The Nominations Committee for the MIT 1976-77 Fellowship has found itself faced with a hard-to-handle problem: no one seems to want to join the student-faculty committee to which the Nominations Committee is supposed to name members.

The number of students who come to NomCom's hearings and ask to be named to committees is declining, according to committee members. And most of those undergraduates who are concentrating on just two or three student-faculty committees are doing so - the groups which are thought to have "power and prestige."

The decline has resulted in extensive advertising in The U.A. News and other publications. Slides shown before Lecture Series Committee meetings stating where and when NomCom would meet to consider applications for committee memberships have had little or no effect. Even word of mouth advertising doesn't seem to do the trick.

"We figure that 70 to 80 percent of the MIT undergraduate community knows about these NomCom meetings and the committee openings we're trying to fill," NomCom member John Salley '78 said. "Really, the only thing I can think is that no one cares."

The root of the problem is, in John Ross' view, "in the way the leadership of the student community has found itself faced with a problem about these NomCom meetings that students for the Undergraduate Association have somehow not been able to turn out." Ross went on to note that the less-well-known committees "have had tittle or no effect. Even sponsoring Committee movies and the like have not seemed to work."

The Nominations Committee was charged with naming students to faculty committees and presidential committees in 1975; "...the height of the war time," when everyone was interested and willing to turn out. But, Salley put it, "political interest and willingness to work to affect issues at the Institute has faded in the seven years almost two undergraduate generations since then. And interest in being on a faculty committee has faded with it."

"There's a real problem communicating to students the fact that they can be effective, even on some of the smaller less-well-known committees," Salley said. "From the faculty community I've been, I know that students are listened to and paid attention to. They can be effective."

Chairman of the faculty Pro- vost John Ross agreed. "It's an experience, which is mostly contained to the CEP (Committee on Educational Policy), there's no distinction between a student member and a faculty member," he said. "When it comes to discussion, joining subcommittees, taking work home to do - anything, but especially discussion - students do as much or more than faculty."

Ross went on to note that the loss of interest, "all his knowledge, no political or presidential committees were able to conduct business or even get defined by lack of student representation on them. But, he pointed out, his experience was mostly with "the big, important committees" - CEP, the Committee on Academic Performance, the Committee on Curriculum, and so forth. And those are the groups, Nutter and Salley agreed, which have no trouble getting students."

"CAP, CEP, and CIAC (Corporation Joint Advisory Committee) are always popular," Salley said. "We get all kinds of people, most of whom are just looking for something to do or to put on their resumes, for those committees."

And Nutter added, "We'll get 10 to 12 people every year for one slot on the CEP - but it's been years since we've had anyone on the Committee. Some of these less-well-known committees - you can't give them away."

The Nominations Committee (Chair: John Nutter 76d) is holding a special meeting to appoint a new member at 7:30pm Monday in Room 2-100. The meeting will cover an overview of the exam process and student issues.

The MIT Senate will hold a special meeting -- a "Call of the Senate" -- on Monday, Oct. 8th in Room 5-309 on the帕rapyschology Research Group (American Psychological Association) is holding a special meeting -- a "Call of the Senate" -- on Monday, Oct. 8th in Room 5-309 on the Parapsychology Research Group (American Psychological Association).