

MIT

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MIT

MIT chancellor to take on new role; 4th senior administrator to leave post in past 2 months

Posted by Matt Rocheleau November 11, 2013 12:47 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

W. Eric Grimson will step down from his position as MIT's chancellor, becoming [the fourth senior MIT administrator](#) in the past two months to leave their post.

Grimson will remain with MIT, helping with the institute's upcoming, multiyear fund-raising campaign and assuming the position of chancellor for academic advancement" – a job that will exist for the duration of the fund-raising campaign, campus officials [announced recently](#).

"I am deeply grateful to Eric for the wisdom and care he brought to the chancellorship," said a [campus-wide letter](#) from MIT President L. Rafael Reif, who appointed Grimson chancellor in Feb. 2011.

"After nearly three decades on our faculty – including extensive fund-raising experience as head of our largest department, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science – Eric is superbly prepared to gather, distill and speak for the interests of faculty in the [fundraising] campaign," Reif added. "As we build the support essential for MIT's future, his easy rapport with our corporation members and alumni will be indispensable."

In the same letter, Reif named Martin Schmidt, associate provost and professor of electrical engineering, MIT's acting provost, effective Nov. 1,

Schmidt replaces former [provost Chris A. Kaiser](#), who announced on Sept. 16 that he would step down at the end of October to return to his former job as a biology professor.

Three days after Kaiser's announcement, [Vice President for Resource Development Jeffrey L. Newton](#) announced his retirement, but said he planned to continue working in an advisory role through January.

And, the week before that, [Vice President for Human Resources Alison Alden](#) announced she will retire in the spring.

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

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Leading MIT administrators said they welcomed suggestions from the campus community about who should fill each of the four 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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