City inspection notes MacGregor violations

By William Lasser

A Cambridge Health Department official has found several health and safety violations in MacGregor House which he said must be eliminated before MIT's lodging house license for the dormitory will be renewed.

Director of Housing and Food Services Eugene Branner told The Tech that violations "are something we should be cleaning up anyway with the cooperation of the residents.

Branner and Associate Dean for Student Affairs Kenneth C. Browning met Wednesday evening with about fifty residents of the House to discuss the violations. Branner explained that the dormitory had not as yet been officially cited, but that Cambridge Health Inspector George Kessel had examined the Housing Office the problem areas he found in an inspection on March 9.

The violations included blocked hallways, loose wood and rubber, and dirty kitchens. Kessel recommended that all vents in the House be cleaned, that all exits be cleared completely, and that all "Exit" signs be posted properly.

Cambridge Health Commissioner James Heicher '78 stressed that, in cleaning up the dormitory, "the emphasis must be placed on voluntary cooperation." He added that "any type of mandatory action here could, according to Zannetos, influence the percentage of A's that were given out in preference to B's and C's.

The Committee's report showed how the mean grade point average of students has increased from about 3.3 in 1952 to 4.3 in recent years. The report put forward several solutions:
- Specifying an "explicit definition of grades" to all faculty members, making up more uniform and "definite" them.
- Including the average grade given out in a course in a student's transcript would allow other schools to judge relative stiffness of grades in different lower grades.

The Institute "sells products and services (students) to a universal market," according to Zannetos, and must make "better and more information" about grades available to other schools.

He cautioned, however, that MIT should not set its standards directly on those of other schools. Zannetos noted that the committee's recommendations were given out in a course in a student's transcript would allow other schools to judge relative stiffness of grading in different subjects.

A Cambridge Health Department official has found several health and safety violations in MacGregor House which he said must be eliminated before MIT's lodging house license for the dormitory will be renewed.

Director of Housing and Food Services Eugene Branner told The Tech that violations "are something we should be cleaning up anyway with the cooperation of the residents." Branner and Associate Dean for Student Affairs Kenneth C. Browning met Wednesday evening with about fifty residents of the House to discuss the violations. Branner explained that the dormitory had not as yet been officially cited, but that Cambridge Health Inspector George Kessel had examined the Housing Office the problem areas he found in an inspection on March 9.

The violations included blocked hallways, loose wood and rubber, and dirty kitchens. Kessel recommended that all vents in the House be cleaned, that all exits be cleared completely, and that all "Exit" signs be posted properly.

Cambridge Health Commissioner James Heicher '78 stressed that, in cleaning up the dormitory, "the emphasis must be placed on voluntary cooperation." He added that "any type of mandatory action here could, according to Zannetos, influence the percentage of A's that were given out in preference to B's and C's.

The Committee's report showed how the mean grade point average of students has increased from about 3.3 in 1952 to 4.3 in recent years. The report put forward several solutions:
- Specifying an "explicit definition of grades" to all faculty members, making up more uniform and "definite" them.
- Including the average grade given out in a course in a student's transcript would allow other schools to judge relative stiffness of grades in different lower grades.

The Institute "sells products and services (students) to a universal market," according to Zannetos, and must make "better and more information" about grades available to other schools.

He cautioned, however, that MIT should not set its standards directly on those of other schools. Zannetos noted that the committee's recommendations were given out in a course in a student's transcript would allow other schools to judge relative stiffness of grading in different subjects.

"Multidimensional grades" could be issued -- either a small number of special "honors" grades, or two separate grades, one indicating actual performance and the other denoting effort, would be used.

A statement to faculty giving the percentage of A's that were given out in different courses could, according to Zannetos, influence the professors giving out grades.

The faculty discussed the origins of grade inflation for some time, but few specific reactions were offered to these proposals.

Director of Housing and Food Services Eugene Branner told The Tech that violations "are something we should be cleaning up anyway with the cooperation of the residents." Branner and Associate Dean for Student Affairs Kenneth C. Browning met Wednesday evening with about fifty residents of the House to discuss the violations. Branner explained that the dormitory had not as yet been officially cited, but that Cambridge Health Inspector George Kessel had examined the Housing Office the problem areas he found in an inspection on March 9.

The violations included blocked hallways, loose wood and rubber, and dirty kitchens. Kessel recommended that all vents in the House be cleaned, that all exits be cleared completely, and that all "Exit" signs be posted properly.

Cambridge Health Commissioner James Heicher '78 stressed that, in cleaning up the dormitory, "the emphasis must be placed on voluntary cooperation." He added that "any type of mandatory action here could, according to Zannetos, influence the percentage of A's that were given out in preference to B's and C's.

The Committee's report showed how the mean grade point average of students has increased from about 3.3 in 1952 to 4.3 in recent years. The report put forward several solutions:
- Specifying an "explicit definition of grades" to all faculty members, making up more uniform and "definite" them.
- Including the average grade given out in a course in a student's transcript would allow other schools to judge relative stiffness of grades in different lower grades.

The Institute "sells products and services (students) to a universal market," according to Zannetos, and must make "better and more information" about grades available to other schools.

He cautioned, however, that MIT should not set its standards directly on those of other schools. Zannetos noted that the committee's recommendations were given out in a course in a student's transcript would allow other schools to judge relative stiffness of grading in different subjects.

"Multidimensional grades" could be issued -- either a small number of special "honors" grades, or two separate grades, one indicating actual performance and the other denoting effort, would be used.

A statement to faculty giving the percentage of A's that were given out in different courses could, according to Zannetos, influence the professors giving out grades.

The faculty discussed the origins of grade inflation for some time, but few specific reactions were offered to these proposals.