Cadets rebut ROTC critics

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was an autonomous organization on campus solely to recruit. While also pointing out that "integrating military instruction" onto a campus "eclipses" the traditional independent posture of a university, his main objection was that by assisting the military we support their position.

Alan Silverston, a SACC representative, agreed, tying ROTC in with militaristic phases of our society from the war in Vietnam to Chicago's "shoot from the hip" Mayor Daley. Eliminating the program would be a move toward ameliorating this facet of our society.

George Slusher and Don Hewitt presented the opinions of the students involved. Slusher, a cadet lieutenant colonel in Air Force ROTC, emphasized the degree of control the faculty has over the course content and the instructors. Refuting any charges that ROTC cadets might form a pressure group on campus, he pointed out the conspicuous absence of ROTC students from campus politics and publications.

Hewitt made light of the "indentured servant" charged used to downgrade service scholarship. Although young men sign their contracts during their senior year in high school, he insisted that cadets could leave the program any time by the spring of their sophomore year. Stressing the objectivity of the military instructors, despite their uniforms, he described a recent class discussion on the ABM that resulted in a negative view of the weapons system.

The Young Americans for Freedom were also represented, as SACC asked Dave Pearson to air their position at the first forum. Rather than academic issues, Pearson maintained, ROTC must be discussed as the political symbol that it is. He repeated Slusher's previous description of the academic relevance question - "a straw man."

Professor Boris Magasanik, Head of the Department of Biology, also stated that "I found it extremely interesting." He indicated that the department turn-out was good, and that "politically oriented groups" were particularly well-attended.

As another part of the program for Agenda Days, WGBH/I. TV broadcast a special ram entitled "The Contemporary University in Society as Seen from MIT." In it, panel members including students, faculty, and administrators gathered with the question of the role MIT should play in the development and application of technology, particularly in the realm of the military. A second panel discussed "Internal Structure: Council and Means" in a lively debate.

The final success of the Agenda Days will depend upon the information and feedback that the Committee receives.

National Science Academy elects six faculty members

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Boris Magasanik--Professor Magasanik, head of MIT's biology department, received his PhD in biochemistry from Columbia in 1948. He served on the Harvard faculty from 1949 to 1959 and is editor of the Biochemistry and Biophysical Research Communications.

Egon Orowan--Receiving his Doctor of Engineering from the Technical University of Berlin in 1929, Professor Orowan came to MIT in 1950 to join the mechanical engineering department. Professor Orowan is a fellow of the Royal Society and a recipient of the Howland gold medal from the British Institute of Mechanical Engineering.

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