Admissions gets new head

By Paul Schneller

Peter H. Richardson, MIT's 48th "Jobless Judge" for Admissions at MIT, is the only officer of the Institute who acts directly to ensure every incoming freshman is indeed qualified. He has interviewed a number of these personally.

His selection to succeed Roland Gruen in this critical position is no surprise; he has been a popular Association Director of Admissions, and has been familiar with admission procedures and policy for several years. Prior to his service in the admissions department, he served elsewhere as a high school guidance counselor whose advice on what the school would be like to a prospective student varied from very belligerent to very friendly, but always helpful in a very general sense.

In an interview conducted a year ago, he still was unsullied at the idea that the MIT administration could have any great effect on the nature of the admissions.

The three-year appointment to the job which he now is beginning is not without its challenges, however. Despite the fact that applications for admission to MIT have increased over 200% during the past three years, the number of freshmen admitted has not increased at all. This is due to the fact that MIT's image is now synonymous with "入学 (admissions)整理 (arrangement)" and "quality of education." Only the most qualified students are considered for admission to MIT, and many students who meet the minimum requirements are turned away because the number of places available is insufficient.

Richardson and his staff have been busily increased the enrollment of the graduate students, and a complete analysis of the total applicant pool has been conducted. In the past, the pool of applicants included only those who had been interviewed by the admissions office. This year, the pool includes all applicants, regardless of whether they were interviewed or not.

The "select" bias of admissions went out last year," according to the new admissions director, "but the number of women applicants, especially in the sciences, increased. In particular, there is hope in the future that the number of women and minority students will increase. This is due to the fact that MIT is now actively recruiting students from traditionally underserved groups. "The bias in admissions went out last year," according to the new admissions director, "but the number of women applicants increased. In particular, there is hope in the future that the number of women and minority students will increase. This is due to the fact that MIT is now actively recruiting students from traditionally underserved groups. However, the number of women and minority students admitted still is not as high as expected, and this is due to the fact that the pool of applicants includes all students, regardless of whether they were interviewed or not."