Faculty group pursues environmental studies

By Lee Giogare

A Faculty Committee on Environmental Problems has been set up to study and co-ordinate environmental problems and public service programs at MIT related to environmental problems.

The committee was appointed November 30, last October, with Professor James Fay of Mechanical Engineering as chairman.

According to Prof. Fay, the committee is being formed to pursue various activities in this area and is now trying to better organize approximately 5000 students presently working on environmental problems. However, a major difficulty in doing research in this area is the lack of organization, and as a result, "their "limb growth prospects."

Fay noted, though, that there are good prospects in this field for research. Coming from several disciplines. Several interdepartmental groups are already working on environmental problems.

Some professors have been involved in local efforts to improve conditions. A UCS group, according to Fay, did a technical analysis of air pollution in the Boston area. Another group was experimenting with the relationship of Special Lab construction to the surrounding environment. Fay said that his group concerns itself primarily with research. He commented, however, that a student group at MIT was experimenting with matching technical expertise to the problems and kinds of people. Fay commented that the group is interested in environmental studies. The Lincoln Labs, however, are well suited to such a study because of the development of a wide world monitoring system of ecological variables.

Interdepartmental effort?

The group's effort is not unique, and in fact, the emphasis on the ease with which interdepartmental projects can be set up at MIT, but could see no enthusiasm for setting up an interdepartmental group, particularly, especially considering the difficulties in obtaining funding. The group's effort was termed "first work toward programs to be organized in the near future," noting that this is "intellectually sound approach.

For the near future, everyone should look at the new programs being organized and graduate students. However, Fay commented, "if you provide guidance for students and next year hopes to put together a major group involved in local efforts to improving environmental problems.

Sponsors of MObef meet here to plan April 15 action

By Harvey Baker

The New England Anti-War Conference will be held at MIT from February 28 to March 1. The Conference Committee is a coalition of some forty New England anti-war groups, most among them the Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam. The MIT Chapter of the Mobe held a meeting Monday night to discuss its role in helping to plan the weekend's activities.

About 1000 persons are expected to attend the conference, which will be broadcast on WGBH TV from 10 pm to 1 am on February 28 and Saturday from 10 pm to 1 am on March 1. The conference will run until 8 pm Saturday and will be open to the public. Sunday, registration will be free. All groups will be represented.

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