By Mark James

Students reacted to recent proposals on grade definitions by questioning the intentions of the MIT grading system at an open grading forum held Wednesday.

"We don't want to be differentiated and packaged," said an unidentified student.

The forum was held in the Academic Building to discuss possible splitting of UAP-UAVP tickets. UAP Phil Moore '77 chaired the meeting Tuesday night.

By David R. Koretz

The General Assembly of the Undergraduate Association voted Tuesday night to continue the current practice of grading on a normal distribution.

A group of proposed bylaws for the Secretariat presented to the representatives of the GA included a provision for splitting the ticket, while still enabling candidates to run in tandem if they so wished.

The GA was swayed by UAP candidates Marty Herman '79 and Peter Burke '80, and by former UAP Steven Wallman '75, all of whom spoke against the proposal. Wallman maintained that the measure would "kill" any progress towards effective student government, which the UAP and UAVP have achieved in recent years.

After the ticket-splitting provision was dropped, the bylaws were approved unanimously. The bylaws replace the previous set, which were lost before the GA was reactivated last year.

Guidelines for an Elections Committee are the main feature of the new rules.

Other highlights of the meeting, which drew some 30 students, included the return of UAP Steve Sene '77 to the Kaleidoscope weekend concert. Spino announced that Arts Two-Step will be the featured group for the April 29 concert, with Anne Wolf the projected warmup. Tickets will be $5.50 and $5.50.

An amendment to the Constitution that would have made the Inter-Fraternity Council and the Dormitory Council independent of the UA in dealing with internal affairs was defeated handily.

A two-thirds majority of the delegates was necessary for passage, but not even a simple majority was attained.

The opponents of the bill claimed that the independence of the living groups' governing bodies might lead to the same status for the Associations of Student Activities. Apparently this threat was sufficient to defeat the amendment.

A request by the Committee on Visual Arts for $650 to restore the Stratton Collection of prints was rejected. The prints are loaned to students for a nominal fee for the academic year, but are now in storage at the UA office. The $650 was intended to match a possible $650 from the Graduate Student Council.

The UA agreed to take responsibility for a bus shuttle service for dormitory residents to and from Stop and Shop and Haymarket.

A feasibility study is expected to be presented to the benefits committee in I.102. Transportation Systems Laboratory Projects expected round-trip cost of the shuttle would be no more than $5.50.

Before adjournment, a resolution was adopted unanimously. The resolution appointed a forum sponsored by the Undergraduate Association, Zannetos said that the Committee is interested in comments on its proposals.

By Mamie Freeman

The packaging terminology, as well as Committee Chairman Professor of Management Zenos S. Zannetos, refers to a special proposal, which only three grades are given by performance.

Shrobe proposed a system in which only three grades are given out — failure, competent, and excellent.

He argued that one of the main reasons for grade inflation was the realization by professors that the grading system was not a fair representation of achievement.

Professor of Electrical Engineering James Melcher maintains that a grading system, which does not make distinctions in grades places too much emphasis on professors' recommendations — on "who you know."

Several students complained that the lowering of grades would make some students work harder than they should and neglect extracurricular activities.

Grayuk replied that getting students to work harder, which was not the Committee's intention, would not necessarily be a result of deflation.

Grayuk said that the proposed changes in grading would result in "truth in packaging" giving a better idea of students' performance on their transcripts.