Science funds paced

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The number of research proposals financed by NSF and NIH is being cut, from 2900 in fiscal 1982 to a proposed 8900 in 1983. NASA's budget would increase 12 percent, with the space shuttle the major beneficiary. The space telescope and the Jupiter-orbiting Galileo satellite are also funded. The proposed 1986 interception of Halley's comet has been dropped. Throughout the sciences, entire programs which the Administration considers unnecessary or primarily as the private sector's concern would be eliminated.

Dean of Science Albert Robert was guarded optimistic about the proposed scientific research budget. "In comparison with the serious cuts in various Federal programs, the proposed science budget indicates the Administration is interested in supporting a strong research program," he said.

"We in Engineering Frederick Quivey was less enthusiastic, noting that much of the increase in engineering funding is earmarked for applied research. "Our basic concern is what the shifts will do to basic research," he said, adding that decreased basic research would damage both future applied research and current education of future researchers.

The School of Engineering itself, Quivey said, would not be seriously harmed. "There has been a shift in Engineering for several years toward the private sector on the theory that a broad base of support is both safer and gives the school more credibility with both public and private sectors. As a result, the school is less vulnerable than many others to funding fluctuations."

Much of the Sloan School's Federally-funded research is directed toward energy policy, according to Associate Dean Alvin Silber. The research is performed in the separate Energy Laboratory and is funded by agencies such as the Department of Energy, the Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection Agency, according to Professor Henry Jacoby. Funds for all of these agencies were reduced in fiscal 1982 and are targeted for further reductions in 1983.

The Department of Energy is scheduled to be incorporated into Commerce and other civilian departments by fiscal 1983, but has a proposed 1983 budget. The continuing research is largely nuclear, at the expense of solar, fossil-fuel, and other non-nuclear energy sources, in line with Reagan's general energy policy; these cuts will probably be contested by Congress.

The suggested elimination of DOE has demoralized the department, said Jacoby. Many people have left DOE, and uncertainty about its future has made those left less willing to stay. DOE funds research in many fields and its problems affect many MIT departments. All three deans expressed concern over proposed cuts in student financial aid, particularly the prospect of graduate students becoming ineligible for Guaranteed Student Loans.

Quivey noted that graduate traineeships cut by the government have been only partly made up by industry. He pointed out that with federal policies changing every four years, private institutions might not be able to substitute for government aid. "There is no evidence that the Administration's attitude of withdrawal from areas of public concern because society has not devised a means of accountability short of government." There is no evidence that the Administration's attitude of withdrawal from areas of public concern because society has not devised a means of accountability short of government. There is no evidence that the Administration's attitude of withdrawal from areas of public concern because society has not devised a means of accountability short of government. There is no evidence that the Administration's attitude of withdrawal from areas of public concern because society has not devised a means of accountability short of government.

De Monchaux was concerned that the job prospects for graduates in the Urban Studies and Planning department may worsen if current trends continue. Currently many graduates of the department take government jobs, others go into academia. If the Administration cuts funding for urban planning, both agencies and universities may cut back hiring.

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Humbanities funds cut

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(NSF) funds social sciences, which are budgeted in the same category as economics. the Reagan Administration would cut both one percent. Few programs would be dropped entirely; instead they would receive smaller grants.

The MIT program hardest hit may be Linguistics, said Hanham. A number of student training grants, funded by the National Institute for Mental Health, a number of NIH, will expire this year. If NIH's budget is cut, the grants may not be renewed. The training program is considering the Department of Defense (DOD) as an alternative source of funding according to Hanham. DOD is interested in computer language research.

The chief problem for MIT, said Hanham, will be the proposed student financial aid cuts. He declined to predict long-term results if the cuts take effect, but noted that even without financial aid, students try to obtain MIT because an Institute degree is valuable in the job market.

Financial aid cuts are also a major concern for Dean of Architecture and Planning John De Monchaux. Besides eliminating graduate students from the Guaranteed Student Loan program, the proposed budget would reduce the Work Study program and would eliminate an intern program funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Architectural and Planning School tries hard to attract minority students; programs eliminating such students would be cut or dropped.

MIT Urban Studies and Planning department does contain a number of cost-cutting proposals for research. The program serves 430 students each year, and is one of five major urban studies programs in the country.

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