by Joe Kilian

Niti Seth, associate director of Educational Video Resources in the Office of the Provost, resigned as chairman of the ad hoc Pornography Screening Committee in an official meeting of the committee on Jan. 9.

At the same meeting, the committee voted 8-2 in a secret ballot to disapprove The Opening of My Fair Lady, a sexually explicit film.

Seth said that several committee members have expressed "concerns" over the method of her appointment. Deans for Student Affairs Shirley M. McBay appointed Seth at chairman of the committee in December without the approval of the committee. The chairmanship, Seth said, "ought not to be an appointment from outside."

The Jan. 9 meeting was the only meeting over which Seth presided. McBay, who had presided over the first two meetings of the committee and is not a member of the committee, was not present.

The committee selected Prof. John Hildebidle as the new chairman in a 6-4 vote over Dan Heldle, graduate representative to majority in order to be approved by resigning his position, according to the complaint.

Rodman expressed hostility repeatedly as "threats and criticisms and refusals to allow Dr. Stein to carry on his responsibilities as assistant medical director," the complaint states.

Rodman attempted to terminate a physician, in early 1982, without following the established medical department by-laws, according to the complaint. Stein was appointed to chair a committee that held a hearing for the purpose of reviewing Rodman's actions.

The settlement agreement of June 18, 1982 of his intention to resign from the Institute to take steps to prevent Rodman's actions, but no such steps were taken. Rodman allegedly continued to harass Stein until he resigned on Dec. 31, 1983.

By resigning, Stein lost approximately $30,000 a year in salary and nearly $7000 a year in pension and fringe benefits, he charges. Stein expects the salary loss to continue for several years, and the continued harassment also claims he suffered severe emotional distress caused by Rodman's complaints.

MIT offers employees health care payment option this year

By Simson L. Garfinkel

MIT's new Flexible Reimbursement Account Program (FRA) lets some Institute employees choose to reduce their weekly or monthly paychecks in the hope of increasing their after-tax take-home pay. The program began Jan. 1.

Employees who work at least half-time may set up one or two accounts under FRAP, a Medi-Dental Expense Account and a Dependent Care Expense Account. This allows employees to save money on taxes. The Medical-Dental Expense Account can be used to cover any medical or dental expenses, while the Dependent Care Expense Account can be used to cover any care expenses necessary to enable the employee or spouse to work, such as childcare or after-school care. MIT employees have set up 1100 accounts under the program.

IAP vivisection seminar to be presented despite controversy

by Ben Stanger

Vivisecting the performance of surgical experiments on live animals, will be the topic of an Independent Activities Period (IAP) seminar offered by Dr. A. Agha, a research scientist at MIT.

IAP seminars give students the opportunity to present to the MIT community scientific projects that are not part of the regular program of instruction. Seminars may be given by students or members of the MIT community.

Agha said he decided to give the seminar because of the 100 million animals used as experimental subjects yearly. He plans to show the documentary film "Vivisection" as part of the seminar. The film is based on two years of research, he said. The film shows "monkeys being subjected to [what appears to be] unregulated torture," Agha said. It was made "to make a decision in conference with the MIT Campus Police, MIT officials and the Cambridge Fire Department."

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