Dear Extended Engineering Council,

I am delighted to announce that Professor Maria Yang has been appointed Deputy Dean of Engineering at MIT effective immediately.

Maria is the Gail E. Kendall Professor of Mechanical Engineering, associate director of the Morningside Academy for Design, faculty director for academics in the MIT D-Lab, and founder and director of MIT's Ideation Lab. She is an expert on the product design process, uncovering fundamental design theory to help designers and engineers realize their creative visions. A celebrated researcher and educator, Maria has received numerous honors and awards throughout her career, including the Ruth and Joel Spira Excellence in Teaching Award, Bose Excellence in Teaching Award, MacVicar Faculty Fellowship, and the ASEE Fred Merryfield Design Award. She is also a fellow of ASME.

Since joining the School of Engineering leadership as Associate Dean of Engineering in August 2021, Maria has been instrumental in driving forward the school's strategic priorities and overseeing activities that are vital to the school's operation. She has led efforts related to undergraduate education, including seed grant funding to enhance undergraduate major exploration and co-chairing a committee with Professor Asu Ozdaglar to explore blending computing into undergraduate majors. Additionally, she has worked with Professor Srini Devadas to understand how computing-focused faculty across the entire school can better engage with computing-focused graduate students. Maria has also served on the graduate degree committee for the new joint music technology program with MTA.

In addition to building upon many of the activities she has worked on over the past two years, Maria will take a greater leadership role in a number of key programs, initiatives, and projects across the school as the new Deputy Dean. A large focus area for her in this role will be faculty affairs – she will be involved in junior faculty mentoring, presenting promotion cases to Academic Council, supporting research proposals, and representing the school for competitive awards across the Institute. She will continue her work advancing educational activities, closely collaborating with student programs such as TLC and Sandbox, and leading our student advisory groups SAGE and GradSAGE. Maria will also join the Dean's Administrative Group and will take a greater leadership role on Engineering Council.

Maria's passion for advancing the School of Engineering's educational and research missions is truly inspiring. I'm grateful for her dedication and commitment to the school, and am thrilled to continue working closely with her. Please join me in congratulating Maria on this new leadership role.

Sincerely,
Anantha P. Chandrakasan
Dean, MIT School of Engineering
Vannevar Bush Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science