**UA elections reheld with stricter rules**

By Henry Frechter

The second attempt to elect the Undergraduate Association President and Vice President (UA/VP) will be made tomorrow, marking two weeks exactly since a series of unusual occurrences began with the Election Committee's invalidation of April 10th UA ballots.

The Election Committee has announced a new set of rules on campaigning and balloting to prevent a repeat of the alleged ballot-box stuffing that occurred at the first election. There will be only one voting booth available tomorrow, and it will be manned by the election "commissiners" -- an informal group of people chosen by UA Secretary-General Stephen Shagoury.

Co-UA Derek Ved, a member of the Election Committee that invalidated its first election, told The Tech that he personally expected a turnout lower than the 1,200 voters in the first election, "The momentum is gone from the election," he said. While the results of the class elections two weeks ago were accepted, "very strong evidence to indicate that there was tampering with several groups of ballots" caused the Election Committee to declare the UA/VP election invalid. A member of the committee, Michael (requests to page 3)

**Roll cards may go to ease registration**

By Bill Conlin

A proposal to eliminate roll cards from the registration process is being considered, according to Warren Wells, Registrar.

The proposal was sent to Wells by the Committee on Academic Policy (CAP) because, according to Professor Arthur C. Smith, CAP Chairman, "the CAP was upset over the conflict in registration caused by students signing up for courses and not turning in roll cards, or not signing up for courses and turning in roll cards, and things of that nature."

Although the final decision is left up to the registrar, Wells is asking for the opinions of several people and committees before making the decision, which he says will be made in two or four weeks. "I wouldn't do it unless it looked advantageous to the various people involved. We'll have to discuss it and see if it looks good."

Roll cards have worked well over the years, but their use seems to be deteriorating," said Wells. He added that there had not been any sudden change, but that the situation had worsened in recent years. If the roll cards are eliminated, the Registrar's office will consider sending class lists to professors several times a term to keep them aware of who is registered in their classes. Any change in status of a student would be reflected in the next class list.

The change would not affect students signing up for classes and not turning in roll cards, or not signing up for courses and turning in roll cards, and things of that nature."

**FinAid to be re-evaluated**

By Jules Mollere

MIT'S Student Financial Aid Office is, according to Dorothy Bowe, Assistant Director of Financial Aid, re-evaluating its basis for determining student need.

Bowe said that this is a result of "the growing number of students across the country who are declaring themselves financially independent of their parents. "MIT has no real "independent student" as defined by any set of rules. We require a financial statement from all parents in order to determine a student's need."

"Now, however," Bowe continued, "College students are getting further and further away from the 'traditional' student. He is not always as closely tied to his parents for financial support and in fact may have been separated from them for quite a while."

Bowe cited her representation of MIT at a College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) sponsored convention on independent students as an example of the Institute's "willingness to look at new ideas."

"We tried to do two things at the convention," Bowe commented, "to define a set of rules and guidelines for determining what an independent student is and to find funds to fit that definition."

"This last problem is one we're looking at very closely here. Practically any change away from determining need by the parents income is going to put a heavy strain on our aid money... I don't know if we could raise so much more, so it'll most probably come down to a question of how best to distribute what we already have."

Bowe mentioned several alternatives which had been discussed at the convention including a plan whereby a student could declare himself independent of his parents but would only be eligible for loans, not direct aid. Another plan would classify freshmen as being totally dependent financially on their parents, regardless less so, and so on. Such a plan would allow these semi-independent students to receive financial aid.

According to Bowe the National Student Association (a national lobby) was present at the conference and called for the colleges to continue determining need on the basis of parent's income. "Their position rather surprised me as I had expected them to be more concerned about those students whose parents could afford to but do not support them past their majority (now 18). In fact I heard very little said throughout the whole convention about their problem."

Bowe also said that the convention expressed its dissatisfaction with the federal definition of an independent student as set by the United States Office of Education. This definition lists independent students as those who no longer live in their parents' home for more than two weeks in any given year, are not listed as dependents on their parents' Federal Income tax returns and receive less than six hundred dollars per year, including such items as clothes and medical care.

"We use the federal definition," Bowe said, "in determining eligibility for the government's Basic Educational Opportunity Grants but not for our own purposes. It simply serves to drive a wedge between students and their families."

I think the federal definition will most probably stay the same for at least this year, but in their keynote address they made it very clear that they are looking for new opinions... The thing they didn't offer is any more money."

Bowe said that the convention "sharpened people's awareness of the problem... Now we just have to be as fair as possible with what we have."

**Blacks hold conference at MIT**

The second annual Black Conference on Science and Technology, organized by MIT black students, was held last Friday and Saturday at the Institute. The Conference, which was attended by an estimated 300 blacks, started out with a keynote address in Kresge Friday afternoon by Dean Percy Pierce of the Howard University School of Engineering (shown at left). Workshop sessions on Saturday dealt with topics such as Communications, Community Resources, Health Care Systems, and Sociology of Science. The Conference concluded with African Night events on Saturday night, which featured an African dinner.

Photo by Roger Goldstein