

A bimonthly note about  
campus resources and  
Edgerton people

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# Edgerton Bulletin

May 2007



## Edgerton Transfer Lottery: May 1 - May 7

The Edgerton Transfer Lottery will be held by the Student Advisory Board (SAB) between May 1 and May 7. If you are guaranteed housing at Edgerton in Fall 2007, you're most likely eligible to participate in this transfer process. If you're interested in transferring, start talking to your friends to figure out who you might transfer with. Transfers will be made after considering the total seniority points of each group of residents wishing to transfer. The list of open rooms will be made available by May 1.

**NOTE: Please do not confuse the Edgerton Transfer Lottery with the Graduate Housing Assignment Process. You CANNOT participate in the former if you participate in the latter.**

See <http://eh.mit.edu/transfer2007.php> for full details.

*Interested in Participating?:* Please inform the SAB (at [eh-sab@mit.edu](mailto:eh-sab@mit.edu)) if you're considering transferring.


*Entering the Graduate Housing Assignment Process with the intention to remain in your current room?:* Please inform the SAB (at [eh-sab@mit.edu](mailto:eh-sab@mit.edu)), otherwise, your room will be made available in the Transfer Lottery and may be assigned to a different resident. If this happens, you will be asked to leave your room. Unfortunately, no exceptions will be made.

## GradGala Reception At Edgerton House

**When:** Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm  
**Where:** Edgerton Courtyard (143 Albany Street)  
**What:** food, cash bar, live music

**FREE entry!**

Complimentary rides from Edgerton to Park Plaza (GradGala) from 7:15 – 8:15 pm  
Come have your picture taken underneath the beautiful cherry blossoms!

Event sponsored by  
**Graduate  
Student  
Council**  
all graduate students welcome

# Spotlight

Housemasters David & Pamela Mindell



*Tell us a little bit about yourselves.*

Pam: I am a professor of Music at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass. (about an hour west of Boston), where I teach music history-related courses and direct the Choral Program.

I conduct the College Choir, a group of about 65 singers, and the Chamber Singers, a group of 14. I am also a singer, and I sing with a wonderful professional group in Boston, the Boston Secession, a group dedicated to performing newly written choral music. I did my undergraduate degree in Psychology at Princeton University, and I did my doctorate in Choral Conducting at Yale. Following graduate school, I spent a year conducting and singing in Sydney, Australia, then taught and conducted at Smith College in Northampton, Mass. I grew up in Connecticut and have lived in Boston for three years.

David: I grew up in Rochester, New York, and am a graduate of Yale college, where I did a double major in literature and electrical engineering. I did my Ph.D. at MIT in 1996 and since then have been a faculty member at MIT in the history of technology and in engineering systems. I am now the Director of the Program in Science, Technology and Society (STS), and this year I'm serving as the acting director of the graduate program (27 Ph.D. students).

As an engineer, I do research in technology, archaeology, and the deep sea that explores the deepest parts of the oceans with robots for ancient shipwrecks and develops advanced technologies to aid in the explorations. As an historian, I write about human-machine relationships in the context of large systems. I've written a book on the history of control theory and am just finishing a book on the computers and software that were employed for the Apollo moon landings. This spring I'm teaching a course "Engineering Apollo: The Moon Project as a Complex System" in Course 16/ESD/STS.

*What kinds of things do you want to do with Edgerton residents?*

Our work brings us into contact with fascinating people, from moonwalkers to deep-sea explorers, musicians and composers and world-class performers. We envision sharing this network with the students at Edgerton and asking visitors to join us for dinner and informal events when they come to campus. To us, part of the job of housemaster is to provide events and informal settings for students to meet interesting, inspiring people from MIT and beyond. We'd also like to talk about how an MIT education fits into people's larger life goals, and how to make those two things work together. We have many ideas for events to help build the Edgerton community, both in EH and around Boston; we'd like to introduce EH residents to the wonderful parts of Boston and New England that they may not be familiar with if they've just arrived from far away.

*What's it like being the first Housemasters?*

Beginning as housemasters in an established graduate house presents a somewhat unusual situation. We find that situation exciting, especially the prospect of working with the students and the house management to add the resources of a housemaster to continue building a community of living and learning at Edgerton house.

The biggest thing at the moment is working with MIT to build our new house in Edgerton. We're currently meeting with architects, construction people, and planners, and are going to be pretty actively involved in creating a space that we can comfortably live in but also one to welcome EH residents for a variety of events.

## Spotlight (continued)

Housemasters David & Pamela Mindell

*When can we expect to see you around the building?*

We're going to be around the building a bit this spring, mostly in the mornings for meetings to work with the architects and construction people on making the Housemaster's house. Also, you may have noticed they've built a little bit of laboratory space next to the laundry room, where David will begin working this spring, building sonars for undersea research and doing some other engineering projects.

*What do you like to do in your spare time?*

We are both avid skiers, downhill and cross country, and we ski a lot in Vermont and, when we can, out west in Colorado. We are also both pretty active and work out a lot. We're both close to our families, so we spend a lot of time with them, both in Boston (where Pam's sister and her husband live) and in Washington, Connecticut, and New York. On the side, David plays the banjo (as a rank amateur), and is an active pilot and enjoys flying around New England. Pam also does a lot of music, especially singing, and David pursues his interests in electronics and engineering. Between all that, there's not all that much spare time!

## External Relations Chair Passed, Now Accepting Applications

On April 27, 2007, Edgerton House residents voted in favor of creating a new officer position: the External Relations Chair, with 46 votes in favor, 3 against and 2 abstains. With the help of this new officer position, Edgerton House will have a better opportunity to become more involved with other organizations such as the Northwest Coalition, the Association of Student Activities, and the Graduate Student Council in coordination of the President and Vice President. Thanks for everyone who voted.

We are now looking for strongly motivated residents who would want to fill this position. For more details, go to <http://eh.mit.edu>.

The deadline for applications is **Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**. The newly selected officer will be granted an officer lease for 2007-2008 (eg you will get guaranteed housing in Edgerton).