ODSA freezes UA's '85 funds

By Edward Wang and Jason M. Eisen

The Office of the Dean for Student Affairs this year offered the Undergraduate Association Finance Board to increase over last year's budget, allocating $85,000 for student activities. The Finance Board compiled its budget for the coming year in a closed meeting held March 17, according to Michael A. Vidaurri '85, chairman.

"Originally we had projected a need of around $100,000, but with only $65,000, I think we are given the challenge to increase our efficiency—to check how effectively we are using our money," Vidaurri said.

"However, we will reach a peak, probably next year, when we will need more money; $65,000 will not be enough," Vidaurri said. He concludes it is necessary for student organizations to show the need for more money so that the Finance Board can allocate a larger budget.

Shirley M. McMay, dean for student affairs, gave some specific reasons for the funding freeze. Vidaurri said, but attributed it to the MIT budget process.

The Finance Board submitted no formal request for a larger budget, having been informed of the $65,000 limit, he added. Student organizations requested a total of $120,000, Vidaurri said.

There will be a separate fund to cover new projects, new activities, and expansion of existing activities which require money after the regular budget has been spent, but the amount has yet to be negotiated with the ODSA, Vidaurri said. The fund is "nominally $15,000," he added.

The National Federation has invested an amount "in the neighborhood of $40,000," Vidaurri said, which is set aside for payment of student groups' debts and for major projects. Spending this money requires the approval of the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs.

Vidaurri said he expects the new-budget request to be rejected "very quickly" and that the Finance Board will have to use funds from the invested reserve. He noted that many activities are now in debt to MIT.

"The message we have to get out to students is that the organization has to back the Finance Board and the UA up...and make it clear there's a larger need," Vidaurri said.

"It is really up to students and student activities to prove they can effectively run with larger budgets. At this point it is purely up to the Finance Board and the Undergraduate Association to do so," he said.

The Finance Board provided $100,000, the majority of the funding, for this year's South African Awareness Week, sponsored by the International Relations Club, the Black Students' Union and the African Students Club.

The board also provided $60,000 to the Black Students' Union for remodelling their lounge. Vidaurri said the Black Students' Union had been seeking funds from various sources for this project for the last 15 years.

The so-called "compilations" meeting, at which the budget was decided, was held in a rented room at the Lenin Hotel in Boston.

"Vidaurri said he did not know how much the room cost to rent. He said those meetings are always held off campus (Please turn to page 2)

Libby, Scheidler installed as UAP/VP

By Diana Sen-Aaron

David M. Libby '85 and Stephanie L. Scheidler '86 were installed as Undergraduate Association president and vice president at last night's Undergraduate Association Council meeting.

Daniel J. O'Day '87, Floor Director of the UA General Assembly, filled out the official business of the meeting. Vidaurri and Libby agreed to "uphold the constitution of UA members against all enemies foreign and domestic." Libby and Scheidler have not yet appointed a secretary-general, but "have a list of names," according to Libby.

The UA Council also installed the class officers and confirmed the appointment of Michael A. Vidaurri '85 as UA Finance Board chairman, and Win Trenze '86 as vice chairman.

This was the first meeting of the UA Council, which was established by referendum in March. The UA Council presently consists of the class president, vice presidents, secretaries, and treasurers, and 37 elected dormitory representatives. Eleven representatives from the Interfraternity Conference and four representatives from the Non- Resident Student Association will also serve on the council but have not yet been elected.

Libby and Scheidler plan to re-activate the dormant UA Special Projects Committee, Libby said.

Candidates, they solicited ideas for projects from 300 students, and are now tabulating these suggestions for distribution.

Libby recommended UA Council meetings be devoted to making decisions and discussing issues, while special projects be carried out by specific committees.

"The ideas should originate with the individual student. We shouldn't depend on [Libby] to find items for us to discuss and vote on," said Michael W. Mose '84, former UA president.

The Undergraduate Association structure also includes the Nomination Committee, which holds hearings for seats on Institute committees.

Jon A. Bucseia '84

By Charles P. Brown

Jon A. Bucseia '84 died Tuesday on Massachusetts Avenue near Random Hall where he lived. Bucseia, who had a congenital heart defect, apparently suffered a massive cardiac arrest. MIT Emergen- cy Medical Technicians gave immediate assistance, but he was later pronounced dead at Cambridge City Hospital.

Bucseia planned to receive a degree in mathematics this June, and was the top-ranked senior in the Department of Mathematics. He will receive his degree posthumously this June, said Robert A. Raman- nizations Committee will hold hearings for seats on Institute committees this weekend, Libby announced.

The results of the election reflect the desire of students to have more control over their undergraduate experience. Students, for example, want to be treated with respect by the administration, and they want to be able to have a voice in the decision-making process.

The Undergraduate Council, for example, is working on a proposal to create a new position of "Dean of Student Affairs." The position would be responsible for all aspects of student life, including academic affairs, residential life, and extracurricular activities.

The board also provided $1500, the majority of the fund, to the Student Activities Council. The council, in turn, will provide money to its member organizations, which are expected to use the funds to support such activities as lectures, workshops, and cultural events.

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Oddman to depart ODSA post

By Amy Gorlin

Stephen D. Immerman, assistant dean for student affairs, is removing the position of assistant dean for student affairs, which has been required to be held by the student under the MIT administration. Immerman is expected to transfer to a position in the Department of Resource Development, pending approval of the switch by the Academic Council.

The Boston Globe, in a story that appeared the day before students were to elect their own dean for student affairs, confirmed that Immerman was being considered for a position in the Department of Resource Development, but stressed the decision had not yet been made. Added that if he were to leave the dean's role it would be "a great loss" but he would be moving on "to a new and exciting opportunity."