Don't worry, Class of 1980: overcrowding no problem

By Glenn Brownstein

Coifin stuffing is one way, or perhaps renting space in the library to the most productive students is another. There are just two of the many possible courses MIT can take to alleviate the major problem caused by the 1100 size—overcrowding.

Some of you may remember a letter written by Mitch Trachtenberg '78 in September, which quoted a fictional Institute official in regards to the projected enrollment: "65 per cent of all homes students" would get cuts. The same official wished to encourage sleeping together in order to make single-cots more available, and the Institute-wide slogan would be, "If you give a damn about MIT, give a fuck to rebate the housing shortage.

"Although my every pence would hail that as an excellent solution to the problem, I don't think we need to go that far yet. For example, the indoor tennis courts are heavily used from October to March, right? Well, how about housing students from March to May and in September in that facility, and when winter rolls around again one of the playing fields (surely some can be spared and built another usable one) for an ice-skating rink or something of the like—accommodation for the lucky freshmen.

"What about the Cage? If MIT's new Sports Center ever gets built, I can imagine students immediately converted into a ritzy, outdoorsy living group, what with the dirt and the cement.

"Best idea yet would be practical and appeal to all efficiency experts at MIT. Instead of stuffing Red Line cars into a corner of the Killian Court, why not commission an extra-large statue to be built, hollow out the massive body, and provide fifty or sixty students not only an artistic, physically attractive home, but also a place to store their possessions (the last will probably remain a cafeteria because all these extra students will have to be fed somewhere), turn form a unique and exciting dormitory style, completely different.

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