Fin. aid panel holds forum

By Barry S. Sarman

Member of the Academic Council task force on financial aid policy will seek student opinions in an open forum beginning at 3pm today in room 1-190.

"We will try to present some general information—numbers, policy projections," said associate provost Frank E. Perkins '55, chairman of the task force, "The Placement Office has a lot of things to be learned from the students' feelings."

"We were concerned that some students volunteer in some way for the Alumni Association," Perkins explained. The task force will meet weekly through early March to complete its study of financial aid policies, he said.

The full Academic Council will likely make its recommendations for next year's tuition and equity levels at the end of February. Council members indicated after their meeting yesterday, however, that any changes in financial aid policy recommended by the task force are not likely to take effect until at least academic year 1984-85.

Sample tuition figures presented to the Academic Council by financial aid and budget officers yesterday ranged from $9200 to $9600, and equity levels discussed fell between $4400 and $4900, sources indicated. These figures were merely samples, stressed several council members, and cannot be used to predict the council's final recommendations.

"I hope we can get a significant turnout," said Dean for Student Affairs Shirley M. McBey. Some administrators see little interest among students for input when few students attend such forums, she added.

The task force will hold another forum February 23 at 3:30pm in room 6-120. Perkins said. The panel, he added, "may seek other mechanisms for interacting as well."

President Paul E. Gray '54 appointed the task force in October to review the Institute's policy of providing aid to all undergraduates demonstrating financial need. "In the light of likely future developments, Institute funding priorities, and the changing policies and priorities of universities with which we compete for students," Gray explained.

In addition to Perkins and McBey, Vice President Constantine B. Simonides, Vice President for Operations Stuart H. Coven, and Professor Sheila E. Widnall '60 serve on the financial aid task force.

MIT chemist wins MacArthur prize

By Jerri-Iynn Scefield

Professor of Chemistry Mark S. Wrighton was among twenty people selected as the John D. and Catherine MacArthur Foundation to receive sizable financial awards. The Foundation announced late yesterday.

The MacArthur Prize fellowships are awarded to individuals, no strings attached, for five years, and range in value from $22,000 to $60,000 annually, depending upon the age of the recipient.

Wrighton will receive $33,600 dollars for the next five years, for a total of $170,400. In addition, MIT will get $15,000 annually as long as Wrighton stays at the Institute.

"I'm delighted to receive it," Wrighton commented. "It came (Please turn to page 2)