Faculty hear proposal for energy laboratory

By Mark Haley

The meeting, held its regular October meeting on Wednesday, October 15, and the two and a half hour meeting was largely devoted to the need for formation of a MIT Energy Laboratory.

The regular commission assignments were announced and preceding the meeting an executive session was held.

The faculty meeting began at 1:45 p.m. and during the 20 minute session, the faculty debated the wording of degrees in two MIT students involved in the occupation of Building 20 last year.

Since the meeting was closed to the press, a report of the debate is unavailable. But it was confirmed that one student was graded his degree while the second case will be considered at another meeting.

At 3:20 p.m., the regular session began. Professor Jerome B. Wiesner, chairman of the faculty, discussed the educational matters which were important to MIT students and faculty. He stressed two major themes of the meeting. 1) the need for coordinated undergraduate education and 2) the development of new areas of research as well as the continued support of existing programs.

Also on the agenda is that the graduate department of MIT has a first rate reputation and is world renowned. A second case is that the undergraduate program, he said, that the same high degree reputation has not been established for the undergraduate education at MIT.

Rogers said that there were many good trends in the MIT undergraduate program and in the graduate Research Opportunities Program (ROP) just to name a few. He also included the many different modes of education available to the students and mentioned the Experimental Study Program and the Post-graduate Research.

But he continued to stress the problems in competing with other schools and that MIT was not used for the best freshmen and said that the MIT attitude of the graduate degrees of education as well as its program content could still be improved.

In the area of research and development, Rogers praised MIT's past and said that MIT's past was not the kind of high energy and included the need for continued development in new areas such as Health and Technology. He also mentioned the area of energy development, which was discussed later in the meeting.

He then discussed the educational areas of discussion that would be discussed at future faculty meetings this year. They included many facets of the undergraduate program and the most, of course, on which are subject for approval by the faculty this year if they are to continue.

Other programs which needed continued study are the MIT-Wellscoty Exchange, Freshman paper program, and Domestic Year. (Please turn to page 3)

Division plans seminar series

By Bert Halstead

MIT's newly formed Education Division is planning to offer a seminar series on educational and academic credit, in addition to its ongoing seminar series on education which is being held Wednesday (October 16).

The Education Division Steering Committee, chaired by Professor William T. Martin, was made up of that committee's 20 members and charged with the task of developing a program involving the Education Division.

The purpose of the Division is to provide new opportunities for students and faculty from various departments to become more aware of the study of issues relating to education at all levels, from elementary to graduate.

The idea of an Education Division is to combine the best points of the departments and interdisciplinary research efforts. This means that faculty might also teach or the Division might even have its own faculty who would be judged to be desirable.

The Steering Committee will have to concern itself with a number of issues, including the intellectual foci of the Education Division. The kind of structure best suited to the Division, the relationship between the Division and the other academic and research activities at MIT.

The Education Division Coordinator, who is in the task of designing and implementing the nature of scientific thought.

Papert's ideas on education go far beyond the "New Math" or other current "revolutions" of that genre. Rather, he questions some of today's basic assumptions about education, such as what he calls the pop-culture and the "don't-think-Chair-sitting" parodies. One of his revolutionary ideas involves teaching computer science as a science subject, and using that as a tool for teaching such things as mathematics and physics.

If these initial colloquia and seminar point down some of the roads the Education Division will travel in the years to come, it should indeed be an innovative and dynamic force at MIT.

CPE proposes quiz hiatus

By Mike McNamara

Following several requests from students and organizations, the Committee on Educational Policy has recommended that all instructors hold quizzes or major assignments due on Election Day - November 7 - and the preceding and following days - November 6 and 8.

However, some instructors (published Tuesday in The Tech) have been warned by CEP to give quizzes and major assignments due on Election Day - November 7 - and the preceding and following days - November 6 and 8.

"Our programs for relaxation in 1970 and 1973 were voluntarv, and we had fairly good compliance," Rogers said. "In 1970, we had three days without classes for all students, and in 1971 we had three days with no quizzes, assignments, or new lecture material for freshmen. What has been happening is that the faculty have been fairly compliance but stud- ents use the time they gain in a very discontented at the low number of students who used the time."

Rich Hass '72, head of MIT Student for McGovern, was not so sure of faculty cooperation. "If the faculty adheres to this, it will be a good thing; we'd prefer, of course, a full vacation as in 1970. The faculty is under no constraints on this plan - one instructor of nine just took a vote in class to see if he should go along." Hass felt, though, that the idea was basically very helpful, but added, "Probably just a small fraction of the students will take advantage of it." Students don't seem to be up for the idea, and many are very disappointed with our turnout for canvassing.

As a student at the McGovern booth in Building 10 said, "Our campaign is based on college students. Every little helps."