Students meet with Dean re new dorm

By Stuart Gitlow

Students planning to move to 500 Memorial Drive met with Associated Dean for Student Affairs Robert Sherwood yesterday to discuss room assignments, meal plans, and other pertinent issues.

Most of the discussion concerned meal arrangements. There will be a cafeteria on the first floor of 500 Memorial Drive, but current plans are for no a la carte food to be available except for that from the snack bar, which will be maintained by Dining Service.

One student suggested that this could cause a number of unpleasant roommates and moving, especially those who are currently living in those facilities designated as cooking dormitories. Many current roommates were upset by the unavailability of both cooking facilities and la carte food service. Students in the Class of 1984 will be required to take the 310 point room plan if they live in the new dorm.

There are 190 singles, many with interconnecting doors, in the dormitory. One-fourth of each floor is reserved for incoming freshmen. About 100 current students have signed applications requesting to switch to 500 Memorial Drive. Dormitory Council Chairman David Scrinchuk '83 told those assembled, "All of you are going to get singles, unless a tremendous number of people decide to sign up to move." Sherwood expressed the hope that one, or "ideally," two floors would house both men and women. It is less certain that there will be a singles area for women students. He added that Random Hall will have a second single-sex floor next year and that both Burton House and Braden Hall will probably increase the number of singles areas.

Each floor in the new dormitory will have two main lounges, each of which will accommodate 30 to 40 residents, and a smaller lounge for every eight to ten students. Each room will have the usual furniture package consisting of a bed, pillows, lamp, dresser, bookcase, and desk. The rooms all have built-in closets.

Completion of the new dorm is expected before the first term, to house transfer and readmitted students in the dormitory system. These students would be housed for only one year, however, at least until the size of incoming classes is reduced.

Ninety spaces have been set aside for transfer students in 500 Memorial Drive. Approximately 125 transfer students will arrive (please turn to page 9) MIT led the nation as the institution most favored by NSF fellows, with 59 students choosing MIT in 1980-81. According to Wadleigh, "They [NSF] announced them [the awards] three or four days before the deadline for admission.

A total of 14 MIT undergraduates and graduates were awarded NSF fellowships, according to information released by the Graduate School. The breakdown by department included four seniors from the School of Engineering, all in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, four from the School of Science, and one from the School of Humanities and Social Science. Of the 14 students, five indicated that they would return to MIT, while 2 will enroll as graduate students at Stanford.

The number of fellowships awarded to MIT students has decreased from 18 during 1980-81 and 26 during 1979-80. The total number of new awards, however, has also decreased. In addition, four of seven new NSF minority fellowships awarded to MIT students were from the School of Engineering.

The future of the NSF Graduate Fellowship program after this year is uncertain. The Reagan Administration has proposed gradual elimination of NSF fellowships (please turn to page 8).