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Senior House lifestyle is distinct

Paul Gray is moving into the President's House and I don't think he's too thrilled with us as future neighbors. I'm willing to bet that this is the main reason we're being moved, none of this about a "graduate center" on the east side of campus. Paul Gray wants his nice, plush house but he doesn't want to deal with us. I am shocked and very much hurt that I am being tossed as ID number 070-60-1299. My desires and feelings are being ignored and my lifestyle is being judged by those who care nothing about me or anything else but themselves and their own jobs and status. My reaction is not unique. Other residents of Senior House, including juniors and seniors whom this decision will not directly affect, are just as upset as I am. I cannot sit back and let such a major decision be made coldly by those who do not care.

V. Horning '82

Editor's note: Tuesday's editorial was not intended to "support" the proposed housing shift; it supported its examination by both students and administration.

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Senior Class officers here at MIT. But, note that the Administration has not, and will not, pay them, perhaps because they are not essential for an education at MIT. We therefore firmly believe that refusing to give the scorecards would be to protest in vain. It would go unnoticed! Cancelling our Senior Class Gift would hurt only students!

Yes, the Senior Class should nevertheless protest the actions of the Administration. We suggest that Senior Class officers propose to the Senior Pledge Program to protest against the Administration.

This "other part" relates to a four-year pledge to the MIT Alumni Fund. Our Senior Class is including this pledge in our program to encourage Seniors to help provide the alumni support that is so essential to MIT as a whole. Without alumni support individual students will not be able to attend MIT. Many activities would go un-funded. In short, alumni giving maintains the quality of student life. It is here that we can have an impact! When pledging to the Alumni Fund, students contribute less than $100 but gain a restricted use for your donation. So, give to the Senior Class Fund and benefit yourself and your neighbors! Give to the Independent Research Development Fund, Campus Residence Fund, UKOP, Athletic Association, or scholarships, in favor of "unrestricted" funds. The Administration is sure to notice such an obvious trend in alumni giving: that of giving directly to the students who need the support they are not getting!

Students need a place that will feel like a home, like their home for their undergraduate years. They need strong relationships with their neighbors—relationships that take time to form and can't be completely begun again each year—and an environment, both physically and socially, where they can interact themselves as individuals. The security of a comfortable living group and the freedom of individuality within that group is a necessity counter to the uncertainty and demand of the academic life of campus life.

One point to be considered is the plight of the graduate students presently living in Ashdown. They do not want to move to Senior House—they are a lack of cozy spaces, the rooms are smaller, and there are very few lounges.

Problems exist for housing at MIT. The administration should solve them sensibly. It should allocate space in Neil House for grad students and consider making the infirmity into a graduate dorm as soon as the new medical center opens, but it should not proceed at an expense to the MIT community by eliminating the lifestyle of east campus.

Notes:
1. Read all notes on page 5.

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1980

FEEDBACK

GIFT SUPPORT STUDENTS

I would like to discuss the logistics of a move of a significant portion of the student body, and what some sort of reward might cause.

A food service employee enlisted the great majority of people to be displaced from Senior House and East Campus do not want to be on commons despite having the poorest cooking facilities on campus. They would be trying to get into the limited numbers of off-campus spaces that will already be over-subscribed by present residents and incoming freshmen.

Many persons on east campus can't afford to live in "Berton, Baker, or MacGregor. The rent at Ashdown House will be undoubtedly significantly higher than the present rent on east campus. What choice does that leave?

Sherwood said that he did not expect the move to become a factor in next year's living group selection. This is ridiculous. Some people will want to join in for the last year of the east side's more individualistic tradition, but very few people want to move into some place on a temporary basis. Students need a place that will feel like a home, like their home for their undergraduate years. They need strong relationships with their neighbors—relationships that take time to form and can't be completely begun again each year—and an environment, both physically and socially, where they can interact themselves as individuals. The security of a comfortable living group and the freedom of individuality within that group is a necessity counter to the uncertainty and demand of the academic life of campus life.