Volume 85 - editorial philosophy

After writing editorials for three terms, we would like to take the opportunity to explain, in the most general terms, how we see MIT and why our policy has been what it was. We offer this as a final thought to the community.

The single thing that has impressed us most about MIT is its paradoxical delicacy. We, the Academic Body, are a small body. But MIT, which is so important, has been built on this human element for its success. The impact of the resignation of President Stratton and the appointment of Dean Johnson as acting president is not appreciated by an outsider who sees only personal histories and lists of degrees. President Stratton’s greatest ability was concern for the individual; Dean Johnson’s reputation on campus indicates he is well fitted—and determined—to carry on in that fashion.

The Academic Body

MIT’s computers are relearned— but useless without its faculty. And every professor is unique; some are friendly, others cold, some teachers, others research searchers, but all are very human. Their humanity is their weakness—they lack the speed and precision of the machines—but their greatest strength as well, for they have themselves, with human originality, conceived the machines.

And the students of MIT—they are an amazing mixture of dedication to logic and laziness. They approach a problem with what they consider scientific detachment; but they get furious when you attack their methods. They have a rational approach to human rights—but they say it’s a good riot, or a Field Day, with great gusto.

Computers?

MIT, a hall of computers? The only true test of its tillage of each other so. The personal side of student and teacher alike is pitifully ignored; a personal solution to problems is clearer, and maybe we can stir up the individual; it tries to provide recreation for the tense, the exhausted, and the depressed. It still has much to do ahead in student-faculty relations and individual career guidance. Right now it needs cooperation, not the criticism, of its entire academic family. Being only human, they will never achieve perfection. But being human, they are bound to try.

Tuition raise

MIT’s tuition is now $1900. We don’t like it. You don’t like it. The Dean doesn’t like it. President Stratton doesn’t like it. Nobody is expected to like it.

Then why did tuition increase by $200? Because there was no other choice. If MIT was to continue hiring the best professors and providing them the best facilities, and still operate in the black, it had to raise tuition. We wish it weren’t so, but it is.

The increase in scholarships, a more completely anonymous approach, will guarantee that no one need drop out of school for monetary reasons.

There it is in a nutshell. What are we doing about it? More important, what are you doing about it? Do you have any voice in how it’s spent? We use our voice you and ours, too. We have some voice in administration, and lodging costs for upperclassmen with a professional interest in the topic of the conference. The Finance Board, in general, provide transportation, registration and lodging costs for chosen delegates.

We are anxious that all inter- ested and eligible undergraduates be encouraged to apply for posi- tions as delegates. The conference are anxious that all inter-

Conference delegates needed: SSC gripe session Wednesday

By Bill Byrn

Members of the Institute Commit- tee received the tuition an- nouncement at a special meeting last night at 8:00 p.m. Notes from this meeting will be given the same distribution as is given to regular Inscomm minutes.

Delegates wanted

We are seeking delegates to rep- resent MIT at two major confer- ences in the coming term. On January 30 to April 30, the major undergraduate student organiza- tions from all around the country will attend one of the conferences. Inscomm office a brief applica- tion form stating his interest and relevant experience before Friday, January 14, at 5 p.m.

Delegates will be selected by the Inscomm Executive Council with the help of faculty members. Preference will generally be given to upperclassmen with a professional or personal interest in the topic of the conference. The Finance Board, in general, provide transportation, registration and lodging costs for chosen delegates.

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