$11,700 student budget set today

By Stephanie Pollack

The student budget for 1981-82 has been tentatively set at $11,700 pending final approval at a meeting this afternoon, according to an announcement.

The budget includes $3190 for housing and food costs, an increase of 14 percent over last year's figures. MIT's tuition, and room and board average total $16,980, the highest amount announced by any university to date. Other budget items are book costs of $350 and expenses of $776. Faced costs are not included in the budget, but varying travel costs are allowed, depending on the location of the student's home. Housing and food costs for next year were announced Friday at an Undergraduate Rent Review Meeting. The meeting was attended by representatives of all dormitories.

Housing costs will rise 13 percent for all dormitories except Random Hall, where the 13.4 percent increase will bring the total to $1354, the lowest rent for any dormitory. McCormick residents will pay $1944, making it the most expensive dorm. Rent for 500 Memorial Drive has been set at $1928. The average dormitory room cost will rise 13 percent to $171.

Food service costs will increase from 14.6 to 14.9 percent. Point values will range from $0.03 for basic plans of more than 160 points to $0.21 for use of 160 points or less on a punch card. The $60 punch card will cost $492 for the basic plan and $574 with seconds.

According to Associate Director of Housing and Food Services Chris Johannesen '82, the increased costs reflect estimated food price inflation of 15 percent and a 14 percent increase in operations expenses due partly to the addition of a dining hall and stock at 500 Memorial Drive. Hartwell said that achieving a noticeable savings from the switch to mandatory commons was more of a "long term goal" but added that "there has been a savings to the students over what costs might have been."

Housing costs may increase during spring term in 1982 as a result of increases in fuel costs which will be conducted at the end of the fall term. A similar review last year produced no rent increase, but Hartwell noted that the decision "may have been premature. It was conducted during fall term, before the students went home, and we(sic) hit with much higher energy costs in January." Hartwell predicted that next year's review would take place over IAP.

Freshman applications up 4%

By Kim Hollogg

A total of 5,893 applications was received by MIT's Admissions Office this year, an increase of 1.9 percent over last year. The 4 percent increase is slightly lower than the national average of 7 percent for private colleges and universities, but Director of Admissions Peter H. Fitzgerald noted that this year's increase in applications was "faster than in previous years" and that "we [MIT] have shown steady increases" in the number of applications over the past ten years. Concerning the overall growth in the number of applicants, he thought that "we [MIT] are right where we should be."

In contrast to the 4 percent increase in the total number of applications, MIT received 1,760 applications from females, a 9 percent increase in the number of female applicants over last year. Female applications for admission to freshman classes at four year colleges and universities were up 15 percent over last year's figures as of December 31 according to the results of a survey conducted by John Minter Associates for the Chronicle of Higher Education. Private colleges and universities received 7 percent more early applications last year while early applications at public colleges and universities were up an average of 16 percent over last year. As a result of the increase in applications, the Chronicle predicted that college enrollment in the fall of 1981 could surpass the record high of 12,073,209 students who enrolled in the fall of 1980.