

Dear Students,

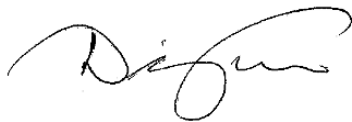
Welcome to the start of a new fall semester at MIT! As we embark on a new academic year, we want to reaffirm our commitment to your success, especially in light of the current sociopolitical climate and the increasing attacks on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts. We recognize the concerns raised by the noticeable decrease in the number of underrepresented minority students in the Class of 2028 following the recent SCOTUS decision on affirmative action. Please know that we are more dedicated than ever to supporting you throughout your journey at MIT.

We also want to extend our heartfelt thanks to our returning students who contributed valuable input to the OME strategic planning process last spring. Your insights are crucial as we navigate these challenging times. Chancellor Nobles has decided to postpone the final decisions on the strategic future of the OME until the next vice chancellor is appointed. Rest assured, the set of decisions under consideration will not involve dissolving the OME. Instead, we are focused on elevating the office, increasing its visibility, and fostering greater synergy, coordination, and collaboration across the Institute to better serve you. As we approach the OME's 50th anniversary next year, our goal is to ensure that the OME continues to be a vital resource for underrepresented minority students at MIT for many years to come. If you have additional thoughts or concerns, I invite you to contact me to schedule a time to meet and discuss.

We encourage you to make full use of our resources, as well as those available across campus. Don't be afraid to ask for help—you are not alone. Our office is here to support you, whether you need assistance, have questions, or just want to stop by and say "hi." We believe in your potential and are confident that you can achieve great success at MIT.

As you begin this new semester, remember the words of Maya Angelou: "You may not control all the events that happen to you, but you can decide not to be reduced by them." Wishing you a successful and fulfilling journey ahead.

Warm regards,



Diep “yip” Luu, PhD  
Interim Director, Office of Minority Education (OME)  
Associate Dean, Office of the Vice Chancellor