Convention Information Guide

International Convention on Shapes and Solids
13-17 June 2005, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA
TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS .............................................................................................................. 2
CONFERENCE INFORMATION AND FACILITIES .............................................................. 3
  CONFERENCE VENUE AND HOW TO GET THERE ......................................................... 3
ONSITE REGISTRATION ........................................................................................................ 4
MEALS AND BREAKS .......................................................................................................... 5
SMOKING POLICY .............................................................................................................. 6
FACILITIES FOR THE HANDICAPPED ............................................................................ 6
STORAGE SPACE .............................................................................................................. 6
MIT INFORMATION ............................................................................................................... 7
DORMITORY INFORMATION .............................................................................................. 7
  CHECKING IN .................................................................................................................. 7
  CHECKING OUT .............................................................................................................. 7
SENIOR HOUSE INFORMATION ....................................................................................... 7
NEW HOUSE INFORMATION ............................................................................................. 7
PARKING ............................................................................................................................. 9
  EAST CAMPUS (KENDALL SQUARE AREA) ................................................................. 9
  WEST CAMPUS (NEAR NEW HOUSE) ......................................................................... 9
TECH SHUTTLE .................................................................................................................. 10
BOSTON INFORMATION .................................................................................................. 10
GETTING AROUND BOSTON ........................................................................................... 11
  THE SUBWAY SYSTEM ................................................................................................. 11
  GETTING TO MIT FROM THE AIRPORT ...................................................................... 11
  GETTING TO THE AIRPORT FROM MIT ................................................................. 11
RESTAURANTS AND CAFES ......................................................................................... 12
  KENDALL SQUARE AREA (EAST CAMPUS) ............................................................... 12
  NEAR BUILDING 34 (CONFERENCE LOCATION) ...................................................... 12
  WEST CAMPUS (NEW HOUSE AREA) ....................................................................... 12
ELSEWHERE ..................................................................................................................... 13
  SOME AREAS WHERE THERE ARE PLENTY OF RESTAURANTS. ......................... 13
WEATHER ......................................................................................................................... 14
MAP ................................................................................................................................... 14
CONFERENCE INFORMATION AND FACILITIES

CONFERENCE VENUE AND HOW TO GET THERE

EG&G Education Center,
MIT Building 34, Room 34-101
50 Vassar Street

Below, the easiest ways to reach the conference venue are described. There are some much shorter routes that involve cutting through or between buildings, which you will soon learn once you are on campus.

From the Marriott Hotel Boston /Cambridge

Take the Main Street exit from the hotel and turn right. At the second set of traffic lights, turn left (Vassar Street). Building E34 is a glass fronted building on the left, just after the Stata Center, set back from the road.

From the Kendall Hotel

Turn left. At the second set of traffic lights, turn left (Vassar Street). Building E34 is a glass fronted building on the left, just after the Stata Center, set back from the road.

From the Marriott Residence Inn

Turn right and take the first right (Ames Street). At the next traffic lights turn right onto Main Street. At the next traffic lights, turn left (Vassar Street). Building E34 is a glass fronted building on the left, just after the Stata Center, set back from the road.

From the Kendall/MIT T Stop

This exits at Main Street. Walk away from the river (the Marriott Hotel should be on your right). At the second set of traffic lights, turn left (Vassar Street). Building E34 is a glass fronted building on the left, just after the Stata Center, set back from the road.

From Senior House

Exit on Amherst Street and turn left. At the end of the road turn right. Turn left at the traffic lights (Main Street). Turn left at the next traffic lights (Vassar Street). Building E34 is a glass fronted building just after the Stata Center, set back from the road.

From New House

Exit on Amherst Alley and turn right. Continue to Massachusetts Avenue and turn left. At the next traffic lights, turn right (Vassar Street). Building E34 is a glass fronted building on the right, set well back from the road. It is just before the Stata Center.
**ONSITE REGISTRATION**

**If you have already registered and paid:**

Please check in at the on-site registration desk to obtain your conference package, which includes the conference proceedings, a program, your receipt, your dinner tickets, etc.

**If you have already registered but have not paid:**

You may pay at the on-site registration desk. We can only accept payment by traveler’s check, company check or credit card (Master Card and Visa only). Please note we cannot accept personal checks or cash on site.

**If you have not yet registered:**

You may pay at the on-site registration desk. We can only accept payment by traveler’s check, company check or credit card (Master Card and Visa only). Please note we cannot accept personal checks or cash on site. Please also note that we cannot guarantee you a place at the conference dinner if you register on site.

**Onsite Registration Hours**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday June 13</td>
<td>7.00 am – 6.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday June 14</td>
<td>8.00 am – 6.00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday June 15</td>
<td>8.00 am – 6.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday June 16</td>
<td>8.00 am – 6.00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday June 17</td>
<td>8.00 am – 12.00 noon</td>
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</tbody>
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**Onsite Staff**

Please feel free to come to us with your questions

- Marge Chryssostomidis (Registration/information desk every day)
- Fred Baker (Audio-visual, computer problems, every day)
- Leslie Doyle (Registration/information desk Monday and Wednesday)
- Richard Brunson (Registration/information desk Monday and Wednesday)
- Marcia Munger (Registration/information desk Tuesday, Thursday, Friday)
### MEALS AND BREAKS

#### Monday June 13
- **Break** 09.30-09.45 34-101 lobby
- **Break** 11.00-11.15 34-101 lobby
- **Lunch** 12.30-14.00 MIT Faculty Club (Building E52, 6th floor)
- **Break** 15.30-15.45 34-101 lobby
- **Break** 17.00-17.15 34-101 lobby

#### Tuesday June 13
- **Break** 09.30-09.45 34-101 lobby
- **Break** 11.00-11.15 34-101 lobby
- **Lunch** 12.30-14.00 MIT Faculty Club (Building E52, 6th floor)
- **Break** 15.00-15.15 34-101 lobby
- **Break** 16.30-16.45 34-101 lobby

#### Wednesday June 15
- **Break** 09.30-09.45 Grier Room*, 34-401A
- **Break** 11.00-11.15 Grier Room*, 34-401A
- **Lunch** 12.30-14.00 MIT Faculty Club (Building E52, 6th floor)
- **Break** 15.15-15.30 Grier Room*, 34-401A
- **Break** 17.10-17.25 Grier Room*, 34-401A
- **Cash Bar** from 18.30-  MIT Faculty Club (Building E52, 6th floor)
- **Dinner** from 19.30-  MIT Faculty Club (Building E52, 6th floor)

#### Thursday June 16
- **Break** 09.30-09.45 34-101 lobby
- **Break** 11.00-11.15 34-101 lobby
- **Lunch** 12.55-14.30 MIT Faculty Club (Building E52, 6th floor)
- **Break** 16.15-16.30 34-101 lobby
  (one afternoon break only)

#### Friday June 17
- **Break** 09.30-09.45 34-101 lobby
- **Break** 11.00-11.15 34-101 lobby
- **Lunch** 12.35-14.00 MIT Faculty Club (Building E52, 6th floor)
- **Break** 15.15-15.30 34-101 lobby
  (one afternoon break only)

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* Grier Room “A” will be open to attendees the entire day from 09.00 – 17.30 on June 15. Facilities include a conference/dining table, armchairs and a kitchen.
SMOKING POLICY
Smoking is forbidden in all public buildings in Boston and Cambridge. This ban encompasses all MIT buildings including restaurants and cafes. If you wish to smoke, you must go outdoors. There is a spacious outdoor area immediately in front of building 34. If you are unable to find an ashtray, please bring your cigarette ends indoors for disposal.

FACILITIES FOR THE HANDICAPPED
All buildings at MIT are wheelchair accessible, though not from every entrance. All buildings provide wheelchair-accessible washroom facilities. Persons with other special needs should contact the conference staff for assistance or advice.

STORAGE SPACE
There is a limited amount of storage space for your luggage if you wish to come to the conference directly from the airport, or if you wish to depart for the airport from the conference venue. Please note that we cannot guarantee the security of anything in the storage room, as it is left untended.
MIT INFORMATION

For more information please visit the following website: http://web.mit.edu/visit/.

DORMITORY INFORMATION

CHECKING IN
At the dormitory, you will find a desk near the entrance where you can check in.
Check in time is normally 15.00, but if the room is ready you may check in earlier.
To check in, you will need to provide some means of identification.

CHECKING OUT
Check out time is 11.00.
If you are not leaving the area immediately, the desk attendant may be able to store your luggage for
you behind the desk, but there is not much room. As an alternative, you may bring your luggage to the
conference where there is a small (unsecured) storage room.

SENIOR HOUSE INFORMATION
Address: 70 Amherst Street, (MIT Building number E2), Cambridge
Telephone 617-253-3191
Nearest subway (T) stop is Kendall/MIT

How to get to Senior House
If you are traveling to Senior House by subway from the airport, directions are as follows:
Take the exit at the front end of the train. When you take the escalator to street level, you end up facing
the Marriott Hotel. Turn round, cross over Main Street then walk straight ahead. You are on Carlton
Street. Amherst Street is at the end of Carlton Street. Turn right onto Amherst Street. Senior House is a
whitish building on the left, immediately after a red brick apartment building called 100 Memorial Drive.

NEW HOUSE INFORMATION
Official Address: 471-476 Memorial Drive, (MIT Building W70) Cambridge
Telephone 617-253-6561
Main Entrance: Amherst Alley (parallel to Memorial Drive). New House is on the left, towards the end of
the Alley; it is the second last building.

Nearest subway (T) stops are Kendall/MIT and Central (neither is very close)
There is also a bus that travels up and down Massachusetts Avenue that will take you into Boston, or
further into Cambridge, e.g. Central Square and Harvard Square).

How to get to New House
If you are traveling to New House by subway (T) from the airport, directions are as follows.
Take the T to Kendall/MIT and exit towards the front of the train. You have several options:

1. Tech shuttle if you arrive between 07.15 and 19.00 Monday-Friday.
The nearest pickup point is outside the MIT Press bookstore on Main Street. When you take the
escalator out of the station, Main Street is immediately behind you. The Bookstore is in the white
building on the other side of Main Street. The shuttle usually stops near the entrance to this building.
Alight at shuttle stop number 5, which is at the far end of Amherst Alley.
2. On foot via Memorial Drive.
This is the quickest route, but DO NOT take this route after dark unless you are with a group. It is perfectly safe during daytime, however.
Follow directions in 1 above to reach Main Street. Cross over Main Street then walk straight ahead. You are on Carlton Street. At the end of Carlton Street, turn right onto Amherst Street. At the end of the road turn left. This brings you to Memorial Drive. Turn right and continue until you reach Massachusetts Avenue (Memorial Drive goes underground at this point). Cross over Massachusetts Avenue and rejoin Memorial Drive for one more block. Take the first right then the first left. You are now on Amherst Alley. New House is the second last building on the left.

3. On foot, cutting through MIT buildings
Follow directions in 1 above to reach Main Street. Turn right. At the traffic lights, turn left (Ames Street). When you reach the pedestrian crossing, cross the road and walk straight ahead onto the MIT campus, keeping to the left of the long building perpendicular to Ames Street (the building has a distinctive pointed end). You will come to a building straight ahead of you with an elevated entrance and two sets of steps leading up into it. Enter here and you will see a long corridor (the “Infinite Corridor”) in front of you. Walk the length of this corridor and exit at the far end. This is MIT’s main entrance (77 Massachusetts Avenue). Go down the steps, cross Massachusetts Avenue and turn left. Take the first right (the continuation of Amherst Street). It makes a sharp turn left, and immediately on the right is Amherst Alley. New House is the second last building on the left.

4. Taxi
Follow directions in 1 above to reach Main Street. There is a small taxi rank on the opposite side of the road, just to the right of the pedestrian crossing. If there are no taxis, walk through the Marriott Hotel and out the other side where you are fairly certain to find taxis arriving regularly. A taxi ride will take about 10 minutes.
Parking is difficult at the best of times. MIT does not have any long term visitor parking spaces. Paid parking is expensive, and there are only a few parking garages (do not rely on the parking map on the MIT website, as it is out of date and refers to lots that are no longer in use). We recommend that you avoid bringing a car and instead rely on the quite efficient subway system and/or taxis.

**EAST CAMPUS (KENDALL SQUARE AREA)**
Most parking spots are metered or are for residents only.

**Free Parking**
Note that it is virtually impossible to find a space after 8 am on weekdays. Spaces tend to remain occupied until 5 or 6 pm.
- Memorial Drive between Wadsworth Street and Massachusetts Avenue
- Amherst Street between Wadsworth Street and Ames Street has a few spaces

**Paid Parking**
- Marriott Hotel Parking on Ames Street between Main Street and Broadway, Kendall Square ($20/day). See map at http://whereis.mit.edu/map-jpg?mapterms=public+parking
- 1 Memorial Drive, at junction with Main Street ($15/day). Not on map

**WEST CAMPUS (NEAR NEW HOUSE)**
Most parking spots are metered.

**Free Parking**
Note that it is virtually impossible to find a space after 8 am on weekdays. Spaces tend to remain occupied until 5 or 6 pm.
- Memorial Drive

**Paid Parking**
There is nothing close. Previous visitors to MIT may remember a parking lot on the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Vassar Street. This no longer exists. The closest parking garage is at University Park beside the Hotel@MIT (underneath Shaw’s supermarket) on Green Street. See map at http://whereis.mit.edu/map-jpg?mapterms=public+parking.
TECH SHUTTLE

MIT operates a shuttle bus around campus, from 07.15 to about 19.00 on weekdays at 20 minute intervals. In theory, it is only for the MIT community, but in practice, drivers seldom or never request an MIT ID. However, since the shuttle is a small vehicle, it would not have room for large numbers of people, so it is recommended that whenever possible, attendees walk to the conference. Because of the circuitous route it takes, it also may be faster to walk to the conference.

To view the shuttle route, go to: http://web.mit.edu/visit/get-around.html then click on Tech Shuttle in the paragraph headed “Getting around Campus”.

The nearest stop to the conference is stop number 3 on Vassar Street.

Attendees staying in New House are very close to stop number 5. The first bus of the day stops there at 07.24. The journey time to the conference is 36 minutes because the bus does not go there directly. A quicker option is to get off the bus at stop number 8 at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Vassar Street, then walk down Vassar Street.

Attendees staying in the hotels at Kendall Square are close to stop number 1. It is located outside the MIT Press Bookstore, near the T station.

Attendees staying at Senior House are closest to stop number 2. From Senior House, it would be faster to walk to the conference venue.

BOSTON INFORMATION

Boston is a very pleasant, compact city where is is very easy to get around by walking or taking public transportation. http://www.bostonusa.com/ provides a link to pretty well everything the visitor needs to know.

Some notable museums include the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts.

For shopping, Quincy Market (Take green line T to Government Center) has an eclectic mix of shops, while Washington Street (take red line T to Downtown Crossing) has two big department stores (Macy’s and Filene’s) and an assortment of other types of shops. Newbury Street (Green line T to Arlington) has many boutiques.
GETTING AROUND BOSTON

THE SUBWAY SYSTEM
Boston has an extensive subway system operated by the Metropolitan Boston Transit Authority (MBTA) and is known by everyone as the T. It consists of a network of trains and trolleys that mainly travel underground, and a separate network of buses. For information and maps, go to http://www.mbta.com/

A ride on the subway costs $1.25 to most destinations. A bus ride is .90 cents (exact change only).

Visitor passes are available at selected locations, such as the Airport T stop, the gift shop in the Marriott Hotel and the front desk at the Kendall hotel. A 1 day pass costs $7.50 and a 3 day pass is $18.00 (may only be used on three consecutive days). The passes may be used for both the subway and the bus services.

GETTING TO MIT FROM THE AIRPORT

TAXI
Depending on traffic conditions a taxi ride will take 20-40 minutes and will cost $15-$30. In addition, a fee will be levied for the Callahan/Sumner tunnel.

MBTA
Only recommended if you have manageable luggage as it involves several changes. From the airport proceed as follows:
Take the free airport bus to the Airport MBTA (T) station (Blue line).
Take the train inbound to Government Center. Go upstairs one flight to the Green line and take the trolley one stop to Park Street.
Go downstairs to the Red line (direction Alewife) and take the train 2 stops to Kendall/MIT.
Take the exit towards the front of the train, where there is an escalator.
The MBTA exit is on a pedestrian plaza in front of the Marriott Hotel. The Kendall Hotel is opposite, a little to the right of the inbound MBTA entrance.

GETTING TO THE AIRPORT FROM MIT

TAXI
- There is a taxi rank in front of the Marriott on Main Street
- Taxis frequently pull up on the far side of the Marriott (enter the Marriott from Main Street, and walk straight through the lobby and out the other side).
- Taxis frequently cruise down Main Street and may be hailed

BUT:
If you are catching a very early flight, there is no guarantee a taxi will be around when you need it
If it is raining, all taxis disappear
On Friday afternoons, all taxis disappear

We therefore recommend that if you feel you will be short of time, you should book your taxi in advance, especially if you wish to go to the airport directly from the conference rather than from your hotel. For a taxi on Friday, it is best to book it on Thursday. There will be a list of taxi numbers at the conference registration desk.

MBTA
An option if you do not have too much luggage and you do not have an early morning flight. Allow at least an hour because of the changes you need to make. The first train of the day arrives at the Kendall T stop at about 05.30. ..
RESTAURANTS AND CAFES

Here are some ideas to get you started. For additional suggestions and information, consult Marge or Richard at the Registration/Information desk. Both Marge and Richard have extensive experience in dining out!

KENDALL SQUARE AREA (EAST CAMPUS)

Breakfast

The hotels in the area (the Marriott and the Kendall, both on Main Street) serve breakfast (The Black Sheep in the Kendall is very good). Both are on the expensive side.

There are two casual self-service cafes on opposite sides of Hayward Street, where it meets Main Street:
- Au Bon Pain has good French bread and croissants
- Rebecca's has a nice range of muffins, cookies, etc

Starbucks in the Marriott Hotel serves the best coffee in the area and a range of muffins, cookies, etc.

Dinner

The Black Sheep in the Kendall Hotel has a small menu, a little pricey, but good food.

Au Bon Pain (see above) stays open quite late. They have soup and sandwiches.

Legal Seafoods is a popular but pricey casual fish restaurant on Main Street, going towards Ames Street. There is a pedestrian complex (very confusingly known as 1 Kendall Square) just off Beacon Street, about 10-15 minutes walk from Kendall Square, where there are several places to eat. To get there, turn right after Legal Seafoods, turn left at the next traffic lights (onto Broadway), go across the train tracks and under a walkway connecting buildings on either side of the road. The road forks here. Take the right branch. The pedestrian area is a short distance on the right.

The Blue Room is very good, serving contemporary American food using the best local ingredients. The organic rotisserie chicken is excellent.

Jasmine serves Thai food.

Cambridge Brewing is a microbrewery with excellent beer. The food is not all that good; people come here primarily for the beer.

Tommy Doyle's is an Irish pub with quite inexpensive food.

Atasca at 279 Broadway has fairly moderately priced Portuguese food. To reach it, turn right after Legal Seafoods, turn left at the next traffic lights (onto Broadway), go across the train tracks and under a walkway connecting buildings on either side of the road. The road forks here. Take the left branch; the restaurant is a few minutes walk from here, on the left.

NEAR BUILDING 34 (CONFERENCE LOCATION)

The Forbes Café in the Stata Center, (next to Building 34) opens from 07.00-17.00 Monday-Friday only.

WEST CAMPUS (NEW HOUSE AREA)

Breakfast

During June, the MIT dining facilities operate for only limited hours. There is nothing open early in the morning. The nearest place to have breakfast is the Forbes Café in the Stata Center, next to Building 34.
Dinner
There is nothing at this end of campus. The nearest places to eat are in Kendall Square (see above) and Central Square (see below).

ELSEWHERE
The Boston area abounds in places to eat, many of them excellent. However, visitors tend to find prices high. In a moderately priced restaurant, appetizers would cost between $5 and $10, main courses would be between $14 and $24. Wine is generally over $20 per bottle; a glass is usually $6-7.

Except for the newest and trendiest restaurants, it is not essential to make reservations at the beginning of the week, but it is highly advisable to make advance reservations for Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

There is an excellent website that provides listings of many local restaurants, with links to their websites so you can read their menus, see prices, get location information, etc. You can also reserve a table through this website, though you have to register with the website first (there is no fee and you are under no obligation to do anything except show up at the restaurant). Go to http://www.opentable.com then click on Boston.

SOME AREAS WHERE THERE ARE PLENTY OF RESTAURANTS.

Cambridge
-Central Square
Take the T outbound one stop to Central, or take the number 1 bus from outside MIT on Massachusetts Avenue to Central Square. Most restaurants are in the blocks between Sidney and Magazine Streets. For spicy Caribbean food, check out the Green Street Grill, on Green Street, one block west of Massachusetts Avenue between Pearl and Magazine Street. For pizza, go to Bertucci’s on Main Street one block before it meets Massachusetts Avenue.

-Harvard Square (Take the T outbound 2 stops to Harvard, or take the number 1 bus from outside MIT on Massachusetts Avenue to Harvard Square). Most restaurants are on Massachusetts Avenue, Church Street, JFK Street, and off JFK Street.

Boston
-Beacon Hill
Take the T inbound to Charles. It exits at the junction of Cambridge Street and Charles Street. Both streets have many restaurants

-Chinatown
Take the T inbound to Downtown Crossing, then the Orange line to Chinatown

-North End, also known as “Little Italy”
Take the T inbound to Park Street, then the green line (direction Lechmere) to Haymarket). Ask for directions from here, as there is so much construction going on that the route changes frequently. Essentially, you need to get to the other side of the construction work. Most restaurants are on Hanover and Salem Streets.

-Newbury Street, between Arlington Street and Massachusetts Avenue
Take the T inbound to Park Street, then the green line (direction Boston College, Riverside, Heath Street or Cleveland Circle) to Arlington. Take the Newbury Street exit and walk straight ahead. Newbury Street is the first street on the left.
By bus, take the number 1 (Dudley) bus from opposite MIT on Massachusetts Avenue to Newbury Street.

-Quincy Market
Take the T inbound to Park Street then the green line (direction Lechmere) to Government Center. Walk straight ahead across the plaza, down the steps at the far side, cross the road to the pedestrian area and the Quincy Market area is behind the first building. There is a food court and numerous restaurants.
WEATHER

Boston in June is usually warm and sunny with daytime temperatures between 70 and 80°F (21-27°C), and evening temperatures around 70°F. However the weather this year has been unusually cold, so be prepared in case the June temperatures are lower than normal, and bring at least one warm item, plus a light coat or jacket to wear in the evening. An umbrella is strongly recommended.

MAP

For an interactive map of MIT please visit:
http://whereis.mit.edu/map.jpg

For an interactive map of conference location as reproduced by GOOGLE please visit:
http://maps.google.com/maps?q=50+Vassar+St.+Cambridge,+MA+02139&spn=0.008057, 0.008283&t=k&hl=en

Please refer the last two pages for a map of MIT.
MIT Campus Map

Welcome to MIT

All MIT buildings are designated by numbers. Under this numbering system, a single room number serves to completely identify any location on the campus. In a typical room number, such as 7-121, the figure(s) preceding the hyphen gives the building number, the first number following the hyphen, the floor, and the last two numbers, the room.

Please refer to the building index on the reverse side of this map, if the room number is unknown.

An interactive map of MIT can be found at http://whereis.mit.edu/.