Reevaluate housing

In these times of economic troubles many incoming freshmen as well as upperclassmen are increasingly aware of MIT's high expense. Presently the major cost of an MIT education after tuition and housing. Recently, the Housing Office announced that next year's room rates will be approximately $200 more for the average student. MIT is not alone in raising the cost of living; many schools are doing the same. It is important to consider the size and quality of the housing system.

Currently, the cost of the housing system is not distributed equally among all MIT dormitories. Differences in cost are based on a study that the housing office performed more than 10 years ago. Housing system was evaluated and rent was set based on various advantages and disadvantages. The study has been repeated only once since that time and few changes were made.

Certainly, MIT's housing situation as well as its campus has changed drastically in the past decade. Opening of three new dorms on West Campus, conversion of Random Hall to co-ed living in many dormitories, renovations of some older buildings, and building a new athletics facility are just some of the many changes that would warrant reevaluation.

Such a reassessment is indeed a tremendous undertaking. The variables involved are difficult to represent as numbers. The East side of campus has the advantage of being close to classes and the subway, while West campus is closer to the athletic facilities. The financial advantage of one over the other is very difficult to compute. Still, the complexity of the problem is no justification for ignorance. In the absence of rational explanations of dormitory life as well as investigation of the effects of housing prices on room selection is long overdue. The difficulty of reevaluation does not justify perpetuating a practice that is outdated and unfair.

Racism does exist

Recently, a black student elected to a class office received a threatening letter which was "racist in tone," according to police Chief Oliveri. The incident demonstrates an important fact which most MIT students would like to ignore: racism, in both explicit and subtle forms, exists on campus. Racism is usually quietest in the day-to-day interactions of MIT students; it is rarely visible, and its most blatant occurrences are through incidents of racism, such as the previous letter. Several years ago, may seem overshadowed to the majority of the MIT community.

All dormitories have precipitated major strains amongst students on other campuses. It would be a tragedy if hidden racial problems at MIT were to cause major unexpected strains between different parts of the student body. To reduce the tensions at MIT, potentially racist incidents should be revealed and discussed throughout the community. At the same time, one should not unnecessarily label public discussions of student government or the Institute's "racism," for such rhetoric distracts from the substance of the issue.

Social groups on the MIT campus tend to be very closed and uncommunicative. MIT's distended nature contributes to the problem of racism as well as other social problems. The Dean for Student Affairs Office should try to increase the lines of communication between students. As long as MIT students can ignore or smudge every other's problems and lives, racism will exist on campus.

Ivan K. Feng '83 Chairman
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THE TECH
Volume 102, Number 14 March 30, 1982

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UAP, UAB to be installed

To the Editor,

The world has not yet ended. We, the Conservative Gymnths, will be crowned oorrisy, installed on April 1. On Thursday, in 10-250 at 7:30pm, the MIT Com- munity will witness the most amazing show since the last installations. Everyone is invited. We have had a lot of questions about our campaign. Are we serious? Are we planning to steal student government, or will we as usual put on an attitude and allow it to destroy itself? Well, we have decided that the underdogs here will be hurt more if we do nothing than if we try to destroy government. However, we will try to keep a sense of humor and pretend to play the game. We do not please come down to the UA office and deprogram us.

Basics of student government at MIT really want to be bothered by stude-
tent government. Unfortunately, the forces of evil are conspiring against us and we must face the challenge of protecting our rights, our freedom, our justice, and the American Way. We do not expect you to roll over and join the GA, but you should try to take your eyes off your textbooks and have some fun. In honor of our coronations, everyone should have a good time this weekend and put a few problems to them. We are resigned to destroying our grade point averages and our health to serve the MIT student body. If anyone wants to join our quest for real student government, just call us.

Ken Segel '83
Ken Mellinier '83
UA President & Vice President

Class size too high

To the Editor,

I am concerned about several statements made in an article, "Record Number Admit-
ted to MIT," in the March 14 issue of the Tech. The writer seems to say that MIT is not justified in admitting 10,250 students. I would like to bring a few points to light.

1. Of the 10,250 accepted students, 2,600 were on the "wait list." In addition to those students, MIT is not justified in admitting more students.

2. The number of students accepted is not a valid statistic. MIT is not justified in admitting more students.

3. The number of students accepted is not a valid statistic. MIT is not justified in admitting more students.

Just because MIT has added a new dormitory and housed a larger undergraduate population does not mean that it has the capacity to educate more students.

I would like the admissions office to explain to the students who missed this year's deadline why 8,011 will be much more crowded (and louder) than in previous years and to explain to the Class of 1987 why 6,002 will be even fuller.

Without adding classroom space, lab space, and dorm space, MIT is not justified in admitting more students.

Kenneth Dumas '83
R/O Coordinator for 198