Levich: reject surrogate scientists

By Tina Kronsiris

IT is the duty of Western scientists to help their Soviet colleagues attempt to emigrate, said Yevgeny Levich, of the Russian Academy of Sciences, as an appeal to the MIT community last Monday.

As a way to exert pressure on the USSR, Levich suggested that MIT and other institutions reject the "substitute" scientists and extend repeated invitations to prominent Soviet scientists.

Levich, whose father, academician Ben Levich, is awaiting emigration from the USSR, said that this is the best time to exert the pressure, because the Russians are eager to develop exchange programs.

He informed his audience that for years, one of the main problems in the exchange of scientific workers is the accuracy of the information given about the scientists.

"The Russians have any clearly defined guidelines, he remarked, as to what they consider secret. Levich reminded his audience that Soviet officials usually send substitute to scientific conferences instead of the specific persons invited. He said that American academicians should refuse to accept these substitutes however rude it may be. When the substitutes are repeatedly rejected, he asserted, USSR officials will be forced to relax their attitude, they will not sacrifice their exchange program.

When American academic institutions such as MIT invite Soviet scientists for a visit, Levich said, they must keep in mind the biases and opinions of the Russians, who have a peculiar sense of prestige and authority.

If, he explained, MIT wishes to extend an invitation, it should do so through the National Academy of Science because the Russian NAS has greater authority, and, therefore, the invitation seems to be more official.

The technocrats of the USSR believe in doing everything "officially," Levich said, and this usually means that they like to deal with an authority that is known to them as being the highest.

It is difficult for high-ranking Soviet scientists to gain a visa, Levich said, but it is even more difficult for Jewish scientists.

His father, Ben Levich, a prominent Jewish scientist who gave up his position as nuclear physicist in 1959, was promised permission to leave the USSR by 1975, but he was finally refused a visa.

"In the case of my father," Levich said, "they did not even claim that permission of secret information was the reason." He added that the Soviet officials gave no reason for denying his father a visa.

Levich, his wife, his brother, and his sister-in-law were permitted to emigrate five years ago and have been waiting for their father to join them.

The talk Levich gave was sponsored by the MIT Committee for Azbel, Lerner, and Levich.

Smoking ban requested

The faculty has approved a resolution asking that smoking be banned in classrooms and lecture halls, in accordance with a Cambridge ordinance that went into effect last fall.

The resolution, adopted at the regular meeting of the faculty on Wednesday, was promulgated by the referendum question on the Undergraduate Association ballot last week which called for an end to smoking in classrooms. Students approved the question by a 5-1 margin.

Although MIT is not exempt from the ordinance, as President Jerome Wiesner pointed out at the meeting, there have been no noticeable efforts to enforce it within the Institute since it was passed on Sept. 15, 1975.

However, the Registrar's Office is ready to put up "No Smoking" signs within a few days, according to Professor of Mechanical Engineering David Wilson, Wilson, who is one of the faculty advisors to MIT Action on Smoking and Health (ASH), a group that lobbies for non-smoker's rights, added that ASH would supply the "No Smoking" signs at no cost.
To the Editor:

The recent action on the Formosan students at the "Muslins for Taiwan" teach-in at your campus represents an example of a spying incident at Kansas State University which I encountered ten years ago.

I was elected to head the nonexistence of student groups and in the Chinese Nationalist regime's US agent, the "embassy" at KSU. pressured KSU's president to fire the foreign student advisor because all students were all provided by the Nationalist agent something like: (1) Formosa is only part of China, not itself a country; (2) the application, the existing Chinese Students Association, to try under the embassy would entail inconvenience to the student and it was a foolish act. But let no one underestimate the serious- ness of those involved in the election. We must have a member of our living group involved in the election, thus giving us sufficient time for preparation. However, a very large pool of possible candidates was overlooked by the UA.

Secondly, the elections rules set by the UA were not enforced. Rule 2 of the campaign Rules and Guidelines states that campaign posters "must be posted only on Institute bulletin boards reserved for events or ads - not activity space bulletin boards, walls or windows. Candidates may not have duplicate posters on the same bulletin board."

I was encouraged to go back to China. I am not going to allow falsehoods and half-truths can no longer remain silent and allow us to do anything to the government.

We have no intentions of making the advertisement to be accepted as fact. We have no intentions of making the advertisement to be accepted as fact. We have no intentions of making the advertisement to be accepted as fact.

William H. Kaiser
President, Phi Gamma Delta

Fiji-LCA incident: a reply

To the Editor:

The several months since the LCA incident our house has been discussing the issue of the incident, the President of the regime, the Republic of China, the Mayors of Taipei, and ninety percent of the members of Congress. It is no wonder that in January 19, 1976 issue, U.S. News and World Report, published a front-page feature, which shows that "Free China" is a national movement. We were not going to allow falsehoods and half-truths can no longer remain silent and allow us to do anything to the government. We have no intentions of making the advertisement to be accepted as fact.

First of all, the reason we have declined to come out with the description of the incident and will continue to do so is that the nature of what happened is of such severity that we wish to respect the privacy of those brethren of our house who were victimized. We take extreme exception to the conjectures that have been made implying that we disregarded any individual from making a criminal complaint. However, we are sure that the idea that those involved "knew that it was coming when they started their little escapade." An abnormally active imagination could be required to even conceive of such activities as coming to pass that evening. The same writer stated: "I doubt that anyone really believed that the 'usual' was unprompted."

In our way of thinking, there is no one who wants to send you back to China.

William H. Kaiser
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Class campaign called 'discouraging'

To the Editor:

As the candidates in the recent Class Elections, we will like to point out to the student body a few things about the elections that we found quite alarming.

First of all, the Undergraduate Association made no attempt to seek out prospective candidates. There was absolutely no publicity for the upcoming elections, nor for the Nomination Petitions were due. Most of the candidates we spoke to said that they knew nothing of the election until people started approaching them for signatures.

We were fortunate enough to have a member of our class group involved in the election, thus giving us sufficient time for preparation. However, a very large pool of possible candidates was overlooked by the UA.

Secondly, the elections rules set by the UA were not enforced. Rule 2 of the campaign Rules and Guidelines states that campaign posters "must be posted only on Institute bulletin boards reserved for events or ads - not activity space bulletin boards, walls or windows. Candidates may not have duplicate posters on the same bulletin board." However, such was not the case.

Nor did The Tech follow its own rules. Candidates were asked by The Tech to submit a statement of no more than 130 words for publication in the newspaper. We took great pains to limit our statements to approximately 150 words. Needless to say, we were quite annoyed to see that The Tech had printed statements from some of our opponents that were close to 300 words.

The experience of running for office has been a discouraging one for some of us. We made the decision to write this letter several days before the election.

After all, communication between the students and their government was one of the major issues, and we think that it is important for students to know what really goes on.

Bowels Lee '79
Sharon Lowenheim '79
March 12, 1976

Engineering school plan

To the Editor:

Several comments are in order concerning the article "Engineering Proposes Merger Plan," which appeared in Tuesday's edition of The Tech (March 9, 1976) and addressed Dean Alfred H. Klappen's paper "Proposed Changes in MIT's School of Engineering."

First, no decision has been made to implement or not to implement this or any other plan for changing the organizational structure of the School of Engineering. Before such a decision can be made substantial additional discussion with the School's faculty must occur. Second, even if a decision were made to change the organizational structure, a period of several years would be required for the new structure to evolve and come into operational existence. Third, the Committee on Engineering Education is charged with the responsibility of planning for educational reform within the School and to insure that MIT's school's undergraduate and graduate programs meet its educational goals in the long term. Consideration of any reorganization plan will be made in light of these factors.

James D. Bruce
Associate Dean
March 11, 1976

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'Seven Beauties' a thin, hollow story  
By Mike McNamara  
Lina Wertmuller's talents as both a technical director and a teller of enjoyable cinematic stories about political and social meanings have made her the highlight of the present Boston. Four of the five films she has released in the US were playing in local theaters one recent evening, evidence of her strong following.

The release of her latest film, Seven Beauties, Wednesday at the Elcker Street Theater could have been expected to overload the faculties with the most dedicated Wertmuller fan. Unfortunately, even Beauties' rave New York critics can't cover up the fact that this film doesn't begin to approach the best of Wertmuller. The technical skills are all there, but the story is thin and hollow.

Viewers who have seen Mimi may have a sharp sense of deja vu watching Beauties. The theme is spin the line of principles, the death of something central to a character...Mimi's strong Comminist beliefs, "Seven Beauties" Pasqualini's view of life as a matter of honor, prestige, and respect...through a series of vital choices that confront him.

But in Seven Beauties, the seduction becomes a rape, or worse. Mimi is confronted with choices as he climbs the social ladder, afflicting himself with the anti-abor bosses he deicates his life to. But worst of all, in my view, is the mixture of absurdity and inevitability that surrounds Wertmuller's story. Pasqualini seems to be destroyed by forces beyond his control...he sets off the chain of events, but can't guide it...and yet the whole string of happenings seems absurd, unlikely, unnecessary.

Veteran Wertmuller fans will probably want to see Seven Beauties to keep their collection complete. But I don't recommend that neophytes start with Beauties.

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AWARD NOMINATIONS

Stewart Awards  
The William L. Stewart Awards are given to students in recognition of a single, outstanding contribution to a particular activity or event.

Send nominations to the Awards Committee, Room 7-101

AWARD NOMINATIONS

Compton Awards  
The Karl Taylor Compton Awards are the highest awards given to students by the Institute community and reflect the belief that real excellence and devotion to the welfare of the MIT community in any area, with emphasis on lasting or sustained contributions to the MIT community as a whole, should be recognized.

Murphy Award  
The James N. Murphy Award is given to an Institute employee whose spirit and loyalty exemplify inspired and dedicated service, especially with regard to students.

DEADLINE DATE: APRIL 7
Fencers fourth in NEs

By Jeannette Wing

The MIT women's fencing team ended its season with some of the best performances in the team's history last Sunday at Holy Cross, in the New England Women's Intercollegiate Fencing Association (NEWIAF) Team Championships. Three MIT teams entered, each one at the varsity, junior varsity, and beginner levels, all fencing well.

The varsity squad – Angela Chaney ’76, Judy Austin ’77, and Jeanette Wing ’78 – displayed remarkable improvement over last year by placing fourth out of fourteen teams. (Last year they placed sixth out of fewer teams.) After losing the first two matches to Brown and Dartmouth, the momentum of the fencing finally picked up and the varsity team surged ahead to finish seventh place, beating both U.R.I. and Yale.

Nelson ’77, and Martha Williams

The MIT ski team had its best performance of the year at the Division II championships.

Ski ends injury-filled year

By Peter Horowitz

The MIT ski team concluded a disappointing season with its best performance of the year at Gunstock, N.H.

During the season the team was hit by a multitude of injuries and illnesses, but the Division II took everyone was reasonably healthy although a lack of training due to injuries and sickness still showed.

High points in the meet for MIT were a 7th place finish in the cross-country by co-captain Steve Ryan ’77 (he had a 4th place finish a few weeks earlier at Sunday River in Maine) and a 7th place finish in the jumping by Peter Horowitz ’76 (including the longest jump of his career: 116 feet).

Matt Stein ’78 did well in the giant slalom (11th place) and in the cross-country (17th place) was disqualified in the slalom, which is usually his best event. Tom Steven ’79 led MIT in the slalom with a 24th place, and was 22nd in the jumping. Colin Maynard ’79 placed 25th in the cross-country.

The prospects for next year are much better as the team will only be losing co-captain Debbie Stein ’76, who was unable to ski in the championships due to a back injury.