the CEP is examining are whether the HASS "professionalization" committee should "initiate and coordinate courses; and whether students should be required to take a larger number and broader range of humanities distribution courses as well as humanities concentration.

The third area of the undergraduate curriculum which the report addresses is the "overall quality of the student experience at MIT." One problem the CEP finds is the increasing pressure on students to choose majors early in their MIT careers. Faculty Rule 2.82 says that departmental programs should be arranged so that departments can be entered by students at the start of the junior year without excessive cost." Yet the CEP finds that "This rule is now regarded to the extent that in some depart- ments wise students make or have been forced to make their choice of major in the freshman year." Also, several departments require as many as 375 or 380 units in order to get a Bachelor's Degree. "Many members of the faculty with whom we have discussed this matter agree that it is a key issue in under- graduate education at MIT, while others believe it to be an issue of no concern at all," states the CEP report. "We intend to make this one of our central concerns, and hope to be able to make recommendations..."

The CEP report finds the tradition of the MIT freshman to "overload on subjects a situation warranting examination..." Upon completing "wisdom" regularly passed by freshmen urges students while they are on the pass/fail op- tions to "get out of the way as many subjects as possible which may be difficult or distasteful," explains the report. The report says that the overload problem exists also because stu- dents wish to get a degree in three years, although "For the vast ma- jority of these students, a three- year degree never materializes."

Also, the late drop date en- courages the overloading problem; almost twice as many students register for courses as finish them. One possibility the CEP suggests is that all subjects above fifty units taken by freshmen should be for no credit or for a letter grade. The CEP is also studying the impact of special programs, such as the Computer Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Undergraduate Seminars, and union Internship Programs, and on the quality of un- dergraduate life and education at MIT. One question which arises is whether these special programs should be funded by the Institute or by the individual departments.

Another aspect of the general curriculum being studied is the al- location of subject units to courses. There is often little cor- relation between the number of preparation units a course has and the amount of homework assigned, according to the CEP report. Some CEP members would like to see the number of preparation units enforced, while others feel that the number of class, laboratory and homework hours should be made into one "unit" system. Linglebach feels that the MIT curriculum needs to be reviewed because "I’ve talked to many MIT alumni and I have begun to get the feeling that they are becoming more and more dis- satisfied with the education they received at MIT. That is not to say that MIT has a bad educa- tion, but that other schools are moving ahead, and MIT is lagging behind." He states that it is important that MIT un- dergraduate deans take an "active role" in this process, and be concerned with the curriculum review, by writing letters to periodicals or joining JCEP.

Writing, "professionalization" questioned

Correction

A letter to the editor last Friday from the brothers of Pi Lambda Pi should have stated: "We are not sure if the present favor is the result of our inactivity or the community’s overreaction." The Tech regrets the error.

Announcements

The Student Art Association oil has room in many evening courses and in specialized study groups. Register in Student Center, Room 421, 1-00-5:00pm, March 6, 1981 is the last day for juniors and seniors to specify an elective in the none major graduate grade.

MIT Amnesty International human rights meeting, Tuesday, March 3, 1-00-5:00pm, has been canceled.

Lectures

The Society of Women Engineers will have a meeting on March 9. Bill Kennedy will speak at 4:30 and a mixer at 5pm in the Minnie Room, 6-321.