UNEMPLOYMENT

MAY NOT JUST LIKE THOSE PEOPLE?, PICKING UP THEIR RELIEF CHECK AND DRIVING OFF IN A CADILLAC...

Don't rip down posters

To the Editor:
I would like to say that I am appalled at the lack of consideration that the student who put up posters in the graduate dorms is displaying. It seems that many graduate students and organizations with respect to GAMIT's CRASH II class poster campaign have been complainging about how much work has to be done. This may seem a bit astonishing, especially when you realize most graduate students do not register for courses each semester but must take their courses each year. After all, graduate students are supposed to make important original contributions to their fields. They do not have to spend many hours learning about seemingly unrelated topics because the Institute requires them to. While you may feel it is too much to expect of the average graduate student to put up four years of MIT, look on the bright side. When you become a graduate student, not only will your classes become quite easy. It should not be viewed as lowering your status. It simply means you are getting smarter, which is of course what we all want to do.

In general, graduate students are not all that different from other MIT students. They are generally more fluent at explaining how much science they know and work more they do. Every student, no matter how smart, is impossible to surpass MIT undergraduates in this respect, just drop by the student union any day of the week and you will see students too easy enjoying going to the movies, sending out for pizza, taking road trips, and doing other frivolous things one associates with college life. They just don't admit it. We don't have to do it, either. If they spend an hour a week writing and hanging posters, many sleeping hours as well making important theoretical contributions to the field of knowledge, it is no wonder that you too someday be a graduate student, concerned with impressing professors whose recommendations may mean the difference between a job at Harvard and a job at the University of Chicago, dealing with graduate students becomes quite easy. It should not be viewed as lowering yourself to their level, but should be treated as a foreshadowing of what the students become quite easy. It should not be viewed as lowering your status. It simply means you are getting smarter, which is of course what we all want to do.

It will often seem like many of your professors are more concerned about their research than they are about us undergraduates, and certain amount of this is to be expected. To a veteran physics professor, some eccentric graduate student's musings on unified field theory may be just as uninteresting as any other undergraduate's musings with elementary mechanics. Just remember, most of your professors and TA's are students, too. They have not taken courses to take upper level courses, you may wonder why some graduate students were allowed to continue their studies. After listening to many of their questions, it may seem strange that they usually receive substantial responses to try to study at MIT, while graduate students are asked to pay for the privilege. If this seems inequitable, don't despair. As long as you don't protest too loudly you too someday be admitted to graduate school, have your tuition paid for, and be expected to promote your Weltenschaung among groups of haggard undergraduates. It will often seem like many of your professors are more concerned about their research than they are about us undergraduates, and certain amount of this is to be expected. To a veteran physics professor, some eccentric graduate student's musings on unified field theory may be just as uninteresting as any other undergraduate's musings with elementary mechanics. Just remember, most of your professors and TA's are students, too. They have not taken courses to take upper level courses, you may wonder why some graduate students were allowed to continue their studies. After listening to many of their questions, it may seem strange that they usually receive substantial responses to try to study at MIT, while graduate students are asked to pay for the privilege. 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