Drop date forum held

By Bob Wasserman

The Undergraduate Association Forum on Drop date produced a good deal of discussion on the CAP proposal Tuesday. Most of the discussion, however, tended to be a debate between students and faculty.

Chairperson Berke ‘78 chairperson of the meeting, began the discussion with a brief introduction to the drop date issue. He then proceeded to write the names of the student members of the Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) and the Committee on Academic Performance (CAP) on the blackboard of Room 10-230, and urged students to contact them about their views.

Professor Robert Halvizer, Chairman of the Faculty, was then introduced, and he gave a short explanation of when the draft missed due to the snow would be made up. Soon after, the floor was opened for discussion and the question of why students are not allowed to be included in the Institute decision-making process was asked.

Halvizer responded that the rules and regulations were written by the MIT Corporation and not by the faculty itself. After several searching questions on the subject, Berke immediately appointed the questioner chairman of the new UA Ad-Hoc committee on Students in Policy-making.

The meeting then proceeded with discussion on the proposal for a fifth-week drop date with one drop allowed thereafter until the eleventh week of the term.

Professor Robert Rathbone, a member of the CEP, discussed how the CAP had come to their decisions for the new proposal. Professor David Rose, a member of both the CAP and CEP, said that the new proposal was necessary due to the “almost one hundred students in academic difficulty due to drop difficulties.” Students then began to counter faculty members’ remarks by citing the CSEP poll, highly unfavorable to a fifth week drop date. Students also stressed that the academic freedom of almost 4,000 words in the EECS Undergrad Office, 38-145.

Notes

* The Black Rose Lecture Series will begin its spring schedule by presenting Jean Eibenstein speaking on “Liberal Hierarchies, Existentialist and Repressive Feminism,” at MIT Room 150, 105 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, on Friday, Feb. 24 at 8:00pm. Admission is free. For further information, call 493-6259.

* The EECS Undergrad Office is sponsoring a tour to Digital Equipment Corporation’s Marlboro facility on Tues., Feb. 28, leaving lobby 39 at 12:30pm. Space is limited. Sign-up list in the EECS Undergrad Office. All students are welcome.

* The I. Austin Kelly III Competition, which contains two prizes of $250 each, awarded for the best paper for the Competition. Details available from the Course XXI Office, 16-430, 2-4486.

* An innovative design for almost any practical application of polymer foam may win a university student a Scholarship Award of up to $50,000. Five cash awards from $100 to $1000 are offered in the annual competition, which is open to any student registered at a college or university. The EPS Awards Competition brochure gives further information on the advantages and properties of EPS, common uses and entry blank. The Financial Aid Office has a supply of brochures or you can write to The Society of the Plastics Industry, 310 Des Plaines Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinios 60016.

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