Insecm Officer Elections Important To Success Of Student Self-Government

by Robert B. Hillman

In many ways M.I.T. differs from most American colleges. But the least of these differences is the remarkable form of student government that prevails over many of the affairs of the undergraduate body.

One can search a long time before finding a student to manage successfully his own affairs. It is in this respect that M.I.T. differs from most American colleges. Not the least of these differences is the diversification of the duties and responsibilities of college officers. One is supposed to do, or is actually doing. Some of these tasks taken together and important to the success of a newsletter or conferences held between student government and student body. Two ways in which this can be accomplished by better communication between student government and student body.

The philosophy of the Institute administration is simple. It has faith in the ability of the student to manage successfully his own affairs.

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The heart of student government is contained in Institute Committee. For the last two years

(Continued on page 5)

Undergraduate Association Elections Issue

Malcolm M. Jones '57

UAP Statement

Who or what is the U.A.P.? Literally, he is the President of the Undergraduate Association. Factually, he is the President of the Undergraduate Association. For what is the Undergraduate Association? It's the only undergraduate members of the M.I.T.

The Undergraduate Association is the chief spokesman and representative of the administration and faculty to the student body. It's the Undergraduate Association's responsibility to effectively work with these groups for the benefit of the students whom he represents. Above all, the President must be a student that commands the respect of both the student group and structure of the whole undergraduate body. He must harmoniously work with the student groups with which he has to work.

In such a prominent position, you must have the cooperation of the student body. No matter how good your president is, he must have the cooperation of the student body. No matter how good you are, you must have the cooperation of the student body. No matter how good you are, you must have the cooperation of the student body. No matter how good you are, you must have the cooperation of the student body. No matter how good you are, you must have the cooperation of the student body.

As a member of the Institute Committee, for the last two years I have been working in close cooperation with the various activities and student aims of student government. Two means of communication could be the indoctrination of a newsletter or conference held between student government and student body.

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(Continued on page 5)
EDITORIALS

The UAP...

The success or failure of Institute Committee is almost wholly dependent upon one man—the UAP. He has the key role in planning the agenda, he has the more even vital role in controlling debate. He can focus attention on important issues, relegate mechanical matters to their proper place. The right man can accomplish something in the limited time available, the wrong man can exhaust the available time on trivia, bog down proceedings in unnecessary debate, render InsComm useless.

The leader of the undergraduate body, the UAP is in the best position to present our views to the administration, to argue for what we want. To be an effective lobbyist, he must know the Institute and the undergraduates, he must have the courage of his convictions, the strength to adhere to them, the ability to present them. He must also have the understanding and imagination to compromise when necessary.

As an administrator, he must be aware of the procedural limitations of InsComm and prepare to take steps to correct them. He must have an understanding of the various activities to be able to reform the unwieldy and often unfair system of representation. He must be creative enough to plan special events like the Discrimination Conference.

The position of Undergraduate Association President is a big one in name. It is even bigger in responsibility, in authority and in time. The necessary qualities of a UAP are difficult to determine from an activities record, a cumulative rating and a brief statement. You have the responsibility of making that difficult decision.

...The UAVP

Let’s face it—the job of Vice President doesn’t require too much. A Vice President with little understanding of the position, interest in the job or ability can fulfill the written obligations of the position. In return for an impressive title, he can give little effort and almost no service to the undergraduate body.

But a Vice President who does more than go through the motions can be of incalculable benefit. As a member of Executive Committee, he is in the best position to initiate policy. Interest and a keen mind can go a long way toward the solution of many of the much-debated and little acted upon problems—Senior Rings and the Commuter Center are two of the most conspicuous. A capable administrator can make the Vice President’s role of Coordinator of Sub-committees into a creative force. Not required to represent a particular faction, he can, if acquainted with the Institute, present a sound over-all position on any issue.

Interested, able and experienced, a Vice President can take some of the burden from the shoulders of the UAP, act as contact man between Institute Committee, the undergraduate body and the administration, carry out special projects, help to revise procedure.

The UAVP election can decide seriously who will best fill what could be and should be one of the most valuable, one of the most influential positions at the Institute—or it can be a popularity contest.

If you’re voting only for the best hand-shaker—do yourself a favor and leave that part of the ballot blank.
Candidates For Undergraduate Association Vice-President

UAVP Statement

On Tuesday the election for the Undergraduate resident and Vice President will be held. If this action follows the pattern of its predecessors five o'clock less than one third of the student body will have expressed its voice. Some will not to this as a mark of student apathy. I don't agree with this point of view for I believe lack of knowledge and not of interest is the main reason for our shortcomings at the polls. I say should you vote if you do not know those whom you are voting for, what they wish to accomplish?

Looking at it in this vein the candidates themselves are much more at fault for the lack of interest at the polls than the students. In general a candidate for an office takes a nomination petition, collects the required number of signatures, puts up a few posters and then stops. Well I might ask what more have I done. From the start of the campaign I have devoted my time going around meeting people individually. I believe that personal contact is much more effective than the printed word and I hope to continue this process. I have tried to get to this as a mark of student apathy. I don't agree with this point of view for I believe personal contact is much more effective than the printed word and I hope to continue this process. I have tried to get to know each student personally and I hope to continue this process.

Certain situations present within the Undergraduate Association deserve discussion in order to inform the voters of my views:

1. Undergraduate Association Financing—At present the U. A. must prepare a very detailed prospective budget once a year. Then the Finance Board must literally beg the administration for every penny, explain each small item in the budget, and finally take what it can get. A new plan, which I am supporting, is to receive the money on a direct amount-per-student-enrolled basis. This will allow the U. A. to set up its budget without administration control, to make long range plans, and to provide for truly independent student government.

2. The Athletic Association—The A.A., which is larger in its degree of student participation and in its budget than all other activities combined, is relatively low in the organization of the U. A. This was made noticeable when InsComm acted on some problems in which the A.A.'s opinion was needed, but was not available. I would like to give the A.A. representation on InsComm equal to that given to the other activities through Activities Council.

3. Intramural Sports—The high cost of refereeing fees has caused students to miss out on some of the better sports. I am in favor of an appropriation to cover a portion of the larger fees and thus increase participation in the Intramural Program. These three issues are not the only ones concerned with the Interfraternity council, and it is impossible to mention them all, but I am certain that they are some of the most important.

UAVP Statement

The position of the Vice President requires a lot of experience on the Institute Committee, plus a working knowledge of the other components of the Undergraduate Association—the activities. This experience is necessary for the Vice President to give sound advice and leadership to InsComm, and aid the President by handling special duties and committees that may be formed. During the past year my position as Secretary of the Institute Committee and member of the Executive Committee has enabled me to work with Dick Peskin, the present Vice President, and learn the duties of the office. The experience gained while on the Executive Committee and while Chairman of the Secretariat makes me well qualified to perform the duties of Vice President.

UAVP Statement

Believe it or not, my opinions on present day issues do not necessarily form the most important element in this election day discussion. Students are tired of hearing the campaign promises of all politicians. They have no way of knowing whether or not political promises will be carried out, or even whether or not the candidates will greatly strive to put forth their election day platforms. I shall not, therefore, bore you with campaign "lies", but I shall show you the true value of an excellent Undergraduate Association Vice President.

The Vice President is a liaison officer between the Institute Committee and the students on the one hand, and on the other hand between the Institute Committee and the administration. He must, therefore, not only possess knowledge of the Institute, but must also be able to work with people in an effective, efficient manner. I cannot emphasize enough the absolute importance of this liaison function. The Vice President's initial beliefs are almost negligible in significance as compared to his ability to seek out the problems of the Institute community, to logically present them in both Executive and InsComm meetings, to contribute a worthy part of the ensuing discussion, and to strive then for the adoption of the best possible solution.

I really shouldn't be perfectly honest with you if I were to say I shall push through legislation all of my present viewpoints on controversial issues. We all know that certain opinions on certain subjects sometimes change in the light of intelligent discussion. The most important thing is not what the incoming Vice President initially believes, but rather how he intends to seek out all those opinions and problems of the Institute community, to logically present them in both Executive and InsComm meetings, to contribute a worthy part of the ensuing discussion, and to strive then for the adoption of the best possible solution.

I firmly believe that both disclosure and broad discussion of issues are necessary essentials to the democratic process. Obviously, a communications system must be found which will enable our government to reach out and touch each and every hand. Perhaps a few of the following suggestions may better the present situation. Affected parties should be called in and encouraged to voice their opinions in InsComm debates on the issues at hand; boxes could be placed around the campus to receive suggestions and complaints from the students; more important,
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The Vice President may sit in on campus discussions and visit the various living groups (at dinner time, of course) once or twice a week so that he is always in personal contact with the M.I.T. student. He must bring forth these problems to executive committee and InsComm, he must add to the ensuing discussion through the help of his own creative mind, and he must endeavor to initiate the most logical legislation.

I can offer you no more than a creative mind anxious to seek out these problems. I want to find answers to these questions through the use of a somewhat different approach—not one dogmatically sticking to my initial position without truly hearing all the sides of the question—but one of carefully looking into the problem from all its sides. I want to show the committee that the voice from the outside is worth listening to. I believe that government has been successful because strong and capable men have been elected to office—given the privilege and responsibility of running this organization. As long as the undergraduate body continues to put capable men in office, the administration will continue to delegate power and responsibility to student government. This is the key fact in today’s election for Undergraduate Association President and Vice President.

Many new challenges face student government in the coming year—Dormitory Council may take part in planning a new undergraduate dormitory, for example. The proposed commuter center in Walker Memorial will necessitate experienced and capable men in student government’s top posts to consider and administrate planning. The proposed Student Union Building will once again be up for the consideration of the Institute Committee.

In all capacities, qualified, interested, ambitious, capable men are needed to fill the key positions. The election today will be of primary importance in choosing these leaders.

J. Paul Sheedy* Was An Udder Failure Till Wildroot Cream-Oil Gave Him Confidence

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LONG STATEMENT

(Continued from page 1)

by activities at M.I.T. should be revised so that the activities would be willing to turn over excess profits to the student union fund.

There are a great number of issues to be considered such as commons meals, code of ethics, evaluation of undergraduate instruction and cumulative rating system, and a system whereby many students attend Institute Committee meetings.

I am proud of the student autonomy at M.I.T. and propose to retain its current level or possibly increase it. I urge all the members of the Undergraduate to vote in this election to preserve this status and to elect the best representative of the undergraduate body.

JONES STATEMENT

(Continued from page 1)

I.F.C. Executive Committee I am intimately acquainted with the problems of the Fraternities. This term I am a commuter and I’m becoming acquainted with the commuter’s problems, especially parking. A vote on the Ring Committee has supplied me with intimate experiences and information as to what dormitory living is like, and what problems, such as commons meals, the dormitory students face.

As for student government, I’ve continuously been a member of InsComm since the beginning of my Freshman year. In this capacity I’ve served on numerous special committees and several prominent sub-committees such as the Freshman Coordinating Committee and the Student Union Committee. Besides this, I’ve actively participated in musical groups, religious groups, honorary societies, and also worked as a member of a student staff.

I ask for your vote so that you may capitalize on this experience.

THOMAS STATEMENT

(Continued from page 3)
suggestions than a code of ring ethics and then place our trust in the ability of the students we elect or, secondly have the ring companies submit their rings unaccompanied by salesmen and have the selection of the ring made without the selectors having knowledge of which company submitted which ring. I personally believe that on the whole this year’s Senior Ring Committee did a good job and that although some improvements are necessary I do not think that it is required to treat the Ring Committee like infants and bar them from all correspondence with the various companies.

2) To my mind the undergraduate aspiration should be independent of financial control by the administration. Tech fosters the idea of independence among the students and in student government. However, this ideal is hardly realized when many plans of InsComm and other school activities depend upon financial consent of the school. I am not asking for unlimited funds, but rather for complete control over the funds set aside for us. I believe such action would add greatly to the initiative of undergraduate activities.

THE BOYS were having a bull session in Sheedy’s room. “It’s no yoke!” bellowed Sheedy. “Heffe-y girl I ask for a date turns me down flat.” Then Sheedy’s roommate spoke up: “There’s good moos tonight J. Paul. Try some of my Wildroot Cream-Oil on those cowlicks.” Sheedy did and now he’s the cream of the campus. Wildroot keeps his hair handsome and healthy looking the way Nature intended... neat but not greasy. Contains the beard of Lanolin, the very best part of Nature’s finest hair and scalp conditioner. Get Wildroot Cream-Oil, America’s largest selling hair tonic. In bottles or unbreakable tubes. Gives you confidence... you look your best. There’s no udder hair tonic like it.

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Page five

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