Faculty discuss exchange

(Continued from page 7)

President Jerome Wiesner summarized the discussion, noting that people did not seem to oppose pass/fail, only its format. One faculty member, who identified himself as an upperclass advisor in the Electrical Engineering department, disagreed. There was some further discussion, but final action was put off until the April meeting, as planned.

Next, Dean of the School of Science Robert Alberty, co-chairman of the MIT-Wellesley Exchange Committee made his report. He summarized seven points in the report and its three recommendations to the CEP. His seven major points were:

1) A significant number of persons at both schools have taken advantage of each exchange. Over 5000 people have been involved over the last five years.

2) The student's choice of subjects to cross-register in indicates the complementary nature of the two school's programs.

3) The residence exchange provided, during its one year of existence, a rewarding change of environment.

4) As a result of the exchange, some undergraduate women at MIT feel they are taken less seriously as capable women at MIT.

5) The committee strongly recommended the recruitment of women at all academic levels.

6) There should be further cooperation between MIT and Wellesley faculty, in spite of their differing interests.

7) The two school's academic years were found to differ, but not significantly, especially after the recent Wellesley faculty action putting finals before Christmas.

Wick made a major statement to the faculty after Alberty's presentation. She told the mostly male crowd that the "nitty gritty," not the theory of the exchange was the source of the problem. "The costs of the exchange have been borne by MIT women," she said at one point. "We sell our women students down the river by ignoring their problems," according to Wick, who called the exchange "detrimental" to MIT women. Alberty stated his belief that the exchange could help solve some of the problems of women at the Institute; Wick later said there is good in the exchange, but only if it is not done at the expense of a part of the MIT community.

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