Committee to examine ODSA

(Continued from page 1) once every two years, according to Gregory Smith, ’80, of the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) office and chairman of a recent visiting committee. Twenty visiting committees came to MIT last year. Smith noted.

Each committee is tailored to act in an “advisory capacity” to an MIT department, Smith explained. The Visiting Committee on Student Affairs, he said, “is in the position to look at or discuss anything students complain about.”

Each visiting committee normally includes 1-11 members, and one chairman, all nominated to the liaison association, the MIT Corporation, or the President of the Institute, Smith said. Members are chosen based on their interest or expertise in the committee’s particular subject area, and need not be MIT alumi.

After each visit, the committee chairman submits a report to the chair of the MIT Corporation containing the group’s observations and recommendations.

Unlike other committee reports, Smith noted, the Visiting Committee on Student Affairs report is made available to all MIT students.

Committee on Discipline, DSA review student cases

(Continued from page 1) man said. These more often evaluate the seriousness of an act and determine appropriate punishment; it does not establish guilt or innocence.

In academic year 1981-82, the COD held six hearings, resulting in one informal probation, three formal probation, one suspension, and two expulsion, according to the Deans’ Office. An informal probation remains in OODA’s records for a stated period, while a formal probation remains in a student’s external transcript for ten years.

The COD deals with offenses of plagiarism, cheating, harm to persons, property damage, and other violations. The committee does not normally rule on infractions of city, state, and Federal laws which do not involve the Institute, nor does it mediate complaints against Institute employees or faculty members. Visiting committees are nonlegislative and do not have authority to make recommendations or to vote on matters of policy.

Of the 22 items considered by the COD, 14 resulted in no action. One student was referred to the college, two others were referred to the COD, and the rest were referred to the COD’s standing committee. Six complaints were referred to the COD’s standing committee, and the rest were referred to the COD.

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