

## Shrinking the Campus Footprint: Thesis Defenses

14 April 2020

Ph.D. students scheduled to defend theses for Spring 2020 and Summer 2020 can request space to present their theses remotely from campus.

This request is for the student to be in a room individually, connecting with the thesis committee and attendees virtually (zoom, etc.).

Can be requested as soon as dates known to student and committee (i.e., far ahead is fine).

### Two steps:

1. Each Ph.D. candidate can use Campus Access Request form (<https://ist.mit.edu/campus-safety/request-access>)  
State that request is for his/her/their PhD defense on Monday, 22 April, 1-4pm (includes set-up and take-down time)
2. Reply will ask them to email [building-access@mit.edu](mailto:building-access@mit.edu), and we will communicate by email to reserve E17-294 private room for them and provide access for them.



- This has worked well for several PhD defenses over this period. We make this as cheerful and positive as possible.
- Wifi repeaters installed last week, per faculty feedback.
- White noise monitored and tested this week, per faculty feedback.
- Headphones/audio volume testing encouraged, which we share with students in email. Whiteboards in place.
- While cloth face coverings are advised by CDC and Commonwealth, space for defense is private with enhanced cleaning and mask can be removed during defense.
- Classrooms with social distancing of multiple attendees not planned at this time.