Institute to require school medical plans

Beginning in September, all students will be required to subscribe to the Institute's plan of health insurance, Dr. A.O. Seeler, Head of the medical Department, announced Friday. This measure was proposed by the students, Dr. Seeler explained. Currently, a student who does not carry the insurance can be wiped out financially by even a short stay in a hospital, because of the high costs. Currently, the rate per day is a yard in this country is $425, and Boston's rates are reportedly considerably higher. This figure compares with that of $25 for 1966. Many students, either because they are ignorant of the fact that costs are so high or because they feel they can gamble on their health, have taken out the plan. Often those people who have heart afford a high medical bill are the ones who encounter it. Their problems involved the Point of Student Activists, and Dean Wattley supports this move wholeheartedly.

$25 per student

The rates next year will be $25 per student for a period of one year, beginning in September. The school insurance is substantially different from the normal Blue Cross-Blue Shield plan. It covers all care in the Infirmery, ambulatory care, all the costs of diagnostic procedures, plus hospital care. It also pays benefits in addition to any other insurance.

Students may insure their dependents, at an additional $1.25, and children can also be provided for. Currently, 250 students subscribe to the plan. The majority of those who don't subscribe do so for lack of finances. 

Sue others

ASA's Webb attends dedication

ASA's, Webb attends dedication. According to Dr. Seeler, had the system been in place, medical insurance costs would substantially have been higher than $425 since it would be assumed that the Institute would also have to provide medical care for the students. The rates were increased in order to make the plan available to all students.

Senior program

Pass-fail voting now easier as period ends

By Greg Seabrook

The experimental senior pass-fail program will come up for faculty consideration at the May 15 meeting. The experiment, lasting three terms, will expire at the end of this term. A faculty vote will be needed to continue the present form of the experiment or to introduce any changes. No faculty task force has been assigned to study the results or consider any of a number of new proposals to enlarge or modify the present system.

Seniors approve

The experiment allows seniors to take one course outside their major each term on a pass-fail basis. Overwhelming approval of the program was expressed last spring in a questionnaire distributed by the Student Committee on Environment. Over 95 percent favored extending the program to sophomores and juniors. SCEP plans to submit a report to the faculty recommending the results of the experiment on a pass-fail system to the faculty.

SCEP proposals

SCEP also plans to submit a report to the faculty recommending several proposals before the May 15 meeting. According to SCEP Chairman Peter Harris '69, the report will call for the extension of pass-fail to sophomores, allowing individual departments to set up their own pass-fail programs, and allowing individual professors to teach their courses under pass-fail.

The experimental senior pass-fail program was approved by the Student Senate at the April 18 meeting.

Columbia seized by students

By Scott Hartley

Amid the prevalent racial unrest in America, the Institute has decided to initiate a pass-fail program, which is likely to attract Negroes as Yale, to alleviate the racial imbalance in the student body and to allow more Negroes to enter MIT. The program is designed to provide Negro students with more opportunities to enroll at MIT. Negroes at MIT are currently admitted only by virtue of the fact that they are members of a minority group.

Pilot program

After receiving official approval, the program was initiated, though on a small scale for the first year. According to Princeton Trilling, it is hoped that the graduates of the summer program will be able to come to MIT on an equal basis with the students selected under normal procedures. Although the Institute endeavors to avoid racial discrimination (there is no place on the application for the applicant to enter his race), the generally low quality of preparation available to Negroes and other disadvantaged groups raises the proportion of Negroes at MIT far below the portion of the overall population which they comprise.

Urban Lab to aid America's cities

By Jay Erwin

The main focal point of MIT's contribution to the nation is changing to solving the problems of the cities, according to Dr. Richard J. H. Miller, head of the Department of Civil Engineering and a director of the new Urban Systems Laboratory. In an interview on Monday and Tuesday describing the U.S.L.'s French stage, stated that the Institute, in relation to urban affairs, is "in for keeps in a big way and for a long time." The U.S.L. grew out of an MIT proposal to the Ford Foundation for a research program which suggested that the Institute's unique competence in operations research, information sciences, computer technology, and systems development, as well as its past interest and activity in the field of urban affairs, should be developed into a laboratory to utilize its potential for making significant contribution to the formulation and solution of the complex problems of the city."

The Urban Systems Laboratory as it exists today has essentially the form of the proposal, with staffs and consultants from outside MIT coming to MIT to work on the various projects. The Laboratory is expected to evolve out of a convergence of faculty interests and current activities. "That means that there is no Urban Systems Laboratory as a physical, independent entity, but rather an interdepartmental interdisciplinary group of activities in the field of urban affairs. The staff is made up of those Institute staff members active in urban systems who wish to be affiliated with and participate in the activities of the U.S.L.

Student participation in the Laboratory is expected and encouraged. Since most of the areas of work are so new and/or complex, some students to Professor Miller, there are no expectations. The results and other new areas are expected to be "equal partners" in the various projects.

If the objectives of the Laboratory, as enunciated in the official description, are to be met, it is necessary for students and students purse their interests in urban systems research, to strengthen the existing program of research in participating departments, to coordinate joint and interdisciplinary efforts, to provide special research sources, cap-

6 disadvantaged students to receive special training

By Scott Hartley

Against the prevalent racial unrest in America, the Institute has decided to initiate a pass-fail program, which is likely to attract Negroes as Yale, to alleviate the racial imbalance in the student body and to allow more Negroes to enter MIT. The program is designed to provide Negro students with more opportunities to enroll at MIT. Negroes at MIT are currently admitted only by virtue of the fact that they are members of a minority group.

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Racial unrest

This problem was emphasized by a recent racial census taken at the Institute, which revealed that only twenty-three Negroes are currently enrolled at MIT under normal procedures. The Institute has decided to initiate a pass-fail program, which is likely to attract Negroes as Yale, though it is likely that the program will be expanded to a full year, perhaps within two years.

Concerning the long-range development of the program, Professor Trilling commented that the faculty is not quite ready to begin a full-scale normalization program such as that of the Federal Government. The program is likely to be expanded to a full year, perhaps within two years.

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