Seeger Sings To Overflow Crowd In Two Hour Concert

By Terry Foster '63

Growth and development are the main topics of the 1960-1961 Report of the Dean, School of Humanities and Social Science. The report contains facts and statistics which might appeal to the average engineer and science-oriented Technacher.

In the department's subject has increased 11 percent since 1955-56. Dean Burchard cites the reason for this growth as many students' desire to have a liberal education. The growth of the number of majors in the department over the past five years (exclusive of freshmen) have increased from 29 in 1955-56 to 120 in 1960-61. Graduate juniors have jumped from 52 last year to 114 in the same period of time.

It is felt by the dean that these increases are mainly due to the unique nature of the XLI curriculum, in the division in such an educational combination, which is similar to a major in English literature or French literature, or a major in MIT. Burchard also recognizes the slight decline in the undergraduate enrollment of Course XIV majors. The main reasons for this decline are cited as lack of understanding of the course's opportunities by the students, the course's concentration on education at the graduate level, and registration of many potential Course XIV students in Course XV.

Last year a new social sciences option for the sophomore humanities requirement was tried on a trial basis. The main reason for this move, felt the dean, was the fact that the average student's program in the department consisted of three-quarters humanities courses, so the dean found it "perplexing" that MIT's engineers, architects, and managers do not stress more of the social sciences than their present requirements of economics. He believes that the practicing engineers of the world can make more purely sociological mistakes than purely economic mistakes.

Another significant development of the Humanities Department is the conception of an ad hoc committee which studied the matter the past year. The main topic to be dealt with by this committee's fifteen allotted Ph.D. candidates is the translation of languages on the computer. Such a process, when perfected, will be of tremendous assistance in the translation of technical literature.

There are some questions which Burchard feels can be answered by this program. This semester, for example, there will be a section of "The Human in the Industrial Society" in Course XXI. This course is one of a series of courses which features eminent visiting professors of the caliber of Albus Huxley, last year's visiting professor. The provision and endowment of perhaps two such men is a definite problem in the future. Another pertinent question is that of the provision of literary resources and physical space. Burchard states that a crisis exists at this time. With the expansion of the department into new fields, such as linguistics, the existing library resources become more inadequate. The problem goes further than mere lack of endowment; the procurement of new and competent library staff members is also a definite facet of the situation which cannot be solved by pure financial means. The dean also sees the space problem as serious. In addition to cramped staff space, there is presently no space for the Undergraduate course or Course XXIII undergraduates or Course XXII graduates as there is in other courses. He feels that, unless this situation is met by the Second Century Fund, the growth of the Humanities Department will come to a standstill and perhaps some of the recent progress made will be lost.

Extra-curricular humanities activities also received mention in the report. Unusual expansion in the dramatic field was cited. Through their participation in the program, about 150 students provided entertainment for audiences totaling nearly 2,000. The lecture program is felt by Burchard to be quite rich in material. Another rich program is Professor Liebman's musical series. Outstanding performers of last year's series were E. Price Berg and Martin-Cheral Aml la. Other outstanding musical efforts were made by the students through the Choral Society, the Glee Club, the Symphony Orchestra, and the Brass Choir. Interesting and unusual exhibits in the Hayden Library have been provided under the direction of Professor Herbert C. Belloch. (Continued on Page 3.)