**Commission sets Nov. for release of report**

By Duif McRoberts

"The feeling is strong in the Commission that significant changes in student affairs are in order," according to MIT Student Affairs Chairman Kenneth Hoffman.

In November, the Commission will propose a range of recommendations to the Institute community.

Instructed last year by President Smith to examine and make recommendations for changes that it may find desirable, the Commission has collected and evaluated a tremendous volume of evidence from a wide variety of sources.

When the report is released later this fall, the Commission "will propose a schedule for the review and discussion of the report by the entire MIT community," The recommendations are expected to be examined in detail on the future course of the Institute.

Parts of a statement made to The Tech by Prof. Hoffman for the Commission are printed below:

The Commission has, however, declined to reveal specifically any part of the report, owing to legal reasons.

After taking testimony from students, administrators, and faculty members, and analyzing reports from the Student Homophile League (SHL) and from other groups, the Commission formed panels to further investigate various topics. According to Staff Director Toot Olris, the panels were composed of people both inside and outside MIT, and inside and outside the Commission. One special panel, for example, was made up of critics of the educational system from several universities.

Olris said that the Commission "would probably issue follow-up reports later."

Excerpts from Prof. Hoffman's statement:

"When we talk about changing M.I.T., we are not talking about a low-cost, low-yield experiment. Although we may sometimes take our strengths for granted, and we are probably more aware of our weaknesses than others who know the Institute.

In his decision, Nyhart spoke of the different types of homosexuality: exploratory, facsimile, compulsive, and exploitative. He stated he was "not convinced that the concept of seduction at a mixer such as that proposed, and cited the "probable unhappiness that homosexuality brings to many persons." Nyhart also wrote about the distinction between public and private acts. He emphasized that the administration did not plan to suppress the SHL. On the contrary, Nyhart felt that education on the subject of homosexuality was necessary, and that the SHL should continue working along this line.

Nyhart apologized for his actions at the meeting, Nyhart apologized for his actions at the meeting, saying that the word referred only to what he called "compuls-ive" homosexuality and adding that he would prefer the word "aberration."

By Bill Mayhew

The Institute's search for a new President entered a new phase as the Corporation Joint Advisory Committee on Institute-Wide Affairs (CJAC) held a hearing to interview candidates for the position.

CJAC was assigned the role of considering and recommending candidates to a Corporation committee handling the search, for a successor to Howard John-son, who leaves the Presidency next June to become Chairman of the Corporation.

Monday night's meeting was primarily organizational. The only important announcement was that meetings to discuss the qualifications of individual can didates will be closed to the public. CJAC chairman Gregory Smith said that this was due to historical evidence of withdrawal by candidates at other insti tutes when they were to be con sidered under the open view of the public. Future meetings will be open.

Student ideas sought

Smith also announced that Randy Hawthorne, a member of Alpha Tau Omega, will chair a committee composed of the student members of CJAC, whose purpose will be to seek student opinion regarding the duties of the President, as well as possible candidates for the office.

The job lies ahead for CJAC is a complex, time consuming one, President John son, who attended the meeting along with Corporation Chair man Dr. James Killian, emphasi zed that CJAC should have its recommendations in by March 1 at the latest. The Committee must once a week to fulfill this request.

President Johnson discussed with the members of CJAC some of the problems his successor will have to face. "He ought to be someone who really under stands . . . the striveing, the hopes, and the purposings of everyone in the organization," Johnson will also have to cope with "the massive problem of making the Institute work." In conclusion, Johnson "will have to face these differentiated programs that will make this institution an innovative one."

In addition to suggesting candidates for a new President, CJAC "will have to be examining the responsibilities of the Pro vest, the Chairman of the Fac ulty, the Chairman of the Corpora tion and the various Deans to see how they can best complement each other."

Dean of Engineering to resign next week; no replacement set

The present Dean of Engineering, Raymond Bisplinghoff, said in an interview that he will resign as dean sometime next week.

Bisplinghoff is to become the deputy director of the National Science Foundation, and President Johnson has appointed a committee to nominate a new dean. The nomina tion of the committee will be forwarded to Johnson who will make the appointment within two weeks.

The recommendation of the committee will be awarded to President Johnson as soon as possible, probably within a few weeks. There is no doubt that the committee will be appointed, according to President Johnson. There is no question that the committee has been from the MIT faculty for weeks."

Chairing the committee is Prof. Louis Smullin, head of the physics department. bisplinghoff, with him on the commit tee are Gerald Austin of the Massachusetts Institute of Techn ology, P. V. Kaiser, chairman of the Aerospace Engineering Department, Frank Jones, Louis Bucciarelli, Arthur Eypen, Alfred Keil, Tom King, Bob Marsh, and Mark Pugh, who is both president of the committee and President of the Graduate Student Council. Since 1881.

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Educational Reform I

MIT seems headed for a rather quiet fall. Last year's issues -- disciplinary processes, war research, ROTC, coed housing -- are unlikely to provoke a new storm of argument.

Perhaps the community could benefit from this tranquility by developing in a new area -- educational reform. For too long student and faculty leaders have ignored this crucial issue: no major action has been taken since Mike Albert's Ad Hoc Committee For Change introduced their no-grades, no-requirements proposals during the 1968-69 school year. In fact, February, 1969, marked the last faculty vote on a reform issue: the faculty rejected (a radical?) CEP proposal to eliminate chemistry from the list of Institute requirements.

If MIT's educational plan so roared that so minor a detail as the chemistry requirement cannot be changed? Are the current mechanisms of required courses, grades, and degrees relevant to the needs of today's students? We think not. The justification for requiring certain subjects, for example, is threefold: 1) The "well-rounded education" goal is boosted, 2) the student is prevented from going astray, and 3) the degree's "worth" is securely established. Of course, requiring at least a passing grade in several specific courses does not insure that the student will emerge well-rounded; it does insure that many students will take courses they find irrelevant to their own goals. As for point two, it may be that the student knows what is best for him or her -- what he needs from the faculty is suggestions, not a rigid routine. Finally, a degree, under any current definition, has little inherent value. The sheepskin is only a passing grade in a bias-full system; it communicates next to nothing.

Moving on to grades themselves, for too long they have been misused. Grades should provide a means for the student and teacher to evaluate development. The student can measure his competence with the material, while the professor can determine whether the student has learned. And flexibility? Students that desire a grade, for example, need only request that their professor include one as part of his analysis. And there would be no worry about whether to give "credit" for activity done outside MIT; the student could prepare a summary of his efforts for insertion, perhaps analyzed as well by an interested faculty member.

And how may students work toward these goals? The most important tactic is personal contact with faculty members. Speak with your professors, take large groups of options available. It is the faculty, not the administration, that will ultimately vote on any reform program. As for concerned faculty, they are the ones with the power to encourage formal consideration of these and other new ideas. We ask them to lead their colleagues into a discussion of MIT's evalu- ation structure as a possible replacement for it.

Finally, The Tech does not seek to upstage the MIT Commission. We introduce these ideas for fear that the Commission report will be cast in the familiar structure of further refinement on the present evaluation structure while neglecting to consider the broader issues of its essential worth. By presenting our thoughts now, we hope to spark a debate on this essential facet of educational reform.

Ed. discussions with the city are vis-a-vis Brookline in the Tuesday meeting.

Correction

The reference to Sigma Nu Vice-vis Brooke line in the Tuesday issue of The Tech was incorrect. No plans have been bandied; discussions with the city are not in the offing.

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Commission to release main report in 2 months

(Continued from page 1)

student as he moves through his community just as other mixers do for the MIT straight minority. SHL would abide all the usual rules governing use of the Student Center, he said. It merely wanted equal treatment.

In the discussion that followed Tillotson's remarks it was proposed that SHL wait two months in order to conduct a large-scale educational campaign, thus possibly satisfying the administration, which would facilitate the mixer, he said, without it involving the Administration.

After the meeting, Tillotson commented that he was disappointed with the tabling action and announced that after the persons who proposed the motion spoke in favor of tabling, Robert's Rules of Order did not permit further discussion on the motion.

Other business in the meeting included approving committee nominations, lowering of the quorum to one-third, passing an amendment limiting to one the number of Executive Committee members from the same living group, and passing a motion from the floor affecting the UA with the National Student Association (NSA), "in order to further the advantage of the students and the experience, we propose to assist the NSA, and to assist the NSA in informing the membership," the NSA is a twenty-year-old group representing colleges and universities, with policies set by a vote of the member schools. The resolution would not affect the NSA, such as their legal right to charter, could be of help to the UA. First year members is $5, and what wider action the GA might wish to take at this point a motion to table the motion was proposed in order that the GA could try to change the Administration opinion, rather than simply pass the motion, which might be an ineffective proposal. The motion was passed by a vote of 19 to 4, after Tillotson tried to get the committee set up to convince the Administration to give GA a ruling on the mixer. The committee will also consider possible restrictions on the mixer which would satisfy the Administration.

(Turned to next page)
Football to start on weekend

Intramural football opens this weekend with some changes in format but no change in the favored contenders for the trophy. Once again, SAE's A, LCA, and BTP should dominate play with DTD fielding a strong team. Also in the eight team A league will be PLP, PDT, and DU, rounded out with the powerful defending champion SAE's also

fielding a strong 'B' team. Burton House, perennially a tough team, will not participate in the A league because of the MacGregor-Burton-in-Exile split. The top favorites, last year's playoff opponents, LCA and SAE 'A' figure to dominate the league, with some tough competition expected from BTP. The format changes come in

the lower leagues, where round robin play has replaced the previously used mode of tournament play. There are 3 six-team B leagues, 3 six team C leagues, and one 8 team D league. The abolition of IM points has made it unnecessary to rank every team and the new league structure hopes to take advantage of this. Rained-out games may be replayed more conveniently and nobody's season will be cut short by a tournament loss or failure to make the play-offs. Also new this year is the creation of the post of Head of Referees, to be filled by Mike Goldman '71. He will be responsible for finding referees for each game and actually being on the fields to see that the games are started on time.

The action starts this weekend with key games including LCA 'A' vs. DU, BTP vs PDT 'A' on Saturday and with DTD vs SAE 'B', SAE 'A' vs. PLP on Sunday.'