Faculty residents: what role?

By Lucv Everett

Since 1951, when Professor Arthur Spellmeyer, Master of the MIT Graduate House, became responsible for undergraduates, faculty and graduate students have become an important part of the house. At a time when tight finances were enforcing a close look at all funding, Dean for Student Affairs Carola Eisenberg believes that funds for the housemaster-tutor system are justified because "the education of the student does not end in the classroom. Without housemasters and tutors, a dormitory would be nothing more than a barracks headquarters.

The role of the faculty and graduate students is not easily defined. Basically, Eisenberg explained, housemasters and tutors "handle social, academic, and personal problems, and serve as a source of social interaction."

But the way in which each carries out these functions depends very much on individual interests and personality.

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