Proposal may change GA

(Continued from page 1) many additions would have to be made to the preliminary draft before it could be a viable draft.

Rensnick said that he did not see how an organization as big and powerful as the general assembly could operate under such a set of guidelines. He said that there is no real definition in the GA’s power, where it begins and where it ends.

Markham defends the vagueness on the grounds that he “wanted something flexible.” He said he did not think it is desirable to specify exactly anything.

Hakala says that he expects the GA established under the proposed constitution to be one which can get things accomplished. He expects the body to oversize its capacities although he admits that in cases such as the approval of the Filmboard budget, that the GA’s approval would probably be a rubber stamp. He says that the GA can be used to increase communication between the student body and the administration. In addition, he foresees helping the UA social committee and dealing with such issues as the Drop Date debate last year as representative of the functions of the GA.

Wheller, Berez, and Rensnick, did not, however, find any severe fault with the proposed way of selecting GA representatives. Wheller, in fact, thought it was a good idea which would in fact generate GA reps who would go to meetings. Rensnick did mention that it would be highly desirable if a list of circulating petitions was published, thereby letting the voting students know who their choices were. Hakala and Markham agreed that this was a good idea.

By the same token, Berez, Rensnick, and Wheeler were unopposed to the new method of selecting NomComm members. Wheeler called the selection process “a joke.” He explained that it is fine and good to give a freshman an equal shot at a position as someone who has been around for a while, but he questioned whether that freshman would in fact be as qualified on the average.

Wheeler added that it is desirable to increase the response (Please turn to page 11).

Bicycle Thefts Increase

Although bicycle theft has long been a problem around campus, it has been marked in the increase in the theft rate this year because of the increased number of bikes on the campus. Many members of the MIT community are turning to “pedal power” because of the high price of gasoline as well as the decrease in parking availability on campus caused by construction projects.

Statistics indicate, however, that the majority of locked bicycles stolen from the campus were secured with inexpensive chains or cable locks. Students are urged to register bicycles and report them to the Campus Police, and take advantage of the display and literature concerning heavy duty bicycle locking mechanisms in the lobby of the Boston Avenue Police Station. Checks at 120 Massachusetts Avenue.

Gas Siphoning

During the months of July, MIT police officers arrested several people for siphoning gas from motor vehicles parked in MIT garages. Students returning to campus with motor vehicles should consider purchasing locking gas caps in light of the current value of gasoline.

Preliminary Draft of UA Constitution

Preamble

We, the undergraduates at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), are organizing ourselves so that we may express effectively in decisions that affect the quality of our lives. We therefore adopt this Constitution.

Article One — Membership

Undergraduates shall be members of the Undergraduate Association. An undergraduate is a person who is a matriculated student of the General Assembly, who has an undergraduate degree.

Article Two — Ballots

Section 1: The referendum is the highest decision-making instrument. An affirmative vote of the Undergraduate Association, the General Assembly, and the General Assembly shall have jurisdiction over all Undergraduate Association and any Undergraduate Assembly.

Section 2: A referendum shall be held within 20 academic days of such a petition. The Nominations and Elections Commission shall conduct the referendum. Section 3: A majority vote shall decide a referendum provided that at least 20 percent of the undergraduates vote.

Article Three — General Assembly

Section 1: The legislative and judicial powers of the Undergraduate Association shall be vested in the Undergraduate Association General Assembly. The General Assembly shall have jurisdiction over all Undergraduate organizations and their Activities.

Section 2: General Assembly members shall be elected for one-year terms of office. A petition of 20 undergraduates shall be sufficient for election. No person may sign more than one petition. Section 3: The General Assembly shall meet at least twice each semester.

Section 4: A special General Assembly meeting may be called by the Steering Committee or by a petition of 200 undergraduates or 25 percent of the total General Assembly membership. A special meeting may be called if a petition of 100 members is presented in the petition and shall be held within 20 academic days. A total current General Assembly membership must constitute a quorum. A quorum is satisfied when the number of members voting is by a two-thirds majority of those present.

Article Four — Officers

Section 1: Undergraduate Association officers shall act in President and Vice President. The Nominations and Elections Commission shall conduct the election.

Section 2: No person may hold an office in an Undergraduate Association unless that person is an undergraduate of Technology (MIT). We, the

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