Shagoury resigns UA VP post

Undergraduate Association Vice President Stephen Shagoury '76 has resigned his student government position, apparently because of disagreement with the goals of the current student administration.

The resignation, which was tendered last week, was "friendl[y] all the way around," according to Undergraduate Association President Lee Allen '76, who said that Shagoury had "quit because there just didn't seem to be anything for him to do."

"The best I can make of it was that Steve just lost interest and quit," Allen told The Tech that he wasn't sure how he would replace Shagoury. "I'm moving slowly on this so that people don't think I'm playing favorites," he said. "I figure that unless people get upset and don't about it, I'll just appoint someone for the job." Candidates "aren't exactly knocking each other over" for the post, he added.

Shagoury's resignation capped several months of what Allen called "suspension problems" and disagreements over the role of the student government. The UA administration, which is elected to represent all undergraduate students, has been less program-oriented -- and thus less visible -- than any of its immediate predecessors.

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"There are a lot of groups that put on parties better than the UA can, but there aren't any groups trying to build an effective student voice at MIT. So I decided to concentrate on that."

As a result, Allen said, "I was spending all my time across the street (in administrative offices), and the UA was drifting apart." Shagoury, who had been given no specific tasks to perform, apparently lost interest and so resigned, Allen said.

"We weren't communicating too well, and I wasn't saying 'Do this, do that,' to him. He seemed to think there wasn't any need for him to be around." Shagoury could not be reached for comment.

In an unrelated event, Allen named Charlie Shoshann '77 Secretary-General of the UA, to replace Doug McLeod '77. McLeod resigned from the appointive post earlier this month, saying he was "overrounded and had to cut back," Allen explained.

Since the UAVP is elected in annual UA voting each spring, Allen told The Tech that he wouldn't know how he would replace Shagoury. "I'm moving slowly on this so that people won't think I'm playing favorites," she said. "I figure that unless people get upset and don't about it, I'll just appoint someone for the job." Candidates "aren't exactly knocking each other over" for the post, he added.

The Corporation Visiting Committee for Student Affairs will conduct open meetings today and tomorrow, Jan. 23 and 24. Seven sessions will be held to discuss a number of student-affairs issues:

- Sun, morning: McCormick Brown Living Room - Discussion of the Office of Minority Education and Student Governance Open
- 12 - Lunch and further discussion. By invitation.
- 1pm, McCormick - Discussion of Athletics, Open
- 4:30pm, McCormick - Discussion of Student Housing, Open
- 8:30pm, Student Center Mezzanine Lounge - Open discussion of Dean for Student Affairs Office, Open
- 4:54am Saturday, Student Center West Lounge - Discussion of Talbot House, Freshman Advisory Council, and Housing, followed by Summary, Open.
- 12:30pm - Executive Session. Closed.

Increased medical coverage proposed

By Chuck Humphrey

The MIT Medical Department Advisory Board has recommended a new student hospitalization insurance plan to "plug up the holes" in the current optional insurance program. The new plan, which will go into effect next fall if approved by the administration, will require all students to verify in writing that they have some form of hospitalization insurance, or to sign up for the MIT plan.

The Advisory Board unanimously approved a plan offered by the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States which would simplify hospitalization coverage by putting a single limit of $50,000 on coverage during a student's MIT stay. The current plan provides more coverage overall -- $25,000 per year -- but sets a number of separate limits on coverage in specific areas such as surgery, x-rays, tests, and so forth.

"This new plan will close a gap in our current coverage where a number of students have been caught," Lawrence Bishoff, associate medical director for administration, said. "Many students have been hurt when they went hospitalized for long periods of time and were stuck with the bills. By requiring them to verify that they have some sort of insurance, that problem will be eliminated."

The new plan might also cut Medical Department costs, Bishoff said. Some plans now covered by the mandatory health fee can be charged to private insurance plans such as Blue Cross/Blue Shield, putting "zero on a burden on the health fee fund."

If there would probably be no immediate financial benefit from the new plan, he said, that "smaller increases" would be possible.

East Boston planning goes on

By Mike McNamee

Student walk-outs and community protests against plans to convert East Boston High School into a city-wide technical school have halted preparations at that school this week.

But the protesting students and East Boston residents have not slowed the curriculum planning process for that city-wide school, according to MIT officials involved in the Phase II desegregation effort.

"The only question was when," Russell Bissett, MIT group which is working with the Wentworth Institute of Technology, the Massport Authority, and the Boston School Committee to develop city-wide technical schools at East Boston High and Barnes Middle School. The change was ordered by US District Judge Arthur Garrity last year and is no longer an advantage in arriving early for Physical Education registration.

To obtain Classes on Registration Day, students must present a signed Registration form ( duplicated by their advisor) and turn in a completed Address Card to the Registrar's Office, who will immediately on entering the Armory, others obtain them (from their advisor).