By Michael J. Garrison
First in a series examining minority concerns.

"The 'Tute has been ripping us off in its enforcement of diversity action," said David Mar-
tinez '85, a member of La Union Chicana por Aztlan (LUChA).

Martinez cited the elimination of the minority financial aid packet as an example of MIT's dis-
services to minorities.

Dean for Student Affairs Shirley N. McLay refused comment on the subject of minority dis-
crimination, although her office organized a discussion on the subject of minority life during its Quality of Life meetings this term.

\[\text{LUCHA worries that the \text{Institute} is \text{limiting} its commitment to minority students. The \text{administration} has followed \text{certain national trends} that lead to discrimination, according to group member Louis Rodriguez Jr. '86.}\]

Robert M. Randolph, associate dean for student affairs, disagreed, "MIT has made a com-
mmitment to minority students and intends to continue to honor its commitment to minorities.

The administration has made changes in both policy and the Office of Minority Education, but "the commitment has remained constant," Randolph emphasized.

Rodriguez said his group has been studying admission trends for African-American and black students. The percentage of Mexican-American and Puerto Rican students, he said, is much lower than the national average, estimated between four and five percent, he said.

Rodriguez said the "most blatant Equalization at MIT is our representation in members, both of student affairs, his group, and Puerto Ricans. [The problem of decreasing financial aid is dis-
couraging minorities from coming here, essentially ending the diversity action.

Fifty-nine percent of Mexican-American students are noted, Martinez said. "The major reason is money," he asserted.

Sixty-four percent of all admitted applicants to the Class of 1988 chose to attend MIT.

LUCHA has been working to increase the number of Mexican-American students at MIT by calling and writing to admitted students, Martinez said.

"If it wasn't for a phone call, I wouldn't be here," said Richard R. Bueno '88, another LUCHA member.

When MIT does "admit Chi-
cano students they are seen as representative [economic] back-
grounds, but not as minority students," he said.

"Since Reagan took office there has been a 90 percent drop in students from families [with year-
il old] under $20,000," he continued.

"Chicanas are basically poor people," he said, "but 60 percent of all families earning less than $20,000 annually, they have been hit hard" by the decline in low-income students.

The Institute's policies are the problem, the students in the minority members of the administration, according to Rodriguez. "A lot of [MIT] policies discriminate against minorities, but [it does not] seem like it is on purpose,\" he said.

Rodriguez acknowledged "there is a lot of anxiety" with the re-
\[\text{action of Reagan, but I don't think that Reagan is going to determine what MIT does.}\]

He emphasized the importance of a "community where people have confidence in the good intentions of others.\]"}

By Brian Hou

The administration's initial plan to direct traffic on Amherst Alley has drawn fire from students on MIT's West Campus.

A group composed of rep-
\[\text{resentatives from all divisions and fraternities of the West Cam-
pus, except the graduate apart-
ment complexes of Westgate and Tang Hall, has tried to change that plan.} \]

The group, the Amherst Alley Reconstruction Com-
\[\text{mittee (AACR), wants the direc-
tion of traffic to be eastbound.}\]

The first decision made by the group was to establish Daniel Harany '86, of Phi Beta Epsilon, organized the group. "I'm happy that the com-
\[\text{mittee is finally under way, because the students will have the \text{leading} in the decision.} \]

However, the committee has already been disbursed by the total dose of faculty and student reactions. This is a small step back from complete computer-
\[\text{science.}\]

According to Gene Brummr, Director of Housing and Food Services, the major reason for the recon-\[\text{struction is to cut down the traffic use.}\]

"Increasing student safety. "Amherst Alley is for pedestrian use only; it's never intended for traffic use. Making the traffic one way and westward will reduce the traffic in the alley," Brummr ex-
\[\text{plained.} \]

The almost-renovated Amherst Alley with traffic already moving in both directions.

The alley will become a one-way street westward Dec. 10.

\[\text{Alley direction is opposed} \]

By Mathews M. Cherian

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