



PENELOPE DISICK — TEKTOK

In this week's installment of *The Apprentice*, we find out whether Second Gentleman Donald J. Trump will vow to build a wall between him and his partner Kanye West.

Roque De La Fuente Guerra and Kanye West win 2020 election

Donald Trump to be first Second Gentleman

By Penelope Disick

In a shocking turn of events, Roque De La Fuente Guerra was elected President of the United States of America Tuesday. His running mate, Kanye West, is the vice president-elect. This comes as a shock to both West and the rest of the country.

What is puzzling to the government, and indeed to the citizens of the U.S., is how this one ticket from California was able to overcome the other 49 states and Washington D.C., who had him as a candidate for the presidency or did not have West on the ballot at all.

As state officials investigated polling booths, television stations

raced to find campaign advisors and staffers who might be able to provide insight into this unexpected success. However, since no one worked on the campaign, not even West himself, the search has proven very difficult.

As of press time, at least 60% of the U.S. population, composed of former UC Berkeley or UCLA stu-

dents who never changed their residences, had voted using absentee ballots in California. This inflated California's total electoral college vote count from 55 to 342. One voter, who currently lives in Florida, wrote a blog post about how they were able to successfully vote by alligator mail, although it cost him seven fingers.

Californians, on the other hand, are still marveling at their own power. Some say it is a sign to finally secede from the leech that is the rest of the country. As a self-sufficient state that produces the highest quality technology, artificial intelligence, entertainment, COVID-19 patients,

MURICA, Page 2

IN QUART

One-half gallon.

Two pints.

Four cups.

Thirty-two fluid ounces.

Sixty-four tablespoons.

One hundred ninety-two teaspoons.

Send your favorite quarantine baking recipes, the amount of alcohol you've consumed this past year, or an eight-page essay on why we should switch to the metric system to theaver@mit.edu.

Remote first-year boot camp approved for 2021-22 academic year

Anybody who pays \$5,000 tuition can participate

By HayMITch Abernathy

Beginning with the 2021-22 academic year, MIT will implement a new first-year boot camp, inspired by the remote nature of the previous semesters and the immense success of *The Hunger Games* trilogy. The goal of the boot camp is to transform the first-year experience.

Students will pay \$5,000 for one year of remote, asynchronous learning via MITx. Based on their performance during this year, students will either receive a first-year certificate from MIT or admission to MIT as a

sophomore. Approximately the top five percent of students are expected to be admitted as sophomores.

This model was first presented by Yoshi Effie PhD '78, Coriolanus Snow Professor of Engineering, at the October faculty meeting. The model was unanimously approved at the same meeting while the Committee on the Undergraduate Program's P/NR grading policies were permanently suspended.

The boot camp will require first years to complete all six science core General Institute Requirements, one course from each Hu-

manities, Arts, and Social Sciences (HASS) discipline (including at least one Communication Intensive), and an online conceptual swimming course by the end of their first semester.

By the end of their second semester, the first years must all have taken at least one graduate course and completed their HASS concentration. Instead of a credit limit, 96 units will now represent the lower bound of what a student must take to receive their certificate.

Checkpoints at add date and drop date will ensure that students

are on track with the boot camp. Progress will be ensured through genetically-engineered wasps that inject Lysol into students who have not accomplished the minimum requirements by the checkpoints.

When asked what brought this idea to mind, Effie said that he was impressed by MIT students' resilience when moved off-campus in Spring 2020 and the quality of virtual learning in the fall, and felt that the "natural progression" was to "further challenge students' limits"

Booty, Page 2

BALANCE

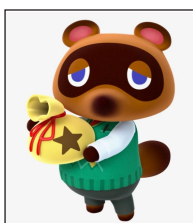
What brings stability to your internet connection? **YOGA**, p. 96662585033

BOOBS

Clothing is now illegal. **NUDES**, p. 69

INTEGRITY

Ranking MIT's virtual proctoring fails. **BATHROOM BREAK**, p. 1984



ESCAPE LIFE

Sell your soul to Nintendo. **DODO**, p. 98,000

GENDER REVEAL

Orange smoke: this YouTube family video goes viral. **HOT TOPICS**, p. 36

CRY FOR HELP

Can	.....	2020
This	.....	2020
Year	.....	2020
End	.....	2020
Already	.....	2021

WEATHER

Who knows? Who cares?

By COVID-safe meteorologist

Every day I get up and go to work (remotely) just to stare at a bunch of numbers and then repeat them to you on live television. Now, I don't even have to put on pants to broadcast the upcoming weather, and you'll be able to see the life drain from my eyes the moment I turn my camera on.

You shouldn't be going outside. No, not because the weather is bad, but because THERE'S A HUGE FUCKING PANDEMIC GOING ON AND WE ARE ON

OUR THIRD — DO YOU HEAR ME? — THIRD WAVE. Just don't go outside. Don't look out the window. Go into hibernation mode.

There is no meaning to my job anymore. Who cares what the weather outside is? You know what's precipitating? Your COVID-19 particles every time you talk, onto everyone's skin. The only storm you should be worried about is the one headed to the nearest hospital's ICU. The sun will cease to shine until all human life is wiped out, because Mother Earth deserved more than you selfish little assholes.

Extended Forecast

Today: I don't know. High a°F.

Tonight: I still don't know. Low xd°F (XD°C).

Tomorrow: But somehow I don't care. High five°F (cinco°C).

Saturday: And you shouldn't care either. High ness°F (royal°C).

Sunday: We're all going to die. High time°F (forever°C).



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, December 10, 2020

Start Video

Guerra earns praise from Zoomers and Boomers

MURICA, from Page 1

and UC Berkeley athletes, California officials have long considered dumping the states that cost more than they make.

When asked about his plans as vice president, West did not have a list of actionables prepared. In a tweetstorm, he claimed that he did not know he was on the California ballot as a vice presidential candidate. It appears that he was added to the ballot without his knowledge, and West has expressed his anger very clearly, tweeting at Guerra that, "Today I thought about killing you, premeditated murder."

In response, Guerra wrote that "If my death is the only thing prevent-

ing Kanye West from becoming the President of the United States, I will make it easier for him and take my own life." His devotion to the country's most quickly declining rapper had earned Guerra praise from Tik-Tokkers and Baby Boomers alike.

Another shocking announcement from West revealed that he was divorcing his wife, Kim Kardashian-West, with whom he has four children, to marry incumbent President Donald Trump. While West makes history as the first Black Vice President of the United States of America, Trump will make history as the first Second Gentleman. Melania Trump was reportedly seen dancing on the White House lawn earlier this evening.

Early action seniors can expect good news

Booty, from Page 1

and create "innovative learning that adapts to an increasingly digital world."

"The pandemic was the perfect impetus for something bound to happen one day," Effie said. "We're already moving students online; why not also put their futures on the line?" Effie also mentioned having consumed a significant amount of young adult dystopian literature while in quarantine.

Effie stated that under this model, MIT could offer admission to all 20,000+ undergraduate applicants in this year's admissions cycle. Thus, high school seniors who applied early action this year can expect good news in the coming week.

Dean of Admissions Rue Twill '86 wrote in an email to *TekTok* that this was the true reason for no longer requiring SAT/ACT scores in the admissions cycle, "Now that we plan to accept all applicants, I see no reason for students to pay for reports we're not even going to look at."

Effie said at the meeting, "Of the 20,000 or so admitted students, I estimate around 1,500 will prevail in the boot camp and survive to step foot on campus as sophomores." Effie explained that this process of eliminating applicants who do not perform well during the remote year will allow for "quality control" and "enhance MIT's gene pool."

Effie said that students who do not make it to their sophomore year

will receive a certificate which "will be of great value" regardless of what the students choose to do after MIT. "What employer or admissions officer can turn down an applicant whose resume says 'completed one full year of online school at MIT'?"

In addition, though tuition will be greatly reduced, the significant increase in the number of students will offset this. "Besides," Effie said, "we no longer need to house first-year students and can use the lecture recordings of nearly every MIT course from the 2020-21 remote school year in place of actual teaching staff. Come to think of it, \$5,000 might be an overcharge for this boot camp."

To eliminate the need for graders, all problem sets and exams will be graded on MITX with no possibility of partial credit or for regrade requests. The Academic Proctoring and Reconnaissance Team is currently working with 6,036 course staff to develop MIT proprietary proctoring software that first-years will be obligated to comply with in order to guarantee the sanctity of their certificates.

Effie added that although the idea is not fully developed, he has further plans for a highly competitive sophomore year model where survivors of the first-year boot camp will be faced with 12 increasingly complex tasks — "under conditions based on the 75th Hunger Games and with difficulty on par with the Labors of Hercules" — that they must complete more successfully than their peers.

Seniors organize riot in response to UA Sustainability's reusable utensils pilot program

No Bon Appetit staff were hurt in the making of the uprising

By Bamboo Spork

On Doomsday 2020, all 700 seniors on campus were seen marching through the Infinite and invading President Rafael L. Reif's house, protesting the reusable utensils provided to them halfway through the semester.

The demonstrators were spotted leaving their respective pods and dorms at 3 p.m., when most of them wake up on the average day. Some had posters made, but most prominent was the senior who has yet to stop carrying the Purell stand captured in the now-iconic photo from March.

The seniors allege the utensils were an attempt to quell complaints about the inadequate food. However, the timing, quality, and appearance of the utensils incited immense rage among the students.

Simmons resident Norm Alkid '21 wrote in an email to *Tek-*

Tok that she had already collected about 130 pieces of single-use plastic utensils in six weeks, and no longer needed reusable utensils by the time they were handed out. "It's not like I could return the mismatched plasticware I had from getting them at all three meals each day everyday because MIT forced me onto their meal plan," she added.

Other students railed against the design of the utensils. They were the size of children's utensils, with handles much too short to hold by the average MIT student, who already has relatively small hands. The utensils sported a speckle design, leading to incessant cleaning and paranoia about food bits hiding among the spots. There were also complaints that the utensils had to be cleaned in the bathroom, as access to kitchen sinks was banned.

An anonymous student carrying a poster that read "NEED

BETTER UTENSILS TO EAT THE RICH" shared a story of biting into the fork and seeing an indent left on the utensil. The knives were also not able to cut through anything other than half-melted butter, quality was clearly insufficient to eat the rich.

Finally, Avina Lidrana '21 stated that she threw away all of her and her podmates' utensils while being evicted from campus for the second time this year. It was not made clear to the students whether these reusable utensils were in fact compostable, so they will end up in the landfill regardless.

Bon Appetit did not respond to *TekTok's* request for comment. They plan to roll out their limited-edition Christmas line, U-tinsel, to the unfortunate Student Housing Assistance Review Process students still stuck on campus.



POWER HUNGRY UA MEMBERS

The tried and true disposable plastics proved worthier than the "sustainable" option.



Avatar

Aang '21

Water Tribe Chief

Katara '23

Swordmaster

Sokka '21

Fire Lord

Zuko '21

Earth Monarch

Toph '20

ZOOM FILTERS

Masks: 6 Pixels Away '23, Face Mask '23; **Cute:** Pizza Party Hat '23, Happy Sprout '23, Halo '24, Head Chef '24; **Animals:** Lioness '22, Brownie Bear '22, Prancer '22, Little Piggy '23, Bunny Rabbit '23, Ada the Mousie '23, Magicorn '24, Shark Mouth '24, Cyclops '24; **Relatable:** zZZ '21.

REALITY TELEVISION

Quarantine: 90 Day Fiancé '22, Tiger King '22, Love is Blind '22, Big Brother '23; **Roses:** The Bachelor '23, The Bachelorette '24; **Talent:** RuPaul's Drag Race G, X Factor '22, The Great British Bake Off '22, Master Chef '23, So You Think You Can Dance '23, The Voice '23, America's Next Top Model '23, America's Got Talent '23, American Idol '23; **Originals:** Real Housewives of New Jersey '21, Keeping Up With The Kardashians '21, MTV Crib '23, Survivor '23.

NO THOUGHTS

Head: Empty '21.

TELETOBBIES

Noo: Po '22, Dipsy '22; **Noo:** Tinky Winky '22, Laa-Laa '23, Sun Baby '23.

LEAGUE OF LEGENDS

Roles: Top Lane '22, Mid Lane '23

AMONG US

Imposters: red sus '21, lime sus '23, cyan sus '23; **Still Sus:** white '22; **Crewmates:** pink G, black '21, orange '21, purple '21, green '21, brown '21, blue '21, grey '21, lavender '22, yellow '22, magenta '23.

CARD SUITS

Flop: Ace of Spades '21, King of Hearts '22; **Turn:** Three of Clubs '21, Four of Diamonds '22; **River:** Five of Spades G, Six of Hearts '20, Seven of Clubs '22, Eight of Diamonds '22, Nine of Spades '22, Ten of Hearts '22, Joker '23, Jack of Clubs '23.

STANDARD MODEL PARTICLES

Scalar Bosons: Higgs Boson '22; **Some Vector Bosons:** Photon '21, Gluon '23; **Other:** Charm '21, Strange '21, W & Z Bosons '22, Top '22, Bottom '22, Up '22, Down '23, Muon '24., Tau '24, Electron '24, Electron Neutrino '24, Muon Neutrino '24, Tau Neutrino '24.

SOCIAL MEDIAS

Originals: MySpace '22, Facebook '22; **Newbies:** Twitter '21, Instagram '21, Snapchat '21, TikTok '21, Ask.fm '22, VSCO '23.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Google: AlphaFold '22.

LESSER KNOWN TAYLOR SWIFT SONGS

Invisible '74, Mary's Song '84, I'd Lie '91, Stay Beautiful '93, The Outside '98, Cold As You '00, Tied Together with a Smile '01, Untouchable '02, Superstar '02, You're Not Sorry SM '03, The Way I Loved You '06, Come In With the Rain '06, Never Grow Up '06, Innocent '07, Haunted '07, Superman '08, Treacherous '08, I Almost Do '08, The Last Time '09, Starlight '09, Come Back... Be Here '09, Girl At Home '10, I Wish You Would '11, How You Get The Girl '12, Clean '12, Wonderland '13, You Are In Love '13, I Did Something Bad '13, Dress '14, This Is Why We Can't Have Nice Things '14, Getaway Car '15, Cruel Summer '15, I Think He Knows '16, Paper Rings '16, Death By A Thousand Cuts '16, It's Nice To Have A Friend '17, Daylight '17, Afterglow '17, mirrorball '17, this is me trying '17, mad woman '19, illicit affairs '19, hoax '20, invisible string.

PARASITES

Apicomplexans: Plasmodium G, Toxoplasma '21, Cryptosporidium '21.

THIS WEEK'S PROCRASTINATORS

Monkes: 90 Day Fiancé '22, Big Brother '23; **Monka5:** Bachelorette '24; **Smooth Brain:** Higgs Boson '22, Photon '21, Gluon '23, Electron '24, Electron Neutrino '24, Muon Neutrino '24, Tau Neutrino '24

TekTok (ISSN 2016-2020) is published on Thursdays during the Zoom year (except during MIT vacations) and monthly during the hellfire by TekTok, Room R01-401k, Coronavirus Central Station. Subscriptions are \$404.00 per year (third class). **LAME EMAIL:** Please use a stork to deliver all address changes to our mailing address: TekTok, P.O. Box 111000, Mars 88888-8888. **CELL:** Content creators: (000) 000-0000. **EMBEZZLEMENT:** (999) 999-9999. **Tea:** (123) 456-7890. **#Ad, #sponsored, and #partnership** available. **Doxx us you won't** © 2020 TekTok. Printed by Comic Book Startups, Inc.

GUEST COLUMN

How MIT HRS and Dining did COVID

The fall of Shinkansen and the rise of New Vassar

By Hark Mayes

In a devious plot that first began to unfold when the Stud Subway closed and that was catalyzed by their development of the COVID-19 virus, MIT Housing and Residential Services (HRS) and Dining have skillfully masterminded the implementation of universal meal plans and cultural homogeneity across the undergraduate residences. I will prove in this op-ed that it was HRS and MIT Dining who caused the coronavirus pandemic to further their agenda by pointing out a series of highly improbable coincidences and pieces of irrefutable evidence showing that, while the rest of the world has suffered, HRS and Dining have been the sole beneficiaries of COVID-19.

My first piece of evidence comes from articles published in *The Tech* — MIT's incompetent student newspaper which has failed to uncover and expose the wrongdoings of HRS and Dining — in January 2020.

On Jan. 23, 2020, *The Tech* published an article titled "Frozen yogurt machine installed on second floor of student center." The article states that the machine was first installed in December 2019, coinciding exactly with the dates of discovery of the first few coronavirus cases in China. Offering rotating flavor options including strawberry and mocha and enticing toppings such as rainbow sprinkles and choco crunch, as well as constantly displaying adorably unintelligible alien cartoons and making random noises, the frozen yogurt robot was clearly planted in the student center by HRS and Dining to distract the ingenious MIT community from the true problem at hand: the rising number of COVID-19 cases and its transmission across the United States.

The frozen yogurt robot was clearly planted in the student center by HRS and Dining to distract the ingenious MIT community from the true problem at hand.

Rather than further examine the suspicious appearance of the frozen yogurt machine and how it could be connected with HRS and Dining's heinous plans, *The Tech* compounded upon the issue, publishing a Jan. 29, 2020 article titled "Coronavirus outbreak poses 'no identified risk to the MIT community.'" This blasphemous article gave MIT community members a false sense of security, blinding them from the indisputable fact that COVID-19 is an outright and targeted attack on MIT students' ability to decide whether they want to purchase a meal plan or not. However, falling for the guiles of the frozen yogurt robot and the propaganda distributed by *The Tech*, MIT students became prey to the voracious, all-consuming evil of HRS and Dining.

This façade all came crashing down in March, when MIT students were forced out of their dorms and sent away in an enormous de-densification effort. The sadness and frustration we felt at being asked to vacate our communities were an extremely effective distraction from the larger plot by HRS and Dining, who even took the opportunity to console us by refunding our housing fees and meal plans on "a pro-rated basis." By playing hero when our lives felt as if they were falling apart, HRS and Dining immorally led us to believe that they were on our side when the exact opposite was true.

By playing hero when our lives felt as if they were falling apart, HRS and Dining immorally led us to believe that they were on our side when the exact opposite was true.

In the next months, inundated by remote schoolwork, town halls, and distressing news about the spread of the pandemic, MIT students rarely had a moment to think about the true perpetrators of their suffering, but as summer arrived, it became increasingly clear to me whose agenda COVID-19 serves. Separated from their classmates across the country and the globe, MIT students were desperate to return to campus and to see the halls and rooms of their dorms, once filled with joyful conversation and collaboration but now empty of anything but Purell. HRS and Dining took advantage of this pure desperation and began to scheme.

When the email about MIT's fall plans was finally sent, the conspiracy was written all over it. No access to any residence halls but the one you live in? Only being able to occupy pre-approved pod spaces? All students required to purchase a meal plan? HRS and Dining had underhandedly forced seniors to accept all these conditions in return for being allowed to see their dorms one last time. Sure, they subsidized both housing and meal plan costs, but students cannot overlook the fact that the true cost was their autonomy over where they could move and the food they could eat.

The plot continued to congeal when *The Tech* finally sort of did its job decently and published an article Sept. 24, 2020 suggesting that the existence of beloved and staple retail dining locations in the student center was in question. "Anna's Taqueria, Cafe Spice, Shinkansen, and Shawarma Shack remain closed. La Verde's has not given MIT Dining 'a timeline for their reopening,'" the article tolled the death knell of these restaurants, so heavily relied upon by students for getting food that wasn't from the dining halls or for spending the only good part of the meal plan, dining dollars. Moreover, Dining no longer saw any use for the frozen yogurt robot and cruelly disposed of it,

just another innocent pawn in HRS and Dining's conniving game of chess. Without these dependable and cherished institutions, it wouldn't be long until MIT students had no choice but to turn to the meal plan for the most basic component of survival: food.

I was further convinced of the unscrupulous plan when MIT's decision on undergraduates allowed back on campus for Spring 2021 was released. Three class years. New Vassar open. All required to purchase the meal plan. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner served in every dorm, dining hall or not. I was aghast. Again, HRS and Dining crookedly denied even the illusion of choice, fooling three times the number of people they had in the fall. Not only that, but they had also collaborated such that dining halls were slowly encroaching upon all the dorms, including the ones that are purportedly cook-for-yourself.

The housing assignment process further solidified my fear of the powers that HRS and Dining possess. Again, students were limited to pod interactions, and in conversations with peers discussing rankings and staple groups for the housing form, I identified a common thread, particularly among the innocent, unknowing first-years, of valuing facilities and room size above anything else. Inevitably, the inability for students to socialize or to properly preserve communities during the COVID-19 pandemic had resulted in them viewing the dorms simply as monotonous places to live, rather than the warm and individual homes for wonderful and colorful communities of people.

Sure, they subsidized both housing and meal plan costs, but students cannot overlook the fact that the true cost was their autonomy over where they could move and the food they could eat.

Previously, I had wondered if anyone would want to live in the culturally ambiguous, completely undefined dorm New Vassar once it opened. Now, my questions were answered; it didn't matter. All the dorms have been reduced to the number of windows or square feet in rooms, the niceness of the bathrooms, or the availability of common spaces, objective measures of quality that could never fully capture the vibrancy that once occupied the spaces.

This was all orchestrated by the duplicitous HRS and Dining, who knew that all it took was a worldwide pandemic to rip away MIT students' autonomy over food and the distinguishing features of the dorms to progress toward a dystopian future where every undergraduate residence hall looks the same and every student is subscribed to the meal plan.

CORONAVIRUS COMPLIANCE POLICY

Masks are not optional. They are a proven method of protecting against and keeping back the respiratory droplets released when dumbo non-mask wearers decide to sneeze and cough on other people against their moral and common sense obligation to keep others safe.

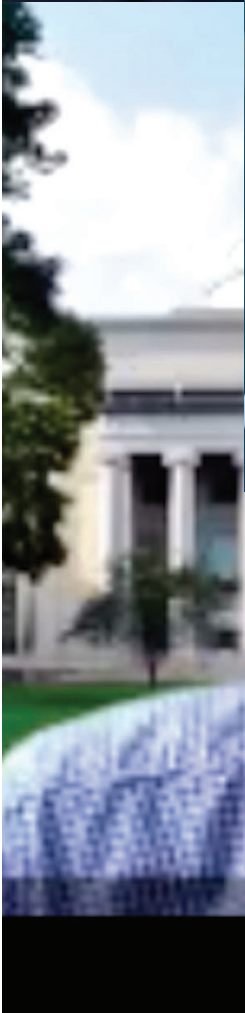
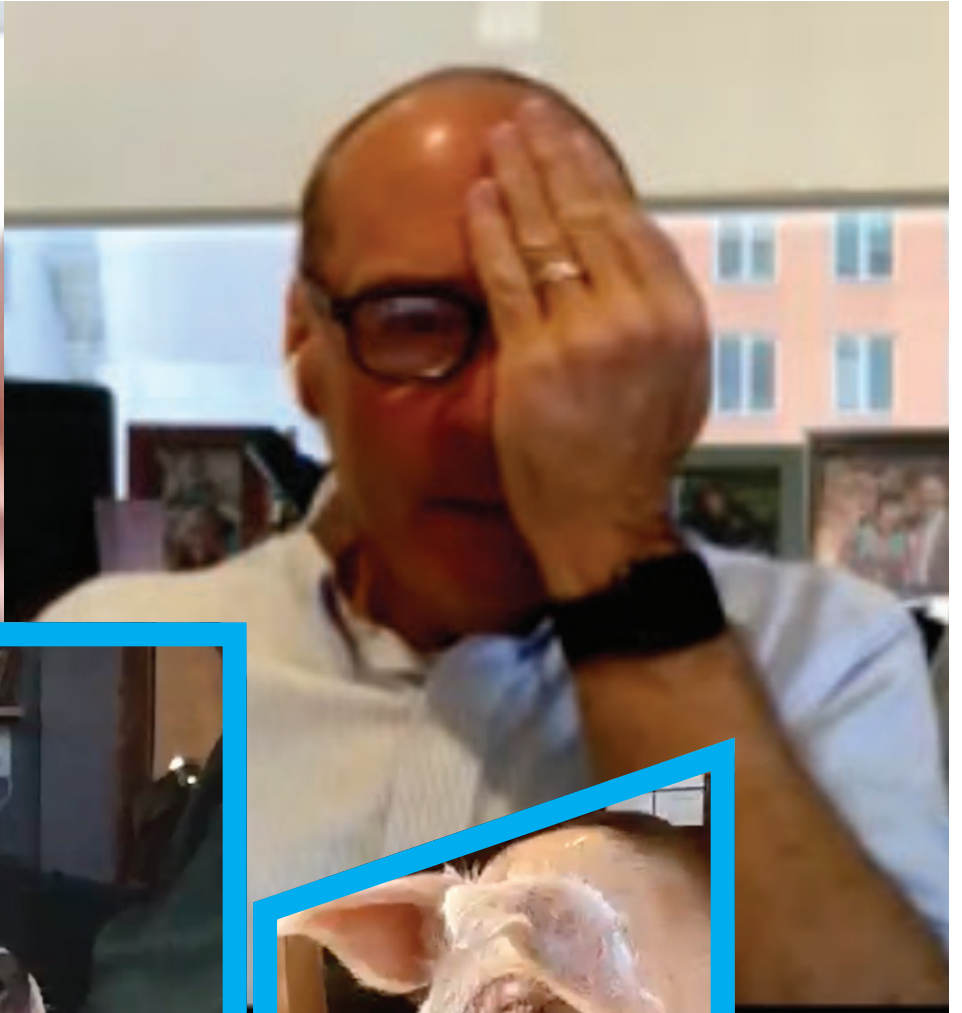
Protests are only valid if they are advocating for the rights of marginalized voices and pressing societal issues that disproportionately affect minority populations. #BlackLivesMatter

Hand washing, hand sanitizer, and social distancing are all important measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus a.k.a. COVID-19 a.k.a. SARS-CoV-2. If you truly want to protect your loved ones and the lives of innocents, you WILL comply with these recommendations. The ONLY WAY we can halt this potentially life-threatening disease is by listening to the

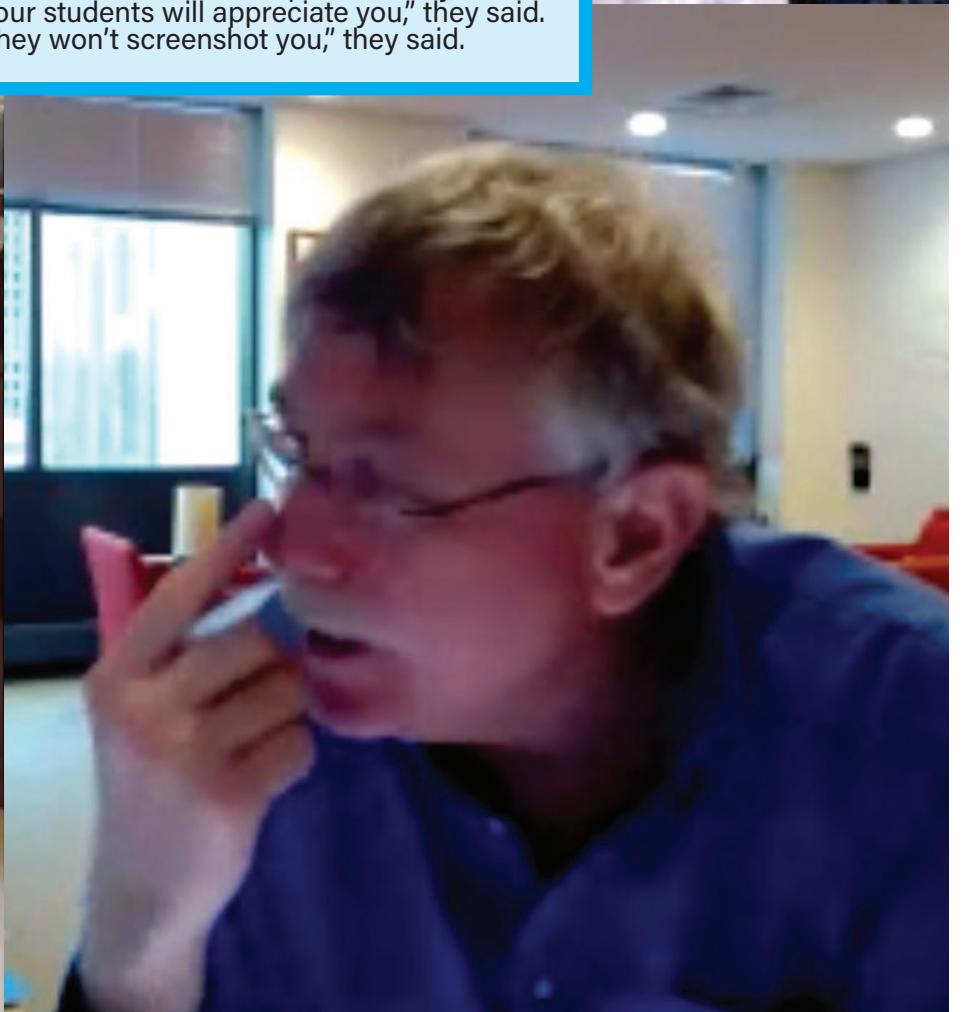
science. Please pay heed to the words of our lord and savior Dr. Anthony Fauci, not the raging Cheeto who will no longer be our nation's leader in a few months' time. If you have any questions about the coronavirus, please refer to <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/> before asking your dumbass questions to your Aunt Karen who definitely does not know any better.

For the record, NO VACCINES have been approved in the United States for mass distribution yet. There is no cure. Please do not inject Lysol into your veins. That is a recipe for disaster. Also, where did you even get the needle? How are you procuring these medical tools to stab wrongfully yourself? Anyways, it is of the utmost importance that you comply with this policy. *TekTok* is one of many worldwide publications promoting the good word of this compliance policy because we sincerely believe in preserving the health and wellbeing of every living being that could be susceptible to the deadly grip of the novel coronavirus.

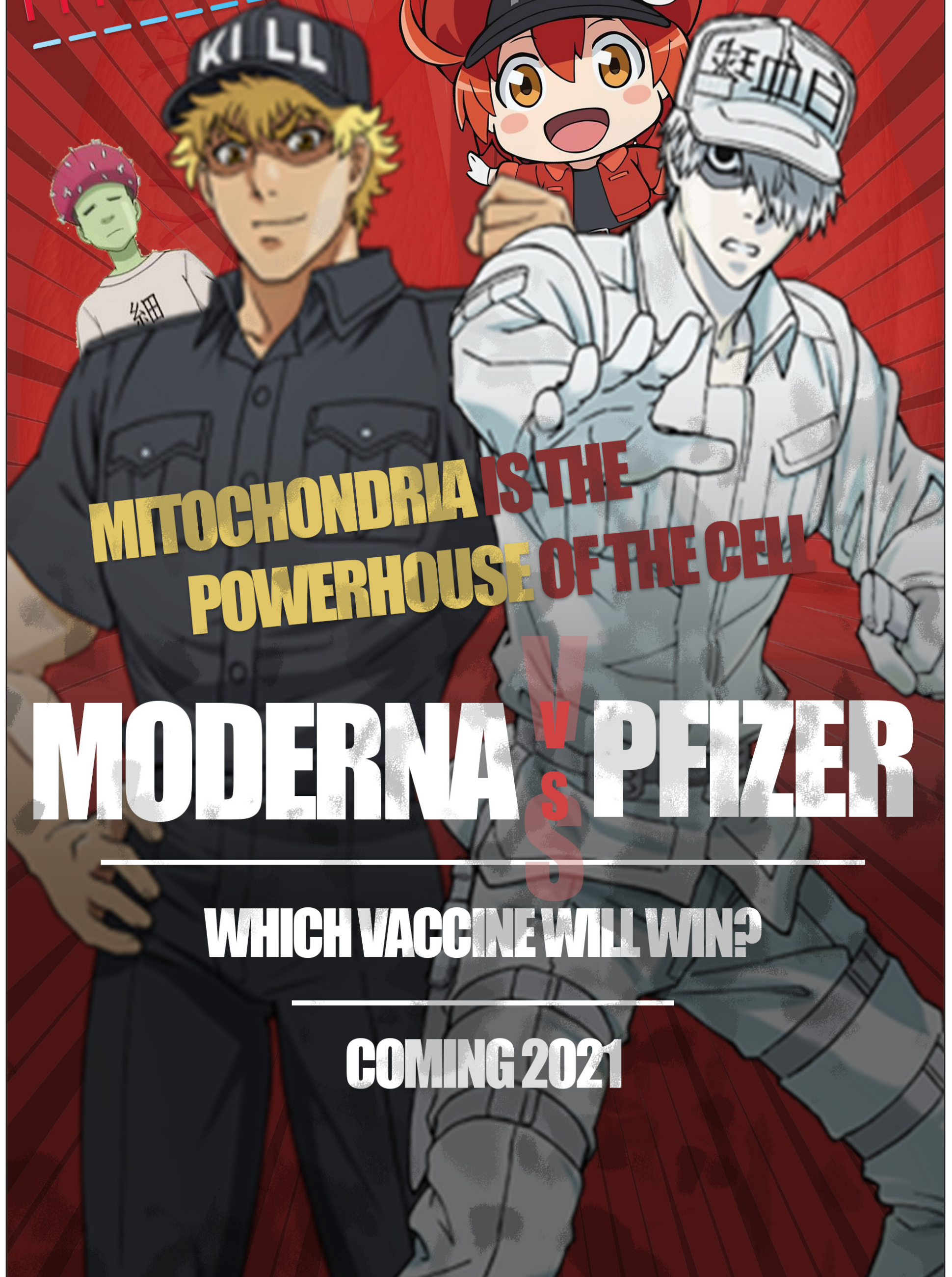
Disbelievers in the existence of the coronavirus will be hunted down and placed in mandatory quarantine until they can get their act together.



Professors on Zoom
"Teach remotely," they said.
"It will be the same as in-person," they said.
"Your students will appreciate you," they said.
"They won't screenshot you," they said.



moderna



MITOCHONDRIA IS THE POWERHOUSE OF THE CELL

MODERNA VS PFIZER

WHICH VACCINE WILL WIN?

COMING 2021

MIT Reboot leaves members of the MIT community feeling good as new

Incredibly effective event involves turning students and faculty off and then back on again

By 6.009TA

The Division of Student Life (DSL) and the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS) department collaborated to organize MIT Reboot, a series of activities held Dec. 1–8 meant to “recharge” MIT community members’ “minds and bodies,” Vice President and Dean for Student Life Suzy Nelson wrote in an email to *TekTok*.

Led by Nelson and Adam Hartz ’11, a senior lecturer in EECS, MIT Reboot included various events designed to “repair, recover, and refresh” students, faculty, and staff experiencing technical difficulties during a remote semester caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Nelson wrote that faculty reported students being “slow and unresponsive” or “randomly shutting off” when asked to participate

in class and appeared “blank or frozen” in class. In addition, Nelson heard student feedback that professors were “constantly restarting” their sentences, making “strange noises,” and “not uploading” assignments properly.

After reading these accounts, Nelson felt that it was necessary to provide support and enlisted Hartz’s help.

Nelson described Hartz in her email as a kind, patient, and capable instructor, citing MIT Confessions and MIT Confessions but it’s MIT People posts including “Adam Hartz is the best person at MIT and no one shall convince me otherwise,” “Adam Hartz is the fastest Pythoner in the West,” “LITERAL SUCH AMAZING AND PATIENT GODS. D,DSVFV;MDFKBBF adam hartz,” and “Who is Adam Hartz? in math: my solution $\frac{1}{2}$ in history: my king ♔ in art: my muse 🎨 in

science: my oxygen 🌬 in geography: my world 🌍 ”

“It’s no wonder that ‘Hartz’ and ‘hearts’ are homophones,” Nelson added. “With his technical expertise and caring demeanor, I thought Adam was the perfect person to help organize MIT Reboot.”

Hartz helped Nelson develop various troubleshooting techniques in the form of Reboot events to address the issues faced by MIT community members.

The most popular event, which saw participation from 80% of all MIT community members, involved turning individuals off and then back on again. Professor Robe Ott reported feeling immediately more responsive after the event, “I don’t think I’ve functioned this properly since getting my memory replaced and oil changed.”

XÆ A-Xii ’24 told *TekTok*, “This turning off and back on technique

is totally foolproof. I use it whenever I’m feeling slow, and it immediately brings me back to full power.”

Another event involved unplugging and disconnecting for a full day to allow for recuperation and saw 57% participation. Cam Puter ’22 told *TekTok* that while “I was able to accomplish absolutely nothing out of my five psets, two weekly quizzes, and a paper draft that I planned on working on that day,” it left her feeling refreshed the next day.

For members of the community feeling particularly dim, MIT also loaned out LCD bulbs that they could use to restore their usual brightness.

The final event of MIT Reboot, meant for particularly frustrated students, faculty, and staff, was inspired by percussive maintenance, and participants were encouraged to gently yet firmly bang their heads

against a hard surface until they felt better.

Brutus Force ’22 told *TekTok* that the event left him feeling like a brand new person. “The event allowed me to optimize my performance on my work. It felt like something in my head lodged into the correct place and gave me complete focus.”

Nelson wrote that she considers MIT Reboot a huge success. “The SARS-CoV-2 virus has left many members of the community feeling isolated,” but she hopes “we can all now feel a sense of togetherness after participating in these events.”

Hartz wrote in an email to *TekTok* that while it is unfortunate that at present, there is no reliable SARS-CoV-2 antivirus available, he hopes that students will be able to install one by the end of 2021 so that it will be safer to hold classes in person, making MIT Reboot unnecessary.

FBI raids MIT mailing lists after misreading spam as scam

Agents uncover nearly 100 cryptic single-word messages

By Plont

An anonymous tip forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) suggested evidence of a scam involving at least 2,000 MIT students via a complex network of mailing lists known primarily as “dormspam.”

After a thorough investigation — lasting one full week and involving the search and seizure of several email threads, particularly one with subject line “Important Announcement” — the FBI discovered that it

had misread the initial tip, which claimed to have evidence of “spam,” not “scam.” However, due to the manpower and tax dollars sunk into the investigation, the FBI published a lengthy report on its findings.

Ivan Stigitor, the agent who led the search, wrote in the report that after submitting the documents for forensic review, an expert created a word cloud using all the messages that had been sent in the mailing list. “We discovered that a single word stood out from the others: unsubscribe.”

Stigitor said in an interview with *TekTok* that he had never seen a single word occur so many times in a single email thread and that the results were unprecedented from a forensics perspective. Moreover, a vast majority of messages in the thread were composed of just the word “unsubscribe” and nothing else.

Prior to realizing that the messages sent on the thread were spam, Stigitor believed the scam to be connected to a paid media subscription service and questioned

MIT’s school newspaper *The Tech* on its involvement before finding that *The Tech* had no subscribers.

Upon consulting with a linguist, an etymologist, and a philologist, the FBI considered various definitions of “unsubscribe” that could be related to the possible scam, resulting in investigations on YouTuber subscriber counts for cases of mass unsubscription and a bagel-of-the-month subscription service.

Stigitor said that when an FBI intern suggested the message could relate to unsubscribing from the

mailing list, he “heavily doubted it,” but after following the lead, he quickly realized that this was the case.

Stigitor wrote in the report, “Rather than a scam, we found that the mailing list was filled with spam, as suggested by the initial tip. Students from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology were deceived to believe that sending an email containing the word ‘unsubscribe’ would permit them to no longer receive messages from the mailing list.”



