

## Welcome

Dear Club Members,

It's been another great season of events with a wide range of activities: corporate tours, art viewings, mountain hikes, technology lectures, and social meals just to name a few. We are so fortunate to offer these events, and we thank you again for your participation.

As the end of the year approaches, it's always a good time to double check if you've paid your Club membership dues. Please visit the Club website for payment instructions, or just send us an email.



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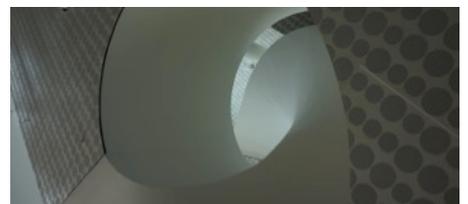
*Jonathan Claman*

## Past Events

### Tour of the Roche Tower and Art Basel Event (16 June 2017)

The Club visited Art Basel and toured the Roche Tower with an apero atop Switzerland's tallest building. Alumni from all parts of Switzerland and Germany attended, some visiting the art fair for the first time. After a short walk from the Messeplatz to, the group was met by our guide Michelle Duperex Burgess, who spoke about the new (4Q-2016) Herzog and duMeuron designed building. We also viewed a model of new office area that assigns workspace according to activity, rather than to individuals.

According to this model, the fixed 20th century office is a thing of the past! The group also learned about the energy-saving technologies that are embedded in the tower to an unprecedented scale, and the facial recognition system that connects to smart elevators, to ensure safe crowd size in the Pebbles lounge, located on the 38th floor. After an enjoyable social hour in Pebbles Lounge, with a 360 view of three countries, some participants descended 38 floors by foot, exploiting old technology in a modern setting.



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*Pearl Huang*

### New Student Sendoff (18 August 2017)

On Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, we had a sendoff dinner for Jonas Benjamin Brunschwig and Samuel Gruetter. Jonas will be starting his Masters in City Planning, International Development. Samuel is starting his PhD in Computer Science. The sendoff was joined by the Club President, the Event Coordinator, and a few others.

There was a tasty meal prepared by Mrs. Funkhouser and hosted at the Funkhouser home. There were quite lively discussions about the inner workings of MIT as well as new developments in artificial intelligence.

Congratulations to the future Alumni!



(more pictures on our website!)

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*Duane Hudgins*

### 2017 MIT Hike: Lotschental (8-10 September 2017)

The MIT hikers gathered on Friday night at Edelweiss Hotel in Blatten in the Loetschental. Weather was clear and the village was authentically Swiss.

On Saturday during breakfast we could see that it would rain most of the day and we decided to adapt the planning. We made on Saturday the Sunday hike, which was in the valley under the clouds instead of in the clouds and rain at higher altitude.

This first walk was easy but slippery and we managed to reach the gletscher Tor. That glacier comes down from the Jungfrau summit and is next to the big Aletsch glacier. It was dangerous to get close because the shrinkage of the glacier provoked a lot of stones to fall. The melting was really obvious to observe.

On Sunday the rain had stopped and we decided to make the Saturday program up to Loetschenpass Hutte at the altitude of 2690m. It was a 3-hour climb with 750m elevation gain with some sunny periods, which allowed us to look at the rocky Bietschorn (3950m). We met snow at 2500m and it was pretty cold when we reached the hutte for lunchtime. Food was welcome. The descent went fine with all the group including the 2 dogs still running after 5 hours of hiking.

I wish to thank the whole group, which was very courageous despite the weather.



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*Christian Hue de la Colombe*

### LSE-ETH joint event: Tour of Grimsel Energy Plant (14 October 2017)

Now becoming an annual tradition, this year the joint LSE-ETH-MIT group learned about hydroelectricity, gigantic dams and subterranean power stations in the Swiss Alps.

Pics and videos are available here: [goo.gl/3io24F](https://goo.gl/3io24F)

Next year we're already planning an outing in the Austrian Alps; stay tuned for details.



*Jonathan Claman*

### Increasing Off-Grid Energy Access lecture (28 October 2017)

We were fortunate to have Dr. Eric Verploegen visit us from the MIT D-Lab to share his work on increasing energy access to off-grid communities. The talk gave everyone that familiar MIT feeling of "sipping from a firehose". The MIT Club members were all quite engaged and the talk was frequently halted to discuss the finer details of which geopolitical or cultural influences are the most challenging for getting support.

As always, the sit-down talk between the speaker and the Club members was particularly stimulating and memorable and complemented by delicious catering.

More details on the D-Lab and Dr. Verploegen's off-grid energy research can be found at: [d-lab.mit.edu/off-grid-energy](http://d-lab.mit.edu/off-grid-energy)



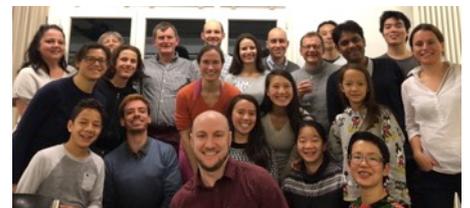
*Duane Hudgins*

### Annual Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner (18 November 2017)

This year we had 23 members and family and friends join us in Zurich for the Club thanksgiving, albeit a weekend before the actual thanksgiving date. We enjoyed many traditional foods such as the turkey, stuffing, and sweet potatoes as well as some delicious exotic dishes such as chirashizushi, also known as "scattered sushi".

The conversations were many and varied ranging from the best outdoor activities to engage in in Switzerland to the ins and outs of drone-racing or "Dracing".

The club extends its warmest thank you to Ellen Czaika for helping to organize the dinner, one of the pillars of the Club's annual event offering.



(more pictures on our website!)

*Duane Hudgins*

## Upcoming events

2018 is set to be another great year of events; please check our Club Website, and stay tuned for email announcements.

But 2017 is not done yet! On 8 December we'll visit the IWC watch factory in Schaffhausen. This is a repeat of the event we ran earlier this year, since turnout was so high and there was not room for everyone who was interested at that first event. Hope to see you there.

## Reminder of Recurring Events

Please consider joining some of our informal events to meet new people and learn about new topics. We have groups in **Zurich**, **Basel**, and **Geneva**, and are always open to new locations and/or additional events within the existing areas. Send us a note if you are interested!

## Impressum

Contact Info	Website	Email
General	<a href="http://mitclub.ch">mitclub.ch</a>	<a href="mailto:info@mitclub.ch">info (at) mitclub.ch</a>
Facebook	<a href="https://facebook.com/group.php?gid=62565487029">facebook.com/group.php?gid=62565487029</a>	<a href="mailto:ikedata@alum.mit.edu">ikedata (at) alum.mit.edu</a>
LinkedIn	<a href="https://linkedin.com/grp/home?gid=4309708">linkedin.com/grp/home?gid=4309708</a>	<a href="mailto:ikedata@alum.mit.edu">ikedata (at) alum.mit.edu</a>
Zurich Group	<a href="https://groups.google.com/group/mit_zurich">groups.google.com/group/mit_zurich</a>	<a href="mailto:katie.silverthorne@gmail.com">katie.silverthorne (at) gmail.com</a>
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Geneva Group	<a href="https://groups.google.com/group/mit_geneva">groups.google.com/group/mit_geneva</a>	<a href="mailto:ikedata@alum.mit.edu">ikedata (at) alum.mit.edu</a>

### Executive Committee

Art Funkhouser (President)  
Makoto Ikeda (Communications)  
Duane Hudgins (Events)  
Jonathan Claman (Secretary)  
Frédéric Chambour (Treasurer)  
Nicolas Haenni (Auditor)  
Hans Hagenbuch (Deputy Auditor)

### Alumni statistics (as of June 2016)

There are 545 MIT alumni in Switzerland  
24% have degrees in Management  
10% in Electrical Engineering & Computer Science  
79% are graduate degree holders  
Class year distribution:  
1929–1969: 10%                      1990–1999: 27%  
1970–1979: 9%                        2000–2009: 24%  
1980–1989: 16%                      2010–2016: 13%

*Please contact us by email if you'd like more details*