Women are a minority—about 3% of the faculty

(Continued from page 4)

As Kistiakowsky explains, "You can urge the departments to hire women, and insist that they really do look, but what can you do when the department comes up with no qualified women, call them liars?"

Kistiakowsky feels that "the problem at MIT is that you have a lot of departments without many women in the profession. This is not like Harvard where you have a lot of humanities courses that have upwards of 50% women in the field."

Why, though, does MIT have no women faculty (at any level of professor) in the math and chemistry departments? Surely there are some qualified women in the math and chemistry departments! According to Kistiakowsky, approximately 60% of the mathematicians and 7% of the chemists in the US are female.

monday: sensationalism or art?

By Greg Saltzman

The substitution of vulgar trash for wit and intellect seems to be a contagious disease among MIT student newspapers. This dread disease has claimed its second victim within a month, the victim this time being the March 4 issue of Monday.

The front page displayed an article on "streaking" which was accompanied by three revealing photographs of the virtually nude "streakers." I doubt that the staff looked in the calendar, or that they really do look, but what the departments to hire women, and insist that they really do look, but what

Surely no one thinks MIT can or even should complete a person's education, least of all in humanities. Advanced courses, that obviously need prerequisite, can continue to specify them, without getting tangled in catalogues.

3) You are misleading about "historical context." You imply that some of us want all humanities to be concerned with that, and with that exclusively. In fact we are talking only about the distribution subjects (three of the eight "Humans"") required, and asking simply that these involve the students in some confrontation with other times and places, if only to get some perspective on our own world. It's easy to get closed in at MIT, and a rational, well-earned Humanities curriculum is an obvious place (not the only one) to stay aware of that fact.

The Deans have stumbled, like every one else, against the impossibility of devising a foolproof definition of Humanities. You might say that every subject taught here has human implications at some level; should it therefore count as a humanities subject? We have to be prepared to say that some things are more humanistic than others, and those things need particular safeguarding at MIT. To throw in the towel like the Deans and propose that anything goes, is a denial of our educational responsibility—a posture that it's hard to believe a self-respecting MIT Faculty is willing to endorse at this point in our social history.

Murray Higgins
Department of Humanities

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