous year, Smedick said. "Last year, there were far fewer students ranking Next as a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd choice than this year," she said in an e-mail.

*The Tech, Volume 128, Number 32.
August 26, 2008*

Today, all freshmen are automatically enrolled in the program and paired with staff advisors working exclusively in Next House, as well as a Residential Associate Advisor, a current upperclassman. RBA works to put on events to help all the freshmen adjust to their first year at MIT, dealing with issues from academics to homesickness.



RBA Event 2007

Student Groups and Activities

Classes alone are never enough to keep MIT students satisfied. Through various activities, students through the years have pursued their passions, found new interests, and spent some quality time with their friends. Next House in particular has had a large number of student groups through its 30 years, perhaps because it is easier to be involved in something that does not require you to leave your home. Thanks to this, Next House has seen a large variety of interests and student groups, from service groups and intramurals to bands and sustainability groups.

"Intramurals were fun, regardless of level. I was ok at volleyball but a newbie at ice hockey, so I signed up with our D-league team. It was considered 'tripod' hockey because you needed to hold yourself up with your stick in order to keep afloat, execute turns and stops, etc. Near the end of one game, I remember everyone huddling and saying "we can do this!" – meaning that we could manage to make it to the end of the game without dropping from exhaustion." – Scott Lichtman, Class of 1988

"Next House was great to play, among friends who would also come support us at every battle of the bands and put up with our atonal dance metal original tunes 'til we'd get to Shriekback, UB40 or Madonna to dance to. Julie, the upperclassman who organized the parties, was generous with a budget of something like \$1500 for 3-hours of music, enough to get real lights, sound equipment and an engineer to shake the main room with that unusual mural in back. That was the best dorm gig for us musicians."

"The country kitchen (with the help of a properly bent coat hanger or a friend who worked at the front desk) was a great place to practice because it was separated by the cafeteria from dorm rooms so you could make lots of noise/music without bothering people too much. We had a dorm band party at least twice while I was there, maybe three times. Bands from our dorm also competed in the MIT battle of the bands, and Low Budget won the chance to play at a club in Harvard Square one year. They made up signs, but the printer made a mistake and printed "Low Bugdet" so that was their name from then on." – Joe Pemberton 1984

"About the third year that the dorm was open, we had an intramural softball team called the Grocery Boys. The guys who ran the team came up with names for all the players and we had shirts made up. One upperclassman also assigned Mr. Men characters to a bunch of us. I told him it wasn't a great idea and so he called me Mr. Grumpy." – Joe Pemberton



Scott Lichtman (1988) at Next House Party.
He performed with his band Vital Science

Next House Student Group	Description	Years
Next Act	Student Run Musical	1985-present
Private Idahoos	Fraternity in reference to B-52s	1981
Low Budget	Band	Early 1980s
The Neat Guys	Band	Early 1980s
Neural Disruption Network	Band	1980s
Stolen Bandwidth	Band	2011
Next Service	Service Group	2004-present
Next Make	Technical skills and project group	2008 – present
Next Sustain	Sustainability Group	2011-present
iNext	Group of Musicians in Next	2011-present

Some things never Change...

George Hosker, the first house manager of Next House became well known to many students within Next House as he managed the facilities of the house.

"George Hosker was retired from the Navy. He was friendly to everyone but ran a "tight ship." I remember that first winter that many students would keep their wet shoes outside the door of their dorm room. George was not particularly happy about this so he left a note in everyone's shoes saying "your shoes are secured" which we eventually realized was navy-speak for "don't keep your shoes outside of your room". People still kept their shoes outside of their room, and George eventually got used to it." – Joe Pemberton, Class of 1984

George Hosker later had the TFL officially named after him. While few alumni remember that the TFL has an official name, many alumni recall George fondly.

"George cut me a break as a freshman when I smashed a window with a water balloon and slingshot on 2 West!" – Mike Rizen, Class of 1991

"Quite a few people had nicknames in the dorm. I am sure I will forget some of them, but here are the ones I can remember: Skipper, Muffy, The Expert, Topher, VA, Farnsworth (Farns for short), Scooter, Scootmoe, Sis, Peachy, Peachmoe, Sandy Pecan, Hershman, Baboogula, Captain Xerox, Nodjon, Z, Gringo (can't for the life of me understand why the only Hispanic in the dorm was nicknamed Gringo), The Reverend and Chuck Ford." – Joe Pemberton, Class of 1984

Despite the fact that each floor is different, residents are very free to roam the floors and have friends all over the dormitory, Tegen said. "It isn't very cliquey," she said. In fact residents move between floors quite often, creating a very dynamic environment, she said.

The Tech, Volume 115, Number 33;
August 1995

Safety at Next House

An unfortunate landmark in Next House's history occurred on October 23, 2007. Anna Tang, a Wellesley College junior who was taking classes at MIT, entered Next House and stabbed her ex-boyfriend, Wolfe Styke (2010), as he slept. She was charged with home invasion and armed assault with intent to murder.

When the police arrives at the scene, Styke was "bleeding profusely from multiple stab wounds" according to the police report. He told the police officer that he did not know where Tang was. In fact, she was standing about 20 feet down the hall. . She was taken under arrest.

As to be expected by the culture of Next House, the residents held an impromptu prayer session for Styke.

Tang either walked in behind somebody or was let in by the desk worker around midnight. She waited in the lounge until about 5:30 AM, when she approached the night watchman for a key to Styke's room. The watchman knew that they had been dating – and had been for the past eight months – but did not know they had broken up. Immediately after the incident, the watchman was immediately placed on leave.

The situation prompted a review of the residence hall security. This was not the first time an armed intruder had snuck into at Next House. In November 2002, a resident was awakened by a burglar armed with a large knife. The burglar then stole cash before escaping.

MIT Statement Regarding Stabbing Incident — Oct. 25, 2007

We are deeply troubled by this violent act upon one of our students. We are supporting him, his family and friends, and others in our community. We are heartened by the progress he has shown in his recovery.

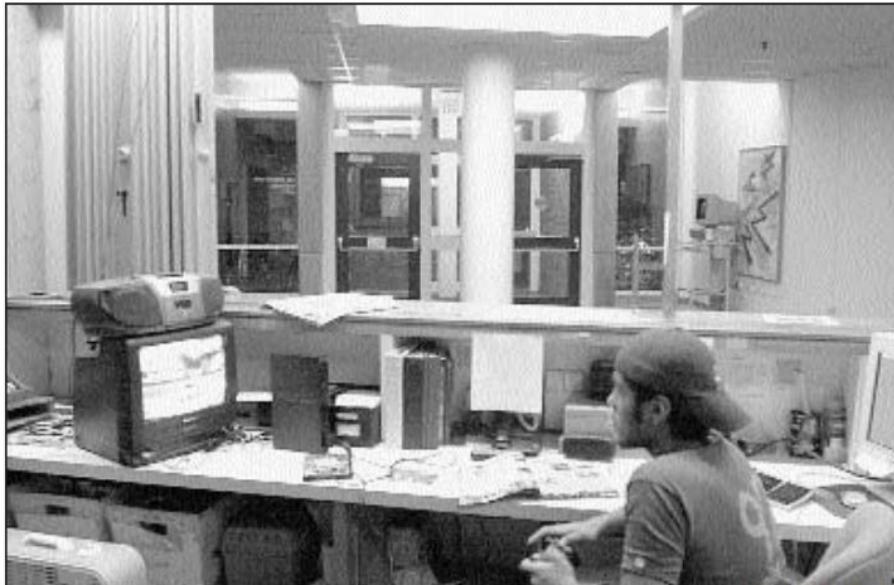
The safety and security of our community is of the utmost importance. MIT has longstanding policies and procedures in place for the safety and security of our residence halls. We have been meeting today with residence hall staff to review safety and security precautions.

We are cooperating fully with the Cambridge Police Department and the Middlesex District Attorney's office on their investigation. It would be inappropriate to comment on any details related to this ongoing investigation.

SOURCE: MIT NEWS OFFICE

The Tech, Volume 127, # 29, October 26, 2007

A judge later ruled that Tang was not guilty by reason of insanity. Her lawyers said that a lack of proper treatment for bipolar disorder and depression led to her attack on Styke. From 2008 on, she was under house arrest, but in February 2011, a judge decided to release Tang rather than commit her to a psychiatric hospital.



JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH

Hansraj C. Palacios '04 plays a video game while working at the Next House desk. Next House will tighten its entry policies in the wake of Sunday's armed burglary.

The Tech, Volume 122, Number 55, 5 November 2002

Time for a Change

To this day, Third East is known as the party wing. This connotation is based on a rich history of loud music and parties, though this has evolved through the years of Next House. In the early 2000s, Next House 3E became well known for its crazy party habits, but not in a good way. In October 2001, two separate events ended with underage drinkers taken to MIT Medical due to alcohol poisoning. Due to these incidents as well as the vandalism associated with these parties, all of Next House was put on probation beginning in January. Residents of 3E had to remain dry for the next six months while nobody in Next House could have an alcoholic drink for the next three months.

At the time, Next House occupants resented being associated with this image. These cases were only seen in a select number of Nest House residents, but they had severe consequence for the dorm as a whole. "Some people just don't seem to understand that what they do can profoundly affect the other 340 people who live here," said Christopher Anderson (2004) at the time. It was feared that the consequences would negatively affect the culture of Next House.

"It's inappropriate that students not involved in the incident are sanctioned. It's not building community" — Peter A. Shulman, UA President

To combat the problem, responsibility rested on Exec. As the student body with authority, the administration relied on them to change the direction in which the dorm was heading.

The combination of probation and changes put into place by Exec did change the culture of Next House. The dorm known for its Lingerie and Condom Parties became much calmer in the following months and began to earn its status as a quiet dorm.

Party was scene of vandalism

Trouble began on the night of Friday, October 27, when an unregistered party occurred at the Third East wing at which alcohol was served. That night, party-goers broke a window in the main lounge, ripped a soap dispenser in one of the bathrooms out of the wall, and sprayed shaving cream in several bathrooms.

Some party-goers rewired an elevator, causing it to go to the fourth floor when the second floor button was pressed and vice versa. Five chairs were also destroyed. "An upholstered chair was thrown up on so badly that it had to be thrown

out, another was thrown out a window, and three were just smashed against the ground," said Steven Millman G, a Graduate Resident Tutor from the dormitory.

In addition, according to the campus police log, on the morning of October 28 at 3:11 a.m., an underage female was taken to the Medical Center for alcohol poisoning.

Vandalism continues into week

In the early morning of Wednesday, November 1, additional acts of vandalism were reported. The Jack-O-Lantern of four-year-old Isaac Millman, the son of Steven Millman, was destroyed. The pumpkin had been placed in the lounge outside the Millmans' room and labeled "Isaac Millman's (4-and-a-half-years old) Jack-O-Lantern," Millman said.

Several hours later, Alison H. Wong '03 reported that, sometime the night before, someone had dumped "bananas, pizza, and some paper scraps" inside the fish tank of Melanie S. Woo '03. The fish in the tank, located on Third East, all died.

Questions	Answers
What makes your house unique?	We're good looking and we bathe regularly.
What is the best thing about living in your dorm?	Forbidden sex in the laundry room
What are the major house events this year?	Spring Semiformal (May) Next Act (May) Condom and Lingerie Parties (November and April)
Tell us something interesting about your basement	No sex in the laundry room
What is your house policy regarding pets?	No pets, except for fish and fish-like creatures
What is the most popular beverage in your dorm?	Duff
What type of freshman SHOULDN'T live in your dorm?	Introverted freshmen
In your house, which Simpson's character would best fit in?	Bart
What stereotype about your house do you wish would go away?	It's too far.
If your dorm could choose a theme song, what would it be?	"Let's Talk About Sex, Baby."

The Tech, Guide to Dormitories; August 26, 2001 – Next House has come a long way since then.

In Memory

Through its time as a dorm, Next House has seen many relationships developed between students and staff. As life and times move forward, people pass on, and those who are left behind forever remember their influence. This section is dedicated to the memory of the members of the Next House community who have passed.

"When we lived in MacGregor, the night watchman was Johnny O'Connor. Johnny was a short, white-haired older gentleman with a slight Irish brogue who was everybody's friend. He would stop and talk to everyone and say things like "Hey there laddie. How's it going with the homework?" When people asked Johnny how he was doing, he would always tell us how many days/weeks/months/years until he could retire. Johnny was a good guy and he took care of us. He didn't always report minor infractions, but the students also knew that we shouldn't get in too much trouble on Johnny's watch because he might get in trouble too. We had all heard Johnny's story of a night watchman at McCormick who had gotten distracted and let a guy into the dorm who was stalking one of the young women who lived there. While nothing bad happened to her, it was reported to authorities and that night watchman lost his job. We didn't want that to happen to Johnny, so we would make sure the new kids knew not to mess around. Johnny moved over to Next House the first year it opened and made it to retirement shortly after I graduated. Unfortunately the next winter he slipped on a patch of ice, hit his head, and never regained consciousness." – Joe Pemberton, Class of 1984

Hilbert Pompeii created the "Freshman Defense League" to protect freshmen on freshman shower night. (*Courtesy of Joe Pemberton, 1984*)

Jon Athow and Scott Weir, both class of 1987, were involved in the ROTC Navy while at MIT and served in the United States Navy. (*Courtesy of Greer Swinston, 1987*)

Brian Anderson passed away in February 2012. Brian was a management major, an active member of the wrestling team, and a resident of 3-East.

Once a Nextie, Always a Nextie

Within the walls of this dorm, many hacks, laughs, tears, late nights, and conversations have happened. Many people would agree that the friendships they develop at MIT and in Next House are unlike any others. For these four short years, each student is submerged in a nerdy, inspired culture. People develop fond memories of where the sidewalk ends, and it really goes to show that once a Nextie, always a Nextie.

"When Next House was a very new dorm on campus, I decided I wanted to live there. I saw two blond girls walking through the TFL and I decided to talk to the shorter one, although they were both pretty cute. Being a good MIT nerd doesn't necessarily mean we're good in new social situations. I wasn't sure how to make small talk with this blond and blue-eyed cutie. So I did what anyone would do when I noticed she was chewing gum: I asked her if she was done with it. When she said yes, I asked for it. Maybe more telling for our future, she gave it to me! So I started chewing it. Now Suzanne (Dunbar) and I are married with two girls of our own, at least one of whom really wants to go to MIT. I just have to tell her about the dangers of giving her used chewing gum to a boy". -James Person, Class of 1986

"I lived in Next House 1992 -- 1996. Fondly remember racing for the cycling team, and training on my indoor rollers in 2West hallway during winter." - Jeff Roth, Class of 1996

"I may still have a shirt with the original Next House logo on it (an arrow integrated into the name). When the dorm was being built, the architect couldn't call it New House because New House already had the name, so they labeled the drawings with "Next House", as in the next house over. The name stuck." – Mark Kantrowitz, Class of 1989



A 5E Celebration at Bertucci's in June 2005

"I loved Next House for all its windows and view onto the river and Boston. One night my good friend to this day, Peggy Liu, and I were pulling an all-nighter studying for our art history final. We had pulled the seating in the lounge together to make two facing beds, brought out our pillows and our blankets. We knew it was going to be a late night. I don't know that we'd planned to see the sun rise. But we did. As the light hit the water, I recognized a fleeting moment he'd captured in so many of his paintings. I feel

fortunate to have looked out those windows each day of my MIT career. We were truly privileged." – Mini Harris, Class of 1990

"What attracted me to Next House and eventually, 3E, was that during residential selection, there was chocolate pudding wrestling! I actually still wear my "Join the Nextual Revolution" shirt that I got that day." – Liz Pawlowski, Class of 2001

"Students, GReEs, Bora and Liba connecting altogether as a big family, the kind atmosphere in such a thorough education, our monthly study breaks, were wonderful." – Volkan Muslu, 5E GRT 2003-2005



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I would also like to thank the Next Executive Board 2011-2012 for their support in this project.

