By Peter R. Vogel
MIT has rapidly increased professors' salaries in the past few years in order to make its salaries competitive with those offered at other universities and in industry, according to James J. Culliton, director of personnel.

Salaries paid to professors had become less competitive in past years, Culliton added.

The institute normally surveys salaries paid to professors at universities which compete academically with MIT. Results of the survey are used to determine the competitiveness of the MIT professors' salaries.

For the 1983-1984 academic year, MIT paid full professors an average of $46,400 per year; associate professors $34,400; and assistant professors $27,200.

At the same time, surveys of average yearly salaries for the same period ranged from $38,000 to $58,000 for full professors; $27,500 to $37,500 for associate professors; and $22,500 to $35,500 for assistant professors. According to the survey, MIT ranked sixth in average salaries paid to full professors, tied in salaries paid to associate professors, and fourth in salaries paid to assistant professors.

The survey included the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Rockefeller University, Harvard University, Stanford University, the University of California at Berkeley, Cornell University, the University of Michigan, the University of Minnesota, and the University of Wisconsin.