Roitats changes to affect MIT

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able, MIT will enter into negotia-

tions with the three licensing groups

The preliminary talks between

ACE and allied education

rags and ASCAP, BMI and

ESAC to reach an agreement on

school campus rights are

able for royalties on, and the

now royalties, are

ning into several areas of

disagreement. The licensing

firms want royalties to be paid on music

played by university bands at

halftimes of athletic events, music

performed free or recordings

played at group living parties

where an admissions fee is

charged, and music played at stu-

dent coffeehouses.

The ACE is opposing such a

broad range of licit activities. Each

licensing organization is

asking for fees that range as high

as $1.50 per registered student plus

a $15 to $20 fee per performance

based on the seating capacity. The

ACE is hoping for a special ar-

rangement with reduced rates that

are "compatible with the unique

characteristics of the college cam-

pus.

The high rates proposed by the

licensing groups can tip the stu-

dent activities budget at many

schools badly, especially this year

when the exemption ends in the

middle of a fiscal year and the

royalty fees were not included in

this year’s budget. If a college does

not pay the required licen-

sing fee and continues sponsoring

concerts it can be ordered to pay a

$250 fine per performance. The

only other way to avoid royalty

payments is to use works over

75 years old where the copyright

has expired or to use only original

works which have not yet been

copyrighted.

The two groups most likely to be

affected by the change are the

Undergraduate Association (UA)

and the Student Center Commit-

tee (SCC). According to UAP

Peter Berke ‘76, the UA wants

challenges the law and refuse to

pay royalties. It is not expected to

be a problem this year as the UA

is not holding any large concerts.

The UA will if teenagers hire groups that use only 'original material for the concerts that are

scheduled. The SCC has not yet

formulated plans on how to deal

with the situation.

This urged “all groups which

run into this problem to consult

the patent office.” There is as yet

no Institute policy on the issue and

the patent office will deal with

royalty requests on a case by case

basis.

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