


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Metro

MIT graduate student found dead in his residence hall

By **Matt Rocheleau** | GLOBE STAFF MARCH 08, 2014

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MIT was mourning on Friday the loss of a 23-year-old graduate student, who was found dead in his university-owned residence in Cambridge Thursday night, officials said.

Hadi Kasab of Saida, Lebanon, was a second-year graduate student in MIT's program in computation for design and optimization, the school said Friday.

His body was found in his room at the Sidney-Pacific housing complex.

The cause of death was not released. The Middlesex district attorney's office and the state medical examiner's office were investigating, authorities said.

"The MIT police have determined that there is no threat to the community," the school said.

"In this painful time, our hearts go out to Mr. Kasab's family and friends," MIT president L. Rafael Reif wrote in a letter to the campus Friday.

"Moments of sadness like this one reveal the very meaning of community," he continued. "We share sadness together as surely as we celebrate our successes. When we draw together, we gain strength from each other. As we absorb the news of this loss, I hope we will all take time to reach out to those around us.

"As plans to commemorate Mr. Kasab develop, we will share them," Reif added.

Kasab worked at the MIT Gas Turbine Laboratory, which conducts research on advanced propulsion systems and turbomachinery, according to the lab's website.

Officials there could not be reached for comment Friday evening.

The school is offering support to students affected by the Kasab's death, Barbara Baker, senior associate dean for students, said in a statement.

Students can contact the graduate education dean at 617-253-4860 or mental health services at 617-253-2916.

Resources are also available at www.together.mit.edu.

Matt Rocheleau can be reached at matthew.rocheleau@globe.com.



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Such moments 'reveal the very meaning of community.'

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