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MIT Three senior MIT administrators announce they will soon step down

Posted by Matt Rocheleau September 24, 2013 12:14 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

Three senior MIT administrators announced this month they will soon step down.

Provost [Chris A. Kaiser](#) said he will step down at the end of October to return to his former job as a biology professor.

Vice President for Resource Development [Jeffrey L. Newton](#) said he will retire, but will continue working in an advisory role through January.

And, Vice President for Human Resources [Alison Alden](#) said she plans to retire next spring.

MIT's [senior leadership](#) consists of 25 positions: the campus president; a provost; chancellor; executive vice president and treasurer; seven vice presidents; eight deans; three directors; two associate provosts and a community and equity officer.

Kaiser has served as the institute's senior academic and budget officer, overseeing the recruitment and promotion of faculty and the overall responsibility for the school's educational programs, since July of 2012.

"Since taking on the role of provost, Chris has served by my side through a challenging period for MIT," MIT President L. Rafael Reif thanked Kaiser in a letter to the campus this month. "His sensitivity to faculty concerns and ability to bring people together were essential to our progress, and he established a foundation of trust and mutual understanding that will serve the MIT community very well."

Reif said Kaiser will continue to co-lead, along with faculty chair Steve Hall, a community engagement process this fall around a report released in July on MIT's role in the prosecution of Aaron Swartz.

Newton has served in his vice president role at MIT since 2007.

He "remade MIT's Resource Development organization, physically uniting many separate offices and attracting a team equipped to help MIT thrive in a future of constrained federal funding," Reif said in a statement. "He has been a passionate ambassador for the institute, and I am grateful for his enthusiastic efforts to advance MIT's mission."

Reif said Vice President and Secretary of the Corporation [Kirk D. Kolenbrander](#) will oversee the day-to-day management and strategic direction of MIT's fundraising

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operations while the institute searches for a replacement for Newton.

Alden has served her vice president role at MIT since 2007.

“We were fortunate to have the benefit of Alison’s leadership during the financial crisis of 2009,” Reif said in a statement. “With HR’s assistance — and in particular, with Alison’s guidance — we worked closely with those who were displaced to find the best possible outcomes at a very difficult time.”

Leading MIT administrators said they welcomes suggestions from the campus community about who should fill each of the three positions.

Matt Rocheleau can be reached at mjrochele@gmail.com. Looking for more coverage of area colleges and universities? Go to our [Your Campus pages](#).

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