(Continued)

**Analysis**

D-Lab divestment

By Joe Kashi

MIT, once the proud parent of the Instrument Laboratories, a "national asset," has found itself in the unlikely position of being responsible for the divestiture of a student-oriented campus project. The divestiture of the D-Labs has become a wholly disingenuous subject matter for discussion.

With a postponement of divestiture likely due to unanticipated financial troubles, MIT finds itself in the embarrassing position of retaining the labs longer than the year originally approved for. The D-Labs have become a wholly disingenuous subject matter for discussion.

State with inadequate capital. Another argument for non-profit status: why should anyone make money? Shouldn't the government subsidize the labs? Though it may be necessary to national security, the idea of private profit in the research is vaguely obscene.

In short, MIT's deficit from secession would not be as easy to correct. John Hunnicut, who managed how this money would be made, seems to have said that some sources might be found. However, he predicted this is very unlikely. Where might MIT get the needed tens of millions? What lesson will the incident teach MIT about overextension of its resources?

Divestment Funding

During the divestment debate last year, Professor Jerome Letvin proposed that MIT and other federal universities form a research consortium to license patent rights to university-developed technology and plow the profits back into funding the research. This would be stable, much more reliable, and probably palatable to many people. Though this research was done at these schools, and probably prevent the fiscal difficulties at the MIT D-Labs. Such a funding basis, reducing the dependance on outside contracts, might have helped conversion.

Moreover, MIT has no such funding basis, and eventually the D-Labs will go away, taking with them 10 million dollars per year in contracts, 30 million in overhead, living at MIT much more austere. The cuts will be many, perhaps quite drastic. The rise on an annual basis. MIT will not have a non-governmental revenue base, and it forms one and gets away from the DOJ can only expect more "D-Labs" to be spun-off or summarily shut down.

The Presidency

To the Editor:

I'm writing to ask for a correction of some facts which appeared in the September 22 issue of The Tech in the article headlined "Students Face Job Shortage." There are three errors which concern me:

1. The Institute borrows from private sources, not from the U.S. Treasury.

2. National Defense Loans have an interest of 0 percent while a student is in school and 3 percent (not 3 1/2 percent) after leaving school.

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