Profos locate non-defense jobs

By John V. Ving

“Outstanding teaching is to be a support group for people in high technology who are in defense warning to leave or who are about to be forced into a defense-related job,” said Warren F. Davis, co-founder of High Technology Professionals for Peace.

According to Davis, a researcher at the Harvard/Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, High Technology Professionals for Peace (HTPP) is a group of about 25 researchers and professionals, including members of MIT and Harvard, who have been discharged with benefits under the veterans' job training program.

The group runs an employment agency in Cambridge, a newsletter, and a discussion group.

The newsletter, called عدم الحالة، النور، الأمل في حياة الطلاب، is aimed at providing information about employment opportunities.

According to Davis, the newsletter has been circulating among professionals, including those in fields such as Astrophysics, High Technology, and Social Work.


delays in the composition of the newsletter on weapons research. The group is planning to publish a newsletter based on the experiences of people in HTPP who have worked in the defense industry. The group will also publish a list of important questions to ask corporate interviewers about issues such as the nature of the job, type of research, and freedom to publish experimental results.

“If all other things were equal — same pay, same challenge technically, etc. — except for one thing, whether or not the work dealt with weapons research, in all probability, most people would choose not to work on weapons issues,” Davis said.

HTPP will also publish analyses of present and planned weapons systems. “We intend to use the expertise of our members derived from the work they have done in working with weapons programs to generate information on weapons or parts of weapons. This will provide people who need to argue against weapons suppliers with supportive data,” commented Davis.

An MIT number of HTPP clarified the need for such a program. He said, “Once people are aware of the facts of weapons — that there is doubt that they can perform as well as advertised — people would object very strongly to [them]. There has been a single weapons system developed by man that hasn’t been used by him; it’s only a matter of time before we use the hydrogen bomb. When people realize this, there will be informed and long lasting pressure on both the United States and Russia to reduce their weapons stockpiles.”

Watt gives Cambridge grant

By Vanessa Cruz

Secretary of the Interior James Watt announced that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been awarded $2 million to develop the Luchene Canal Park in Cambridge.

The seven-acre park is situated between First Avenue and Magr. O’Brien Highway. According to Alan Zimnik of the Cambridge Community Development Department, the first phase of the project should be under construction by the middle of December, and the second phase by the summer.

The city of Cambridge intends to develop a new industrial area facing the park. The 60-acre urban development area will be occupied by housing, office buildings, retail stores, and liquor markets.

Zimnik added, “The money for the Luchene Canal Park project came mainly from federal and state grants for the city of Cambridge applied a couple of years ago.” In addition to the $2 million in federal and state grants, the local government will add $600,000 to the development package.

The $2 million came from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, most of the money in the fund comes from revenues of Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas leases.

CEP urges undergraduate writing requirement

(Continued from page 1)

of English, or in an MIT subject, or UROP activity, within the general area of the student’s professional studies and judged satisfactory by the professor or supervisor and by faculty evaluation of the requirement.

The CEP report also calls for a “resource center” to “…to provide consultation with writing advisors, access to writing laboratories, and other programs and efforts to convince students that writing ability is important and to inform them of available services.

“Consideration of parallel efforts to develop skills in oral communication is also suggested in the report.

A Standing Faculty Committee on the Writing Requirement would oversee the requirement, under the CEP plan, and day-to-day administration would be carried out by an office reporting to the Provost.

Associate Professor Kenneth R. Manning, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Writing Proficiency, is pleased with the plan. “I think it’s the best way for MIT to go . . . the combination of [options] is the most appropriate.”

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1981 THE TECH PAGE 5

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