Report urges MIT balanced budget

By William Laser

MIT's immediate fiscal goal is to balance the budget within the next two years, declares a report prepared by the Office of the President and Chancellor. The Institute has incurred a deficit in each of the last three fiscal years, and expects expenses to exceed income again this year. The proposal to balance the budget in fiscal year 1978 involves continued "restraint in salary and wage increases," a "preliminary estimate" to meet the supplementation of funds required for "undergraduate student financial aid.

The report acknowledges, however, that "the inadequacy of our resources to meet growing needs for financial support to undergraduates requires a review of our financial aid policies."

The achievement of the balanced budget may be dependent on such variables as the inflation rate, the success or failure of the Leadership Campaign fund drive, and the realization of the proposed increase in enrollment. The Leadership Campaign is an attempt to raise $325 million, of which $100 million would be used to increase the Institute's endowment. The report estimates that MIT is "underendowed by about $200 million" — a figure which represents $10 million per annum in investment income.

Browning clarifies MacGren rent mix-up

By Kent Pitman

The contents of some MacGregor House residents that they were forced to pay higher rents than they had expected apparently stems from a misunderstanding regarding existing housing policy.

Associate Dean for Student Affairs Kenneth Browning '66 explained that the rent rates were set at a meeting of dormitory representatives and Dean's Office officials last spring. Browning asserted that a copy of the rate report drawn up by the committee was made available to all dormitories well before the end of the spring term.

The disagreement arose because certain suite-lounges in MacGregor were converted to doubles for incoming freshmen. Students living in the suites believed that they would receive reductions in rent far greater than what they have actually been given.

The committee which set the rent rates included Institute officials, said Marty Herman '79.

Senate charges CIA misuses colleges

By William Laser

The Central Intelligence Agency is currently using academic personnel in over 100 American universities, and related institutes in covert operations, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence revealed earlier this year.

The Committee, which was chaired by former presidential candidate Senator Frank Church (D-Idaho), said in its lengthy report to the Senate that these academicians provided "leads and sometimes [make] introductions for intelligence personnel [and] occasionally write books and other material to be used for propaganda purposes abroad."

The CIA apparently also used university personnel to spy on other academics and on foreign students studying in the United States, and to recruit students for undercover intelligence activities. "The CIA gives a high priority to obtaining leads on potential foreign intelligence sources, especially those from communist countries," the report continues.

The Committee notes that American academics provide valuable assistance in this activity. "The Committee is concerned, however, that American academics involved in such activities may undermine public confidence that those who train our youth are upholding the ideals, independence, and integrity of American universities."

The Committee found that the CIA, in giving funds to the National Student Association, went far beyond its original desire to allow American students to "represent their own ideas, in their own way, in the international forums of the day." The Committee found that the Agency moved from "general support to the operational support" of individual students for its own purposes.

The Committee's report cites among a list of covert actions by the CIA the allegation that the Agency "helped to establish a research center at a major United States university," but there is no elaboration as to the identity of the particular institution involved.

The Committee also reported that it had investigated the charge, described in detail in The Tech on April 16, 1975, and on the NBC Nightly News on June 3, "in view of the current crowding in this activity."

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