MIT draws foreign students

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In response, America has willingly provided a student with the opportunity to study in this country. This, he said, "is not a movement of the Federal government," but a movement of the institutions. MIT is an especially desirable school for foreign students, largely because of its distinguished faculty, laboratory and library facilities, and wide research opportunities.

CPE says EECS policy is justified

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those taught by EECS faculty. He indicated, however, that few students from other departments are prerequisites for EECS classes. "There is no plan to digging into freshman pass/fail grades," he said. "If a freshman takes a Course VI class, his grade will be dug up."

The new policy, Kassianian explained, reflects a concern for the "small number of students with consistent D-level performance." He said that many of these students are consistently given the benefit of the doubt and still perform poorly in their last term before graduation. "We have been unfair to these students by not being forceful," he said. "We wanted to find a remedial way to handle the problem without overly severe penalization."

Professor Felix M. H. Villars, Chairman of the Faculty and the Committee on Educational Policy (CEP), said the CEP has decided the new policy is justified. "It is within the prerogatives of a department to interpret the particular regulations of a D in the manner it chooses," he said.

Professor Frank E. Perkins '55, Associate Provost, foresees similar national backgrounds, together, rather than to introduce their national cultures to other students. "It takes effort for the US citizen to interact with them," he said. Some organizations, such as the Chinese Students' Club and the Korean Students' Association, do have US citizens among their memberships, he added.

Although Jones said the Admissions Office looks for signs of flexibility and an ability to adapt to American culture, Chamberlain noted that some students encountered difficulties in adapting. International students, he said, "must learn to react positively to certain things," citing the unique relationship between men and women in the US and the relationship between faculty and students. They may feel embarrassed when receiving directions from a woman ... in their culture it is always the men who give the directions."

Chamberlain also expressed concern that foreign students maintain the balance "between keeping their national identities and knowing how to work with others."

Jones noted that College Board test scores of foreign students are considerably higher than the scores of domestic applicants. Chamberlain rated the academic performance of foreign students at MIT as excellent: "When we kept honor rolls here, it wasn't unusual that the upper ends were occupied by students who came from foreign countries." Foreign students at MIT attended schools which placed emphasis on mathematics, the sciences, and the English language, he explained.

Financial support for foreign undergraduate students is supplied by a combination of personal and family funds, scholarships offered by home governments, and Institute funds. At the graduate level, however, the MIT financial assistance is mainly in the form of research assistantships.

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