

Seykota and Kivisild are underdogs in UAP campaign

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Spring Weekend, etc.) may or may not learn responsibility because he is left too much on his own. Seykota wants these heads to be required to report to Inscomm and the faculty. There is too little feedback on projects, he says. He would also like to see formal reports presented to Inscomm by the sub-committee chairmen. He thinks that with the reports of the project chairmen and sub-committee heads, the student leaders will learn about people who are doing good work within the various groups. More students would gain visibility in this way. Also, Seykota says that at the present time, there is no adequate mechanism for the average student to make his ideas and opinions known.

Maria Kivisild

Another student who is trying to make ideas known is Maria Kivisild, a junior in the Department of Architecture. She has said, "I am running to win, but I think that a very important part of (the campaign) is making my ideas known." In order to win, however, Miss Kivisild would have to overcome the "coed stigma" some might attach to any woman

politician: A female running for office must be either radical or incompetent. Before she has a chance to get a significant number of votes, Miss Kivisild must first establish that she is competent, and then she must convince students that she is more competent than the other candidates.

In her campaign, Miss Kivisild is stressing the improvements she believes should be made in the present insignificant situation of the average student. Student politics are too concerned with having a strongly built-up hierarchy.

meetings now, she says, does not feel in a position to interrupt discussions among the Inscomm members "sitting around the table in their swivel chairs."

Miss Kivisild also advocates a wiser use of Finboard's power, "the power of the purse." She believes that the UAP should determine which activities are more important than others. At present, the UAP must prepare most of his budget early in his term, before he has much time to evaluate alternative possibilities for expenditures. In Finboard were

budget. Second, the debate team could travel by bus rather than fly. Finally, banquets for Institute activities could be eliminated or financed by the activities themselves. In this way the UAP could provide additional financial support for activities which relate to the daily lives of the students.

The absence in the race of a certain political personality should be noted at this time. Mark Mathis, '69, surprised most student observers when he announced last November that he would run for his class presidency again, rather than attempt to capture the UAP post. He was advised that the position offered little opportunity for initiative. Mathis investigated the office himself and concluded that there was "a lot of administrative hack" which involved too much time. He found that there was little chance of delegating authority and that "you have to spend a lot of time at banquets and dinners and meetings which really are very uninteresting."

Horvitz comments

In recent interview, however, Bob Horvitz, the present UAP, said that the position does allow freedom; it does allow enough time for initiative. He said that only a few people understand

what the office is all about. The only real hack work involved, he explained, was the signing of checks, which is necessary to find out what is going on financially, and the rewriting of Inscomm minutes, which is an optional duty. What could be unnecessary work for the UAP — the answering of correspondence — is handled by the Secretariat. As for reforming Inscomm, Horvitz said that the individuals involved were important, not the structure.

But regardless of the validity of his reasons for not running, Mathis, by virtue of his absence, has made the UAP race a unique one, a better one. For a long time, student government has needed a campaign like the one this year. Instead of the standard race between candidates solidly established in the Institute Committee structure—candidates who do not really differ from each other—we now have a contest which includes both "outsiders" and an "insider" who present widely varying outlooks on student government. Whether a more traditional outlook or some new approach will prevail in the UAP race this year will be decided by the voters.

This year the voters have a choice, and choice is a good thing to have in an election.

Kivisild campaigns for reallocation of Finance Board's activities funds

She believes that anyone who wants to be on an Inscomm sub-committee should be permitted to join. The current election procedure discourages people. But she first feels that the UAP must make the functions of each sub-committee and other activities known to the student. She has said, "I don't think Inscomm meetings should be held in the Inscomm meeting room." The average student who attends

to adopt various economy moves, for example, it would be possible to set aside a sum of money shortly after the election to be used for special projects administered by the UAP, such as colloquia on contemporary issues. There are at least three ways in which Finboard could cut back on current grants. First, financial responsibility for Musical Clubs' tours could be transferred to the Institute's Public Relations

"Screwdriver" is new frosh column

Seventy Oner, the biweekly newsletter of the freshman class, added a new feature in its February 11 issue. "Screwdriver," a new column, will provide "a forum for the reasoned opinions of anyone with the talent and grim perseverance to write them down, sign his name, and send them to us." Columnist Steve Ehrmann states that "Screwdriver will print ANYTHING and you can put that in capitals. Our only request is that letters be signed. If we get some meaningful comments, we'll continue the feature."

The "spark" of the February 11 Seventy Oner was "resolved: that it is the business of the Institute administration to determine the tuition students should pay, not protest. (sic) Furthermore, that the latest tuition increase was managed well by the Institute and that the students have no legitimate complaint."

"Screwdriver" invites comments from the entire MIT community addressed to Box 2134, 420 Memorial Dr., Cambridge.



Terry Turner [above] of San Jose, Calif., working in a castle

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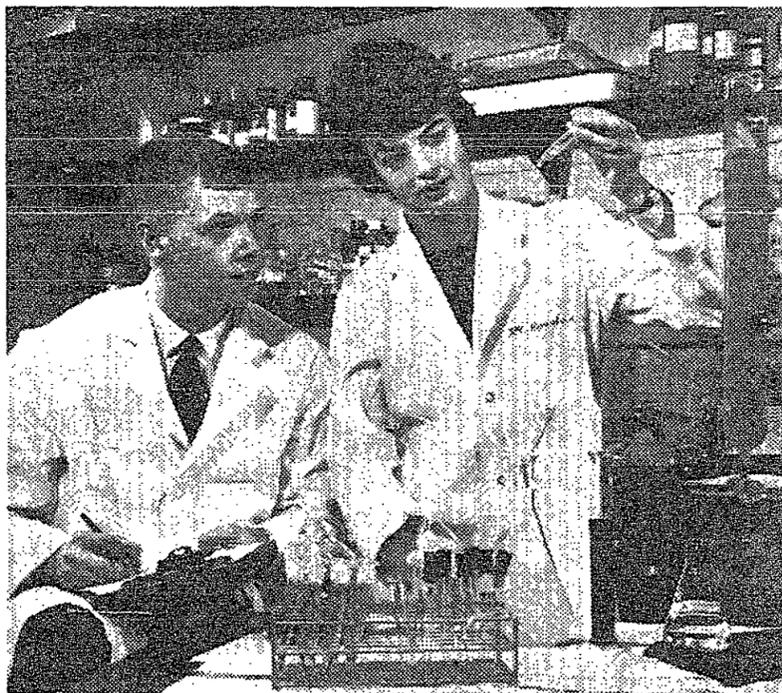
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