Endorsement:

Women at MIT

We, the members of the Dormitory Council, do hereby urge the administration of MIT to make a major commitment to the undergraduate women at MIT. It is our belief that the major problems of women can be predominantly traced to one source: there are not enough women at MIT. We, therefore, urge that a program be promptly initiated in the following manner:

1) A task force for the purpose of analyzing the problems that face women at MIT should be created. This task force on women should be charged with finding solutions to the problems they are sure to uncover.

2) A financial commitment should be made to encourage an active recruiting program specifically aimed towards the goal of increasing the number of undergraduate women at MIT in a substantial matter without lowering any admissions standards.

3) An internal and external educational effort should be implemented to remove the false stereotype of the MIT woman and her role at MIT.

Dormitory Council is prepared to assist in the implementation of this proposal in any way possible. A frank recognition of the problems that affect women, and a strong effort towards solving these problems can only make MIT a healthier place to live and grow for all.

(The Tech, April 13, 1973)

Commentary:

Pass-Fail: basic issues

By Lee Gipson

Basic dissatisfaction with Freshman Pass-Fail appears to be surfacing among the faculty.

The current discussion of the first pass-fail program is consistently prompted by the needs of pre-med students for a more detailed assessment of their performance in freshman courses than either the formal pass-fail grades or the Freshman Evaluation forms, but (that issue, at least according to Professor Biocybernetics Bernard Gross, has been resolved).

The CEP, reviewing the proposals of the committee on Freshman Pass-Fail grading, chaired by Professor of Mathematics Arthur Mattuck, found a wider range of possibilities than are encompassed by the committee's report.

According to Faculty Chairman Harley Rogers, the options are either to return to letter grades and the abandonment of Freshman Pass-Fail, or to respond to the concern we heard. We, therefore, urge that a program be promptly initiated in the following manner:

a) A reasonable command of the material
b) A pass in the class if the student is willing to continue to work towards the same standards set in the course

Toying with the grading system in any way possible. A frank recognition of the problems that affect women, and a strong effort towards solving these problems can only make MIT a healthier place to live and grow for all.

The Tech, April 13, 1973

(Next Wednesday, the faculty will consider a proposal to introduce P/F grading that some have recently arrived at The Tech.)