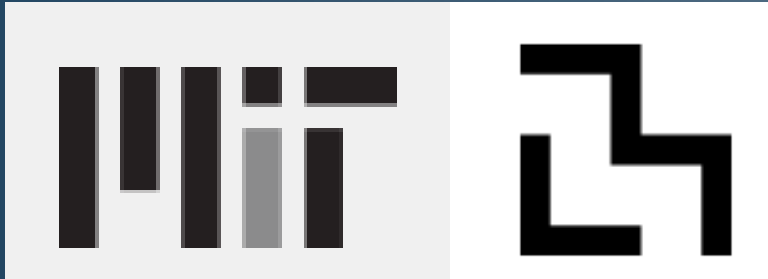




SUMMER 2019

MIT MEDIA LAB

Sophie Laurence, Cambridge, MA



Mission and History

"The combination of computing and communication, as we know it now and can expect it to evolve in the decades ahead, will vastly expand human creative capacity."

-Jerry Wiesner, Media Lab building dedication, 1986

<https://www.media.mit.edu/about/mission-history/>

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

School of Architecture + Planning

The Media Lab is located in two buildings:

Building E14, 75 Amherst Street

Wiesner Building (E15), 20 Ames Street

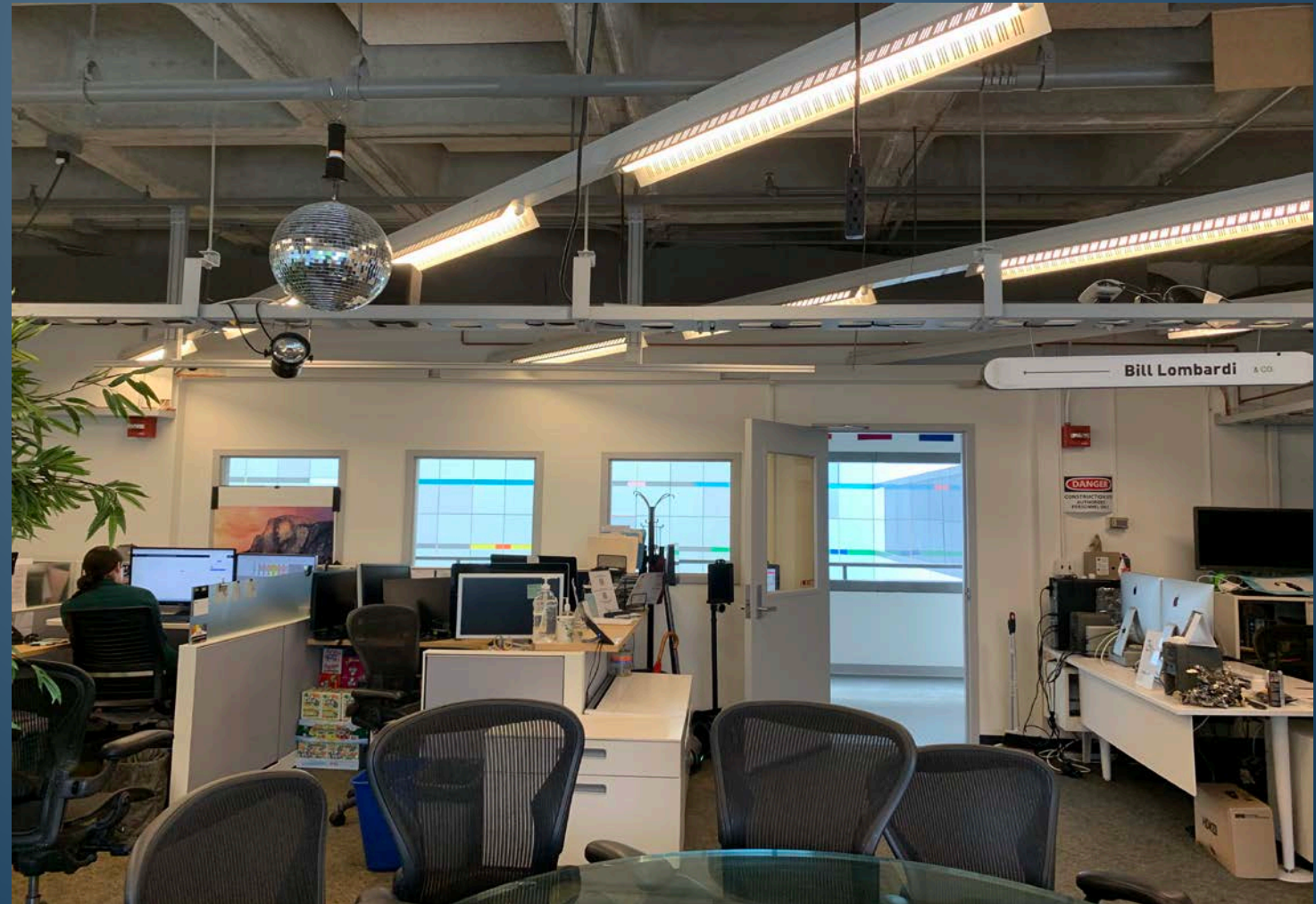
Cambridge, MA 02138 USA

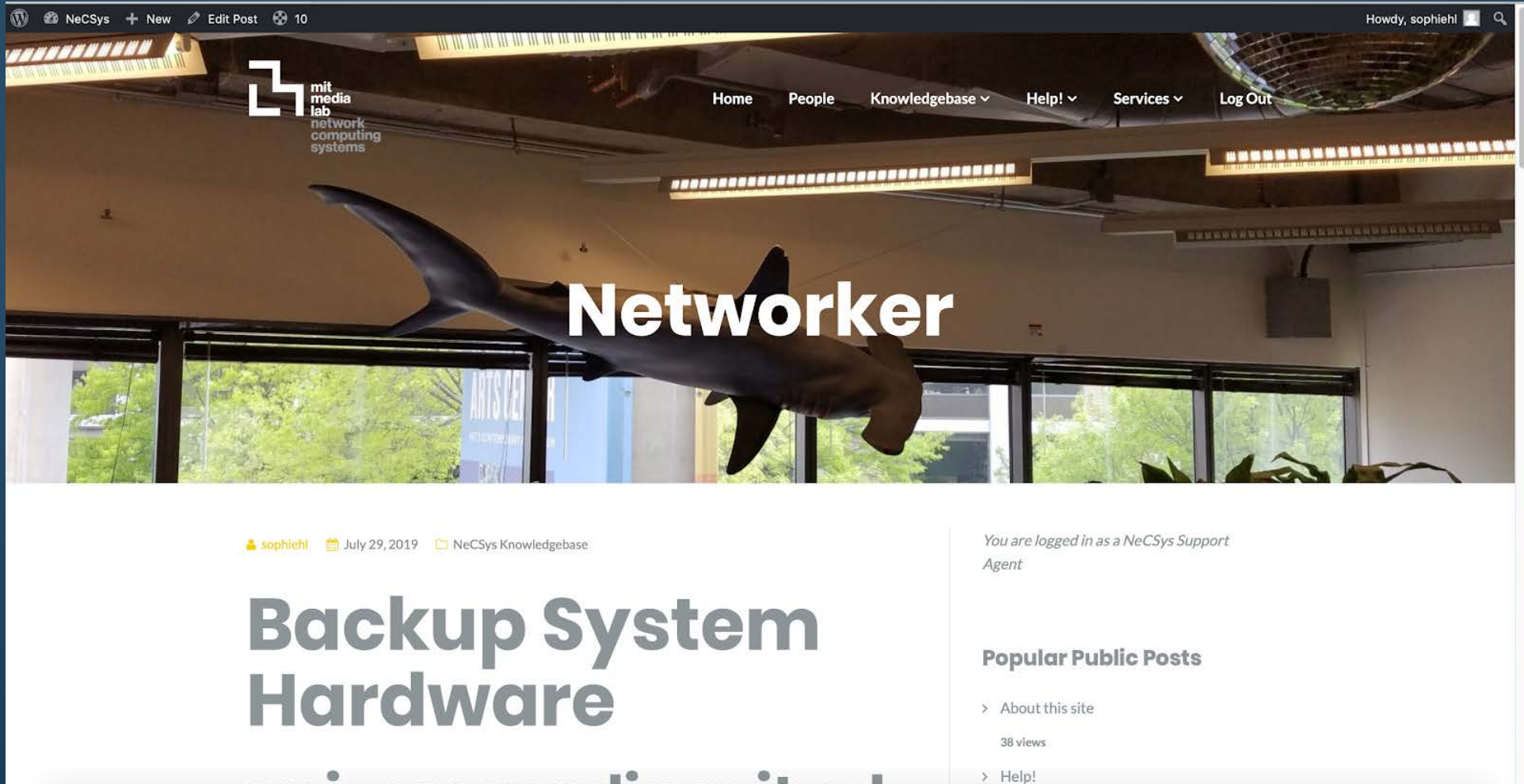




“The mission of the Network Computing Systems (NeCSys) group is to design, install and maintain the infrastructure that the lab uses to produce, store, move, convert and consume its bits.”

-Mikhail Bletsas, Director of Computing





Website Updates

The image shows a browser window with a wiki page from `wiki.media.mit.edu`. The page title is "Installing Networker" and "Boilerplate for giving machines to non-NeCSys people". A green arrow points from the wiki page to a summary box on the right.

Installing Networker
 Acquire appropriate binary RPMs from `/mas/winhub/NeCSys/Networker`, typically just the client and man pages.

Install the Alien package to convert RPMs for Debian

- `apt-get install alien`
- `alien --scripts --install lgtomian-7.4.5-1.x86_64.rpm`
- `alien --scripts --install lgtocint-7.4.5-1.x86_64.rpm`

Edit `/etc/init.d/networker` to point at `morphine.media.mit.edu`

Boilerplate for giving machines to non-NeCSys people
[Necsys/VirtualMachineBoilerplate](#) included here for convenience

(this text is from <http://wiki.media.mit.edu/Necsys/VirtualMachineBoilerplate>)

As you have sudo privileges, you must be careful in what you do. Some common pitfalls to avoid:

- DO NOT give users accounts using `linuxrc` temporary passwords. In, doubling the password is not creative and one of the robots that occasionally see some our network will find it out yet. Use pages available in `apt` or a similar tool to generate a random password to give them.
- Use `rsync`. Whenever possible, give people accounts the same way we give you your accounts: add the special `RSync` line into `/etc/passwd`. This will reduce the number of places that a person's password is stored.
- Use package management as much as you can. `apt-get` will make your life easier in the long run, so use it. If there's a package that you need that's not in `Debian/stable`, try looking to see if it's in `Debian/testing`. If it is, you can use `apt pinning` (<http://wiki.debian.org/Gettesting>) to pull specific packages from testing or unstable.
- Monitor your machine. `rsync` packages don't monitor the disk, it gives out to people. If you would like us to watch your machine in some manner, please let us know and we'll see what we can arrange.
- Backup your machine. At this time, `Necsys` does NOT perform backups of the data we host, this is your responsibility and your machine will be lost in the event of some catastrophic failure on our part. While we make every effort to provide a reliable service, hardware does fail; beyond what we plan for, your machine's disks are more reliable using `Linux software RAID`, but this is not a guarantee.

How they can add additional users:
 Here's the steps for adding access for a media lab user, let's call him 'joe'. (Hopefully you're ok with Emacs, if not type "`sudo apt-get install emacs`" in your shell first before running any of the following.)

```
# add a 'joe' line for the user near just above the last '*****/bin/bash' line in /etc/passwd
sudo apt-get install emacs
# make their home dir
mkdir -p /home/joe
# set the permissions on their new home dir
sudo chown -R joe:linuxrc /home/joe
```

And they should be good to go. If they can't seem to make their password work it might be because new machines are configured to authenticate against their "Windows" password, unlike most of the other Linux machines in the Lab (at this point). If they can log into ML, but their password is rejected on your machine send them up to `NeCSys` with a photo so they can reset it.

Computer Support

Conferencing
Upkeep

Top Sriracha Consumer

Printing With Kiwi!

Secret Star Market Runs

Computer Support



MIT SLOAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
ISAOKAWA CENTER FOR FUTURE CHILDREN



Arcade Machines
That Don't Work!

Cool Random Robots!





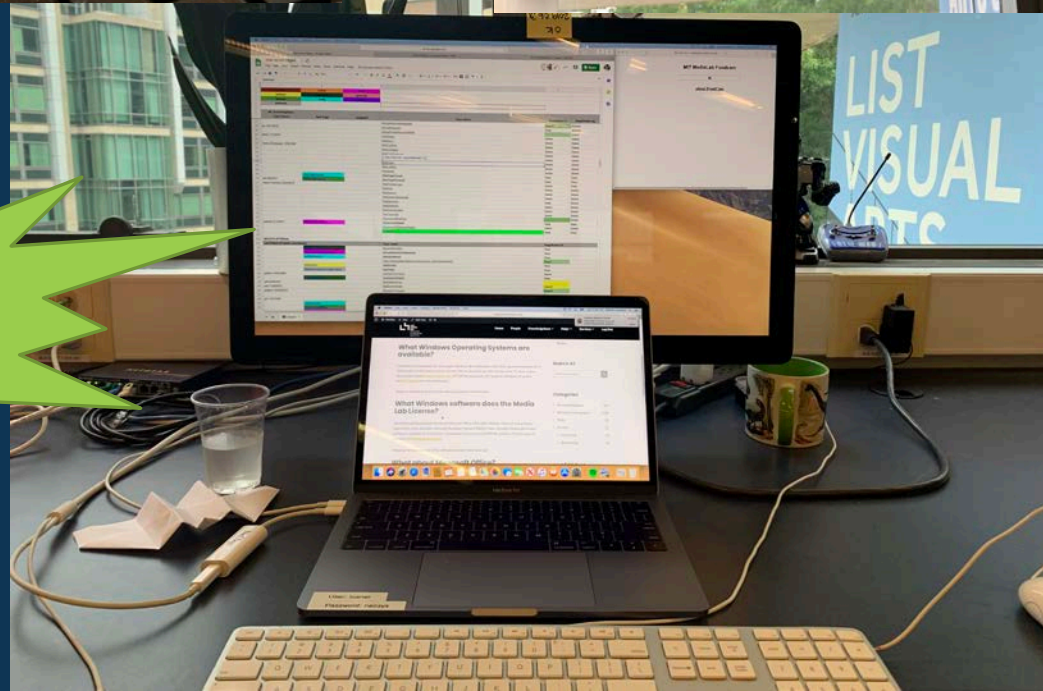
FOOD
CAM



foodcam.media.mit.edu



The Office!



Mike

Juan Apprentissage-Profondeur
1972
Fabric, paper, playdoh

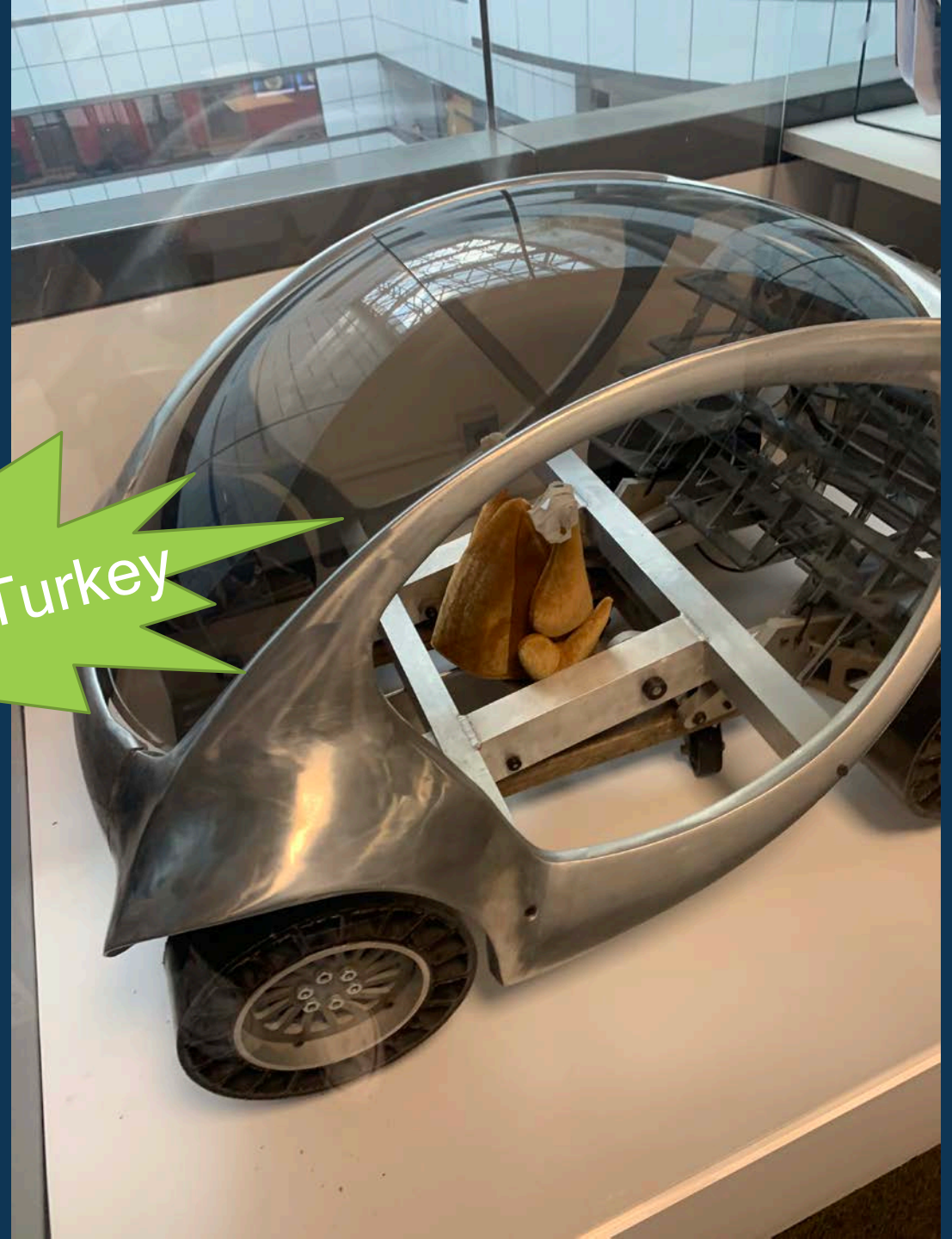
Mike the Headless Chicken (April 20, 1945 – March 17, 1947), also known as Miracle Mike, was a Wyandotte chicken that lived for 18 months after his head had been cut off. Although the story was thought by many to be a hoax, the bird's owner took him to the University of Utah in Salt Lake City to establish the facts. On September 10, 1945, farmer Lloyd Olsen of Fruita, Colorado, United States, was planning to eat supper with his mother-in-law and was sent out to the yard by his wife to bring back a chicken. Olsen chose a five-and-a-half-month-old cockerel named Mike. The axe removed the bulk of the head, but missed the jugular vein, leaving one ear and most of the brain stem intact.

Due to Olsen's failed attempt to behead Mike, Mike was still able to balance on a perch and walk clumsily. He attempted to preen, peck for food, and crow, with little success; his "crowing" consisted of a gurgling sound made in his throat. When Mike did not die, Olsen instead decided to care for the bird. He fed it a mixture of water via an eyedropper, and gave it small grains of corn.

Once his fame had been established, Mike began a career of touring the country in the company of such other creatures as a two-headed baby. He was also photographed for dozens of magazines and papers, and was featured in Time and Life. Mike was put on display to the public for an admission cost of twenty-five cents. At the height of his popularity, the chicken's owner earned US\$4,500 per month (\$47,700 today) and was valued at \$10,000.

In March 1947, at a motel in Phoenix on a stopover while traveling back from tour, Mike started choking in the middle of the night. He had managed to get a kernel of corn in his throat. The Olsens had inadvertently left their feeding and cleaning syringes at the sideshow the day before, and so were unable to save Mike. Olsen claimed that he had sold the bird off, resulting in stories of Mike still touring the country as late as 1949. Other sources say that the chicken's severed trachea could not properly take in enough air to be able to breathe, and it therefore choked to death in the motel. It was determined that the axe had missed the jugular vein and a clot had prevented Mike from bleeding to death. Although most of his head was severed and a clot had prevented the brain stem and one ear were left on his body. Since basic functions (breathing, heart rate, etc.) as well as most of a chicken's reflex actions are controlled by the brain stem, Mike was able to remain quite healthy. This is a good example of central motor generator enabling basic homeostatic functions to be carried out in the absence of higher brain centers.

Mike the Car Turkey





THANK YOU!

To everyone who made this possible, especially

MIT Summer Youth Employment Program
Megan Chester & HR
Lesley Chen & Media Lab