'Grand opening' planned in IAP for cable system

By Mike McNamee

The MIT cable television system, stretching from Westgate and Tang Hall on West Campus to the Sloan Campus, has been installed and probably will go into operation in January. A faculty committee yesterday sent a report to President Jerome B. Wiesner recommending that the cable be inaugurated with a "grand opening-type" show sometime during the Independent Activities Period in January, and suggesting procedures and mechanisms for allowing members of the MIT community to work with the cable network.

The system, developed under a $600,000 grant from the Sloan Foundation, will eventually be connected to 34 "terminal points" on campus where programming can be received on one or more receivers. According to Chief Audio-Visual Engineer Charles Patron, 24 to 27 locations will be installed and ready for use for the expected opening in January.

"The terminals are in the obvious places - the large classrooms like 10-246, 26-100, 54-100, the lobby of Building 7, all the dormitories, and so forth," Patron explained. "All of Building 9 (headquarters of the Center for Advanced Engineering Study) will be wired into the system, and there are a lot of other locations where there'll be terminals."

Patron said that the main spine of the cable, originally planned to stop at Burton House on West Campus, was eliminated in the final plans (Please turn to page 3).

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