

Tech photo by Sidhu Banerjee  
Gary Blackwood '86 and David DiPietro '86 offered helpful hints to about 180 freshmen last Tuesday during a lecture on "Survival with Style" organized by the two juniors with guidance from the Undergraduate Academic Support Office.

## Liberal arts help engineers

By Amy Sommer

MIT students are in demand in the job market, but they should broaden their curriculum, according to Robert K. Weatherall, Director of the Office of Career Planning and Placement.

"Firms tell us that MIT students do well," Weatherall said. "They come recruiting here [and] on the whole, cut us out last, or near last, if their recruiting office budget gets cut."

A student's major, however, "doesn't matter much if the student has explored other areas," Weatherall said.

It is important for the student to balance his curriculum and explore practical applications of it, he said. "For example, architecture majors [who take] economics or explore MIT's new real estate development program are proving valuable to firms who [finance] real estate investments."

Weatherall said students benefit from taking liberal arts courses here or at Wellesley, because "they give a broader perspective, make one more articulate, and improve [one's] understanding of

people. All of this shows up in an interview," he explained.

For liberal arts majors, Weatherall suggested taking technically oriented courses. "Economics is an obvious one. Economics is quantitative and analytical; it is [a field important] to hiring companies . . . For chemistry [majors], computer science is an obvious one."

A junior year abroad is another "wonderful complement" to an MIT education, he said.

"Engineering students aren't nerds," he said. "In the old days more engineering students were nerds, they wore white socks with dark suits. Now, they are wonderfully in tune with the outside world."

The companies are "finding people [at MIT] that you would expect to find at liberal arts colleges. More and more organizations are discovering what bright and useful people MIT students are, banks and consulting firms as well as the standards like IBM," he observed.

Weatherall said professional jobs are important: "Find a pro-

fessional job, at least one, at the end of junior year. The more professional [experience] the better."

"There are chemistry majors who go all the way to a Ph.D. and don't have experience in industry," he said. "Half of them will go into industry eventually. They graduate after eight or nine years and then question: 'Is industry the place for me?'"

Questions like these point to the need for a student to translate his academic enthusiasm into practical pursuits. Weatherall said he would, for example, advise a psychology major to "get interested in organizational psychology for management."

The more students resist exploring practical applications of their majors, "the harder it is to show the student that there are practical topics and concerns which are exciting to think about," Weatherall explained.

"Sometimes teachers who are excited about practical things can get students excited over practical aspects of the subject," he said.

## Sr. House discusses drug policy

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the tutor would be expected to direct the student to appropriate support services in lieu of bringing the matter to the housemaster.

Under the proposed policy, a tutor would still be allowed to keep any cases confidential where a student comes to him with a drug-related problem, according to Keyser.

Sherwood said a certain amount of discretion would be maintained within a house. The Institute, "hires [graduate tutors] to use their own judgement," he commented.

Graduate tutors would be required, however, to take "some action" if they are aware of a specific drug incident, Sherwood said. The tutors "would be liable for suits, as would MIT, if they silently condoned such an action."

Some students approved the proposed policy's sharper delineation of the student's position with respect to drug issues, while others objected to the specific language of the proposal and suggested an increase in the num-

ber of warnings students would receive before being referred to the Dean's Office.

Disciplinary action by the Dean's Office would include one or more of the following: compulsory attendance at Institute drug education programs, a year's suspension from the house or the residency system, or *persona non grata* status, which would bar the student from visiting the house.

More serious infractions, such as drug dealing or the possession of large quantities of drugs, would result in the immediate notification of the Dean's Office, the

Committee on Discipline, and city or state legal authorities.

Sherwood denied the existence of any recent drug-related suits brought against MIT, but said "there have been a lot of close calls to date."

The Dean's Office and the MIT Campus Police are investigating possible action to curtail the sale of nitrous oxide to students by an industrial grade nitrous supplier in Burlington, Mass., according to Sherwood.

Legislation may also be introduced in the Massachusetts State House banning industrial grade sales to unauthorized purchasers.

## Housing Office has staff changes

By Charles Jankowski

MIT's Department of Housing and Food Services has made several changes in its operational staff in the last few months, according to Gene Brammer, Director of Housing and Food Services.

Brammer recently hired Larry Maguire to replace George E. Hartwell as Associate Director of Housing and Food Services. Hartwell left the position at the end of August after four and one-half years in the department.

Maguire had been an Administrative Officer for MIT's Research Laboratory for Electronics since 1982.

Assistant Directors for Housing Richard Sorato and Judy Douglas also recently left the department.

Douglas left her position in September to become executive officer of the residence section of the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs.

Food service unit manager Margaret Rodger and East Campus house manager Norman Magnuson, also recently left their positions, according to Brammer.

Bob Ramsey replaced Rodger as the food service manager at 500 Memorial Drive. Ramsey formerly worked with food production in the Student Center.

John Rutledge, assistant operations manager of the Department of Housing and Food Services, and Susan Lovich '85, East Campus desk captain, are responsible for the East Campus house manager's office until a permanent replacement can be found for Magnuson. "We should be getting [a new manager] next week," Lovich said.

The numerous personnel changes over the summer left the department short-staffed. Brammer said, "Everybody tried to pick up the slack where they could."

"This is a very human resource intensive department," Maguire said, "and we've really got to get to know all of the people. We're looking at the organization to simplify and clarify the organizational makeup."

Future changes in Housing and Food Services will be implemented after a careful study of the department, Maguire said.

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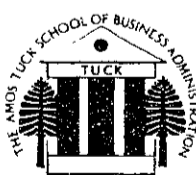
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