MIT committee to review South African stock holdings

By Doug Klapper and Anna Newman

MIT's Alumni Relations Committee on Shareholder Responsibility cancelled the schedule of meetings last Wednesday. They plan to meet later this month to consider the next decision step, which must be an offer of equity shares in business and industry, according to Walter Milne, ACSR secretary.

The official duty of the ACSR is to advise the MIT Corporation on matters concerning the MIT's votes and other actions as a socially responsible owner of stocks. They will be faced with over twenty of these proxy questions in the next three months.

Chris DeMarco, a student representative of the committee, asserted that they are very eager to solicit student opinion on the proxy issues which mainly concern corporate activity in South Africa.

While university investments in South Africa-related corporations have become a political issue on nearly every American campus, MIT has experienced far less activism than other schools. The MIT-Wellledy Coalition Against Apartheid, formed about a year ago, has collected over 1000 signatures on a petition calling for MIT to divest its stocks in corporations with investments in South Africa, and has received no reply from the ACSR or the MIT Corporation.

David Vanderberg, an organizer of the Coalition, says his group has not been successful in accomplishing its goals which include "having MIT withdraw investments from banks which make loans to the South African government from corporations which are economically involved with the universities have conducted detailed studies of their schools' investment policies and proxy voting records, but the MIT ACSR has largely limited itself to a case-by-case consideration of each individual proxy ballot. Last August, the MIT Corporation Executive Committee issued a statement that the ACSR's mandate "does not mean that MIT should express itself on wider issues of national foreign policy. The Institute has, as a matter of long-standing policy, avoided taking institutional positions on political issues except in those few cases in which the issue at hand had a directed and consequential impact on MIT's function as an educational institution. In accordance with this policy, the Executive Committee concluded that it should make no formal declarations regarding apartheid.

MIT Alumni Association President Joe Moore welcomes seniors and alumni to the latest Senior Dinner. (Photo by Marvin Horn)

Alumni host dinners

By J.G. Harrington

"We have almost a unique opportunity for alumni to perpetuate their ties to the Institute," declared MIT Alumni Association President Joe Moore '52 at the Senior Dinner on March first. The dinner, one in a series, was intended to introduce MIT seniors to the Alumni Association, its purposes, services, and other functions.

Moore noted in his statement that MIT alumni are remarkably involved, pointing out that of 60,000 living alumni nearly one-third are active. He also cited the ninety alumni clubs in various cities, whose activities range from "beer busts and wine tasting" to more intellectual diversions including lectures by distinguished scientists.

During the activities and programs of the Alumni Association mentioned by Moore in his statement were the Student Summer Employment Program, class reunions, campus conferences, and various IAP programs. Moore also noted the Alumni Association's responsibility for Technology Review and keeping records on all alumni, including current addresses and biographies. Much of the work, he said, is accomplished by a group of 4000 alumni Moore identified as "leaders" of the group.

Staff members of the Alumni Association were then introduced. Among those introduced were Barbara Oslund, the Director of Alumni Records, Dr. Jim Hester '55, the Association's recently appointed Executive Vice President, and Joe Mastroti, the director of Class and Course Programs.

Hester pointed out that alumni programs have "evolved" over the past ten years and suggested that those involved in the Alumni Association were involved because it was mutually beneficial. Mastroti asked all of the seniors in attendance to go back to their classmates and "tell them you had a good time," mentioning that seven or eight more dinners are planned. He also suggested that seniors take seriously the elections for class officers as they will be electing officers to serve for five years.

Program shows career options

By Aaron Rapoport

On March 10, freshmen and upperclassmen will have the unique opportunity to hear MIT alumni discuss their academic experiences at school and explain how their course selections have led to and affected their present careers. The Freshmen Seminars program will begin at 9:45am in Room 10-230, with free coffee and donuts.

The March 10 session will begin with a series of introductory talks by the Institute Provost Walter Rosenblith, Robert Weatherall of the Career Planning and Placement office, and Claude Brenner of the Alumni Association. Rosenblith will deliver a talk entitled, "An Intellectual Map of the Institute" which will introduce and emphasize the diversity of intellectual opportunities (including non-scientific and interdisciplinary pursuits) available to students, while Weatherall and Brenner will speak on the jobs and career paths open to MIT graduates. Following the introductory remarks, Political Science Professor Louis Menand will moderate the seminar sessions.

The two seminar sessions are 55 minutes long and are designed to promote a maximum of personal contact between alumni and students. During each session students will participate in one of a large number of sessions.

The Deer Hunter is a film which just doesn't seem to live up to its hype. Page 6.

A double bill of feminist theatre productions opens one winter and one later. Page 7.


Halloween is a mediocre horror film with a promising director. Page 6.