Tuition raise "a whopper"

By Robert Delaforce

Chancellor Paul Gray '54 has stated that although the exact figures have not yet been determined, he expects that the increase in tuition for the 1980-81 school year "is going to be a whopper." Chomsky pointed out that the tuition increase will be caused by three primary financial situations. First, last year's misjudgment of rising costs allowed tuition to increase by only 8.5 percent, while inflation rose by over 11 percent. Second, the double-digit rate of inflation currently is approximately 13 percent. Finally, Gray noted that between May and September of this year, MIT's gross cost of energy increased by $2.6 million, and that, on the average, MIT is paying twice as much per barrel of oil this year than it did last year. Chomsky presented this direct, and perhaps disturbing, solution between the American media and other intelligentsia: Professor Noam Chomsky at the Cambridge Forum. (Photo by Jim Oker)

Chomsky view of media under corporate thumb?

By Mark Jakiele

The great corporations of America overwhelmingly dictate foreign policy, creating a system of doctrines that disguise the true nature of the foreign policy and the media and other intelligentsia promulgate these doctrines to the people, stated Professor of Linguistics Noam Chomsky.

Chomsky presented this direct, and perhaps disturbing, solution between the American media and other intelligentsia: Professor of Linguistics Noam Chomsky. Chomsky provided numerous examples supporting this hypothesis, but one of the most striking was his explanation of the media's retroactive treatment of the Vietnam War.

Initially, Chomsky explained, the purpose of the American war effort in South Vietnam was not to protect that country from North Vietnamese communists. Instead, it was to crush a fighting a war in South Vietnam to protect the United States from aggression, continued Chomsky. The American media and intelligentsia, he noted, accepted this doctrine and formed two extreme views from it.

Chomsky called these two extremes the "hawk" view and the "dove" view. The "hawk" view asserted that the war against North Vietnam could have been won if America had fought hard enough. On the other hand, the "dove" view asserted that no matter how hard America fought, a North Vietnamese communist takeover was inevitable. Chomsky then pointed out that the view America should not be fighting a war in South Vietnam at all was left out of the debate. To further show how the media... (Please turn to page 2)

GA censures Finboard action

By Stuart C. Allow

At last Thursday's General Assembly (GA) meeting, the Undergraduate Association voted to censure the Finance Board (FinBoard) for acting improperly with regard to the Smith Party. The Smith Party controversy began when FinBoard voted to spend $2500 of the Undergraduate Association's funds to purchase five hundred tickets to the Party. These tickets were sold last Friday for $2.00 each. It was felt that the action of FinBoard was unjust, because a party at Smith, being a girl's school, would have attracted more males than females. The GA was unable to cancel the party, because the money FinBoard allocated had already been spent. A related motion to censure FinBoard for sexist activities was not passed.

Because many of the GA delegates felt that a mere censure was not sufficient, the GA voted, with little discussion, to establish a working group consisting of thirty members, about ten of whom will not be GA representatives, to review and recommend any changes they see fit in the by-laws of any GA committee under the jurisdiction of the GA, besides FinBoard, these committees include Nominations Committee, Social Committee, the Student Committee on Educational Policy, the Student Information Processing Board, the Student Center Committee, and the Association of Student Activities.

In response to a motion made by the Baker delegation calling upon the GA to "take a stand that no MIT student be required to be on any committee no matter where that student resides," a working group was established in order to examine and make specific recommendations to the GA on the Dining Commission Report. However, out of concern that majority Community Committee be imposed in the interim, the Baker resolution was passed.


two percent points. Gray confirmed this policy, but stressed that in the past, when salaries normally rose one to two percentage points above the inflation rate, the policy proved no hardship on students and their families. Gray summarized MIT's four major revenue sources as reimbursement from sponsored research, tuition and related income, investment income and gifts, and room and board. Recently, MIT has increased its investments to pay for inflation and increase in living costs. The number of students receiving financial aid has increased, but these figures are small so funding for these programs is not at risk. Hakala also suggested that MIT has not developed to its full potential for investment income. In his report on Undergraduate Financial Aid to the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid, Hakala quoted the 1976 MIT Treasurer's Report in saying that during the 1970's, MIT earned on average an annual return rate of 3.6 percent on its investments. He then pointed out that an improvement to 5.5 percent would yield $20 million in additional income every year. Currie, however, declared "in my view, MIT invests well.

A major objection to tuition increases is the effect on the number of students able to afford and hence the quality of students at MIT. Hakala contends that the Institute's financial strength is in its alumni and that rising costs will not only affect the quality of people attending MIT, but also the important financial backing associated with it.

Gray, in response to this point, declared: "There is no current evidence that the difference in relative costs, which are only slightly between comparable private institutions has any effect on where a student will attend college, but I will not extrapolate that comment to a future where double-digit inflation is involved."

Gray also commented on the financial situation of MIT's faculty and staff. Since last year, the average salary increase has been approximately seven percent, in accordance with President Carter's wage and price guidelines. He said, "As the financial pressure on faculty and staff increases, and relative salaries decline, will faculty leave? It is obvious that if time remains as they are, institutions like MIT will be unable to function and continue in their present status."

A high-flying production of Madame Butterfly has opened at the Opera Company of Boston. Page 8.

Karen Haug captured the Massachusetts Division III tennis championship as the team ended its season with a 3-7 record. Page 11.