The high cost of research rules

By Mike McNamee

Social programs like equal opportunity hiring, Social Security, and occupational safety, have a broad-based effect: their federally-mandated costs hit corporations and businesses as well as not-for-profit educational institutions.

But there is another kind of cost imposed by the government on its aid-receivers and contract-seekers that adds a special burden which hurts colleges and private institutions much more than it does Lockheed or GM. It's a burden measured in increased capital costs, increased staff costs, and increased time and effort spent in every phase of research preparation and review. When the costs of this additional burden are separated from regular research costs, they appear staggering -- and, more significantly, it is often almost impossible to recover them.

The burden comes from a growing volume of federal rules and regulations governing sponsored research in any number of fields. While providing less and less money for research, the government is paying more and more attention to how it is spent and what safeguards are being used by researchers who spend it.

This government concern has, in the last five years, expanded the traditional controls governing medical research on human subjects and safeguarding of radioactive substances to encompass new regulations on animal care, protection of subjects in sociomedical research, and control of carcinogenic (cancer-causing) substances. New regulations governing control of research in microbiology are reported under consideration.

Frat split on paying tax

By Henry Fiorentini

While MIT faculty petitioned the board for payment of the 8 percent sales tax approaching quickly, fraternity officers were petitioning the administration to keep houses in line while saving considerably on the cost of escaping or amending the levy.

Fraternity officers contacted by The Tech have taken a broad stance on the matter. They are not opposing their hope of measures in the legislature to exempt non-profit organizations, but they are opposing the payment of the tax by the fraternity. "We will just have to pay it. Or else we can get thrown in jail." Fraternity officers asked not to be identified in releasing these comments, fearing a serious risk in deliberately avoiding the extra tax of up to $1,000 a year. They also asked for emphasis on the use of the penalties for "fudging the books."

This is a basic approach to the tax being taken. Some fraternity officers intend to comply with the law, regardless of what they feel about it.

About two-thirds of the houses have asked for registration under the law. Others, however, are adopting a "wait and see attitude," hoping to avoid payment until the chance for going to court comes up. Some houses have been fully tested. These houses hope that enforcement will be tax enough that they can escape fines if they delay until the exemption of subjects in sociomedical research, and control of carcinogenic (cancer-causing) substances is built, and additional staff are needed to assist them in keeping them and other standards are met.

The whole process is expensive. And as often as not, the only way the institution can reduce the financial strain on its facilities and staff -- without even trying to provide the personnel needed for research on the result: less money going to salaries and materials for research, more money going to overhead; less money available for research in the end, but revenue.

In the area of "thorahars," for example, MIT is about to move ahead of the government by appointing a Committee on Biohazards to review research dealing with recombinant DNA -- with all the overtones of "gene splicing." The task is built in such work and research on organisms which are normally pathogenic -- like tumor-producing viruses. But government officials, according to Professor of Biology Maurice Fox, and they are not "alarming to the public and costly."

The estimated that the Biology Department alone would need a closed facility involving several hundreds of square feet to handle recombinant DNA research. Staff for the facility would include two full-time

MIT pledges to bar bias in Arab pact

Echoes of the controversy over discrimination in contracts with Arabs were still being heard recently when MIT joined more than 100 other colleges and universities in assuring the American Jewish Committee that they will take an equal-opportunity stance in dealing with Arabs.

A query from the Committee's domestic affairs commission expressing concern that institutions might be forced to bar Jews, blacks and women from research work for the oil-rich Arab nations drew a prompt response from President Wiesner's office, according to Administrative Assistant Barbara Wollan.

"We sent them a brief letter along with newslips and statements that were made last spring when the Saudi contract was an issue," Wollan explained. "A few weeks later we got a letter from them thanking us for our response and a statement listing us among the schools which had pledged not to accept exclusionary contracts."

MIT's position on such potential discrimination was illustrated by the number which was offered by the Institute in a recent three-year research and development contract with Saudi Arabia. Wiesner wrote the Saudi group stating that MIT would use a special "icense clause" because Student Affairs Ken Browning's

"We were told by several officials that America's colleges and universities had been so sensitized to the issue of nondiscrimination that almost any action that we need have no concerns that any reputable school would consider entering into a contract that had a racial, religious or political clause," Wollan told The Chronicle of Higher Education.

The Institute's Committee of Privacy has found that setting aside discrimination is like grabbing a tar baby -- as soon as one part gets loose, another comes free.

Each area which the committee has approached in its planning study of privacy of employer records has broadened into a separate field of interest, leaving the committee with more and more paths to pursue, according to committee members.

The "Update" on the committee on Academic Performance in Friday's issue for the period was given.

Since the question of the discrimination has been raised in contract discussion between Arab nations and Israeli universities, several big ten schools, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and the state of California. Realization that such investments are an important and current issue on campus and would increase in time went on."
NOTES

- Freshman Evaluation Forms are due in Room 207, Dec. 11. Last chance to change dorms is Jan. 2, due to Institute closing.

- An interview is currently being organized for students interested in the interaction between technology and law in the worlds of science, government, and industry. Students may be able to earn both credit and a stipend working in the Institute on technical assignments. An informational meeting will be held from 4 to 6 this afternoon in Room 1156. Contact Tim Bird, X-1360, for details.

- The FAC Office is looking for a creative, innovative, responsible undergraduate desigualte to serve as the 1975-76 Co-ordinator for the February, 1976 issue, and $1,000. Proposals are due by Jan. 15. Stop by the FAC Office soon for details.

- Tryouts for Dramashop's IAP major production, Ben Johnson's Elizabethan comedy "The Alchemist," will be held at the Kresge Little Theatre on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday evenings, Dec. 8, 9, or 10 at 7:30 p.m. Directed by John W. Culler, the play is produced by Creatis Edler, William Foggio, and Edward Dana.

- Students for course 4.921, Creative Photography, will be introduced to the facility. The first meeting will be in the Creative Photo Lab from 4 to this afternoon in Room 11 Dunster St., Harvard Square (next to the Holyoke Center). Informational meeting will be held from 4 to 6 this afternoon in Room 1156. Contact Tim Bird, X-1360, for details.

- A concert of Contemporary Choral music will be given by the Fine Arts chorale at 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 17 in Kresge Auditorium.

- The Choral Society of America, Boston Area, will present a concert of Contemporary Choral music, "Eldorado," "Alla Borocco," and "Chanson et Bourree." Tickets are $2.75. Informational meeting will be held from 4 to 6 this afternoon in Room 11 Dunster St., Harvard Square (next to the Holyoke Center). Informational meeting will be held from 4 to 6 this afternoon in Room 1156. Contact Tim Bird, X-1360, for details.

- A series of photojournalism courses in the fall will be offered by the Fine Arts School. The courses will cover topics such as photography, lighting, and composition. Contact the Fine Arts School for more information.

- Special to The Tech

A new Board of editors and managers will take over operation of The Tech in February, following an election held Saturday morning in the newspaper's Student Center offices.

The new 18-person board, elected in a tedious 24-hour-long meeting, will be responsible for the 96th annual volume of the student newspaper. The volume will begin with the Feb. 3, 1976 issue and last one year.

Unlike past elections, which were often highly contested, all-filed affairs, this year's meeting was relatively predictable, with very few contested positions. Volume 96 Chairperson will be current Managing Editor Julia Malakie '77, an economics major. Malakie is the second consecutive Managing Editor to be "rewarded" with the ceremonial position.

Sports Editor Glenn Brownstein '77 was named Editor-in-Chief of the new Board, as four prospective opponents dropped out on election day, making the native New Yorker the first non-Harvard student to hold the position in 10 years. Brownstein '77 and David Schaller '78, while editors remain Tom Klirnowicz '77 and David Schaller '78, while the position of Arts Editor was left vacant.

In recognition of services rendered to The Tech for the past term, special student Thomas Mayer (Dartmouth '77) was named a contributing editor, along with two former Editors-in-Chief Paul Schindler '74, Financial Consultant Len Tower, and retiring Chairperson John Hessel '76.

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876-0876. Representing Aetna, Travelers, Hartford-

Announcing the opening of the quietest place on campus to study.

It's your brain. But listening to yourself think with all the noise around you can sometimes be a real hassle. You've got to keep out the bad vibes, harsh noises, heavy music, whatever.

The Tech

The MIT Musical Theatre Guild announces its April production

"Fiddler on the Roof"

Music by JERRY Bock
Lyrics by SHELBY HARNICK
Auditions
Feb. 7, 8 and 9
For further information call 253-6294
Coop reveals that they are neighborhood stores. But when competitive prices approach bargain status, the percent discount for 1975, the factory rebate, such as Timex watches, might be even lower or, in some cases, significantly less than those prices at other stores.

On fair trade items (merchandise on which the price is set by the factory, such as Timex watches) the Coop rebate affords a margin of savings over all other stores.

In the second of a series of pricing comparisons, The Tech compared prices of some household and health goods, Coop prices minus their rebate tended to be lower, but, in some cases, significantly less than those prices at other stores.

On fair trade items (merchandise on which the price is set by the factory, such as Timex watches) the Coop rebate affords a margin of savings over all other stores.

On fair trade items (merchandise on which the price is set by the factory, such as Timex watches) the Coop rebate affords a margin of savings over all other stores.

By Peter G. Balbus

The rebate helps

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Groups of 10 or more save when they purchase tickets 48 hours in advance and take off together. You can each return separately, if you like. Good everywhere we fly.

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Leave before noon on weekdays—anytime on weekends.

Weekend. Save up to 25% on your roundtrip ticket when you go and return on a Saturday or Sunday.

For complete information on all of our money-saving discount travel plans and flight reservations, see your Travel Agent or call your local Allegheny Airlines reservations number. And get ready to go home or anywhere else.
The week-long rape

By Michael McNamee

The end of the term is upon us all. The last week of classes is here, last papers, quizzes, and tests are taking their toll, and the faculty is busy with its usual end-of-semester ritual of students and staff. Rape? There's no other word for it. Faculty action over the past few years has unfortunately deprived students of one-fourteenth of the semester and come close to killing students with the crushing burden of semi-legal tests and cheating practices that leave most students absolute zeroes just before what used to be the most important week of the term - Finals Week.

Used to be - because Finals Week doesn't really exist anymore. Finals week now is a ghost of its former self, a mockery of the idea that students should be given a small breathing space and study period before they're called upon to recall the entire content of a course and be examined on it. All the tests that were once in Finals Week have been moved to the "last week of classes" - when no one holds classes anymore - to be added to the term papers, lab projects, and quizzes already associated with that time.

No one really has a grip on the problem, and most faculty will tell you that they don't have a term problem until Finals Week have been moved to the "last week of classes" - when no one holds classes anymore - to be added to the term papers, lab projects, and quizzes already associated with that time.

The week-long atmosphere exists anyway, and under circumstances such as those at MIT it is probably more intense competition that occurs when make-or-break emphasis is put on a test. This is because term papers are never as immediate or seem as important as a test. Before the "finals atmosphere," students are concerned. Performance on the tests that are given suffers, because the whole idea of a final exam is to allow some time for review and study. Finally, the feeling of pressure and anxiety that they're getting finals hour by hour, day by day.

There are drawbacks in the traditional system. Many professors don't like the "finals atmosphere" - the feeling of pressure and intense competition that occurs when make-or-break emphasis is put on a test. This is because term papers are never as immediate or seem as important as a test. Before the "finals atmosphere," students are concerned. Performance on the tests that are given suffers, because the whole idea of a final exam is to allow some time for review and study. Finally, the feeling of pressure and anxiety that they're getting finals hour by hour, day by day.

To the Editor:

There was a shocking letter to the editor in The Tech of Dec. 2 about nuclear power plants. It was one of those pieces whose overly emotional prose pretends to be merely humanistic, but whose幼稚ism washes out the meaning of the subject.

The letter's authors complained about the objectivity of a report mentioned in the Nov. 5 Tech Talk concerning the safety of nuclear power plants. The authors claimed "such objectivity about human life and health is like the objectivity of counting corpses in a pile - it treats people like so much meaningless matter and denies, that human life must outweigh considerations of economic efficiency and progress."

What the authors have forgotten is that they are the ones (along with several more rational individuals) who first asked the important question, "How safe are nuclear power plants?"

Regrettably, when the authors got an answer to their question, they refused to accept any answer on the grounds that such things cannot be measured scientifically. How, then, did they ask the question in the first place? Should we leave it to humanities professors to determine the likelihood of a nuclear accident and its consequences, given their background in mathematics, engineering, materials science, biology, meteorology and earth science (all of which are involved in such calculations)? It seems more reasonable to give the job to scientists, who can then tell the humanists that nuclear power plants are safer than this and more dangerous than that; and leave the humanists to figure out the philosophical fine points of social good and evil, a problem to which they can better relate.

If we believe that engineers should stick to engineering, and artists to creating art. But if an artist asks a technical question of an engineer, he should respect a concrete answer in ink on paper, and not expect an impressionistic landscape on canvas.

Tom Bracewell '76

Sculpture Debate

To the Editor:

It would be tragic indeed if the generosity of sculptor Louise Nevelson, and her produced interest in MIT, was wasted by slap in the face this Wednesday when she comes to our campus for the dedication of her sculpture ("Transcendent HORIZON") and the discussion of it with the MIT community. Yet the Committee on the Visual Arts does not feel that a forum should be provided for open debate on the issue, and invites all interested persons, both pro and con, to attend a forum on Monday, Dec. 15 in the Bush Room, 10-103. Persons interested in addressing the issue from the platform should contact me at x-7612.

All students, staff, faculty and administration are invited to participate.

Wayne Anderson, Chairman, Committee on the Visual Arts

The Tech welcome letters to the editor. Typed letters are preferred. Letters must be signed, names will be withheld upon request. Send letters to The Tech, W20-483.
Tonight at 8:30, the latest presentation by the MIT Community Players, is a work that lives up to the reputation of the company—a reputation founded on being one of the best theatre groups at MIT while at the same time being one of the least known. The Players have, as always, drawn their talent from all segments of the MIT community to put together a lively and successful show.

A Noel Coward classic, Tonight at 8:30 consists of three separate, unrelated acts with the “English way of life” serving as the sole cohesive theme.

The first segment, “Ways and Means,” concerns itself with the dilemma of a destitute couple in the middle of the Riviera. Stella and Toby Cartwright wrangle their way out of debt by collaborating with an ex-chauffeur to rob a friend. Blanch Garfein and William DiPasquale play the impoverished pair with flair and a knack for Coward’s lines which no other actor in the show could match. “Fumed Oak,” the second vignette, is a portrait of a man who decides to leave his wife after fifteen years of marriage. Michael Morris gives the best performance of the evening as the husband who stands secure against the railing of his wife, daughter, and mother-in-law as he tries to make them see that he finally knows who he is and what he wants to do with his life. Morris’s presentation is outstanding.

“Red Peppers,” the final scene, is the worst of the three. Nearly incomprehensible when performed well, this scene suffered badly from a lackluster performance with dropped lines, mediocre acting, and poor lighting. The Players’ direction doesn’t get behind the humorous sketch, the dance numbers and backstage banter to point up the main theme: the feelings and interactions of a married couple who have been on stage with each other for more years than either cares to remember. Neither Debbie LeMieux or Jeff Schwartz, who play Lily and George Pepper, is a dancer. They panted heavily throughout the entire act. And to add insult to injury, neither should have attempted any type of British accent without far more work.

The set for all three vignettes consists of a back wall, door, and window, with interchangeable curtains and furniture. This arrangement works only in “Fumed Oak”, as “Ways and Means” makes it look run-down and it seems too nice for “Red Peppers.” Costumes by Ellen Mason are good, especially in “Ways and Means.”

With the exception of a few flaws mentioned above, Tonight At 8:30 was a success, and was received well by the audience. The next MIT Community Players production is Hamlet, scheduled for February, with tryouts scheduled for February 14-17.
Federal rules hit hard

(Continued from page 1) Professional experts expect contain-
ment of microscopio substances, and a number of other skilled employees. Maintenance of the facility and its expensive equip-
ment would be critical.

"You're talking about a sub-
stantial sum of money - I'm not
sure if it's in the hundreds of-
thousands-per-year range on the
millions range," Fox said. "The
expenditures to meet these stan-
dards are enormous."

And recovery of the funds
spent will be difficult. One-time
grants from the National Insti-
tute of Health may be available to
help pay for the renovations
needed, Fox said, but the only
way to pay the long-term staff
and maintenance costs is through
overhead increases - imposing a higher rate on the
salary and materials component of
research funds to go for administra-
tion and facilities. The result, Fox
said, may be a cut in total research.

"Total grant funds in bio-
medical research have dropped
by a real factor of two in the last
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"Total grant funds in bio-
medical research have dropped
by a real factor of two in the last
to six to eight years," Fox ex-
plained. "If more facilities are
needed, Fox said, but the only
way to help pay for the renovations
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Sports

Last-match effort wins meet, rescues wrestlers' win streak

By Farrell Peteman
MIT Wrestling Coach Will Chassey received a few additional gray hairs Saturday as he watched his mostly young and unpolished team upset Wesleyan University to grab a come-from-behind victory in the last period of the last match of a triangular meet held in Rockwell Cage at MIT.

MIT defeated Wesleyan 23-22 and overpowered Bowdoin 37-10. By defeating both teams, MIT attained a perfect 3-0 record which it takes into a long Christmas break before it meets Harvard on January 13.

The MIT wrestlers started slowly, losing the first of three rounds behind Wesleyan 6-13 and Bowdoin 0-9. Losing ground against Bowdoin, yet losing to Wesleyan in the second round, MIT entered the last series of matches leading the former 15-9 and behind the latter 19-22. Winning the lightweight final-round matches against Wesleyan, MIT trailed by three points with only freshman 177-pound Bruce Wroble, undefeated in his first three intercollegiate matches, to wrestle.

By new NCAA scoring rules, an individual wrestler can earn his team three points with a win by decision, four team points by a "superior decision" (winning by eight or more points), five team points by a "superior decision" (winning by a margin of twelve points or more), or six team points by pinning his opponent. In order for MIT to win, Wrobel had to not only beat the 177-pound Wesleyan grappler, but beat him by at least eight points. He won 10-1.

Senior co-captain Erland van Latessa from Wesleyan defeated his perfect record, pinning Vose of Wesleyan 34-5 and Tsagarakis of Wesleyan 7-5. Davidsen now has a 3-0 regular season record.

At 150 pounds the junior team of John Thain and Steve Brown showed great strength with Thain pinning Wingood of Bowdoin and Brown defeating co-captain 6-9 in two tough matches. Thain picked up a forfeit from Bowdoin 3-4, 142-pound Joe Scire '77 had tougher luck, losing both his matches, as did Werner Haag 77 134 pounds.

Sophomore Steve Brigham picked up a forfeit from Bowdoin, while freshman Mort Issacion pinned Renjalli of Bowdoin and lost to Escalera of Wesleyan 0-10.

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Hockey club defeats Gordon 5-1 to snap three-year losing streak

By Lee Weinstein

The MIT hockey club won its first game since February of its 1979-80 season. The Engineers defeated Gordon College 5-1, with a very satisfying performance.

The meet was characterized by strong performances and a fast pace. The Engineers dominated the early stages of the game, and the first goal came midway through the first period, giving MIT a 1-0 lead. The second goal was added just 1:10 later, and the Engineers continued to control the game in the second period, adding two more goals to their lead.

The Engineers played well defensively as well, holding Gordon to just two goals in the game. The defense was led by goalie Al Lewis, who made several key saves to keep the Engineers in the game.

The victory gives MIT a much-needed win and provides a boost of confidence for the team heading into future games.

Basketball drops three straight

By Glenn Broomstein

Inconsistency was the story of the season so far for the MIT basketball team. They recently lost three straight games, dropping them to 4-6 for the season.

The first game was against Brandeis, where MIT lost 70-56. The Engineers were unable to keep up with the high-scoring team, which scored 38 points in the second half alone.

The next game was against Norwich, where MIT lost 68-60. The team was unable to overcome a 10-point halftime deficit and were outscored 33-22 in the second half.

The final game of the losing streak was against Rensselaer, where MIT lost 77-56. The Engineers were unable to keep up with the high-scoring team, which scored 38 points in the second half alone.

Although the losses were disappointing, the team is not giving up hope. They plan to regroup and focus on improving their defense and offense in the upcoming games.