MIT aids cultural study

To stimulate arts

The Joint Center for Urban Studies of MIT and Harvard will participate in a year-long study of the arts in Boston. Plans for the survey were announced Thursday night by the Cultural Foundation of Boston.

To initiate the study, $30,200 has been provided by the Permanent Charity Fund of Boston in grant to the Foundation.

Named to head the survey is Bernard Taper, author, researcher, and staff writer for the New Yorker magazine for the past ten years. A former prize-winning writer for the San Francisco Chronicle, he is the author of biographies of the choreographer George Balanchine and cellist Pablo Casals. He also has written a sociological study on the gerrymander of the district in which Tuckers Institute is located.

Ell Goldston, president of the Cultural Foundation, made the announcement at a Winterfest press reception held at the Louisburg Square house of Ernest Henderson, president of the Sheraton Corporation of America.

"We are hopeful," he said, "that this study will provide useful and fairly specific answers to the questions of what measures should be taken to foster, strengthen, enrich and invigorate the arts of this city and to make them meaningful to an increasingly larger segment of the citizenry.

"The study will aid for guidelines that will help the institutions of the arts, the business community and the public agencies which are becoming increasingly concerned with cultural matters.

"Out of it we hope will come an outline of the range and scope of artistic endeavors desirable for a lively, modern, civilized metro politan community, and how much activity can be supported."

He said that while much of the information and findings will relate specifically to Boston, it is anticipated that some aspects will have relevance to the cultural situation of other major metropoli tan areas.

Kickoff for the study will be a seminar at the upcoming Winterfest, the city's second annual midwinter cultural jamboree. Sponsored by the Junior League of Boston, the seminar is entitled, "New Life for the Arts in the New Boston." It will be held next Tuesday, Feb. 21, at 7:45 in the New England Merchants Bank suite, Presidential Tower.

Mrs. Arthur R. Blissinger Jr., League president, will be moderator. Panelists will include Wilbur J. Bender, director of the Committee of the Permanent Charity Fund; Darie P. Moysthan, director of the Joint Center for Urban Studies, Goldston and Taper. Representatives of local arts and cultural organizations have been in vited to attend.

College mixers are a common event as the second term gets under way. This one, held by the Interdormitory Council last Friday in Walker Memorial, was well publicized and well attended by all concerned.

IDC mixer kicks off second term as Walker attracts large crowd

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