Three administrators in search of a Dean

"Excuse me, are you Vladislavski Smith?" The blue-clad figure raised his head from the sink, his left hand keeping the plunger in the faucet. He turned to face the three men in dark gray business suits who were fidgeting nervously in front of him.

"Yes, I am. What can I do for you?"

The tallest of the three men removed a pipe from his mouth and lowered it. "We comprise a special Search Committee in charge of finding a new Dean for Student Affairs. Our carefully evaluated computer-selected list of possible candidates had your name placed prominently at the top."

"Hmmm," said Smith thoughtfully. "How much does it pay?"

Gray fielded that question. "First of all, there's Dean Bob Halfmarie--"

"Why did you do that?" interrupted the candidate.

"Well, I'm flattered," replied their host. "What does the position entitle?"

"Any singing or dancing?"

"Well, no."

"Can I work with Olivia Newton-John?"

"Wait a minute. What does this Dean for Student Affairs do? I mean, does he encourage the students to have affairs, or what? I'm all for affairs--"

Gray tried again. "Actually, Mr. Travolta,--"

"Cut the speech, okay? I'm not so good at remembering names--"

"Dear Mr. Travolta, we're from MIT. We comprise a special Search Committee in charge of finding a new Dean for Student Affairs. Our carefully evaluated computer-selected list of possible candidates had your name placed prominently at the top."

"I'm afraid I'm not your boy. Have you asked Mr. Kotter?"

"Can I work with Olivia Newton-John?"

"Well, no."

"Any singing or dancing?"

"Well, I'm flattered," replied their host. "What does the position entitle?"

"Call me John, okay?"

Simionides raised his hand. "I can answer that one." Wiesner nodded, and Simionides continued. "The ideal person for this office will be a psychologist, administrator, referee, parent and baby sitter for 8,500 post-pubescent youngsters."

"I'm not your boy, Henry."

Gray confered with his two colleagues, and finally replied, "Yes, I think so."

"Good. I am interested in the job. But I'm not available until after MIT vacations, daily during September Orientation and once during the last week of July."