A member of the Boston Women's Abortion Action Coalition leads the sign that reads: "Women's Abortion Rights: The Motherhood — How to Prevent It." The meeting, which was held at Northeastern University, featured a woman's panel discussion. Members of the panel included Diane Crane of the Massachusetts Organization for Repeal of Abortion Legislation, Sue Wolman of the MIT UAG, a member of the Local Chapter of Zero Population Growth, and the pictured speaker.

Women's study to continue

By Lee Giguere

The Urban Vehicle Design Competition is growing even faster than the problems created by the increasing use of automobiles within American cities.

It started last February with several of the nation's 200 engineering colleges competing in a more focused version of the 1970 Clean Air Race. The competition now involves more than 1000 students; they comprise 82 teams from 80 US and Canadian universities. About 70 teams are expected in the final competition, which will be held at the GM Proving Grounds in Milford, Mich. In contrast, only 43 teams tested their vehicles in an MIT-Cal Tech race during August 1970.

This year's competition will be less spectacular than a transcontinental race but more significant. It will tackle one problem intensively: that of designing and building transit systems that are more "civilized" in the urban traffic environment that present automobiles.

The purposes of this conference, as stated in the proposal submitted by the committee, are: 1) to provide MIT Black students with the opportunity to examine their skills, strengths and weaknesses; to make them aware of how their policies and knowledge may be useful in responding to some of the theoretical issues, and in solving problems in one's community; and, 2) to develop new skills as each student's share of the city's problems.

H. Eugene Branner, Administrative Director of the Department of Housing and Dining, has been named to replace Howard and Miller as Director of Housing and Dining.

Mr. Miller, who requested a position at Physical Plant where he had administered the student body since 1967 for new construction before leaving, said that he had requested the transfer because of his personal interests.

Housing and Dining Services was the focus of the last two years' discussion over optional food plans. After a longer discussion and examination by the students at MIT, Administration is considering the possibility of offering optional food plans in the West Campus dormitories.

Mr. Branner has expressed his interest in this matter and in studies recently undertaken by the women on their experiences in MIT's Dining Services, and as an administrator. For a man with a long background in engineering, research, both in the physical laboratory and in the classroom, for a period of several years, while he was a professor at MIT, he ran his own business.

Admitting that his interaction with the students at MIT is related to his interest in the question, he has already begun "trying to get a handle on things" in the Housing and Dining Service. He added that he has already begun to "sit in with people," and noted that he was simply taking part in the discussion on next year's tenants and decision of how to develop experience in service industry administration, Branner has undertaken a long background in engineering research, both in the laboratory and in the classroom, for a period of several years, while he was a professor at MIT, he ran his own business.

Most of these "tamed" autos are being built from the ground up as completely student-designed systems. They will incorporate advanced safety devices, bumpers that can prevent damage in a five mph impact, nimble handling, and very stringent pollution controls. While most cars are built using their vehicles with state of the art internal combustion, electric, or steam engines, some are developing their own power plants.

Though several teams reported innovates that may be exported into their home market, innovation is primarily an educational experience. A primary interest in project-related engineering education — i.e., the use of projects as a means of developing "hands-on" skills. The committee's goal is to create an intermediate interdisciplinary engineering project.

Urban vehicles were chosen because of the timeliness of the problems produced by private automobiles in cities throughout the world. Cars are not only a problem for men, and the belief being that they are not the only one.

Women, Branner explained, are discussed in a more focused version of the competition, which will be held at the GM Proving Grounds in Milford, Mich. In contrast, only 43 teams tested their vehicles in an MIT-Cal Tech race during August 1970.

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