Fac kills grant-review proposal

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research and examine trends perceived
in that analysis.

The faculty's initial refusal to back experimentation with assessment was not marked by bitter debate or protest, as it probably would have been a few years ago. Supporters of the proposed committee simply said that they would continue to work for establishing such research before the proposals the Ad Hoc Study Group appointed by President Jerome Wiesner last October for the feasibility of a review committee came to the faculty with unanimous agreement on a plan for an assessment committee. Their plan would establish a committee which, according to the Study Group's report, would have two functions:

1) The committee would study and report annually on the faculty on trends in MIT research efforts and their impact on "matters such as the physical environment, the economy, national security, and other important social concerns." The committee would be appointed by the President for a term of five years.

2) The committee would study and report annually on the progress of grants and contracts to make their analysis, and would encourage investigators to write impact statements on individual research projects.

Should we do it?
The committee, although it "agreed strongly that this was an important proposal," was not satisfied with the wording of the term in favor of "gap" but has apparently eschewed that term in favor of "deficit" (Gray formerly deprecated that term). The committee's "term in favor of deficit" (Gray formerly deprecated that term) was received in that analysis.

News Analysis

MIT budget shows deficit

MIT administrators, its visibility in this role is of their creation.

More important to Gray is "the lost opportunity to build Institute endowment or fund in innovative programs which results when unrestricted gift income is used just to keep the lights on."

Energy is the main problem, according to Gray, although general inflation has taken its toll. The Institute has cut energy use by one-fourth, Gray told the faculty, with a budget that priced oil at $4.80 a barrel (raising allowance for inflation) at which MIT is paying $1.14 just last year.

Inflation has also caused salarysto rise more quickly than expected, but as Gray's report states, "everyone in the MIT community has experienced a loss in real income."

His proposed measures are stated in soft boxes, but have the potential to be little short of draconian. "Funds for curriculum development have been suspended for a year or two," he said, without noting that a university that does not innovate is one that is dying. Of course, curriculum development and innovation will go on without funds; it just means that things will be tighter all over, and a faculty member will have to think long and hard before turning down a lucrative research contract in favor of developing better course materials.

It is not altogether clear where the Institute will put all its women next year, while Gray calls for "modest growth in the number of students we enroll."

There is no mistaking his meaning when the Chancellor notes that operating costs will have to be cut even more than they were last year. "This task will require a careful review of all operating areas (that includes research) and planned reductions or elimination of activities that are not central to the Institute's mission."

Last year, Gray told the Trustees that "we have already cut the fat. Another round of cuts like these (of last year) and we will start cutting muscle."

The Gap

In years past, operating gap did not mean that MIT could not pay its bills at the end of the year without dipping into endowment or funds acting as endowment. Next year, for the first time, Gray says a $2.9 million dollar "residual gap," which must be avoided at all costs.

Support of Professors Philip Morrison, who sponsored the original proposal to establish the Study Group, expressed the provost's argument when he said, "I think the academic community will come to view this as part and parcel of a larger society." This view would lead academics to view their work within a social framework. Morrison continued, "which is a step towards academic freedom." But Professor of Political Science Eugene Stochlukoff expressed the view that MIT has been on the expense side, because it is "dominated by a core of大概 researchers" and must be supported by a "school of students.

But it makes sense to plan the future, and the people with whom the~committee will have to speak are the people who will be affected by its decisions. The committee is not a faculty committee, but a committee that is appointed by the President; its mission is to develop a plan for assessing research at MIT. It is a plan that should be accepted by the President and the Institute, and one that will have to be accepted by the faculty.

Nomination Committee

WILL HOLD HEARINGS

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IAP Policy Committee
MIT – Wellesley Exchange Committee

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come whose use is restricted to academic operations (either by donor or Institute). This money is spent on instruction, unsponsored research, and academic operations (either by definition). The Study Group's report, would make their analysis, and would encourage investigators to write impact statements on individual research projects.

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