Federal rules hit hard
(Continued from page 1)
proponents, expects in contain-
ment of microbiologic substances, and a number of skilled
employees. Maintenance of the
facility and its expensive equip-
ment would be critical.
"You're talking about a sub-
stantial sum of money - I'm not
sure if it's in the hundreds of-
thousands-per-year range or the
millions range," Fox said. "The
expenditures to meet these stan-
dards are enormous."

The recovery of the funds
spent will be difficult. One-time
grants from the National Insti-
tutes of Health may be available
to help pay for the renovations
needed, Fox said, but the only
way to pay the longstanding
and maintenance costs is through
overhead increases - imposing a higher rate on the
salary and materials component of
research funds to go for administra-
tion and facilities. The result, Fox
said, may be a cut in total research.

"Total grant funds in bio-
medical research have dropped by
a real factor of two in the last
to six to eight years," Fox ex-
plained. "I'm sure facilities are
going to get done." Biohazards aren't the only
things the government is erecting
standards against. Carcinogenic
substances fall under the Occu-
pational Safety and Health Act
(OSHA) as well as research stan-
dards HEW began in June to
require review of all research
involving human subjects by a
body like MIT's Committee on
Use of Humans as Experimental
Subjects (COUHES). And meet-
ing the NIH guidelines would
mean that research is going to get
done.

"We've been aiming at this
time for a four-year span,
cumulative in the repositioning of
all our facilities," Nigro said.
Both Fox and Nigro declined
to estimate the costs of the
renovations, although Fox said a
$1 million estimate is low. Most
of the direct costs of the
improvements are being picked
up by an NIH grant, Nigro said,
but the staff and maintenance
costs will be added to overhead
- "It's still up in the air who's
paying for what," Fox said.

Fox and Nigro are also part
of a review process which, like
COUHES and the proposed
Committees on Biohazards and
Carcinogens, involves faculty
and staff in reviewing research
proposals to make sure standards
and safeguards are maintained.
Such commitments of faculty
time are often one of the
greatest costs of government
standards.

"As life here has become more
complicated in the last five
to ten years, you find the
faculty's time goes less to
teaching and more to admini-
strative work," Associate Pro-
fessor Harvey Rogers explained.
The context is one of a hectic,
disturbing world, where often
the real first interests of the
faculty can get pushed to the
background. It makes the same
20 years ago look pastoral.
Friday: The federal-cost
cut would be critical.

The context is one of a hectic,
disturbing world, where often
the real first interests of the
faculty can get pushed to the
background. It makes the same
20 years ago look pastoral.

Privacy issues snowball
as group prepares report
(Continued from page 1)

due to chairman Arthur C.
Smith, professor of Electrical
Engineering.

The result, Smith said, is that
the committee hasn't completed
the report on employee privacy
which it had hoped to put be-
fore the faculty this fall. And
Smith wouldn't hazard a guess
on when the committee will
have a report - "I'm not quite
sure where we'll end up with it," he
said.

The committee has been use-
ful, Smith said, in helping the
administration follow develop-
ments in new privacy legislation
and in stimulating policies to
deal with such measures.

"It's still up in the air who's
paying for what," Fox said.

Fox and Nigro are also part
of a review process which, like
COUHES and the proposed
Committees on Biohazards and
Carcinogens, involves faculty
and staff in reviewing research
proposals to make sure standards
and safeguards are maintained.
Such commitments of faculty
time are often one of the
greatest costs of government
standards.

"As life here has become more
complicated in the last five
to ten years, you find the
faculty's time goes less to
teaching and more to admini-
strative work," Associate Pro-
fessor Harvey Rogers explained.
The context is one of a hectic,
disturbing world, where often
the real first interests of the
faculty can get pushed to the
background. It makes the same
20 years ago look pastoral.
Friday: The federal-cost
cut would be critical.