Hanham gets nod as Humanities dean

By Lee Giguere

Dean of the College Paul Schleder, Professor of History Harold Hanham of Harvard received the approval of the Executive Council of the Corporation Fri
day to serve as the next Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Science. He must still be ap
proved by the University's Academic Council in
its next meeting on October 6.

Robert Bishop, who is leaving the post he has held for eight years, recommended Hanham to the Dean in an
attached letter.

A native of Auckland, New Zealand, where he lived until he was six, Bishop was invited by way of the University of Harvard, England, and Har
vard University. Although he

In the letter of September 13, 1972, Bishop wrote that the Institution of a new humanities de
nected the question of the appointment of Hanham to the job until the spring, when Hanham would return from a Guggenheim Traveling Fellowship.

"The feeling of having been on the job for eight years," Bishop told The Tech, coupled with problems in the Depart
ment of Humanities which he said as a social scientist has "nothing the understanding nor the interest than led him to his decision to leave the Dean's post

Hanham then went on to give a progress report on his first year in the post

"The second major factor was the fact that the total demand for unrestricted funds, or "study purposes," was up substan
tially. From an expected $1 million, $500,000 was used for the renovation of the Kipps pump and the funds were supplied from bequest
from the estates of "unknown and unusual" instructors. Hanham predicted that this might be due to a change in draft laws.

Dean of the Graduate School Irwin Sizer gave the graduate enrollment statistics. The total graduate enrollment was down 25 to 1,200, 1972. The senior class has dropped in number. Of the 1,200 students, 1,000 are minority students, 500 are women student, and 500 are foreign students from about 70 different countries.

Gray then gave a progress report on the redesign of the Draper Labs, which President Jerome Wiener had earlier stated would be completed by July 1, 1973. Gray also cited the influence of the "one student takes a class with 10 students" situation at MIT and the "stiff money problem, and that you've got to help develop the humanistic side of the Institute.

Hanham predicted that the addition of graduate students would be a natural direction for the Department of Humanities to grow. (The Department re
mains the only one in the School without a graduate program.) However, he noted the pres
ent situation at MIT and the country at large is "a long way from the optimist conditions" for the initiation of a new gradu
ate program. There is, he con
cluded, no demand for Ph.D. 's in the humanities. At the outset, Hanham mentioned the possi
bility of developing a program in the history of technology, a "natural" for MIT; he suggested that such a program might start with post-doctoral students rather than graduate and post
graduate students. When asked about the issue of whether MIT's liberal arts staff should move in the direction of in
creased professionalization, Hanham said that from his vantage point as a relative outsider it is "peculiar that there isn't a great deal of re
action." He went on to note that the "creative professions" lack a solid core.

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mented that it's not normally true that people can teach with
out also having other [research] interest. Faculty, he continued, should combine a commitment to teaching with a special inter
rest. In fact, Hanham stated, in a first-rate academic institution people need to be both scholars and teachers. The development of a really professional depart
ment does not have to mean a loss of the "humanistic side of the Institute.

On the specific issue of the Case of Assistant Professor of Philosophy John Graves, Hanham, again referring to him
self as an outsider, said, "This is a "very interesting situation at MIT and the "situation that 'students have to go away for courses is no solu
tion, he stressed.

Gray then gave his own appraisal of the situation at MIT and the "sentiment of widened the fresh
man class has increased in size, and the decrease was significant: down 167 to 975. Wiener predicted that this might be due to a change in draft laws.

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