Graduate students remain biggest problem

(Continued from page 1)

Corporations in a message to the faculty on October 6: "This new construction will help to meet the needs of the community and its own needs. However, the central mission of all these programs is to make it possible for more MIT faculty to live in Cambridge." Ordinarily this policy might not be one to question. Yet, if one accepts the bleak economic statistics concerning the poor and shabby conditions in the living rests that have been produced during the present crisis, this policy might raise some doubts about the feasibility of MIT's commitment to a balanced residential community.

It also seems that, despite MIT's opposition toward alleviating the crisis, the Institute is making the most direct and crucial factor in its involvement in the crisis - the question of 1054 of its graduate students living off-campus in Cambridge. Despite the possible stabilizing effects of Northgate Community Corporation (of which some groups are involved), the new MacGregor undergraduate dormitories, and the Institute's commitment to the 150 units of some miscellaneous, the Institute is making it impossible for the current federal funds to be available.

Rather than support or condemn MIT's actions on this, we must ask the fundamental question: "What should be the proper role for MIT to play in alleviating the housing crisis?" This question is largely a moral one and, having presented all the relevant facts of the situation, we will offer our overall judgment of the Institute's role in the community. Nevertheless, it does seem that MIT's often-stated policy of willingness to work under the leadership of the city government is a realistic position, especially in light of the current federal fund outlook. For the Institute to perform its own primary functions of education and research. Furthermore, definite restrictions exist concerning the amount of funds or federal funds the Institute could employ for community purposes.

Yet, if MIT is compelled to take some major action on its own, it would seem that the most beneficial step would be to attack the crisis where the Institute is itself most directly concerned - student housing rather than to continue avoiding the suspicion of many Community Citizens by its attempts to improve the housing situation. A spread of MIT's efforts should be the decision of the groups involved will be a major factor in determining co-ordination, it is apparent that a mid-term sanguine. In facing the current federal fund outlook, full progress can be made if MIT is compelled to take some major action on its own, it would seem that the most beneficial step would be to attack the crisis where the Institute is itself most directly concerned - student housing rather than to continue avoiding the suspicion of many Community Citizens by its attempts to improve the housing situation. A spread of MIT's efforts should be the decision of the groups involved will be a major factor in determining co-ordination, it is apparent that a program of meaningful action that the Institute could take would be the examination if funds were available. toward the construction of new graduate units. As other groups, the new graduate dormitories, and the Institute's Yet, MIT has yet to take this simple step toward alleviating the Cambridge Housing Crisis.

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THE TECH FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1968 PAGE 2

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