FAC plans system review

By Bert Halsed

The Freshman Advisory Council (FAC) is planning to review the roles and qualifications of freshman advisors. Though the final figures are not yet in, it appears that there will be about 220 or 230 freshman advisors this year, up 5-10% from last year, according to Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Peter Butterman. This number of advisors is sufficient to insure that no advisor this year (or beyond) is assigned more than the maximum number of freshmen he can handle. Most advisors have been assigned more freshmen than the number they preferred, however.

The FAC is a faculty committee, chaired by Professor Hale V. Ladd. In addition, there is an administrative staff, headed by Butterman, which includes at least one part-time student worker, and there is the FAC Advisory Group. This group consists of advisors and associates who volunteer their time for the committee, as well as several freshman members. At this point there were still places on the committee for interested freshmen.

The Advisory Group was re-established last year after a hiatus of several years. Meeting about once a month, it decides many FAC policy matters (those where it has authority to act), and takes positions on those matters which must be decided by the President, the Provost, or some other non-FAC official. There are some major issues facing the group this year. First and foremost is the question of the roles and qualifications of freshman advisors.

When the Freshman Advisory Council came into existence in the early 1950's, its main function was to assign about 12 freshmen to each of approximately 80 advisors. In those days, the main function of an advisor was to help the freshman choose his academic program, which was not very taxing, as there were few academic options for freshmen twenty years ago. Each department would assign certain members of its faculty to be freshman advisors each year.

In 1968, the advisor selection process was made voluntary, and the number of advisors has been increasing steadily since then. Simultaneously, the matching criteria have been expanding in an attempt to assign freshmen to advisors who share extracurricular as well as professional interests with them. This has been part of an attempt to expand the role of an advisor from that of merely an academic counselor to that of a personal friend, helping the freshman get into the swing of things at MIT.

Along with these changes, the mix of freshman advisors has been changing. Whereas at one time all freshman advisors were members of the faculty, the proportion of non-faculty freshman advisors has been rising, and is now close to 50%. Many of these non-faculty advisors are involved in teaching, but some are not, and this is one of the reasons for the projected re-evaluation of the qualifications to be required of freshman advisors.

The FAC is involved in other matters besides freshman advisors, of course. It has editorial responsibility for several publications sent to freshmen every semester, such as the Freshman Handbook. This is another area in which the FAC Advisory Group will have decisions to make, concerning such matters as policy on including student quotes in the handbook. The FAC also oversees freshmen registration, undergraduate seminars, freshman evaluation forms, and last but far from the least, its Residence/Orientation Committee manages R/O Week.

Harvard Calendar
New England Premiere Two Films by Sergei Eisenstein: October 4, 1972
New England Premiere Two Films by Federico Fellini: October 5, 1972

Boston Symphony Orchestra

1972-73 Season

Variations on the Orchestra
October 6 and 7, 1972
Music of the Court of Louis XIV c. 1675, Moutet - Charpentier; Music of Mannheim c. 1770, Stamitz - Mozart; Music of Vienna c. 1920, Webern - Im Sommerwind; Music of the World c. 1772, Berio: Epiphanie (Cathy Barberian), Gage: Variation IV for audience, performers and Orchestra.

A Salute to Serge Diaghilev
Two different concerts of commissions by the incredible ballet impresario.

A Musical Celebration of Venice
April 29 and 21, 1973
A concert of music by Venetian composers - the Gabrieli, Monteverdi, Schutz, Vivaldi - concluding with the Cavallin Sacrum of Stravinsky, written for San Marco in Venice.


THE TECH TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1972 PAGE 3

Fulbright and Marshall Scholarships

APPLY TO FOREIGN STUDY OFFICE
ROOM 10-303
DEADLINE OCTOBER 6TH

Kendall Drug Corporation
NEW MODERN PHARMACY
238 MAIN STREET, CAMBRIDGE
Right in the heart of MIT
(Near Kendall Post Office)
"CATERING TO YOUR PRESCRIPTION NEEDS"
FULL LINE OF COSMETICS, GIFTS, SUNDRIES
492-7790
Tell them you saw this ad in The Tech.

Specializing in Long Hair

UNIVERSITY BARBER SHOP
DISTINCTIVE HAIR STYLING + Razor Cut
3Aicago Street
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.
Biaide Concrete's

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

1972-73

Fundrum Concerts

Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor

Two series of really different concerts on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Harvard College Calendar

New England Premiere Two Films by Sergei Eisenstein: October 4, 1972
New England Premiere Two Films by Federico Fellini: October 5, 1972

Boston Symphony Orchestra

1972-73 Season

Variations on the Orchestra
October 6 and 7, 1972
Music of the Court of Louis XIV c. 1675, Moutet - Charpentier; Music of Mannheim c. 1770, Stamitz - Mozart; Music of Vienna c. 1920, Webern - Im Sommerwind; Music of the World c. 1772, Berio: Epiphanie (Cathy Barberian), Gage: Variation IV for audience, performers and Orchestra.

A Salute to Serge Diaghilev
Two different concerts of commissions by the incredible ballet impresario.

A Musical Celebration of Venice
April 29 and 21, 1973
A concert of music by Venetian composers - the Gabrieli, Monteverdi, Schutz, Vivaldi - concluding with the Cavallin Sacrum of Stravinsky, written for San Marco in Venice.


Friday Series: October 6, January 12, and April 20
Saturday Series: October 7, January 13, and April 21
All concerts begin at 8:30 p.m.

Tickets available at the Symphony Hall Box Office 266-1402