New committee proposed to guide frosh advisors

By David Potter

The Freshman Advisory Council Steering Committee, which is nearing completion after two years of preparation, will propose that a Committee on Freshman Advising be established to work on policy and advise the Freshman Advisory Council (FAC) director, said Peter Blitner, serving FAC executive officer.

Blitner, who has served as executive officer of the FAC since February, 1968, will be resigning this past May, to attend the Sloan School of Management.

According to Blitner, the proposed committee would have a chairman and six or seven members, several of whom would be students. It would be structured similar to the Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid and would help guide the Freshman Advisory Program taking up both academic and non-academic issues.

The committee would work in close conjunction with the Science Core Faculty Group, which Dean of the School of Science Robert Albritt chairs.

Bitten said that the FAC Steering Committee will recommend two alternatives for the FAC directorship, a full-time staff member or a part-time faculty director with additional student support.

The FAC Steering Committee, chaired by Associate Provost Harry Rogers, was established in 1975 to evaluate the evolution of the FAC from 1968 to the present. Blitner said.

The FAC changes would be related to its operation rather than to its function, emphasized Blitner. Bonnie Kibbierman will be continuing in her role as Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, contributing over two years of valuable experience. She is currently working on preparing the report for B. O. Weeks, with R. O. Coordinator John Shortliffe '79.

There will be encouragement of more faculty members to participate in freshman advising, said Blitner. Increasing financial pressures on faculty members, reducing the amount of time they have available for advising, could be a potential problem in the future, he noted.

Blitner also noted that the associate freshman-advisor program, which began in 1969, has been successful in bridging the gap between advisors and freshman students and will continue this fall.

50-60% of dropouts return

(Continued from page 1) - "Negotiated Withdrawal" is the terminology the Institute uses to denote withdrawal of a student for any reason, whether academic, emotional, or financial. As an interesting consequence of this policy, the Institute always responds in the negative when asked by schools and businesses if a student withdrew for academic reasons, according to Professor Greytak.

Presently, withdrawals for academic and emotional reasons are handled through the CAP, with "led up with the Institute" and year off withdrawals generally going through the office of the Dean for Student Affairs. Of the students who accept a negotiated withdrawal, 59 to 60 percent return to MIT, but only about one-sixth to one-half of these finally acquire their degree. In order to be readmitted, students must present evidence that the conditions that forced them to leave have been rectified, or a record of satisfactory grades from another college attended during the withdrawal may be presented. Some students however are just not willing or able "to put in the work that is necessary to become an MIT professional," said Greytak.

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Police Blotter

(The Police Blotter is a report written for the Campus Patrol on crimes, incidents, and actions on the MIT campus each week.)

West Gate Thefts

For the past two or three nights from cars and vans parked in the West Garage one afternoon last week, over $1,000 in valuables was stolen. Thieves gained easy entrance to most of the vehicles by forcing the vent windows open far enough to lift the door locks and unlock the car doors. Three CBI radars, a 35mm camera, a tape recorder and some clothing were among the losses.

Westgate Car Stolen

A 1967 Chevrolet parked in the West Garage last Thursday night was stolen in spite of thief preventive measures. Thieves managed to break a "Krook-lock" securing the steering wheel and replace a distributor coil wire which had been removed by the owner.

Wallets Disappear

Two wallets left unattended by their owners disappeared from opposite ends of the campus this week. One, containing $18 cash in addition to IDs, was taken from a pocket of a pair of blue jeans left unwashed on the Dupont Gym floor while its owner played basketball last Friday. Another, containing $50 cash, was taken from the drawer of an East campus office desk Wednesday afternoon — the wallet's owner left the office open and empty for about a half-hour.

Numerous other students and campus visitors lost cash this weekend when they left wallets and handbags unwatched while enjoying Kaldywalkoe activities.

Parking Tickets

Students owing fines to the Campus Patrol for traffic tickets issued during the current academic year were reminded that all fines must be paid before diplomas will be issued or the semester is over. Fines are allowed to continue or for carrying in the Institute.

College Dropout Rate


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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshman Dropout (%)</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>12.2</td>
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<td>Eventual Dropout (%)</td>
<td>20.1</td>
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<td>21.8</td>
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