

December 4, 2023

Dear President Kornbluth, Provost Barnhart, and members of the MIT administration,

We are a growing group of MIT Jewish alumni and MIT allies who are united in our grave concern and alarm over the growth of antisemitism and an increasingly hostile environment for Jewish and Israeli students, faculty, and staff on MIT's campus.

Since the barbaric attack perpetrated by Hamas terrorists on Israeli civilians on October 7, 2023, antisemitism in the United States has risen to unprecedented levels. The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) has reported that incidents of harassment, vandalism, and assault against Jews have increased by 388 percent since October 7, 2023 over the same period last year (<https://www.adl.org/resources/press-release/adl-records-dramatic-increase-us-antisemitic-incidents-following-oct-7>). Outbreaks of antisemitic incidents have plagued many college campuses, where administrators have shown either inability or unwillingness to effectively manage the situation. Unfortunately, MIT is not an exception.

Our concern and alarm come from news reports and personal conversations with current MIT students who have reached out to us to discuss incidents of harassment and intimidation that they have experienced on campus in the past weeks. These incidents include:

- Two MIT-funded student groups, MIT Coalition Against Apartheid (CAA) and Palestine@MIT, sent an email to all undergraduate students on October 8, 2023, justifying the massacre of Israeli civilians and blaming Israel for it. This was traumatizing to many MIT Jewish and Israeli students with family and friends in Israel who have been directly affected by the brutal attacks.
- Multiple rallies were held on the MIT campus both in locations where MIT allows formal protests (such as Stratton Student Center steps) and in ones where it does NOT allow formal protests (77 Mass Avenue steps, classrooms such as 10-250, 26-100, and MIT hallways). In at least one case, involving a rally on the steps of 77 Mass Avenue held on November 12, 2023, many non-MIT individuals participated. These rallies involved chanting of antisemitic slogans and calls for violence against Jews and Israelis. The chants included the notorious "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" slogan – a call that has been deemed antisemitic by the Anti-Defamation League and that the US congressional resolution of November 7, 2023 deemed "a genocidal call to violence to destroy the state of Israel and its people to replace it with a Palestinian state extending from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea." The rallies also included calls for "intifada" – a violent uprising.
- The now-infamous protest of November 9, 2023, organized by the MIT-funded student group CAA, resulted in an all-day occupation of Lobby 7, even after the warnings by the MIT administration before and during the blockade that this was illegal. Fortunately, the MIT police were able to keep the entrance to the Infinite Corridor open but ultimately had to shut down Lobby 7 to the entire MIT community as the occupiers refused to leave.

- Students have stormed the offices of Israeli and Jewish staff members, harassing and intimidating the staff.
- Students have interrupted lectures at MIT chanting antisemitic slogans.
- Individual Jewish students have been subjected to harassment and intimidation by other students while walking around campus.
- Many Jewish students do not feel safe on campus. In the words of one Jewish MIT student: "I do not just feel unsafe, I am unsafe!"

The MIT administration's response to the numerous antisemitic incidents has been tepid at best and tolerant of this antisemitic behavior at worst. While the administration clearly set down red lines for all students as to what is considered acceptable behavior, these rules continue to be flagrantly violated without any meaningful consequences for the violators. Given the administration's lack of response to these violations, it is not surprising that antisemitic harassment and intimidation on campus continue undeterred.

This is not the MIT that we all know and love. This is not the place that we are proud to call our alma mater.

Antisemitism has no place on MIT's campus and in any civilized society. The continued antisemitic harassment and intimidation of Jewish and Israeli students on campus is of grave concern not only to the MIT community, but also to industry leaders and lawmakers. For example, the second most popular audience comment at a session of the MIT Industrial Liaison Program (ILP) Conference held on November 15-16, 2023, expressed concerns about working with MIT in view of the rise of antisemitism on campus. Further, President Kornbluth is scheduled to testify before Congress in front of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce on December 5, 2023, to address antisemitism on MIT's campus (<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-11-28/harvard-penn-mit-heads-called-before-congress-on-antisemitism>). MIT should be mentioned in the media for its scientific achievements, not for its antisemitism.

MIT has a legal responsibility under Title VI to provide all students, including students who are or are perceived to be Jewish or Israeli, a school environment free from discrimination, including intimidation and harassment.

We call on the MIT administration to take the following concrete steps to address the growing antisemitism on campus:

### **Enforce meaningful consequences for the individuals who violate MIT's rules**

It is shameful to see how MIT enables further disruption without consequences for individuals who flagrantly violate the rules the administration set forth for everyone in good faith. Other

universities have done much better at enforcing their rules, and so should MIT. Some universities have banned student groups who repeatedly flout rules, others arrested students who engaged in harassment and intimidation of members of their communities, and still others enacted speedy disciplinary hearings within 10 days for those who violate the rules. We call on the MIT administration to enforce its own disciplinary rules and send a clear message to students that antisemitic harassment and intimidation will not be tolerated and will have real, severe consequences. We also call on the MIT administration to take any and all measures to restore civility on campus. It is unacceptable for Jewish and Israeli students to continue being targeted.

### **Create an antisemitism-specific task force on campus**

We applaud President Kornbluth's announcement of the "Standing Together Against Hate" council with the aim to "combat hate." However, this is a long-term measure, and it does not address the immediate and urgent problem at hand, which is undeterred antisemitism within the MIT community. We call on the MIT administration to implement concrete solutions to address the rise of antisemitic rhetoric and harassment in the immediate term. We also call on the MIT administration to follow the lead of other schools and create an antisemitism-focused task force to work on ensuring the physical safety of Jewish students and combating the root causes of antisemitism's spread on campus.

We are proud members of the MIT community. It is our hope that MIT's response to our concerns described here will reassure us and revive the sense of belonging, both for us and for current Jewish and Israeli students, faculty, and staff. It is paramount that Jewish and Israeli students, faculty, and staff on campus feel protected and safe, as do all other members of the MIT community.

### **Signed by:**

Svetlana Shnitser M'Eng '00  
Yelena Margolin S.B. Biology '99; S.B. Chemistry '99, Ph.D. Toxicology '08  
Lev Teytelman BS Mathematics(18), BS Computer Science (6-3), 2003  
Irene Margolin-Katz BS 1999  
Stacey Eden Blau BS, 1998  
Dana Rosenfarb BSc, MEng, 2022  
Leonid Taycher PhD 2006  
David Goldfarb BSc (VI-3) 1984  
Alex Neil Iselin MBA, 2022  
Jonathan Erik Monahemi BS 2020  
Mark Cameron Zaretsky SB80, SM82, PhD88  
Diane Gail Lebowitz Bachelor of Science, 1981  
Dianna Goldenson El Hioum SB 1995  
Vera Tilson SBEE '87  
Lawrence Sher SM,1962  
Adina Gwartzman SB, SM, 1981/1982  
Emanuel Katz BS, 1996 and PhD, 2001  
Adam Charles Rigel SB 2008, MBA 2019

Andrew D. Yablon SB 1992, SM 1993, PhD 1997  
Gregory Golberg BS, Computer Science, 2007  
Silvina Zimi Hanono Wachman MS 1995, PhD 1999  
Limor Sinay MBA 2004  
Orli G. Bahcall PhD BSc, 1999  
Shulamit Esther Lerner BS, 1993, Course 7  
David A Friedman SB 1996  
Mark Stephen Daskin BSCE, 1974; Ph.D., 1978  
Michael, N, Beregovsky BS, 2006  
Jamie H Rosenblum Lichtenstein BS, 1996  
Keren Rimon MBA, 2004  
Edward Khokhlovich MS in Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Dmitry Goykhman Course 6  
George Roy Lee SB in EECS, 1998  
Jonathan Bart Tepper SB 1974, SM 1975  
Ofer Shapira PhD, 2007  
Samuel Kaswan SM '94  
Dmitri Rabin MBA 2004  
Ira Scharf SB '89, SM '94  
Kim Wegbreit Koran MBA, 2001  
Leonard J. Schulman BSc 1988, PhD 1992  
Richard Allen Baehr MS, 1975  
Jonathan D. Schwartz SM Management 1994, SM Mechanical Engineering 1994  
Lawrence Gordon S.M, 1979  
Linne Kimball 1994 MS Sloan, MS Materials Science Engineering  
Josette C. Goldish SB 1969, SM 1984  
Marc H. Fogel BS, 1966  
David Reginald Coleman SB Course 6 2004  
Oren Lederman MS 2015, PhD 2019  
Rachelle L. Horwitz-Martin PhD 2017, SM 2014  
Amy Ilene Katz Gerhardt SB 2002  
Keren Greenbaum BA, 2014  
Kayla Jacobs S.B. 2006, S.B. 2007  
Corey McCaffrey S.B. 2005, M.Eng. 2006  
Alexander Moskovitz BSc course II, 1997  
Natasha Neginsky Kincy BS 18C 1999  
Alexander Rosen SB 1990  
Galia Meiri BS 1989  
Alexander Staroselsky PhD 1998  
Matya Schachter SB, 2005  
Dina (Betser) Levitan SB 2011 MEng 2012  
Seth Bisen-Hersh 2001  
David A. Broniatowski SB XVI-II, 2004; SM XVI 2006; SM TPP 2006; PhD ESD 2010  
Rebecca Kurnik Seshasai BS 2003  
Jack J. Schuss S. B., 1973  
Gisele Marie Proulx Ellis SB 1998, SM 2000

Nitzan Schwertner BS EE 2004; MEng EE 2005  
Vadim Dribinsky B.S. in Physics  
Alexander Vladimirov SB 1997, MEng 1998  
Michael Miller PhD, 15B-OR, 1996  
Ada Brunstein MS 2007  
Eric Banks BS, MEng 2000  
Yevgeniya Nusinovich SB, 2001 (2 of them, course 5 and 7)  
Mariya Ishutkina Aero/Astro BS 2001, MS 2004, PHD 2009  
Alina Khankin Course 5 and 7, SB, 2002  
Esther M Kalashnikova BS '02  
Mark Daniel Knobel SB 2000  
Igor G Tarashansky MEng, 2000, BS, 2000  
Daniel Rodan Legrain PhD in Physics, 2022  
Laura Sandler SB 2000  
Jonathan Katz BS, 1996  
Aaron Mark Ucko SB, 2000 (x2); MEng, 2001  
Robert J Fetter SB/SM 1978 and SM 1986  
Alana Lidawer BS 2018  
Leonard H Horowitz SB EE 69  
Hagit Yerushalmi MBA, SF program, class of 1999  
Ruth G. Fax SBEE 1967  
Lori Alperin Resnick B.S. 1982  
Jonathan Baravir MBA, 2019  
Diego Syrowicz BS '98, MEng '00  
Ari Bronsoler Ph.D. economics, 2022  
Anna Dreyer BS (EECS) 2003, M.Eng 2005, Ph.D. 2008.  
Thomer Gil SM, 2007  
Yuri Cataldo MBA, 2023  
Reuven M. Lerner SB 6-3, 1993  
Helena Briones Panadero SM 2020  
Evan Bradley Crane SB 2017, MBA 2023  
Itamar Chinn BS '22  
Benjamin Reed Hammer MBA, 2021  
Kevin Larry Trangle SB 1973  
Mike Speciner SB 1968  
Rose G Radin SB 2002  
Zachary Wainwright MBA 2021  
Jason Jay Merkin PhD Biology, 2014  
Ilya Lisansky S.B. 1999, M.Eng. 1999  
Gene E. Fax S.B. 1967  
Mark Zarkhin 6.2, 1997  
Sergey Gribov Sloan Fellows, 2007  
Silvina Grad SM, 2001  
Jerome E Milch BS Biophysics 1967, BS Political Science 1967, PhD. Political Science 1974  
Steven Stern SB2004, MEng 2005  
Diana Borenshtein Ph.D, 2006. Postdoc 2008.

Jose Gerson Bloch BS (1969) MS (1971) MBA (1971)  
Richard Kornfeld Ph.D 1999  
Ron Scharf S.B. 1992  
Jeffrey Sperling BS, 2015, Course 8  
Katya Taycher BS '98, MEng '98  
Richard J. Barbalace SB, 1997  
Abigail Klein BS 2014, MEng 2015  
Steven H. Bergstein SB EE, 1988; SB CS, 1988  
Richard Warren Singerman SB Physics, 1987  
Joel Irvin Seiferas EE Phd, 1974; EE SM,1973; Math SB, 1973  
Lev Weisfeiler Courses 8, 18 yr 1991  
Natalie Raykin BS'99  
Igor Kaplansky MEng 2001, Bach of Eng (CS) 2001  
Massimiliano A. Poletto 1995 SB, 1995 MNG, 1999 PHD  
Ron Sidorov Feldman MBA 2005  
Warren Jay Katz BSME(2), BSEE(6-1), 1986  
Jack Favilukis SB 14/18 2002  
Igor Cherpak BS, M.Eng 2000  
Joyce Wertheimer SB 1983  
Sara Rubenstein BS, 2009  
Ilias Zadik PhD, 2019  
Omer Preminger PhD, 2011  
Susan Lisa Lotwin B.S. in Economics, 1992  
Alison Jill Fox SB, 1990  
Shari C Fox BS 1992  
Joshua Zvi Levin 1992 Ph.D.  
Boris Raykin '98 Course 6-2, BS and MEng  
Thomas Farkas BSEE'89, MSEE'91  
Elizabeth Ruth Greyber Bachelor of Science Course 7 1989  
Mark Velednitsky BS, 2014  
Gila Schein B.S. 2022, MEng 2023  
Moriel Wojtyla Levy BS Course 10, 2017  
Nadine Carol Otterman ME SB 1992  
Andrew Lynn SB 2002  
Dalia Pesia Leibowitz SM in course 2, 2018. SB in course 2, 2016  
Alex Sherstinsky S.M. 1989; Sc.D. 1994; Post-Doctoral: 1995  
David Sheena SB 1964; SM 1965; PhD 1969  
Ora Mitchell Matushansky PhD 2002  
Tanya Gilman BS 2003  
Sharone Small SB, 2014  
Dina Mayzlin BS 1997, PhD 2001  
Claude Gerstle BS 1968  
Neil David Steinmetz BS 1967  
Abbe Cohen Dvornik SB 1996  
Emily Marcus SB 2002  
Boris Kozinsky SB Physics 2000, SB Math 2000, SB EECS 2000, PhD Physics 2007

Julia D Kurnik SB 2006  
Alexander Malchik Course 6 BS, M.Eng  
David A. Ucko Ph.D. '72  
Irene Miriam Kaplow B.S. in Mathematics, 2010  
David Held B.S. 2005, M.S. 2007  
Maxwell Plaut BS, 2014  
Amir Rasowsky Course 2, 2002  
Inbar, Sarah Yamin, Plaut BSc, 2015  
Chaim Kutnicki SB, 2007  
Jeremy B Katz SB, 2009  
Richard A. Kraus SM 2009  
Isaac Moses SB, 2002; SM, 2005  
Adam Joseph Cervenka MBA, 2021  
Rebecca C Lehman PhD, 2007  
Spencer Bret Moss MBA, 2021  
Gordon B Logan BS 68  
Dalia Yablon Parent  
Daniel Katz SB Physics 1994, SM Nuclear Engineering 1996  
Ari Trachtenberg SB 94  
Mussy Altein Student Life Affiliate  
Ben Baumgold BS, 2008  
Mauricio Karchmer Faculty  
Emmy Linder MBA , 2010  
Gwen Weinstock-Zlotnick MIT Parent  
Andrew Prihodko MBA 2006  
Jacob Gilon Parent  
Avital Balsam Parent  
Eugene Belostotsky BS, MEng 1997  
Jeremy Michael Wertheimer SM '89, PhD '96  
David Mark Blaker BSEE 1979  
Lydia Sandon Musher SB 1998, MEng 1999  
David B Godes MBA 89 / PhD 2000  
Beth Kulas BS 90 Economics  
Sherri Duitz Parent  
Laura Hodes Zacks Parent  
Cara Suzanne Baker SB Course18c, 1994  
Joshua Eric Duitz Parent  
Stacey Schwarcz M.S. 2024  
Amnon Gavish Parent  
Sharon Herzfeld Parent  
Jomi Kramer LGO 2023  
Adam S. Zeiger Ph.D., 2013  
Pamela K Weinfeld Parent '24  
Almog Reshef MBA 2023  
Boris Meyerovich MBA, 2022  
Samuel Mansberg MBA 2023

Max Faingezicht MBA 2011  
Jonathan D. Baker SM 1994  
Itzik Elyahou MBA, 2020  
phyllis schwartz widow of Robert Schwartz BS '58  
Slava J Menn Sloan MBA 2011  
Penina Scharf Parent '25, '26  
Gene Itkis B.S., Physics (Course 8), 1983  
Boaz Fachler SF MBA '22  
Marshall E Fox SM MechE 2016, MBA 2016  
Amitay Kalmar MBA, Sloan 2010  
Yael Gertner BS MEng 97  
Ron Gut BS 1992  
Lavi Erisson SF MBA 2019  
Tilli Bannett MBA 2006  
Sarah Fox MBA 2023  
Rachel Kern M.S. 2006  
Joshua Krieger Phd 2017  
Jay, F, Landauer MBA  
Elisa and David Mitchell Parents ('24)  
Dar Shkedi Sloan MBA, 2021  
Mark S. Weinfeld Parent '24  
Janey Bishoff MCP, 1979  
Zvi Gordon MBA '14  
Alan Katz Benaim Sloan, 2011  
Sam Goldberger SB 1982, MBA 2016  
Steven Jay Henry SB, SM '73 (VI-A), Officer CI of '72  
Josh Scharf MBA, 2023  
Beth Grey Parent  
Jordan A. Grey Parent (2019 & 2027)  
Shai, Ben Nun MBA 2017, Masters of science in EECS 2017  
Eduardo Tobías MBA, 2014  
Matthew Evan Burg MBA, 2014  
Maya Bustan MBA, 2011  
Abraham Neil Seidman M.S., '68  
Anna Sokolinski BS Economics 1996  
Barton Zwiebach Faculty  
Michael Segal PhD 2007  
Deborah Anne Maizel BS 2006  
Tamara Litwin SB 2009  
Gabriela Zwiebach Faculty spouse, mother, mother in law of alumni and graduate  
Vitaly Veksler MBA 2009  
Aaron S. Sarfati BS 2007  
Roy Appelman MBA 2005  
Adam Hanoch Milner MBA, 2018  
Tchelet Segev BSc and MEng, 2018  
Glenn Michael Borok MIT Sloan MBA '23



Oren Kassif MBA 2006  
Ilia Sokolinski SB 95, SM 98  
Brian Louis Ross SB 2011  
Eitan Ze'ev Reich SB 2007, MEng 2007  
Isaac Alexander Schlecht MBA 2019  
Heidi Michelle Brun Course II, BS/MS both in '85  
Maya Bobrovitch MBA, 2022  
Aaron Zwiebach BSc 2016  
Mikhail Goykhman BS Aerospace Engineering, 2008  
Max Rozenoer Master 6.3, Bachelor 18C 1999  
Maria K Houtchens, M.D. MS, 2005  
Alison Ross SB'82; SM'82  
Tania Ionin PhD, course 9, 2003  
Jeffrey F. Hankoff BS, 1970  
Barry David Jacobson Alum, Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology,  
Ph.D. 2008  
Jeffrey M. Hausdorff MSME 1988  
Aryeh Weiss SB 79, SM, EE 81, PhD 86  
William A. Frezza BSEE '76, BS Biology '76, MSEE '78  
Sandra I Cuozzo Parent  
Leslie Bromberg SB 73 PhD 77  
Theodore H. Korelitz SB 1956  
Andrei Joseph Levin B.S. Physics, 2008; B.S. Mathematics 2008  
Philip Byer SM 1970, SB 1972, Ph.D. 1974  
Jonathan William Wolf Course VI-3, 2002  
Micha Ben-Naim BS 2016  
C. Andrew Frank BS in Biology, 1997  
Alex Grinman MIT S.B. '15, M.Eng '16  
Robert Howard Lustig S.B. Life Sciences, 1976  
Warren J Manning BS Course II '79  
Jonathan Balsam Parent  
Stuart Basseches BSAD 1982  
Alexander Bernstein MEng 99, BS Physics '99, BS EE '99