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Inside

Discussion probes GA ineffectiveness

"Destroy Student Government" the posters read, so twenty
seniors, students, and profes-
sors met in the Student
Center Monday night to discuss the
future of student government at
MIT.
None of those present were
dissatisfied with the poster line-
but much of the sentiment
evolved around four; weak
against the present General Assembly
structure.
The IAP Greg Chisholm was satis-
fied that the gathering had pro-
duced some useful ideas. Chisholm,
Tom Pipal '71, Larry Past-
gate '74, and Bill Orchard '74 are reviewing student govern-
dom during IAP as it relates to
the MIT Commission report.
Chisholm alternative
Several participants offered alternatives to the current struc-
ture. Noting that often the GA represen-
tatives lack the respect of their constituents, Chisholm proposed substituting occasional (though more frequent) public meetings of house and fraternity
presidents. These leaders are usu-
ally associated with student initiative, and might provide a much
time source of student input to campus decision-
makers.
"The MIT Corporation is a very large corporate ex-
perience, and we have to find a way to bring
them to our campus," said Highland
Chairman Larry Past
gate. "It is becoming a
series of accidents.
"The whole industry in the
last fifteen years was becoming a
multi-million dollar enterprise.
Mann explained, and it was im-
possible for a group operating at
NII to compete. As a design and
management consultant, he was inter-
ested in developing hardware and
at MIT. "You can't do this on a
large scale.
Rather than give up, he suggested
looking for a new area to pursue. Urging
on this choice was his own growing
interest in prosthetic devices and then be-

more valued source of student
input to campus decision-

By Dr. Leo Gigante
A desire to combine teaching with hardware design and de-
velopopment, coupled with uneasiness about the expanding scope of
a missile development, led Profes-
sor of Mechanical Engineering
Robert Mann to terminate a successful career in missile com-
ponent development and to be-

come engaged in the field of
human rehabilitation.
In a seminar last Thursday,
Mann attributed his "conver-
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GM faces 2nd challenge
Campaign GM has begun to re-
consider its public relations. They are almost exclu-
sively focused on generating favor with the
General Motors shareholders and
to their employees.

The national group's pro-
posals are: 1) require the GM
gpany to state its intentions to include can-
didates for the board of direc-
tors nominated by shareholders at large as well as, by manage-
ment, 2) allow each of GM's three "constituent" em-
ployees, consumers, and dealers
lating with its board of directors, require the GM annual report to publish detailed information regarding company progress in auto safety, minority hiring, and non-pollut-
ging vehicle development.

Campaign GM is supported by the Pro-Freedom Corporate Responsibility (PCR) PAC, which owns some twelve shares of Gen-
eral Motors stock. PCR is a Nader-type consumer advocate, but is not directly connected to Ralph Nader.
The main thrust of Campaign GM's arguments is that while
large corporations exert a strong
fluence over the lives of the
general public, they are almost exclu-
sively focused on generating favor with the
General Motors shareholders and
to their employees.

Last year's proposals, while

soundly defeated at the annual
GM meeting, cannot be said to have had no influence on GM. PCR called for the creation of a special committee to allow GM
to review GM's actions in areas of public concern. In the months after the meeting, the GM Board of Directors estab-
lished a special subcommittee composed of board members not directly involved in the com-
pany's management to consider
just such issues. MIT Corpora-
tion Chairman James Killian is a
member of that committee.
Another defeated proposal had called on GM to add three "public representatives" to its board. Last month, however, GM elected its first public direc-
tor, Leon Sullivan, pastor of the Zion Baptist Church in Phila-
delphia and a nationally-known
leader in the training of blacks
and other minorities for work in business and industry. Sullivan has stated that he will use his job
to find more and better jobs
"for my people and other minor-
ities." (In fact, outgoing MIT Chairman James Killian has also
been a public representative on the board.)

At MIT
Last year at MIT, the Camp-
aign GM proposals were de-
feated before the Corporation
Joint Advisory Committee (CJAC). CJAC noted that MIT had "no im-
portant roles to play in the addi-
tional committees, and they were an important factor in the de-
velopment of the curriculum and in an im-
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portant way to provide a useful model for early
training in prosthetic devices and then be-


GM Gray argues for flexibility
By Alex Makowski

Nebraska's head of Tour-
eering, Paul Gray last week out-
lined his vision of an educational sys-
tem attuned to the needs of MIT undergraduates.
He advocated incorporating in the college's engineering school flexible alternatives - self-paced study, unspecified engineering degree or minor, a "new disciplinary focus" - while suggest-
ing that MIT concentrate on providing the foundation for a pro-
fessional education while leaving the details of professional training to graduate schools or future employers.

Corporate Engineering Chair-
man Lewis Smullin warned that some representatives
(please turn to page 7)

Prof explains 'conversion'
By Dr. Leo Gigante

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Ehrmann looks back on political career
By Curtis Reeves

At times he seemed to be the
only island in the sea of student apathy. But that current term of work with the Institute of the Future in Mid-
dlesex Community College in
connection with the Cooperative
Programs and the MIT/Harvard
and one half years of direct
student involvement at Griffin
at MIT. I talked with
Steve as he was packing his
trunks, and discussed with him
his days in understand-

Like most freshmen, Ehr-
mann did not intend to get
involved with student govern-
moment, instead he wanted to have
work on the staff of one of the
campaign managers. When the
idea of the things to come, he
became one of the ten Freshman
Council Managers. He went to
Burton House and was chosen to
be the Education Day chairman for the Freshman Council. After
this beginning he launched a personal campaign for activism that made
him one of the best known, if not
most popular, students on campus.

In March of his freshman year,
he ran for Senior ClassVP, and
found himself running against
Steve Carhart, is still in the initial
stages of organization and has
taken no action as yet. Bar-
mer said that the group is still
discussing "its homework" and de-
clined further comment on their
plans.

Campaign GM presently holds a
low priority on the CJAC agenda according to Randy Haw-
chome '71, student member.


Ehrmann happened. Fortunately, two stock investigations.
Two of these proposals were de-
feated before the Corporation
Joint Advisory Committee (CJAC). CJAC noted that MIT had "no im-
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tional committees, and they were an important factor in the de-
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training in prosthetic devices and then be-


"Creating stress on the style of education and the mode of ex-
counter between the student and his teachers."

Three dilemmas
But these dilemmas must be recognized. Engineering, re-
jectives can be successfully im-
provement of a current "thought trap" of a too total adaptation to
learning basic skills blocking a student's ability to think on his
own, 2) future faculty members may outgrow a stu-
dent's educational system attuned to
the three-fourths of them students,
was warmly applauded his address.

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