Due to economy, Finaid may change procedures

By Barb Moore

Deteriorating financial con-
ditions may force a change in
MIT's basic approach toward
student financial aid, according
to Jack Failey, Director of
Financial Aid.

"Next year is going to be
tough all around," Failey said,
"and financial aid is no excep-
tion."

This year scholarship
funds received a boost of
nearly one half million dollars
from unrestricted Institute funds,
but that extra money may not be
available next year.

The financial aid office cur-
rently operates under an equity
level system, which they con-
sider the most fair and impartial.

With an equity level, admissions
decisions are made without re-
gard to financial need, which is
determined through the Parent's
Confidential Statement. The aid
package is thus determined by
the equity level (currently
$1750).

All need up to the equity level
is met through a self-help pack-
age of loan and job, and any
need above that level is met with
a scholarship.

In order to operate under the
equity system with an equity
level comparable to the current
$1750, scholarship funds would
have to be increased by $3.5
million to $3.7 million next year,
according to Failey. He specu-
lated that this much funding will
not be available from unres-
tricted Institute funds.

This year, scholarship funds are
one factor confounding the finan-
cial aid outlook, continued Failey.
"Our problem is really a con-
fluence of three factors: in-
creasing costs, the unlikelihood
that we can expect the same
increase in parents' contribution
that we have in the past, and the
potential to find extra Institute
funds."

Initiation has compounded the
problem facing the student aid
office. The expected parents'
contribution to the costs of a
college education has not in-
creased as rapidly as MIT's costs,
said Failey. There is a gap be-
tween what the parents can pay
and what MIT can grant in aid,
which raises policy questions
that must be resolved.

The most obvious solution,
and one that is being considered
with some seriousness, according
to Failey, is simply not meeting
all the students' need. This plan,
known as admit-deny, would in-
volve admitting a number of ap-
plicants, but giving them no
scholarship funding to attend.

Loan funds would be available,
if the student wished to borrow
towards tuition.

Failey said that MIT is not short
of money, and could "probably loan"
anyone who wished to borrow it
-enough money to attend under a
program of admit-deny. The ques-
tion, Failey said, is which one of
the competition do? "We can be
saved if the competition is in the
same boat," Failey said, "but
that doesn't save the kids."

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Genetic experiments pose potential hazards

By Leon Tatrosian

Genetic experimentation may pose potential biological hazards, warns a noted
microbiologist.

Dr. David Baltimore, American
Cancer Society Professor of
Microbiology at MIT, said this
week at a "Genetics and Society
Seminar" last week, he is
one of a growing number
of scientists who are addressing
the ethical ramifications
of certain kinds of bio-
logical experimentation.

Baltimore emphasized the
notion that the scientist's re-
ponsibility ends when the issues
go beyond his field of technical
interest. "Scientists must reduce
most of us to a moral and ethical
and moral questions to
practical ones," he said.

Baltimore described the work
of being done with what is
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