Professionalism exhibited in philosophy

(Continued from page 1)

the professional/educational division, since the group has not yet reached a final decision.

Six to eight years

Faculty within the philosophy department commented that the request stemmed from factors developing over the past six to eight years. During the first half of the sixties the humanities department attempted to attract teachers with considerable interest in research and publication. As attitudes within the section shifted with the introduction of these new people, plans for a separate department were conceived. Departmental, rather than institutional, status figures prominently in the off-campus professional reputation of a faculty. Books, papers, and convention presentations are taken more seriously. Additionally, young post-graduates might be more attracted to a department.

Other factors include the fact that the philosophy section already offers a graduate program. Additionally, professors of university status for MIT have also been attracted. Reached by heads are not committed to separate departments. Reached by The Tech, history director Robert MacMaster commented that he could "use no reason" for the history or literature sections following suit and applying for professional status.

As for what effect the proposed change would have, young philosophers in the Humanities department feared that the close ties now existing between the various departments would break down. The music faculty, they explained, is pretty much divided into a teaching and research faculty. From the other three sections mingle well, to the point of sharing office suites with teachers outside their discipline. Space in the Hermann Building is limited, and one faculty member forecast that overcrowding might prompt a newly-created philosophy section to volunteer to move elsewhere, destroying the close contact among both faculty.

Effects on education

Effects on education, particularly undergraduate education, are difficult to isolate. Some faculty speculated that a philosophical approach from a central humanities authority might encourage a stricter adherence to traditional professional teaching policies.

Currently, the philosophy section frowns, at least informally, on interdisciplinary courses and work, and stresses analytic research and publications. Many of the professors prefer working with graduate students, but professors from the other three sections mingle well, to the point of sharing office suites with teachers outside their discipline. Space in the Hermann Building is limited, and one faculty member forecast that overcrowding might prompt a newly-created philosophy section to volunteer to move elsewhere, destroying the close contact among both faculty.

While the request to set up a separate philosophy department may well be only an administrative change, there seems to be little doubt among many humanities professors that the forces behind the application could influence the course of humanities education at MIT in the course of the next few years. The professional/educational discussion will undoubtedly continue within the department for years to come.

A non profit ABORTION that is safe, legal & inexpensive can be set up on an outpatient basis by calling The Problem Pregnancy 215-722-5360 for professional, confidential and caring help.

Do you think a bright young engineer should spend his most imaginative years on the same assignment?

Neither do we.

That's why we have a two-year Rotation Program for graduating engineers who would prefer to explore several technical areas. And that's why many of our areas are organized by function — rather than by project.

At Hughes, you might work on spacecraft, communications satellites and/or technical missiles during your first two years. All you need is an EE, ME or Physics degree and talent. You may select specialized jobs, or broad systems-type jobs. Or you can choose not to change assignments if you'd rather develop in-depth skills in one area.

Either way, we think you'll like the Hughes approach.

It means you'll become more versatile in a shorter time. (And your salary will show it.)

CAMPUS INTERVIEWS: March 11 & 12, 1971

Representatives of several activities of Hughes Aircraft Company (each with highly-specialized personnel requirements and separate interview schedules) will visit your campus. If your career interests lie in one or more of the following fields of aerospace/electronics, contact your Placement Office TODAY to make sure your name gets on the interviewing schedule for HUGHES AEROSPACE DIVISIONS:

- Microwave & Antenna Engineering
- Guidance & Controls Engineering
- Spacecraft Systems Engineering
- Components & Materials Engineering
- Weapon Systems Engineering
- Electro-Optical Engineering
- Microcircuit Engineering
- Space Systems Engineering
- Missile Systems Engineering
- Circuit Design Engineering