Question

Any changes I make to Web pages, locker data updates, etc. are not shown when connecting from off campus, or there is a delay in the updates. Why is that?

Answer:

Due to new security measures for our network services specific outside facing webpages (http://web.mit.edu, http://www.mit.edu and http://mit.edu pages and their underlying pages) are now being hosted by the Akamai content distribution network service, when connecting from off campus.

These pages are cached for 15 minutes. Because of this, changes made to web pages may see a delay of up to 15 minutes, for users connecting and updating these pages from off campus.

If real time updates need to be checked or verified, you can avoid retrieving the cached pages by using the https (SSL) connection in a browser (https://web.mit.edu) or use the Cisco Any connect client instead. The Cisco VPN client can be downloaded and installed from the IS&T Software pages at http://ist.mit.edu/cisco-anyconnect, with certificates. The VPN connection will allow for a direct connection to the MIT network and direct access these pages, as if the user is connecting from on campus.

For more information about the new network security measures please see http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2013/ruiz-letter-on-strengthened-campus-security-0402.html
Any questions or concerns about these new measures can be directed to cybersecurity-questions@mit.edu.