Interest in foreign study, particularly in junior year programs, has been increasing greatly in the past year, reports Professor John T. Norton, M.I.T.'s foreign study scholar. While M.I.T. conducts no formal junior year abroad program of its own due to the wide range of interests of Tech students, Professor Norton has been guiding students to outside programs that fit their needs.

Available programs
Among the programs in which Tech men have participated have been those sponsored by the Institute for European Studies, Sweetheart College, the University of Wisconsin, the University of Michigan, and Wayne State University. Among the places M.I.T. men have studied are the famed engineering school at North, France; Munich and Friedberg, Germany; Madrid, Spain; Japan, and Argentina.

Core needed
One must be careful in choosing a program, however, warns Professor Norton. The quality of the various programs varies greatly, and in many cases a hastily chosen program may result in a wasted year in college as studying is concerned. A year abroad can, in some cases, make surprisingly little difference in attaining one's bachelor's degree in four years. In most cases, some sort of credit arrangement may be made by the student with his department. Furthermore, though few fellowships are available for study abroad at the undergraduate level, a student's scholarship may be applied to study abroad if he participates in an M.I.T.-approved program. Money from the Loan Fund is also available for foreign study. The one disadvantage involved with the use of scholarship grants for study abroad is that the credit will not be transferred into the fifth year if the student's year abroad makes it necessary for him to spend an extra year at Tech to gain his bachelor's degree.

Disadvantages exist
In contemplating the thrill of meeting and understanding another nation's people, economy, and attitudes first hand, however, many students overlook the disadvantages of spending a year abroad. A thorough knowledge of the proper foreign language (in the case of major countries such as France) is a must. Furthermore, the cost of a year abroad is roughly the same as a year at M.I.T., a fact which is encouraging to many students, one ought not forget that in terms of degree credit, a year abroad is not likely to be as productive as one spent here.

Applications deadline
Among the awards whose application deadlines are rapidly approaching are the Marshall Scholarships for study in Britain (Oct. 15), the Fulbright Awards (Oct. 31), the Rhodes Scholarships (Nov. 30), and the awards of the Rhodes University Committee on Travel Grants (Nov. 1). Many other award deadlines are coming up as well, and Professor Norton cautions students that it takes a considerable length of time to fill out the comprehensive applications and line up the necessary references.

Anyone who is interested in foreign study of any sort should contact Professor Norton at x5243 or in his office, 5-108. The one exception is the Rhodes Scholarships. Those interested in these famous grants should contact Professor Eugene Kiskolikoff, x5249 or in E53417.