Finboard Appeals Give Student Groups More Funding for Spring '06

By Yi Zhou

The delight of 76 student organizations, the Undergraduate Association Finance Board allocated an additional $56,831 after review of the Independent Activities Period Spring 2006 Appeals, which totaled $379,000. The three highest recipients were the Tech, with $5,575, the Association of Taiwanese Students, with $2,405, and the Laboratory for Chocolate Science, with $1,975.

The unusually large surplus, just $12,000 short of the original amount distributed in this semester’s Allocations and up nearly $15,000 from last year's IAP/Spring Allocations, can be attributed to a large rollover from the fall. When student groups do not use all of their allocations, the remainder is returned to Finboard to be used for the following term. Calculated after the termination of the previous semester, the rollover is not available in time for the allocations round of funding.

Despite a comprehensive application including a detailed list of cost estimations, “it is very rare that a group will spend 100% of what they are allocated,” Finboard chairman Christina C. Roque ’06 wrote in an e-mail. “We do our best to fund where we feel the money will actually be used. It’s up to the group, once we’ve given them their allocation, how much they choose to use, and unfortunately not all groups take maximum use of the money.”

In order to be considered for Appeals funding, representatives from each student group must meet with the board to defend their applications. Student groups are therefore encouraged to request money for capital (long-term) expenditures rather than for operations or events. Approximately $22,000 of the money awarded in Appeals this semester went to fund capital expenditures, nearly three times as much as the $8,000 granted during the allocations round of funding.

Finboard is comprised of ten elected members, who each review every application.

City Police Could Track Kegs

The Cambridge Licensing Committee will vote later this month to adopt regulations on keg purchases similar to those recently implemented in Boston. The regulations would be based on the Boston Licensing Board’s new laws, implemented last October, requiring liquor stores and beer vendors to report personal identification information such as name, address, and date of birth of keg-buyers to the Boston police department.

Breaking from Boston policy, which defines kegs as any container larger than six gallons, the new Cambridge policy will target “anything with a tap, regardless of size,” said IFC Executive Director Elizabeth List.

“The impetus is obvious,” said List. “Boston recently passed these regulations and other cities are adopting similar laws.”

Conceivably, List said, “The CLC and the IFC have no intention of including such a clause in the regulation at this time. If implemented, the new regulations should not affect MIT fraternity or independent living groups in Cambridge. ‘The current IFC Risk Management Policy strictly prohibits fraternities from having kegs,’ said IFC President Isaac J. Tetzloff ’07. ‘The CLC and BLB regulations do not impact fraternities since kegs are forbidden.’

Living groups are also not likely to feel an effect as current MIT regulations restrict the purchase of kegs unless the party is run by a third party vendor, said Trujillo. The CLC is scheduled to vote on the issue at the March 23 meeting.

MIT’s Oldest and Largest Newspaper

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Britain to Reduce Troop Strength in Iraq

The New York Times

By Alan Cowell

LONDON

Britain said Monday that it would reduce its troop strength in Iraq by about 10 percent by the beginning in May, bringing the level down to 7,000, the lowest since the war began in 2003.

At a news conference Monday, Defense Secretary John Reid, speaking in London, said Britain’s military presence in Iraq had diminished significantly.

‘‘In the last year, we have seen a transformation in the way in which the insurgency in Iraq is now fighting us,’’ Mr. Reid said.

In early 2003, Britain contributed about 46,000 troops to the American-led invasion of Iraq. By May 2004, the number of British troops there had fallen to 18,000, and it has been reduced over time to about 3,000. The latest reduction will be about 800 soldiers.

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Carnage Continues In Baghdad As Four Bodies Are Found In Shiite

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The bodies of four men who had been shot in the head were found last month in a Shiite area of eastern Baghdad. In the city of Sadr City, where at least 46 people had been killed in six car bombs on Sunday, threatening to unleash a wave of sectarian violence similar to the one that followed the bombing of a Shiite shrine last month.

The bodies were found as other spots of violence flared in the capital. An Interior Ministry spokesman said two bombs exploded in Baghdad on Monday morning and wounding 15. A roadside bomb exploded in eastern Baghdad, killing an American soldier, the American military said.

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Iraqi Ex-Judge Under Saddam Defends Shite Death Sentences

By Robert F. Worth

The New York Times

A former judge in Saddam Hus- sein’s Revolutionary Court acknowledge- d that he had sentenced Shiites to death in 1984, but they had said that many of those people were innocent of the charges their trials, and that the trial was a sham. Bandar had said that the trial was a defense, but that in 1984, had taken two weeks, and that the dock in his courtroom had often been packed as the men moved in and out.

The prosecutor, Jafar Musawi, showed Bandar documents indicating that 46 of the 148 defendants had been “liquidated during interro- gation” before the trial. Prosecutors have said the trial was a sham, but Bandar seemed not to understand what it was a defense, or what he had been accused of.

When asked why the records of the Revolutionary Court show no men- tion of a death sentence for the 148 Shiites who were executed.

Aside from Bandar, defendants who have been tried for their testimony so far this year have denied any role in the trial. A few have been granted a stay after they failed to appear at a hearing last year to face charges of fraud related to an apartment sale. She is believed to have lived in Moscow for the last five years. Despite the government’s wishes for a quiet private funeral ceremony, members of Mitter’s Socialist Party appear to be trying to alter the funeral to revive its flagging popularity by planning a gathering of supporters.

“I believe that first of all it has to be somewhere so people have come from different parts of the world to then again.”

Preparing for the day, Deputy Prime-Minister Milos Ugljanin told local radio news stations that the government had informed the Milosevic family that it would allow the family for “private funeral.”

Democrats Retreat On Call To Censure President

By Carl Hulse

The New York Times

Senate Democrats on Monday blocked an immediate vote on a call by one of their own to censure President Bush for his censure a vote. The Democrats acted after Republicans had said they were eager to pass judgment on a proposal that they portrayed as baseless and divisive to the anti-terror effort.

Democrats before Sen. Russell D. Feingold, D-Wis., formally intro- duced his resolution condemning Bush, Sen. Bill Frist of Tennessee, the Republican majority leader, said Republicans were ready to vote by the end of the day or on Tuesday.

“We are talking about the censure of the president of the United States at a time of war, when this president is out defending the Ameri- can people with a very good, lawful, constitutional program, it is seri- ously, seriously flawed.”

“If they want to make an issue out of it, we’re not willing to do that.”

Democrats, while distancing themselves from Feingold’s assertion that Bush is “genuinely guilty” or “seditious,” approved in approving supervision without warrants, said his proposal merited more consideration than a hasty vote.

The acquisition, which is expected to be announced Monday, would give Capital One a strong retail banking foothold in the Northeast as it grows. It will give credit card issuers.

The transaction would also the end the independence of North Fork, which had been purchased by Capital One in late August and had a potential multibillion-dollar market value.

With the acquisition of North Fork, the combined company will have deposits of more than $48 billion, a managed loan portfolio of more than $143 billion, more than 500 million customer accounts and 658 branches.

Mad Cow Disease Confirmed In Alabama

By Donald G. Menelli Jr.

The nation’s third case of mad cow disease has been confirmed in a farm in Alabama, in the Agriculture Department announced on Monday. The department has reported that the animal had not been injected with the disease, but that the cow was born and raised in Alabama. The department did not say what it found to be the case, nor did it say what it found to be the case.

The Department of Agriculture confirmed that the animal had been born in Alabama and had been raised in Alabama. The department did not say what it was raising the animal, or what it found to be the case. The group was a ban on feeding restaurant waste, swine feed on, growing cows' milk on cows. 
The only believable investigations are independent investigations. Therefore, the only credible result of the Department of Defense’s in-house investigation of allegations of fraudulent research at MIT’s Lincoln Laboratory will be the finding that the allegations are true. In question is the validity of a non-classified report approved by a team including two Lincoln Laboratory researchers in 1998 that certified a system used to test missile-defense technology. It will be impossible for MIT’s ad- visor to the investigators to verify the rigorosity of any findings because the DoD’s restrictions will prevent him from seeing either the data in question or the question itself.

The failure of President Susan Hockfield and President Emer- itus Charles M. Vest to secure a truly independent investigation means that in almost any scenario, the black mark of these allega- tions on MIT’s reputation cannot be erased. The situation leaves MIT with an unsatisfactory set of choices on how to proceed: the Institute can choose to cease research it cannot verify and then risk the credibility of the entire research community and transparency and accountability in the federal government is a passing phase, or ignore the problem and hope that everyone forgets about it, at least until someone makes a new allegation of fraud.

Ironically, the actual research under scrutiny is in itself not important now; instead, it has opened a window into the ob- stacles MIT faces when it seeks to investigate the integrity of its researchers who are doing classified research. The research, done by the former head of its contracting and acquisitions office of Noorhayati Zain, consists of sensors and a computer program designed to distinguish between missiles and decoys, such as weather bal- loons. A senior engineer at TR W claimed in 1996 that the com- pany had exaggerated its success, setting off a series of inves- tigations — finding both for and against TRW — including the one led by MIT’s Lincoln Lab exonerating TRW’s integrity when MIT Professor Theodore Postel, 66, who has successfully uncovered missile-defense fraud in the past, publicly claimed that based on his own analysis, the Lincoln Lab report was fraudulent. The government, driven to a new ex- pense of TRW’s technology, and although Postel claims other systems in use are similar to TRW’s, the issue lives on today because MIT could not verify the integrity of its research, and TRW may have hit a brick wall when the DoD declined the Institute’s investigators access to necessary documents, which led to the recent compro- mise of the DoD carrying out its own investigation with an MIT advisor.

As it stands, MIT’s failure to carry out its own investigation damages the credibility of the research community and is a blow to the future of the government-sponsored research which it requires. It also weakens MIT’s ability to publicly certify the quality of its re- search. While the issue has little direct impact on undergraduate education, every student at MIT has the right to know the ability of the Institute to have an authoritative process for inves- tigating claims of falsified research. Although Associate Provost Claude R. Canizaris is leading a lessons-learned committee, there is a bigger problem about running classified research programs when no one in the Institute can be guaranteed access to review the results of the research. The government’s recent antipathy to transparency is probably part of the problem, but it is dangerous to want and hope things change, given that there is no guarantee that the current contractor TRW will maintain the same scrutiny, and MIT’s integrity is a bigger problem about running classified research programs.

CORRECTIONS

The March 10 article “Graduate Programs Receive More Applications” incorrectly re- ported the expected number for matriculation of the Civil and Environmental Engineering department. It is usually 60, not 120.

Editorial

The Tech’s telephone number is (617) 258-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to general@the-tech.mit.edu, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to news@the-tech.mit.edu. Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at http://the-tech.mit.edu

Letters To The Editor

Labor Relations

A Focus for Coca-Cola

Nakul Vyas’ Feb. 28 article urged MIT stu- dents to consider banning Coca-Cola products because of allegations of labor rights abuses in Colombia.

As the Director of Global Labor Relations at Coca-Cola, I share the concern of student activists regarding labor conditions around the world. Through my work on the United Na- tions International Labor Organization, I have seen firsthand the manifold difference it makes in the lives of individuals, families, communities and entire countries when employers live up to the responsibilities due their workers. In my experience, the campaigns that are the most successful are those grounded in irrefutable fact and driven by a commitment to justice. In the case of the campaign against The Coca- Cola Company, the facts tell quite a different story than reported by the Student for Work- ers’ Rights, and ignoring them for the sake of political gain does justice great harm.

The Coca-Cola Company is committed to promoting fair labor practices everywhere we do business. In Colombia and around the world, we respect workers’ rights and we do not tolerate intimidation of union members or suppression of workers’ rights. We engage regularly with interna- tionally respected organizations to review our labor standards and work with them as we assess compliance with these standards in our opera- tions worldwide.

Because we take concerns about Coca-Cola operations in Colombia seriously, two weeks ago we submitted a request to the Interna- tional Labor Organization (ILO) to conduct an independent investigation and evaluation of the labor rela- tions, rights and working conditions at Coca-Cola bottling facilities in Colombia. The Coca-Cola Company, in partnership with the International Labor Organization (ILO) and other partners, has worked with the ILO to complete an investigation and evaluation of the same. The Coca-Cola Company is committed to promoting fair labor practices everywhere we do business. In Colombia and around the world, we respect workers’ rights and we do not tolerate intimidation of union members or suppression of workers’ rights. We engage regularly with interna- tionally respected organizations to review our labor standards and work with them as we assess compliance with these standards in our opera- tions worldwide.

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Living and Learning in MIT's Middle East, 2006

Krishna Gupta

Government rise and fall, and the people with them. It remains difficult to discern whether the West, particularly the United States, successfully influences the administration of other countries through its actions, or lacks the ability to play a role in the United States' approach to effecting change in different countries. Its primary focus should be the growth and development of the people. Can we really be an overarching general principle of interference that works? Nobelist Amartya Sen writes of development as an increase in the freedoms and basic rights of people. With such an objective, let's look at some recent developments that demonstrate the ability of U.S., through action or inaction, to effect a change in the Middle East.

Krishna Gupta

While the West has attempted to control proceedings in the Middle East, it has left the Nepalese to their lonely selves. Ever since a large-scale Maoist insurgency took root in 1996, thousands of lives have been lost, and thousands more are truly in peril. We should give Latin America more political autonomy — decisions on the highest level — decisions which actually benefit the people. We should prop up the current government and shackle it to a Democrat and a Republican. As it stands, it is difficult to carry out directly, it is more realistic to pressure India to lend much more significant aid to Nepal, especially considering that the Maoists have caused serious trouble in a number of Latin American states. Nepal's economic growth will have an impact far beyond just their lives at MIT, which fundamentally define our institute.

President Harvey Jones '06 is President of Dormitory Council and John R. Velasco G is a former UA senator from freshmen. She knows the administration and is willing to passionately advocate for the students when apathy and cynicism reign. expressed by other students. A few months later Jessie had managed to change the policy allowing community service punishments instead of fines. She knows that the creation of a mentoring program will help students and mitigate the decision's negative impact. She has bridged the gap between students and the administration by communicating with her constituency and acknowledging their needs and their criticism. She knows that she is not perfect, but that she is ready to listen and make improvements within the UA itself.

That's why Jessie's choice of Steven M. Kelch Jr. '07 as a running mate makes sense. Steve's willingness to "break in" within the UA to make sure that her job complements Jessie's ability to work with administrators on the outside. Steve knows how a community should be run — he has experience as a member of the Undergraduate Council and Panhel for Greek living groups. For these reasons, it is important that future generations of MIT undergraduate students are able to continue to choose their living group and become active and productive members of their communities in dorms, fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups. And for these generations, it is important that the undergraduate students be actively involved in decisions on the highest level, since they have an impact far beyond just their lives at MIT, which fundamentally define our institute.

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Opinions wanted: letters@the-tech.mit.edu

March 12, 2006

THE TECH

Page 5

Living and Learning in MIT's Middle East, 2006

Harvey Jones, John R. Velasco

Recently, administrators announced that the Housing and Dining Residences would be remodeled to accommodate undergraduates. As a current member of the staff, I am interested in the reasons for such a decision. Let us post-hypothetically, that undergraduate housing would be randomized with all dormitories at the housing system in 2008, as has been proposed at several functions in our time at MIT. In this scenario, from 2008 forward, there would be 12 undergraduate dorms at random, perhaps with a gender-based exception for McCormick — no lotteries, no i3, no REX. Why would this be a bad idea? It is a bad idea because the foundation of the MIT housing system is choice, and housing is an integral part of undergraduate life and learning. Choice of where to live is the foundation for much of the undergraduate experience at MIT, and making that choice empowers students to take on their role as adults. It is one of the highlights of the first year experience, and not just about housing.

For example, in recent years the Admissions department has widely realized that groupings are a vital and unique part of undergraduate life, and have used student communities to recruit potential students. Before the MIT Institute, pre-frosh have the privilege of learning that MIT's housing system is more than a collection of rooms where people that chose MIT and chose their living group and are fiercely proud of both choices. During

Campus Preview Weekend and throughout the year, MIT's student communities, sororities, and independent living groups open their doors to welcome prospective students and encourage their visits.

Choosing where to live is a multi-faceted decision, with consequences that can be made the first time, but certainly not the last. The housing decision requires freshmen to make decisions about roommates, food plans, and facilities that they will face numerous times throughout their lives. By giving students the ability to control where they live, MIT allows students to choose between Central and Kenmore, Boston Third and Third East, and between koshers, dining, a fraternity chef, or dorm-in- kitchen kitchens. Students value the opportunity to make these decisions free from restrictions by MIT — we don't discuss the requirement for freshmen to live on campus here.

Dorms at MIT are not equal in terms of the facilities that they offer, but the communities fostered by the residential system ensure that even the older dorms are among the most in demand. Students, faculty, and alumni often de- scribe the residential communities developed in our living groups as one of the strongest assets of student life.

MIT is an open institution, and one that gives its students a large amount of personal responsibili- ty. MIT rightly expects its students to use that independence wisely, and to a large extent, they do. By living together, students form communi- ties by self-selection, MIT fosters an atmos- phere of cooperation and respect among the residents of their dorm and the people in it. This responsibility is reflected in the day to day operations of the dorm, which are run by students. MIT has no role than merely supervising or organizing student leadership at MIT, from the Undergraduate Association Senate to the Dormitory Council, and the Interfraternity Council and Panhel for Greek living groups. Historically, living groups have been rec-ognized as a significant source of academic, so- cial, and emotional support, and the Task Force on Student Life and Learning in its 1998 report called the residential community the "heart of the MIT community."

The residential system remains today an essen- tial part of the MIT experience.
Panel: How to get MBAs and Technologists to Work Together

MODERATOR
Richard Resnick, CEO HarmonyLine and Former $50K Runner-up

Ahmet Ozalp
Atlas Ventures

George Cooney
BCE Capital

Bill Wiberg
Advanced Technology Ventures

Carl Stjernfeldt
Battery Ventures

From Technologists:
• What do MBAs actually add to my team?
• Will an MBA try to “steal” my company?
• How do I manage an MBA?

From MBAs:
• How do I approach a technologist?
• Which technology would best suit my idea?
• Which technologist will make the transaction to business from lab?

Wednesday, March 15, 2006
7 - 9 pm, E51-395

Check out our website for further information
http://50K.mit.edu
By Bruce Wu

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5th Picower-RIKEN Neuroscience Symposium
New Frontiers in Brain Science: From molecules to mind

SCHEDULE:
Sunday, March 26, 2006, 7:00-9:00pm
Monday, March 27, 2006, 9:00-3:00pm
Tuesday, March 28, 2006, 9:00-2:30pm

LOCATION:
The Picower Building, MIT
43 Vassar Street, Cambridge, MA
Auditorium: 45-350A
Humbert in the Picower Conference Room 45-330A

Sponsored jointly by the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory and the RIKEN Brain Science Institute of Japan, the Picower-RIKEN Symposium brings together many of the world's most distinguished and creative neuroscientists to present their perspectives on "New Frontiers in Brain Science." The meeting will also feature poster presentations by local graduate students and postdoctoral researchers. While the conference is free, registration is required by March 7 at: http://www.mit.edu/picower/symposium for registration information and full program details.

Campus Life

Ask Nutty B!

By Bruce Wu

Dear Nutty B,

I was chatting with this cute guy online recently. In the middle of the chat my internet got disconnected, and when I returned he was gone. I don't have his e-mail, but I want to explain myself. What is the appropriate etiquette? Should I stalk him?

— Cray Z

Dear Cray Z,

First of all, you don't happen to be "JuicyBabe," do you? If so — um — I mean my friend PimpleasticBeauPrince, wants you to know that no harm was done, he fell into a drooling sleep as he waited for you the other night. He wants me to let you know that he looks forward to another chat soon.

And if you aren't JuicyBabe, well, I don't really have any advice regarding the "proper" etiquette. Stalk him? Nah. If you don't know his contact info, how can you stalk him? If you could already trace his IP address using your stolen FBI gear, you wouldn't be asking me this question. I suppose my first piece of advice is to get rid of the dial-up, if you are still using it. Second, since I am an old-fashioned believer of destiny, I think if you two are meant to talk again, you will someday. If that's the case, then not only will you be able to exchange contact information, but you'll feel more "connected" because then you'll know you're both interested. Best of luck.

Dear Nutty B,

After a long year of debate with myself, I've finally decided to seek help from a psychiatrist for my depression. I've been on some medications for awhile now, and I've actually felt a lot better. The problem is that very often I feel that my friends, and even strangers, can sense I am taking medication, and that makes me uneasy. While I am a very social person, I want to keep that part of me private. What do I do?

— Slightly Paranoid

Dear Slightly Paranoid,

You can "sense" people's feelings now? Who are you, Miss Cleo, the psychic on TV? Can you also sense what I did last summer? If so, please let me know, so I can move those plastic garbage bags.

I would like to congratulate you first. It's very admirable and brave that you finally faced your inner demons and seek help, and there is nothing to be ashamed of. You are entitled to keep your private life, well, private. Perhaps you've changed and become more confident and cheerful, but that's a good thing, isn't it? These uneasy feelings about people's sensing your medications might be your own doing. One thing that might have an impact on your social life is that common anti-depressants require you to minimize your alcohol consumption. However, unless you are a well-known big lush like I am, no one should really notice any dramatic change if you don't drink at a party. If anyone asks, you can always say you like to have juice for the night because you are driving, walking, or, um ... singing. For peace of mind, I'd also talk to your doctor. I am sure he/she will provide you with the information that will make you sleep more soundly. At any rate, congratulations again on feeling better.

Ask Nutty B!
**A Saferide Experience**

It was a nice Saturday night at the beginning of October. It was around 6 o'clock and the temperature was in the low sixties. I had decided to do groceries for the first time since arriving at MIT. All by myself—without my money.

He was Hispanic, so I decided to make him feel at home.

Control No major sufficient dinner. Roads in a buscat was y reigns come on middle road.

I had fought too much stuff—a common mistake of novices and most experiencd people too. I didn't have enough money, so now I had to go back to get a couple more of the green things.

**Star Market**

Star Market is like a mile away from the Next House dorm. I thought that I could probably take the awesome Saferide, but I had never taken it before and I felt like walking at the moment.

I had been at the market for two hours, and could not even imagine the horror that I was about to see.

The temperature had dropped like twenty degrees and the wind was blowing like fifteen mph faster. There was nothing that could possibly make things worse.

**Everything at Star Market was going fine and deadly until...**

**Star Market**

Helping make your life easier!

Eavy tree-domain...

This sucks.
When majesty falls to folly

The MIT Shakespeare Ensemble presents KING LEAR, March 16-18, 23-25.

WANNA LEARN TO FLY?

Want people to fly with?
Want to take flying trips to:
- Cape Cod
- Martha's Vineyard
- Provincetown
and beyond?

INFO SESSION AND MIXER
March 15th, 7:30 – 8:30pm
35-225. Food provided!
U.S. Colleges Opening Minority Aid to All Students

By Jonathan D. Glater

Washington, March 13 — Facing threats of litigation and pressure from Washington, colleges and universities nationwide are opening minority aid to all students, a move that is pushing for the changes see the shift as a sign of success in eliminating race as a factor in decision making in higher education.

“Our concern is that the law be followed and that nobody be denied participation in a program on account of skin color or what country their ancestors came from,” said Roger Clegg, president and general counsel of the Center for Equal Opportunity, which has been pressing institutions to act.

“The great evil in this country is discrimination against white people,” Shaw said. “And it’s unfortunate that some organizations seem to view the success or failure of the program based simply on what percentage of students of this color or that color can participate.”

Advocates of focused scholarship programs like Theodore M. Shaw, president of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund Inc., challenge the notion that programs for minority students hurt whites.

“‘How is it that they conclude that the great evil in this country is discrimination against white people?’ Shaw asked. “Can I put that question any more pointedly? I struggle to find the words to do it because it’s so stunning.”

Shaw said protecting scholarships for minority students hurt whites.

The affected areas include programs for high schools and graduate fellowships. It is far too early to determine the effects of the changes on the presence of minorities in higher education and how far the pool of money for scholarships and similar programs will stretch.

Firm data on how many institutions have modified their policies is elusive. The shift as a sign of success in eliminating race as a factor in decision making in higher education.

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Textbook Costs, Dining Among Candidates’ Priorities

Lukmann and Miller said they would tackle the issue of textbook costs at the Coop, by having professors list any required textbooks for a course in the Registrar’s class listing, giving time for students to buy them ahead of time. They also cited a program at the University of Illinois, where students negotiated with textbook publishers directly, obtaining deep discounts through bulk purchasing. These savings were passed on to the student body without profit, they said. Miller and Lukmann also called for increased transparency in long-term administration planning, for example on construction projects such as the recently-announced closing of Ashdown, as well as less tangible issues such as reform of the undergraduate curriculum.

If elected, by what metrics will Lukmann and Miller judge the success of their administration? Miller said that she would “see what [Finance Board] budget looks like, and if we’re able to give student groups more money.” Lukmann cited getting student groups more money, by both reducing the UA’s budget and exploring non-traditional funding sources, as an important goal. Lukmann said he would gauge his success as UA president by a poll of students, and looking at how well he believes the UA “shares their voice to the administration.”

Lowell and Kelch

Lowell and Kelch emphasized they will hold people accountable. Their online campaign platform calls for replacement of ineffective UA members.

Kelch expressed desire for the UA to be the body students turn to whenever they have a question or problem regarding their relationship with the university. He said, for example, that many students do not know that there is such a thing as a SafeSite committee, to which they should take complaints or ideas. Ideally, Kelch said, students would automatically think of approaching the UA.

Lowell and Kelch agreed that the most important issue is preserving the culture and values like autonomy that make MIT MIT. Lowell illustrated the importance of this point by discussing her role in negotiating the current rooftop punishment policy. Originally the administration wanted to impose $500 fines, but Lowell proposed a policy that would replace fines for the first two offenses with community service requirements. “I’ve gotten more positive feedback on this than anything I’ve done,” she said.

Dining was another issue that Lowell and Kelch chose as being important to the MIT student com-

Their online campaign platform calls for replacement of ineffective UA members. Their online campaign platform calls for replacement of ineffective UA members.
Candidates Suggest Ways to Improve Communication

Candidates, from Page 12

with implementing a paid webmaster position would be that it would cut into Fundboard funding for student groups.

Reflecting on her past year as UA vice president, Lowell said, “Any year to any extent is going to be a mixed bag.” “There are some things that take more than a year to implement,” she said.

She said that one of the reasons

The UA needs to be fiscally responsible, and make sure groups do not overspend…

—Dwight Chambers

she picked Kelch as her running mate is because his ability complements hers. At one point she characterized their ticket as a combination of “Steve’s [Kelch’s] talents and my experience.” She said of her running mate, “I think Steve will be a good enforcer, getting people to do what they have to do.”

Kelch said he’ll know he’s done a good job “When I stop getting the question: what does the UA do?”

Chambers and Cabral

UA president candidate Chambers said he and Cabral make a strong pair, because they are “different and complementary people.”

Chambers said Cabral is “incredibly passionate” and will “ latch onto an issue and work to accomplish it,” while he tends to sit and think quietly.

Chambers said the UA needed to address budget issues and housing costs. Since MIT is working to make dormitories self-sufficient through rents, he said that he is concerned with ensuring that students can live in a dormitory they like, without being influenced by the cost. Reducing operating costs of dormitories would be important, he said.

In terms of changes that the average MIT student would notice a few months down the road, Chambers said he would like to improve the dining situation in the Student Center, namely the Lobdell food court, since changes in food vendors have caused it to lose popularity as a student meeting place. Also, Chambers stressed the importance of keeping 5 to 7 p.m. on weekdays free of makeup exams and extra laboratory time, because “MIT is a difficult place” and students need that time to pursue activities such as athletics, without academics getting in the way.

Within the UA, Chambers said his ticket would like to “make the UA a legitimate body,” reocus the committees, and run meetings efficiently, so that students would be more willing to get involved.

Additionally, the UA needs to be fiscally responsible, and make sure groups do not overspend, with the mentality that money comes from a bottomless pit. Chambers said this could be assured by having the UA follow more closely during groups’ budgetary processes, and make sure that they adhere to their budgets.

The Chambers-Cabral ticket is different from the other two, Chambers said, because it is realistic and makes promises that can be kept. “I really feel a strong difference emerged in the debate” last week, he said.

Chambers said if his ticket were elected, he would gauge its performance and shortcomings by looking at concerns next year’s candidates raise.

Another initiative their ticket believes in, Chambers said, is making sure non-resident fraternity members are not paying twice for dining because their dormitory has mandatory dining and their fraternity might also have meal plans. He accepted that freshmen would probably remain housed on campus at least in the near future, and said a compromise for this situation would be important.

To improve communication, Chambers said they would take a pragmatic approach by first identifying the “barrier to student participation.” He said part of the problem is location, as the fourth floor of the Student Center, the current setting of meetings, is not ideal. “[Cabral] and I are committed to taking the UA show on the road,” he said.

Candidates, from Page 12

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Study Break & General Body Meeting
Monday, March 20, 2006
8 PM – Baker Dining
Get involved. Get published.

20 chapters around the world
- Oxford, IIT Kanpur, Stanford, Harvard, Yale,
- UPenn, UC Berkeley, Johns Hopkins, Cornell,
- and more…

Nationally renowned
- CEO Kevin Hwang (Cornell, class of ’07)
  recently ranked top 20 undergrads in the nation
  by USA Today
and other programs for minorities was “at the top of our agenda.”

Travis Reindl, director of state policy analysis at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, said hundreds, if not thousands, of scholarship and fellowship programs historically used race as a criterion. Reindl estimated that as many as half of the four-year colleges in the United States had reviewed or modified such programs.

Neither the Justice Department nor Education Department, nor organizations on all sides of the discussions over affirmative action, have gathered statistics tracking the trend. In January, The Chronicle of Higher Education named more than 12 institutions that had made the changes.

Clegg said that since 2003 his center had sent 200 challenges to colleges and universities over race-based scholarships and other programs, warning of legal action if changes were not made. He said more than 150 institutions had broadened their programs in response. The two Supreme Court affirmative action decisions that are worrying the institutions involved the University of Michigan. In Grutter v. Bollinger, the court upheld the use of race in admissions decisions at the law school. It found that there had been a “highly individualized, holistic review of each applicant’s file” in which race could be properly considered.

Call for Nominations
2006 Student Art Awards

LAYA and JEROME B. WIESNER
STUDENT ART AWARDS

LOUIS SUDLER
PRIZE IN THE ARTS

The Laya and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Awards are presented annually to up to three students (undergraduate or graduate), living groups, organizations or activities for outstanding achievement in and contributions to the arts at MIT. Established in 1979, these awards honor President Emeritus Wiesner and Mrs. Wiesner for their commitment to the arts at MIT. An endowment fund provides a $1,250 honorarium to each recipient.

http://web.mit.edu/arts/about/awards/wiesner.html
http://web.mit.edu/arts/about/awards/sudler.html

Please send nominating letters (by email or campus mail) by Friday March 17, 2006 to: Susan Cohen, Director, Council for the Arts at MIT E15-205 cohen@media.mit.edu

Teach-in On Iraq War
Three Years Into This War - What the *** is Going On?

MIT W20-491 (Student Center)
FRIDAY MARCH 17, 3-6 PM
**Free Pizza After the Event**

What’s going on in Iraq now?

Why are we there?

Where do we go from here?

Share your thoughts and hear from a veteran from Iraq, fellow MIT students, and MIT faculty

Sponsors include: MIT Thistle, MIT Free Radicals, MIT Technology and Culture Forum, MIT GSC Funding Board

Contact: freeradicals@mit.edu

This space donated by
The Tech
By Mindy Brauer  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SPORTS INFORMATION

With an Institute record of 77 kills, the MIT Men’s Volleyball team defeated Johnson & Wales University, 30-23, 30-23, 29-31, 30-27, in a NECVA New England division match Saturday. Praveen Padminiukala ’08 paced the Engineers (18-8, 7-1 NECVA) with 21 kills, 12 digs, five blocks, two assists, and one ace.

After trading points to open the match, MIT scored three in a row for an 8-5 lead. Johnson and Wales tied the contest at nine, but a serving error by the Wildcats shifted the momentum in favor of the Engineers, who extended their advantage to four. Although Johnson & Wales cut the deficit to two (18-16), Tech controlled the rest of the game and won 30-23.

In the second game, Johnson & Wales led at 5-3, but behind Padminiukala’s serves, MIT went up 7-5 and maintained an advantage for the rest of the game. The Wildcats stayed close until a four-point run brought the Engineers’ lead to seven (22-15), a margin they held onto for another 30-23 win.

In the third game, Johnson & Wales started with four unanswered points. Facing a 10-6 deficit, Tech out-scored Wildcats 8-1 for a 14-11 advantage, but Johnson & Wales regained the lead on a four-point spree. The scoring see-sawed with the Engineers eventually pushing ahead, 25-23, but MIT couldn’t finish the game, and the Wildcats rattled off six straight to claim a 29-31 win.

The last game featured three time-outs as the Wildcats tried to prolong the match and the Engineers tried to get the job done. MIT maintained a small lead for the majority of the game until Johnson & Wales caught up at 24. The Engineers continued to attack and found themselves ahead 29-25. Wildcats drew within two, but Engineers took the match as a dig by Johnson & Wales sailed out of bounds.

Jordan X. Wan ’06 recorded his third double-double of the season with 15 digs and an Institute-record 67 assists in a four-game match, while tallying four kills. Kenneth K. Rosche ’08 contributed a career-high 19 kills and a .432 hitting percentage to the Engineers, and Thomas S. Polom ’09 had a career-high 15 kills.

MIT Men’s Volleyball Defeats Johnson & Wales 3-1

Irish Association of MIT presents St. Patrick’s Week Events

March 15th:
MIT-Harvard Seminar
Ambassador Richard Egan, US Ambassador to Ireland (2001-2003) Founder of EMC Corporation, 5:00-6:30 pm, Room 4-237

March 16th:
Seamus Brennan, T.D.
Minister for Family and Social Affairs
1:00-2:00 pm, W20 Chimneys, 3rd floor, Student Centre

March 17th:
Traditional Irish music session
11:00-12:30, W20 Room 491, Student Center

Summer UROP
 MIT Computer Science & Artificial Intelligence Laboratory

Want to have fun... work on interesting research... and get paid?

Find out about CSAIL summer research opportunities for undergraduate students:

Tuesday, March 21, 2006
4:00-5:00PM
32-G449/Patil Conference Room
MIT Stata Center

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