Hansen: MIT should fulfill industrialization goals

By Kent F. Hansen
Professor of Nuclear Engineering

I welcome the opportunity that The Tech has provided me to participate in this issue. I have been asked to make a report on the discussions at faculty meetings and other gatherings on the subject of education and the proliferation of nuclear weapons. I hope to make brief comments with regard to all these issues.

The proliferation of nuclear weapons has been of great concern to the nuclear profession from its very beginning. Over 25 years ago, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was created expressly for the purpose of aiding countries in the development of nuclear power, to provide for new levels of international cooperation and to ensure that these countries operate their nuclear facilities under international safeguards to ensure that such proliferation is prevented.

The Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Under the terms of this treaty, all signatory countries have agreed to interdict the spread of nuclear-weapons around the world. The IAEA is responsible for organizing the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Under the terms of this treaty, all nations must coordinate their efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, and those who have nuclear-weapons may be required to provide assistance to countries seeking to develop nuclear-weapons. This assistance might include technical advice or help in the construction of nuclear-weapons facilities.

The Shah has thirty-five years' worth of experience in the nuclear field as it is essential for its economic development. Among other things, Iran has the country where many of the world's best nuclear scientists will be working. They will be able to influence both policy and practice. By participating in Iran's development, we will be able to influence the decisions of its nuclear scientists.

Universities do not sell admissions

By Gordon S. Brown
Institute Professor Emeritus

The very serious question of nuclear proliferation aside, the general educational principles that have guided the faculty debate over the education of nuclear engineers are the same as those that guide the entire faculty debate over all other professionals. We must do all we can to ensure that all nuclear engineers are educated to the highest standards of competence and integrity. We can then ask how well it will work. But we should not suddenly stop the construction of nuclear power plants, because the present technology is ready. Nor, of course, does it have a large industrial base and it cannot gain international credits except by selling abroad to bring in the income.

Brown: Burying our heads attenuates our influence with Iran

The discussions at faculty meetings and other gatherings have identified three issues of concern, which I think need to be addressed. The first is the proliferation of nuclear weapons, the dangers associated with the nonproliferation of nuclear materials, and the role of MIT in developing safeguards for the mitigation of proliferation. MIT is one of the institutions that have seen these problems, and I think MIT should do more to help solve them.

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I am concerned with the possibility that the national educational programs of the United States may be the only ones that can stop the spread of nuclear-weapons around the world. The IAEA is responsible for organizing the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Under the terms of this treaty, all nations must coordinate their efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, and those who have nuclear-weapons may be required to provide assistance to countries seeking to develop nuclear-weapons. This assistance might include technical advice or help in the construction of nuclear-weapons facilities.

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