

# A Reinvigorated Space for Fostering Residential Community

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**Building W70: New House Renovation**







The New House renovation will open up the building and create more opportunities for connections and collaborative innovation.



Communal dinners are a favorite tradition in many New House communities.

“In addition to being the most diverse community on campus, what makes New House special is the way we embrace the living/learning model.”

Wesley L. Harris | C.S. Draper Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics; New House Head of House

# Renovating the Future

An MIT education allows students to be able to thrive both inside and outside the classroom. Creating fluidity between the academic and living experiences is a critical element in a student’s journey, and the current renovation of New House is focused on enhancing exactly this. By considering the whole student in its design, the reimagined spaces will allow for more opportunities to make connections, engage with peers, and continue an established tradition of inclusion and belonging.

For nearly 40 years, MIT students have built friendships, completed their PSets, and worked toward creating their futures within the communities of the cluster-style dormitory, New House. These communities—Chocolate City, iHouse, French House, Spanish House, German House, Desmond, and Houses 2, 3, and 4—all have distinct and rich traditions that allow residents to live and socialize with others who share a common bond. Traditions such as networking events, speaker series, communal dinners, bake-offs, student government activities, semiformals, and Ultimate Frisbee games on the Boston Common are just a sampling—with new ones constantly being created.

## A new space for deeper connections outside of the classroom

Today, New House is undergoing an extensive revitalization that ensures the dormitory’s strong legacy will continue for future generations of MIT students. To open the door for more serendipitous meetings, collaborations, and cross-disciplinary interactions, New House’s new layout and improvements will help create the conditions to spark collaborative innovation and lifelong friendships.

Expected to be completed in two phases by Fall 2018, the revitalized New House will retain the original building’s cluster-style design but with many notable additions. The renovation will open up the building by connecting the houses through a central corridor on each floor, further enhancing the sense of interconnectedness between the communities.

Each community will be anchored by a large, open, cluster lounge with a kitchen designed to be the central gathering space. In addition, each group will have a Graduate Resident Tutor (GRT) apartment and stair access to travel easily through the community. Common areas will include a game room, makerspace, and more open, landscaped courtyards.





## Building Information

New House will retain its current residential capacity, which includes 288 students, nine GRT apartments, one Head of House suite, and accommodations for one visiting scholar. Sustainability is a project priority, with the goal of achieving LEED Gold certification. Sustainable and energy-efficient design elements are expected to include high-efficiency windows and new exterior insulation.

## An Investment in the Future

We call on MIT's friends and supporters to join us in advancing the Institute's investment in its student body. With your help, MIT can accelerate its drive to create more innovative living/learning solutions.

"New House is a vibrant community that became my home. We are all excited to see the renovations connect the houses and offer new spaces for the whole community."

Fiona Grant '17 New House (French House) alumna

## Learn More

Julia Topalian  
Director, Campaign Operations  
Office of Resource Development  
617.324.7580 | [topalian@mit.edu](mailto:topalian@mit.edu)