Associate Provost

The associate provost co-chairs the Committee for the Review of Space Planning (CRSP) with the deputy executive vice president (EVP). CRSP oversees space assignments, renovations, and accelerated capital renewal, working closely with the Department of Facilities. The associate provost also sits on the Building Committee, which oversees capital building projects with budgets in excess of $5 million, and is a member of Academic Council.

The associate provost oversees the MIT's industry-facing offices. MIT's Industrial Liaison Program reports to the associate provost, as does MIT's Technology Licensing Office, which also retains a dotted line reporting relationship to the vice president for research (VPR). The associate provost meets regularly with the assistant director of the Office of Sponsor Programs (OSP) responsible for industrial contracts along with the director of OSP. The associate provost represents the Office of the Provost in a variety of initiatives, acting as co-chair of the Information Technology Governance Committee and serving on the Institute's IP Committee, the Ragon Institute Board of Directors, the Governing Committee of the Madrid–MIT M+Visión Consortium, and the Steering Committee for the DuPont-MIT Alliance.

In February 2014, after serving as associate provost since 2008, professor Martin A. Schmidt of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science was promoted to provost. In April 2014, professor Karen K. Gleason, the Alexander and I. Michael Kasser professor of chemical engineering, assumed the role of associate provost.

In FY2014, the Committee for the Review of Space Planning managed a $19.4 million renovation budget and a $4 million infrastructure budget to enable those renovations. Working in cooperation with the Department of Facilities, the associate provost continued the implementation of MIT 2030, the long-range planning framework that helps define priorities for renovation and renewal. This past year, the Institute approved construction of the new MIT.nano building, which is currently in its design development phase, requiring the current occupants of Building 12 to be relocated to other locations on and off campus. In addition to representation on the project team, the Office of the Associate Provost and the Department of Facilities planned and coordinated these moves within a 12-month time frame. Occupancy of the MIT.nano building is planned for the first quarter of calendar year 2018.

Concurrent with the construction of MIT.nano, plans were made for significant renovations and a modest addition to Building 31. This will address deferred maintenance and code deficiencies, and will reorganize and rationalize space to improve the research environments for the Departments of Astronautics and Aeronautics and the Department of Mechanical Engineering. The expected project duration is 24 months from the start of construction, which is as yet undefined.

Both the building of MIT.nano and the swing-space needs of MIT's capital renewal program have strained the Institute's scarce space resources in the Main Group and East Campus. MIT continued to seek leased space to meet the demand of its new

initiatives. The MIT Press was relocated from building E39 to One Rogers Street (EE19), the new Biophysics Lab is leasing space in 400 Technology Square (NE46), the MIT Kavli Institute for Astrophysics relocated from One Hampshire Street (NE80) to 300 Kendall (NE83), and the new Office of Digital Education, which includes OpenCourseWare, now occupies 11 Cambridge Center (NE35).

A study to assess the current use of several research buildings in the North West Campus along Albany Street was completed. Areas of opportunity were identified to improve space use and provide resources to meet other strategic objectives, including housing new programs and relocating existing activities.

Work continued on the Space Economy Project, which was launched in 2011. Members of the project committee—which has convened 47 times since April 27, 2011—include Heather Williams from the School of Science, Donna Savicki from the School of Engineering, Ron Hasseltine from the VPR area, Michael Parkin from the Department of Facilities, Scott Thorne from Information Systems and Technology (IS&T), and Brian Shannon from the Office of the Provost. The first phase of the project is the development of a web-based Space Management System to allow departments, labs, and centers to accurately track and measure the use of their spaces. To track this data, the committee partnered with IS&T to develop a custom web-based software tool that can be used on multiple platforms, including iPads. The software collects and enters data on people and space use, which in turn gets fed into the data warehouse where it can be tracked and measured. The software has been deployed to the School of Science, the School of Engineering, areas within the vice president for research, and the Department of Architecture. Deployment is under way within the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. A faculty committee was established to help propose mechanisms to motivate more effective use of space on campus.

Karen K. Gleason
Associate Provost
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