

MIT Libraries Updates

[Ivy Plus Discovery Days](#) - July 2022

The MIT Libraries logo is positioned in the bottom left corner. It consists of the text "MIT Libraries" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The background of the slide features a network of thin, overlapping lines in light blue, green, and yellow, creating a geometric pattern of triangles and polygons.

Hello!



Darcy Duke

Head, User Experience and Web Services
In Discovery and Engagement Platforms

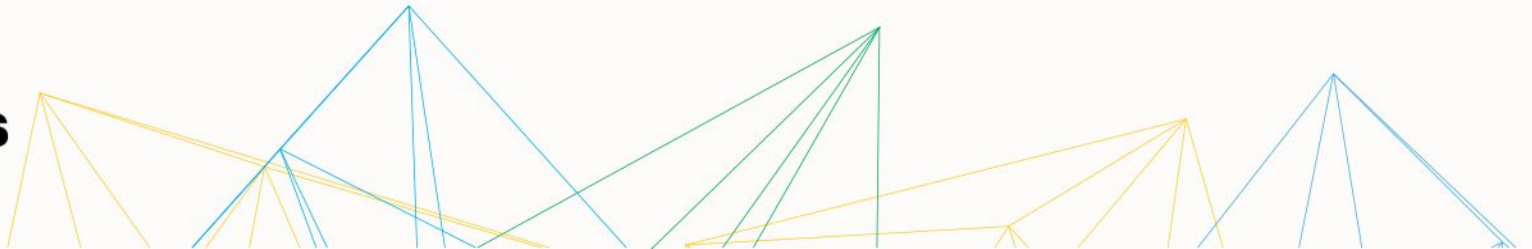
darcy@mit.edu | libraries.mit.edu

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What's new in discovery at MIT?

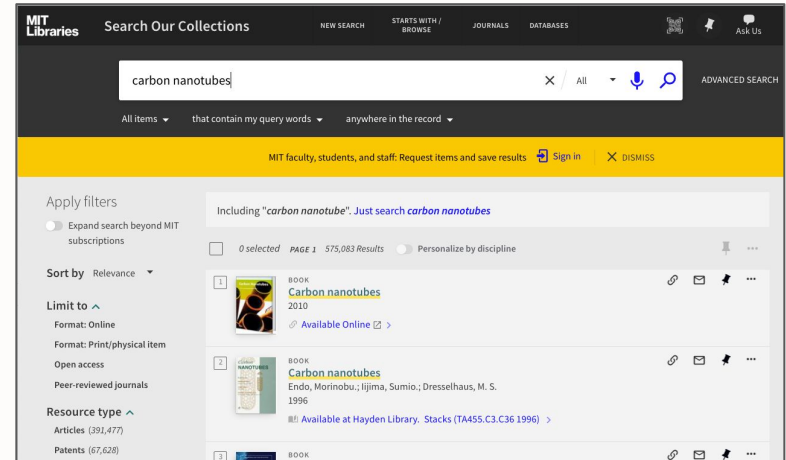
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Migrated to Alma/Primo VE in July 2021

- Catalog and CDI content only
- Bento search still default on homepage
- Ongoing data cleanup and UI/usability issues to wrangle

libraries.mit.edu/search-collections



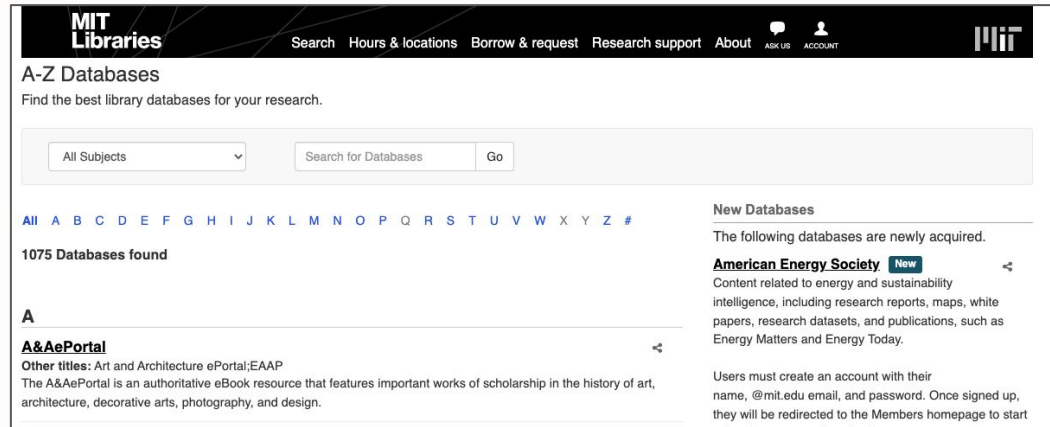
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Implemented LibGuides A-Z Databases list

Provides more intuitive UI, integration with LibGuides, and friendly URLs.

libguides.mit.edu/az.php



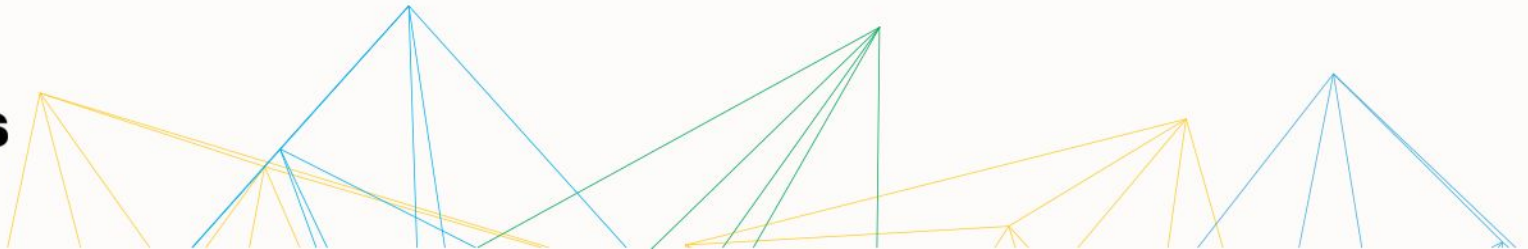
The screenshot shows the MIT Libraries A-Z Databases list page. The header includes the MIT Libraries logo and navigation links: Search, Hours & locations, Borrow & request, Research support, About, ASK US, and ACCOUNT. The main heading is "A-Z Databases" with the subtext "Find the best library databases for your research." Below this is a search bar with a dropdown menu set to "All Subjects", a text input field for "Search for Databases", and a "Go" button. A navigation bar lists letters from A to Z, with "A" selected. The page indicates "1075 Databases found" and lists the first result under "A": "A&AePortal". The description for A&AePortal states it is an authoritative eBook resource for art and architecture. A "New Databases" section on the right highlights the "American Energy Society" as a newly acquired database, providing a brief description of its content and a note that users must create an account to access it.

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Reprints Desk/Article Galaxy & Unpaywall

To improve access to Elsevier content ([MIT still has no contract](#)) we are:

- Piloting a rapid access service through Reprints Desk/Article Galaxy (average turnaround time < 1 min)
- Providing direct linking to OA versions via Unpaywall



Data sharing and access

We are contributing metadata for our eligible circulating collections to POD to enable ReShare.

We are also committed to developing and maintaining our own collections metadata index and API - TIMDEX.

timdex.mit.edu

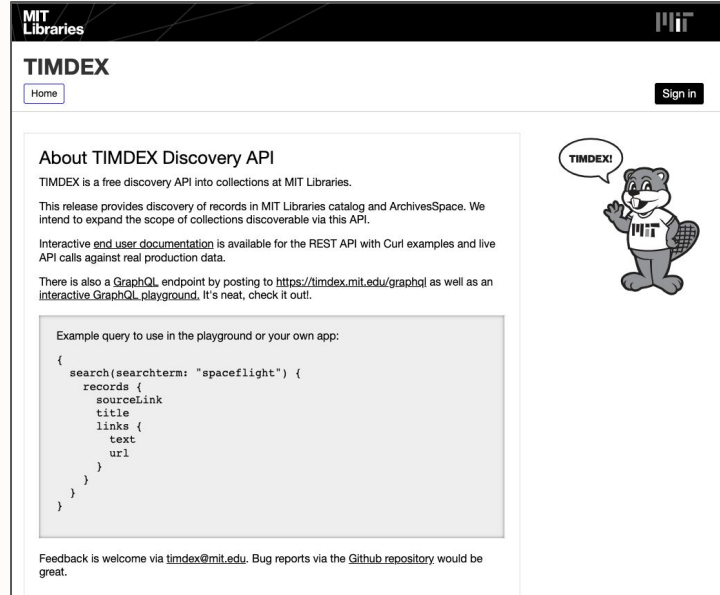
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TIMDEX - Our own public discovery API

Currently [TIMDEX](#) provides access to catalog and ArchivesSpace metadata, and supplies the latter to our [Bento](#) (a Rails application).

Coming soon: Info sessions for our staff, to help them understand the tool - when to recommend it to users, and how to get help.



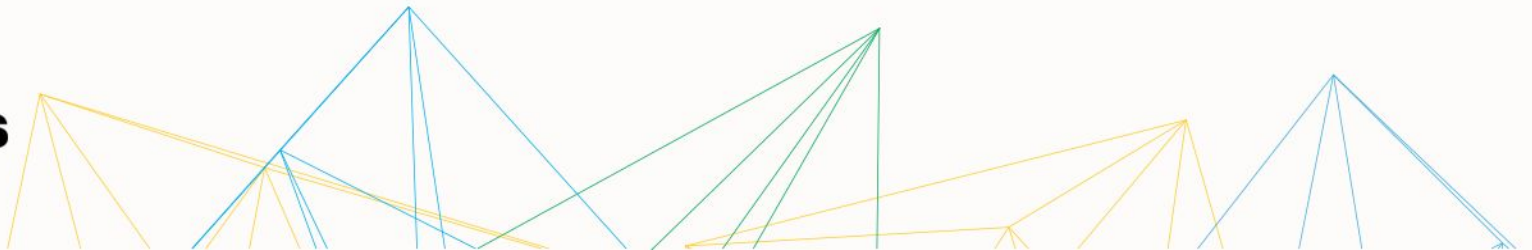
The screenshot shows the MIT Libraries TIMDEX website. At the top left is the MIT Libraries logo, and at the top right is the MIT logo. Below the MIT Libraries logo is the title "TIMDEX" and a "Home" button. At the top right of the page content area is a "Sign in" button. The main content area is titled "About TIMDEX Discovery API". It contains the following text: "TIMDEX is a free discovery API into collections at MIT Libraries. This release provides discovery of records in MIT Libraries catalog and ArchivesSpace. We intend to expand the scope of collections discoverable via this API. Interactive [end user documentation](#) is available for the REST API with Curl examples and live API calls against real production data. There is also a [GraphQL](#) endpoint by posting to <https://timdex.mit.edu/graphql> as well as an [interactive GraphQL playground](#). It's neat, check it out!". To the right of this text is a cartoon mascot character with a speech bubble that says "TIMDEX!". Below the text is a code block with the following GraphQL query:

```
Example query to use in the playground or your own app:
{
  search(searchterm: "spaceflight") {
    records {
      sourceLink
      title
      links {
        text
        url
      }
    }
  }
}
```

 At the bottom of the page, it says "Feedback is welcome via timdex@mit.edu. Bug reports via the [Github repository](#) would be great."

TIMDEX current work: Building an experimental UI on top of the API

- Exploring using this UI to provide discovery of MIT research data
- Could potentially be a replacement for our Bento - starting to experiment with smarter discovery features such as standard number detection and using external APIs to find non-MIT content



TIMDEX API tech updates (launching soon)

- Improved documentation
- Adding DSpace@MIT content
- Moved to GraphQL from REST, rebuilt our data pipelines using AWS Step Functions for TIMDEX data harvesting/transforms/loading as well as Reshare transform/loading
- Moving Alma and ArchivesSpace to our new pipeline

New org structures to support discovery

New department: **Discovery and Engagement Platforms (DEP)**

New DEP head: **Tina Pappas** (started August 2021)

New Discovery Program - “Make discovery awesome” - Chris Bourg

- **Discovery Steering Committee (DSC):** cross-directorate team developing a discovery strategy for the MIT Libraries
- **Discovery Ideation Series:** exploring tech perspectives focused on discovery
- **Discovery User Research Project:** providing user research to support the DSC’s work

Thank you!



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