

Local Schools



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Goessling Graduates From M.I.T

JUNE 11TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Goessling Graduates From M.I.T

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. - On a [beautiful sunny morning](#), 939 undergraduates and 1,545 graduate students received their Massachusetts Institute of Technology diplomas Friday, June 8, after hearing an address by Sal Khan '98, MEng '98, founder of the online Khan Academy, that elicited gales of laughter while also providing thought-provoking advice.

Receiving his degree in electrical engineering at the MIT commencement was Dexter native Andy Goessling.

MIT President Susan Hockfield told the graduates that she has more in common with this year's class than with previous ones: She too, she said, will be moving on after nearly eight years as the Institute's leader. Hockfield, who will be succeeded as president by Provost L. Rafael Reif on July 2, said, "All of us likely look forward to commencing our next chapter with a sense of breathless excitement."

Among the lessons Hockfield said she has learned at the Institute: "Every day, MIT faculty, students, postdocs, staff and alumni take a sharp look at the way things are — and find a way to make them better." One sterling example of that, she said, is Khan, who has created "a brand-new catalyst for transforming how, when and how well everyone learns everywhere, online."

In introducing Khan, John Reed '61, SM '65, chairman of the MIT Corporation, pointed out that this was not Khan's first appearance before Killian Court: As president of his senior class, Khan spoke at Commencement in 1998, saying then that "it is no exaggeration to say that we will change the world."

Reed added: "Having checked this assignment off his to-do list, he joins us here today."

Khan said that his experience at MIT has "played a much deeper role than many of you might appreciate" in his own life. He was proud of his alma mater, he said, when hearing of its plans a decade ago to launch [MIT OpenCourseWare](#), making course materials available to anyone in the world for free — and more recently with the announcement of [edX](#), a partnership with Harvard University that will carry that concept of free access to top-level higher education even further. While other institutions were looking for ways to profit from, or defend against, online education, MIT opted for free and open access — "to put principle over profit," as Khan put it.

That model, he said, "in no small way inspired what has now become the [Khan Academy](#)," which offers thousands of free educational videos aimed at elementary and high school students.

Khan compared MIT to the fictional Hogwarts school in the bestselling Harry Potter series. "The ideas and the research and the

science that percolates behind these walls, that’s the closest thing to magic in the real world,” he said. “Frankly, to people outside this campus, it looks like magic.”

Khan described the MIT faculty as “the leading wizards of our time, the Dumbledores and McGonagalls,” he said, referring to Harry Potter’s fictional teachers of wizardry.

Coming back to MIT, Khan said, felt like returning to a close family. MIT students all share “that same core desire to understand the universe ... to push humanity forward,” he said. Faced with the demands of a curriculum that pushes them to their limits, he said, “you cry together, you laugh together, you procrastinate together, you have sleepless nights together,” resulting in “the deepest possible bonds” — which Khan compared to those of soldiers who have ventured through combat together.

Khan urged the graduates, as they face life, to try to be “as incredibly, and maybe delusionally, positive as possible,” and to force themselves to smile “with every atom of your body,” even in difficult times.

Before they set out into the world, Khan asked the Class of 2012 to carry out a “thought experiment.” He urged them to imagine themselves 50 years from now, reflecting back on their lives, and thinking about the things they might have wished to do differently: spending more time with family members, or expressing their love more openly to those they care about.

But then imagine, Khan said, that a genie appears and gives them the chance to travel back those 50 years, and find themselves back again at Commencement — with a second chance to realize that “I can laugh more, I can sing more, I can dance more, I can be more of a source of positivity for the people around me, and empower more people.”

As they embark on this imagined “second chance,” Khan said, he was “just in awe of the potential that’s here.” Addressing the graduates as “the wizards of tomorrow,” he said, “I’m just excited to see what you’re going to do with your second pass.”

Hockfield, in her charge to the students, thanked the Class of 2012 for its class gift of \$20,000, which will be used to fund special projects and trips by student clubs and organizations. More than 80 percent of the class contributed, she said, noting that this was, “by an enormously wide margin, the highest participation in the history of MIT.”

“I know you will leave here with the deep imprint of this community’s profound commitment to service,” Hockfield said. “Now is the moment for us to send you forth ... to put MIT’s spirit and principles to work around the globe.”

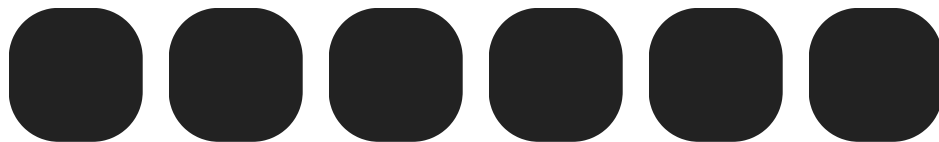
Video of Interest

[MIT Commencement - By The Numbers](#)

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Students Earns Mizzou Honors

JUNE 11TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Students Earns Mizzou Honors

COLUMBIA - The University of Missouri – Columbia has released its Dean’s List for the Spring 2012 semester. Each school and college at MU reports its students who have earned Dean’s List honors to the Office of Admissions, and the list is then distributed by the MU News Bureau.

Students from Stoddard County reported as earning Dean’s List honors, their year, and school or college include:

Bernie: *Bailey Nicole Martin*, Sophomore, Agriculture-Food & Natural Resources

Dexter:

- *Garrett Colin McKuin*, Senior, Business
- *Kelci Paige Nelson*, Junior, Education
- *Leigh Alexandra Yorke*, Junior, Arts & Science

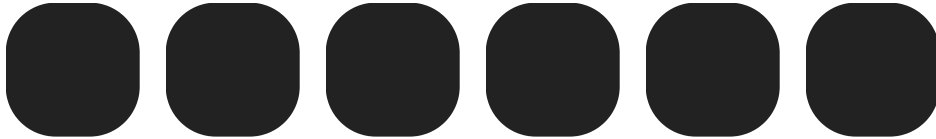
Dudley:

- *Chad David Cook*, Junior, Agriculture-Food & Natural Resources

The University of Missouri in Columbia is a public research university and is the flagship of the University of Missouri system. Mizzou was founded in 1839 as the first public institution of higher education west of the Mississippi River.

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County Students Graduate From MSU

JUNE 10TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

County Students Graduate From MSU

SPRINGFIELD - Missouri State University conferred over 2,500 degrees during the spring commencement ceremonies held May 18 at John Q Hammonds Arena.

A total of 1,940 bachelor's degrees, 548 master's degrees, nine specialist degrees and 44 doctorate degrees were conferred. Beyond the standard expectations, 200 students were recognized for their work with a more rigorous curriculum in Missouri State's [Honors College](#). Scholastic honors were given to 272 students who graduated summa cum laude (with a grade point average of 3.9-4.0 on a 4.0 scale), 156 who graduated magna cum laude (with a GPA of 3.75-3.89) and 135 who graduated cum laude (with a GPA of 3.5-3.74).

Students from Stoddard County were who reported as graduating by the University include:

Rachel D Spears, Bachelor of Science, Summa Cum Laude in the Honors College, Bell City;

- Ashley D Baugus, Bachelor of Science, Dexter;
- Hannah E Keathley, Bachelor of Science, Magna Cum Laude, Dexter;
- Shelsea M Tippen, Bachelor of Science, Dexter;

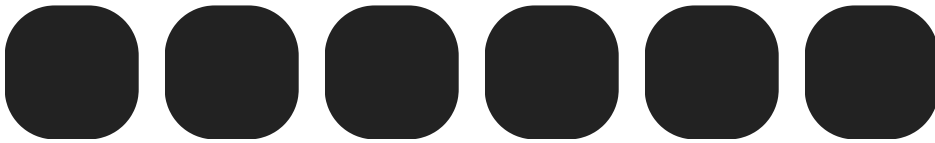
- Natalie K Jackson, Bachelor of Science in Education, Puxico.

Editor's Note: This list contains Spring 2012 graduation candidates as of June 6, 2012. Inclusion on this candidate list does not signify that the student has fulfilled all necessary graduation requirements. Upon a final graduation review, students appearing on this list may be removed from the official Spring 2012 graduation list due to unresolved graduation deficiencies.

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Putnam Receives Best Buy Award

JUNE 08TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Putnam Receives Best Buy Award

A Dexter student has been awarded a college scholarship from one of America's largest electronics retail chains, Best Buy.

A Best Buy Scholarship has been awarded to Dalton Putnam. Putnam recently graduated from Dexter High School, where he was a member of the Dexter Honor Society, Dexter

Chamber Choir, was a member of the Bearcats football team and was in the Top Ten Percent of his class. Putnam was also a member of the Southwest Missouri All-District Choir and performed at the Missouri State Music Contest; he is a member of Dexter Show Choir.

Putnam is the son of Denny and Shannon Putnam of Dexter. He plans to attend Missouri State University in Springfield this fall.

As part of Best Buy's commitment to ensure opportunities for teens to succeed, Best Buy Children's Foundation has awarded \$20.7 million dollars in scholarship funds to students since 1999.

In 2012, a total of 1,106 students have been awarded a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. Scholarship recipients were selected based on academic achievement, community involvement and/or work experience.

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Students Earn Top American Legion Awards

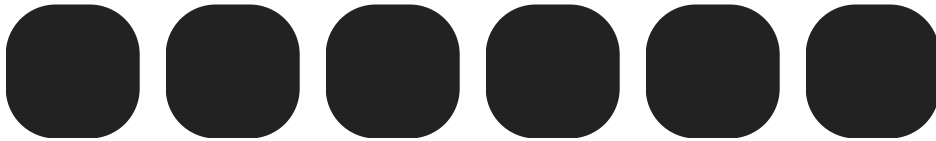
Students Earn Top American Legion Awards

Two eighth grade students at Dexter's T.S. Hill Middle School received top citizenship awards in ceremonies held at the end of the academic year. Melanie McKuin and Jordan Chambliss received the American Legion Award in an honors program at the school. Presenting the award was Bill Miranda, commander of the Kenady-Hanks American Legion Post 59 in Dexter. The award is presented annually at the middle school, and selected by a vote of the school's faculty; it is the highest award presented at the local school. (ShowMe Times photo by Annabeth Miller)

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