New urban course offered for undergraduates

The Department of Urban Studies and Planning is offering a seminar-type course this term dealing with Urban Problems. Officially 11.10, Introduction to City and Regional Planning (the Catalogue entry notwithstanding), the course was designed and will be taught by several graduate students in the department. According to Francis Ventre, one of the graduate student instructors, the course is an effort to reach undergraduates. Although Course XI is primarily geared to graduate students, recognition of urban problems by undergraduate students has resulted in an increase in demand for courses dealing with these issues. 11.10 is an attempt by the Department both to meet undergraduates and to develop ideas for more subjects. Ventre noted that one product of such interaction might be an undergraduate degree in Urban Studies and Planning. Many of the ideas for the course came from questionnaires circulated to graduates. Many of the ideas for the course were expressed in urban problems of the expected degree pro-

New Lewis Commission may start work in October

At a press conference last Tuesday, President Howard Johnson announced his satisfaction with the work of the Planning Committee for the Nature and Purpose of an MIT Education. The Committee was chaired by Professor William Martin, Chairman of the Faculty. It met during the month of July to plan for the work of the new Lewis commission. Its report was issued in the MIT community during the summer with an accompanying letter by President Johnson. Johnson announced that he has received several letters of comment and that a few people had written small papers expressing their views on MIT education. Johnson also stated that he would be sending out another letter soon to solicit reaction and comments.

It is hoped that the first few weeks establishing the priorities of the issues which it will examine. Professor John Elliot, Metallurgy, said that the commission would need to have a conception of the Institute before deciding on the various issues. The planning committee deliberately avoided such a list of priorities feeling that the commission would have to establish its own list. After the priorities are established it is hoped that, according to Professor G. C. "A series of task forces looking into specific subset of problems" would be established. One of the questions raised in the commission meetings this summer was exactly what force the recommendations of these task forces would have—whether or not the commission could rewrite the recommendations of the task groups.

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