Poll analyzes advisor system

By Lee Giurleo

"More than 50% of the freshmen thought it was relatively desirable to have an advisor - their ideal advisor would be someone who expected nothing or almost nothing from an advisor." According to the survey, the advisor "is very likely to be among the people who seek out (for help with a personal problem)."

Associate advisors

The associate advisor program, according to one of the students who analyzed the questionnaires, is weak. "The associate advisor plays a weak role in counseling the freshman." His role is "limited to advising in curriculum decisions." A large number of the respondents indicated that "the associate advisor had only a small chance of taking hold at MIT.

Pass/fail, the survey found, received "enthusiastic support" from almost everyone. However, the survey analysts claim that the responses "sound too much like they came from the book (the Freshman Handbook) rather than a true evaluation of pass/fail's impact.

The survey also noted that students favoring graded pass/fail, they still seek to have grades with which they can compare their work with that of other students. Students appear to "welcome the relief from pressure and the lessening of academic demands, while claiming that they were less motivated and annoyed by not having a rank to compare their work with that of other students.

Change in major

"More than 50% of the freshmen who responded to the question changed their choice of major since coming to MIT." The main reasons for changing major, the survey revealed, were "1) change in academic interests, 2) job scarcity in a particular field, 3) experience in freshmen subjects, 4) personal changes." Almost 7/5 of the upperclassmen who responded had changed major. The "most important" criterion, according to the survey, is "interest in the field.

Advisors desireable

It is hoped that the ride boards will help attain these goals by pairing neighbors -traveling on similar schedules, who will help "attain these general advantages of group travel, and second, to create a popular awareness of the general advantages of group travel over one-to-a-car travel - both environmental and financial.

It is hoped that the ride boards will help attain these goals by pairing neighbors -traveling on similar schedules, who might otherwise never know each other.

For further information about the activities of the Boston Car Cooperative, you may call 354-9490 (Greater Boston Ecology Action), x3312 (Bob Mize) or x1702 (Lee Sauer).

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