Physics option lost

By Michael Garry

High level faculty members of the Physics Department decided late in June to cancel the semi-tutorial freshman physics option, 8.014-0.024.

Speaking on behalf of the Physics Department, Professor A. P. French, lecturer of the most widely subscribed first term physics option (8.01) cited the "lack of teaching resources" as the primary reason for the cancellation of the course. In the opinion of those in charge of allocating faculty members for this fall's physics courses, French stated, "8.014-0.024 would take away more staff effort than was justifiable in view of the total demand - it would deplete personnel needed for advanced courses." The semi-tutorial mode of teaching physics, introduced four years ago to aid minority students with a weak background in math and physics, stressed personal interaction between student and teacher. Classes were relatively small (about 25 students); each student was assigned to a teaching assistant for tutoring and guidance. It was designed for those disenfranchised with the large lecture format, in which the student received very little individual attention, in courses that follow this format (like 8.01) the lecture group is broken down into recitation sections - classes of around thirty students - that allow for some small amount of student-teacher contact.

The feature that students like most about the 8.014-0.024 sequence, French said, was the close association they had with the tutors, or the undergraduate and graduate teaching assistants. French regretted the loss of this tutorial contact but hoped that it would be injected to a greater extent in the recitation sections (Please turn to page 7)

MIT suffers shortfall; covers same

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tioned above being handled? Gifts, patents, and some other miscellaneous income, which could be added to endowment or used in other innovative ways, as opposed to operations, explains the drop to $5.1 million "total decline of demand over resources."
The $3.4 million dollar drop to the $1.7 million "operating deficit" will come out of the research reserve, a fund set aside during the 60's for a cushion against a possible collapse of research funding or a drastically changed research climate. The $9 million dollar fund has grown to $11.5 million, and the amount to be taken out roughly equals the under-recovery of overhead.

Although MIT consistently avoids the use of the word "deficit" because of its misleading connotation of inability to meet debts without borrowing, Gray's report to the faculty designated the last $1.7 million as an "operating deficit." In one sense, paying this amount out of funds appropriated as endowment (which total some $60 million) is "borrowing against the future," as MIT lost income it would otherwise have derived from its investment.

The possibility of increasing the size of the student body without building more educational buildings or hiring more faculty has been discussed, along with the option of aiding faculty and buildings, but not in proportion to the increased numbers of students. Other options include a faster rise in tuition, or a faster increase in the size of the Institute's endowment.

Those are long-run options. In the short run "we are going to have to cut people and activities," according to Gray, who says "it will be hard to figure out which."

Gray said, "It will not be that those things were not done well, not that they are not appropriate to a university, it will just be that we cannot afford them, and that they are less important than other activities.

"It will not just be the decision of a few people, like senior officers or the academic council. The faculty will surely be involved in some sense. It will not be easy to decide what to drop,"

3) Participation in "Operation Identification" by engraving a social security number, drivers license number or any other identifying data all metal, plastic and wood valuables. Electric engravers are available on loan at the Campus Patrol Headquarters, Building W31-215.

4) Bicycle thefts are on the rise, accordingly a centrally located bicycle compound has been established. This is located in the rear of Building 13. There are several good anti-theft lock models available. Information on these can be obtained from our headquarters.

5) Attention is invited to the fact this area has the highest automobile theft record in the country and anti-theft devices are strongly recommended. There are many commercial devices available, a list of these can be obtained at the Campus Patrol Office.

6) Do not carry large sums of money on your person. Anticipate what you need and carry no more.

7) Report the presence of unaccompanied juveniles in the dormitory areas immediately.

8) Note the presence of strangers who appear to be loitering or acting in a suspicious manner and notify the Campus Patrol immediately and a routine check will be made.

9) If you should enter your room and find a stranger inside, regardless of "cover" story supplied, note description, clothing, etc. and notify the Campus Patrol immediately.

10) Do not confront intruders and then pursue them when they flee, this practice can and has resulted in an assault.

11) Door to door soliciting is prohibited and should be reported.

12) When using any of the athletic facilities secure all valuables in a locked locker.

13) Feel free to consult the Campus Patrol with respect to local high risk areas.

14) Local city ordinance forbids hitch-hiking. MIT students have been involved in robberies and assaults as the result of hitch-hiking, usually during night time hours. Take advantage of public transportations and sharing rides with friends.

15) An on campus escort service is available on request for persons going to or from remote campus areas, during the hours of darkness. Call extension 3-2997 or 3-2998 to reach the post.

There is an institute-wide telephone emergency system for medical or emergency assistance, dial 100 on any phone.

When a group of Cambridge residents decided to buy a mate for Leona at the Stoneham Zoo, they came to Cambridge Trust, in pursuit of either a donation or a low-interest loan. They got both; thus Leona got Girard, a three-year-old male; and we got a great deal of satisfaction out of helping. Of course, we offer more mundane financial services as well... checking and savings accounts, loans, Master Charge, Etcetera Checking (overdraft privilege), drive-up and walk-up tellers, foreign drafts and travelers' checks... and the congenial atmosphere that a small bank like ours can afford. But it's the special services, such as giraffe loans, that make us more than a little remarkable. Perhaps that's one reason much of the Cambridge community banks with us: because sometimes, we stick our necks out where others won't bother.