Students propose changes for center

By Janie M. Eisen
Two graduate students in architecture presented ideas for possible renovations of the Julius A. Steere G-23 Student Center at a Student Center Committee meeting last Sunday.
Walter Dackiw '84 and Michel Mein G, students in the Environment and Architecture department, made the presentation. The architects' concepts are "visions," Dackiw said, not formal plans.
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Stephen D. Immerman stressed the ideas are "not even proposals."

The suggested renovation would cost about $15 million to implement, the architects said.

The architects are helping the committee define and understand the problems with the design of the Student Center and seek possible solutions, Immerman said. The process as "sort of like a big problem set," he said.

James S. Person III '86, chairman of the Student Center Committee, said the ideas presented are "maybe not realistic" but will provide a basis for future design. "We want the Student Center to be just that a place where students come together," he said.

Dackiw said Immerman and Michel Mein '85, a member of the committee, had asked him to meet with them in June "to take a look at the Student Center."
"It's not exactly the best building around," he continued. (Please turn to page 9)

Saxon suggests US Youth Service

By Edward Whang
The United States should consider creating a youth service program at an appropriate age group to perform military or "socially valuable activities" at state and local, as well as national levels, according to David S. Saxon '84, Chairman of the MIT Corporation.

"I recommend that we examine seriously the potential of a program of national youth service coupled with an analogous universal G.I. Bill," Saxon said in his speech at the meeting of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges.

Except in cases of extreme hardship, no deferments from service would be allowed, he said.
Participation would provide access to higher education, however, he added.

IAP publication schedule

This will be the last scheduled issue of The Tech for 1983-1984. Independent Activities Period, issues will be published on Wednesdays: January 11, 18, 25, and February 1. The deadline for advertising and letters to the editor will be 5 P.M. each Monday.
Regular Tuesday Friday publication will resume Tuesday, February 7.

Rowe: Harassment has "chilling effect"

By Kevin D. Hurst
Last in a series
Sexual harassment affects nearly everyone at MIT, although only a small minority report themselves as injured by it, according to Mary P. Rowe, special assistant to the president.
The environment becomes uncomfortable for women in particular, she said, and "this causes a chilling effect on the relationships between some men and women students in a department."

Elizabeth J. Salkind '85, president of the Association for Women Students, said, "The only reason the institute is concerned about sexual harassment is that it's illegal."

Sexual harassment, as defined by a Harvard report released this fall and by other studies, includes situations such as professors ignoring women students or women not being accepted as serious, competent professionals in their area, not just the "customary" images of sexual exploitation.

Rowe termed this kind of discrimination "subtle discrimination."

Unwanted teasing or attention may also inadvertently injure women.

Sara Mae Berman, a staff associate in the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs, said, "It is overwhelming to read case after case of these type problems. It gives you the picture that the atmosphere is not easy — and downright hostile — for women, and is detrimental to moving forward.

Not all female students see a problem, Berman said. "There are some women on all levels who think things are all fine and dandy.

Male students at the Institute have typically been unaware of such a problem, or at best, reticent, Berman said. "This is a situation that [men] simply don't have to deal with," she said.

"Practically the whole Institute is male-oriented."

Patricia E. Harris G, a student in the Architecture Department, described one problem. "Men have a limited frame of reference in terms of how to relate to me. They can't deal with the fact that I have to make unknowns," she said, referring to the fact that she is the only black woman at her level of study in the department.

Sexual harassment "undermines the educational process," Berman said. "A bad experience can blow the self-confidence of a woman. She starts to look for problems in herself that could be causing this."

"The pain is transmitted in a very serious way," she said.

Rowe said it is not an uncommon response for a woman to drop or not register for a class to avoid a problem. (Please turn to page 2)

Finboard elects Vidaurri new chairman for 1984

By Andrew Bein
The Undergraduate Association Finance Board elected Michael A. Vidaurri '85 its 1984-85 chairman last Thursday, and Widewriter '86 its vice-chairman.

Vidaurri succeeds Raymond E. Samuel '84, who has been part of the Finance Board since Dec. 1980.

"I have all the confidence that Mike will do a good job," Samuel said. "Mike will do a good job." Samuel said it was "greatly appreciated" to be reelected.

Vidaurri succeeds Raymond E. Samuel '84, who has been part of the Finance Board since Dec. 1980.

"I have all the confidence that Mike will do a good job," Samuel said. "Mike will do a good job."

"I am also unhappy with education," Saxon said. "So many people are badly educated. They often come out of the mainstream, and they become outsiders."

"We need to achieve active integration of young people into society, complete integration — ethnically, racially, economically, sexually, and so on," he said.

The service requirement should not be enforced at all, Saxon said. Participation should be on a voluntary basis, with free education offered to those involved, he explained. Eventually, all would be required to participate.

"It would provide young Americans from all backgrounds with the opportunity to work together and give them in addition a greater sense of identification with and responsibility for the national welfare," Saxon said.

Saxon said he expects some opposition. "Anything compulsory goes against the grain, but it doesn't follow that it is the principle that rules. There are two examples of compulsory actions that are accepted by the public. One is draft during war, and the other is education."

"In fact mandatory education is considered positive, and countries that don't enforce it are considered backward," Saxon said.

"This mandatory service provides the mechanism by which socially necessary things can be accomplished; that is the goal," he said.

Several bills are currently in Congress to establish a selective commission to examine and make recommendations to the president and Congress regarding voluntary service programs, according to Saxon.

"for a couple of months, when they think over it, they'll know what they're doing," Saxon said.

The Finance Board is the committee that allocates funds to student activities. Its budget must be approved by the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs, which will sponsor the activities.

Vidaurri said the Finance Board "provides the students with the opportunity to enjoy the arts, and form a relief from their studies. We want..." (Please turn to page 10)