Choosing a UAP

The winner of this year's UAP election will take charge of a recently revived GA and a student body clearly discontented with spiraling tuition costs. It is likely that this developing situation will ultimately diminish the appeal usually surrounding the election for UAP.

The problem is that, at first glance, this year's crop of UAP candidates has the potential to attract the interest of polls that are somewhat homogeneous in their views. Not surprisingly, all teams are concerned with the tuition increase, mandatory commons, and increasing student input into GA and Institute decision-making.

A more careful evaluation of the candidates' rhetoric must be conducted within the confines of an established set of criteria. The emphasis must be on the following questions:

1. Persuasiveness: The UAP must be able to work well with people both in the GA and the administration. He must be able to attract the support of students in a variety of capacities and keep them working productively and smoothly.

2. Ideas. Thoughtful and consistent positions on topics of interest to MIT students are essential to the development of a workable and representative set of policies as UAP. Not all ideas need be eminently practicable; if they are truly innovative, however, they should be appropriate to the student responsibility of UAP.

3. Experience. In the end, it is the UAP's actions which will demonstrate the effectiveness of his leadership. Experience in the invaluable manager of indiscipline and devotion to work. Both of these traits will be important during the UAP's two terms, and help to focus on reactions to the effects of enforcing the policies.

This year's candidates do not seem to have the visibility or diversity of those previous years. As this could easily lead to low voter turnout, I hope to help improve the possibility to help students sort out the field. The evaluations which follow were conducted objectively and with limited communication with the candidates.

Gerald Fitzgerald has an impressive record in student government, having served on the GA Nominations and Social Committee. He is not afraid to bring new policies and thinking to the Institute and to promote cooperation between MIT and Boston communities. As GA parliamentarian, Fitzgerald's reputation has been one of dealing with petty rules rather than interest. However, the students he meets deal with people, not just with their heading of issues on the floor of the GA.

Chris Johannessen's primary experience has been as Chairman of the MIT Social Council, but his tenure there has been less than spectacular. The Social Council newsletter Preview has not appeared as of late, and Council members have been left feeling that decisions have been made unilaterally. Some of the policies in Johannessen's platform are useful and necessary, such as the creative reorganization into Academic Council decisions; and proposals for easing financial problems. Johannessen calls on students to "expect more from your Undergraduate Association, but it is doubtful, based on past performances, that he can deliver on his ideas.

Charles Moon is focusing his campaign on the need to widen student participation in student government. His call for 'extensive' and 'extensive' participation in the student body is a useful one, and he is correct in stating that students must take student government seriously before the Administration will take student government seriously, but other little experience to convince students of his ability to carry out his policies.

John DeRubens has served on the Class of 1983 Executive Committee, the Inter-Fraternity Council Executive Committee and in various other organizational positions. His plans to serve as a liaison between students and administrators are sound, especially when coupled with a direct increase in student input through the Academic Council and MIT Corporation. Wise choices in his proposed mix into Academic Council decisions and proposals for easing financial problems. Johannessen calls on students to "expect more from your Undergraduate Association, but it is doubtful, based on past performances, that he can deliver on his ideas.

We therefore endorse the candidacy of John DeRubens for Undergraduate Association President.

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Women at Wellesley and MIT

To the Editor:

I got a call from a Wellesley student government representative last week wondering if I would come to their meeting the next night and kick up some ideas as to improving relations between Wellesley and MIT women. The idea sounded dubious and I wasn't psychic to commute there on a Monday night, but I felt obligated to go, especially since she said I was one of the few centers of interest all the women she'd been able to reach.

My friends Lesley Saunders and Patti Chin came with me. What we discussed in the next hour and a half was extremely illuminating so I'd like to share our newfound revelations with your readers.

Initially, I saw three reasons why MIT women might not interact with Wellesley:

1) The distance and time involved in going to Wellesley — there's really nothing that can be done about this obstacle.

2) The type of thinking that most Wellesley women come to MIT only wait for an opportunity (in finding an MIT guy; and)

3) No events of interest to women held at Wellesley are advertised at MIT. Parties are the only events posted and MIT women think that they are directed at the men, usually interacting with the new found revelations with your literature and word-of-mouth efforts.

The Wellesley students who met with us were the last week in July for $7.00 per year Third Class by printed in the spring of '81. Angie Lia 82

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DeRubens replies

To the Editor:

We realize the difficulty The Tech faces in trying to reach us for a statement; therefore, we would like to take this opportunity to respond to what we would have in Friday's article on the UAP/UVP elections.

Our main emphasis is on programs which directly benefit MIT students. Our goal include thousands of dollars to send their children to MIT, and a time when the Federal Government is comprehensively cutting its financial aid to students, MIT is relying on increases in tuition to finance its inefficiencies. You might say that the MIT Corporation is pursuing an ill-considered course of reckless spending and wasteful budgeting. To paraphrase one of MIT's deans, "MIT must continue to expand its programs, its facilities, and its research. We cannot save any more, we cannot save any more, we cannot save any more, we cannot save any more, we cannot save any more, we cannot save any more, we cannot save any more, we cannot save any more." So when you read your President's letter to the students, you don't say "wow down?" You will recall, of course, that you called upon the MIT community to less an out-and-out and shut down the rapid inflation that abounds on this campus.

As a result of the 20 percent increase in tuition, can we expect the number of quality of faculty members to increase, or the number of classes to improve? At the moment, quite the opposite is occurring class.

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Feedback

Buying inefficiency with tuition hikes

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The Tech

Editor's note: This is a copy of a letter sent to President Paul Gray.

To the Editor: It truly amazes me that in this time of ridiculous inflation and growing national conservatism, some would attack the MIT Corporation (the name almost implies profit doesn't it?) chooses to actively expand its programs, facilities and expenses above and beyond the rate of inflation, and charge the bill to student accounts. At a time when inflation is rapidly diminishing the ability of parents to pay the requisite fees, MIT students are full of females. They would like to see MIT women use their libraries and come to their afternoon teas to informally meet other women. Wellesley on a sunny afternoon would be a relaxing place to escape from the hassles of city life. They have IM sports teams that would love to compete with MIT women's teams.

The Wellesley women at the meeting were under the mistaken impression that MIT women were scared of Wellesley,"closer" closer to each other because of the greater number of men. I believe there is no such thing as "sexist density" here as each person tends to be extremely individualistic and independent, developing friendships indiscriminately. It was also surprising to learn that women hold many of the top positions in MIT student activities. They enthusiastically told MIT women that they had to struggle under prejudiced male dominance.

Wellesley should attack the problem of Wellesley/MIT student relations at the beginning by requiring MIT women to be exposed to Wellesley freshmen. Namely, after MIT's Spring Weekend '81.

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The Tech

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