

GLOSSARY

26-100 Building 26, Room 100 (a large lecture hall)

ABAFOILSS Association of Black Admission and Financial Aid Officers of the Ivy League and Sister Schools

ABC A Better Chance, founded in 1963 to provide educational opportunities to minority youth

AKA Alpha Kappa Alpha, a black fraternity

Algebra Project An educational program developed in the 1980s by civil-rights activist Robert M. Moses, to increase the mathematical skills of middle-school students in the public system

AP Advanced Placement

Bakke case *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke* (1978), a reverse-discrimination case in which a white medical student challenged affirmative action programs

BAM Black Action Movement

BAMIT Black Alumni/ae of MIT

BGSA Black Graduate Students Association

Black ME Black Mechanical Engineers

Brass Rat Nickname for the MIT class ring, which features a beaver

BSEE Black Students in Electrical Engineering

BSU Black Students' Union (MIT), founded in 1968

CAO Comptroller's Accounting Office

Cardinal and gray MIT school colors

Chocolate City An all-black living group at MIT founded in 1975

Circle The Circle Inc., a community-owned development-promotion corporation in the Roxbury and North Dorchester sections of Boston, founded in 1967

Coop The Harvard Cooperative Society, a department store catering to Harvard and MIT students, commonly called "the Coop"

Course I Civil and Environmental Engineering

Course II Mechanical Engineering

Course III Materials Science and Engineering

Course IV Architecture

Course V Chemistry

Course VI Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Course VII Life Sciences (Biology)

Course VIII Physics

Course IX Psychology, later Brain and Cognitive Sciences

Course X Chemical Engineering

Course XI Urban Studies and Planning

Course XII Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences

Course XIII Ocean Engineering

Course XIV Economics

Course XV Management

Course XVI Aeronautics and Astronautics

Course XVII Political Science

Course XVIII Mathematics

Course XIX Meteorology

Course XX Nutrition and Food Science, later Program in Applied Biological Sciences

Course XXI Humanities

Course XXII Nuclear Engineering

Course XXIII Modern Languages

Course XXIV Linguistics and Philosophy

CTP Center for Theoretical Physics, at MIT

CUAFA Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid

Delta Sigma Theta National black sorority

ESG Experimental Study Group

F&T The F&T Diner, a Main Street eatery demolished in the 1980s

Fermilab Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory

GBIUC Greater Boston Inter-University Council

GMAT Graduate Management Admission Test

- GPA** Grade Point Average. A perfect score at MIT is 5.0.
- HBCUs** Historically Black Colleges and Universities
- HR** Human Resources
- HUD** U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- “Intuitively Obvious”** A series of videos in which MIT students talk about racial attitudes
- IAP** Independent Activities Period, alternative classes offered during MIT’s month-long winter break
- J. J.** Judy Jackson, whose interview appears on the CD
- KLH** An early stereo speaker manufacturer started by MIT graduates, originally in Cambridge, since sold and relocated
- Kresge** Kresge Auditorium, the MIT performance hall
- Lobdell** Lobdell Hall, the main MIT dining center
- Mass Ave** Popular name of Massachusetts Avenue, Boston and Cambridge
- Metco** Metropolitan Council on Education, in which black inner-city students from Boston were bused to schools in affluent suburbs
- MCATs** Medical College Admission Tests
- MITES** Minority Introduction to Engineering and Science, founded in 1974; a summer program for gifted high-school students
- MSTP** Medical Scientist Training Program
- NAACP** National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
- NACME** National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering
- NIH** National Institutes of Health
- NJIT** New Jersey Institute of Technology
- NSBE** National Society of Black Engineers
- OME** Office of Minority Education, established in 1975 to assist minority students at MIT
- OSP** Office of Sponsored Programs
- Project Epsilon** Forerunner of Project Interphase
- Project Interphase** A summer program established in 1969 to enhance the preparedness of underrepresented minority students entering MIT in the fall
- Project XL** A supplement to Project Interphase, established in the late 1980s as a voluntary program to help first-year students achieve academic excellence
- QEM** Quality Education for Minorities Network
- RA** Research Assistant
- RLE** Research Laboratory of Electronics
- Robert Taylor Network** An initiative by BAMIT to develop a globally accessible electronic, multimedia archive, including film, video, text, still images, and audio recordings, documenting the contributions of people of African descent to science and technology
- Rodney King** The victim of a notorious police action in Los Angeles, an incident which aroused a national furor
- RPI** Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- SAP** Systems, Application and Products in Data Processing, the system adopted by MIT in 1995 for management of financial data
- SATs** Scholastic Aptitude Tests
- SCLS** Southern Christian Leadership Conference
- SDS** Students for a Democratic Society
- SNCC** Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (“Snick”)
- Southie** South Boston, an Irish–American enclave
- Southwest Corridor** A major highway project, abandoned in the 1970s owing to public opposition
- SPURS** Special Program for Urban and Regional Studies
- SSRC** Social Science Research Council
- TA** Teaching Assistant
- TCCP** Thirteen College Curriculum Program
- The T** The Boston public transportation system
- The Tech** Student-run on-campus newspaper
- TIAA/CREF** Teachers’ Insurance and Annuity Association/College Retirement Equities Fund
- UA** Undergraduate Association
- UROP** Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program
- USNSA** U.S. National Student Association
- WTBS** On-campus radio station (later WMBR)

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Reflections on the Black Experience at MIT, 1941–1999

By: Clarence G. Williams

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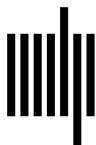
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