

**Class of '81 size far exceeds goal**

Random Hall to be dorm again

By Marty Weinman

Random Hall, an MIT-owned building located four blocks from MIT’s main entrance, will again become a dormitory next September.

This decision was made by the Academic Council last month based on a projected freshmen class size of 1980 LBUA, according to Associate Dean for Student Affairs Kenneth C. Browning '86. This is a 40% growth over that originally desired by the MIT administration.

Random Hall was last used as a dormitory from 1967 to 1975. For the past seven years, it has served as a lodging house principally for visiting fellows and academic staff as well as various students.

The abundant of freshman drawing this decision results from the Admissions Office undertaking the "yield" or percentage of admitted students accepting their offer to attend MIT for more details see accompanying story on page 16.

A class size of 1,980 should result in overcrowding the dormitory system by 109 students -- versus last year -- according to Browning. A Freshman Dean for Student Affairs, noted that some of this crowding will occur in Random Hall.

Among the other options considered was that of overcrowding the dorm system by just over 200 students. "While students are generally cooperative and can try to work through" this is "not a one-year problem" Browning asserted, adding that a "lot of cooperation" will be needed.

The friction can not be overlooked both by the nature of the assignment process and the fact that they normally use all the space in the dorm, "We are all overcrowded," Browning indicated that due to last year’s poor rush the Interfraternity Conference was not able to expand.

Graduate student housing, used for undergraduates in 1974-75, could not be used due to the corresponding shortage in that system. This left housing outside the system. Random Hall was already licensed as a rooming house, and naturally came up Browning indicated.

The Campus Housing Office is currently surveying Random Hall for minor renovation and repair work as well as furniture inventory. They are hoping to have it complete by the end of July for post construction work as well as lock changing and cleaning. Clean-up, painting and some repainting, a safety survey, lighting and radiator repair, and installation of bookcases are also planned or underway as well as some other renovation work.

"Any major work that will have to be done will have to be done next year." Eugene Bramer, Director of Housing and Food Services indicated. Some structural work on the roof as well as external maintenance and window work is planned for next year but "we can’t wait to get all the numbers in before we start something now," he remarked.

A major work that will be the conversion of a single on each floor to a common area. This will leave 42 singles and 29 doubles, space for exactly 1102 dorm phone s are to be installed for the residents. Everett Budge ‘76 of Dormphone repair indicated. They are to be run over eight lines to a common area. Telephone lines to Ashdown House where they tie into MIT Dormphone system.

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