Wilson leaves his position at Athena

By Charles R. Jankowski

Douglas J. Wilson '78, Project Athena's manager of system operations and development, will leave MIT to join a software-development firm effective April 1.

Wilson will become a co-founder of Coalition Inc., a local company specializing in computer-aided engineering. This is "a new product area," according to Wilson.

Wilson was responsible for the installation and maintenance of Athena hardware, including computer names, terminals, and networks. He also managed all software development done by Athena staff.

Before joining Athena, Wilson directed the Joint Computer Facility (JCF) from 1980 to 1983. The JCF comprised of Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Aeronautics/Astronautics, and Ocean Engineering share the JCF.

Wilson became Athena's first official employee when Prof. James D. Bruce '60 appointed him to his present position in July, 1982.

A replacement has not been chosen yet, Wilson said. Steven R. Lerman '72, director of Project Athena, and Jerome R. Saltzer '61, Athena's technical director, will probably jointly select Wilson's successor, he added.

Wilson anticipates no major changes in Athena following his departure. "I think the project has matured to a point where one person leaving will not significantly affect the flow of things."

Athena "has well laid out plans for the next year," Wilson continued.

Cognition will develop software to serve as "a base for engineers to work in with early design stages," he said. Present software takes engineers' designs and completes schematic diagrams or wiring arrangements.

"Wilson's title will be 'manager of external software and system architecture,' and his job will be to 'integrate software from outside vendors into a complete system.'"

Several of Cognition's ten co-founders are from MIT. Philippe Willers '60, who previously founded two other companies, is the president. Robert A. Light also is involved in the new company.

By Diana ben-Asher

President Paul E. Gray '44 warned that the Institute would not tolerate sexual harassment of the harassment of other minority groups at MIT as a faculty meet- ing Wednesday.

In a demonstration of what he called "the power of speech," Gray gave the following examples of "sexualizing education... and abusing authority" at MIT:

- A professor tells women in a class, "Women belong in the kitchen... and in bed."
- A woman's progress on her dissertation is blocked by the insistence of her adviser on sexual favors.
- A faculty member has an affair with one student in a research group. "This special relationship makes it impossible for him to treat the other members of the group fairly," Gray said.
- A post-doctorate feels she must leave because her unwillingness to comply with her principal investigator's sexual demands is poisoning the atmosphere for everyone else. The investigator then writes to her potential employer claiming she is unreliable.

Gray said, "These are all real — and very recent — examples." He omitted identifying details to avoid the privacy of those involved.

Disciplinary actions have been taken in some of the cases described, Gray said. The names of the harassers were not publicized because of the victims' fears of reprisal, he added.

In a typical case of harassment, Gray said, the victim refused to comply. "I have to tell you this, but you can't tell a soul." The resource person then advises the victim to write a letter to the harasser describing the harassing behavior and pointing out that it is a problem.

"The harasser may fly into a rage, deny it, excuse it," Gray said.

The people who deal with harassment share "an unsavory job." (Please turn to page 6)

By David P. Hamilton

MIT currently faces a shortage problem in graduate housing. According to Gene Brammer, director of campus housing manage- ment, "There has never been enough housing for graduate students at MIT."

The Institute may be losing graduate students because of this, said Rene LeClaire, president of the Student Graduate Council (SGC).

The shortage of graduate hous- ing imposes other hardships on the graduate community, LeClaire said.

Graduate students are forced to live off-campus, they generally stay within their departments and their social opportunities are extremely limited, he said. This also limits the extent to which graduates interact outside their departments, he added.

Furthermore, he said, "it's difficult to feel good, cheek housing," LeClaire said. "It's even tougher if you're married or an international student."

Graduate students live on cam- pus as graduate residents in un- dergraduate dormitories or in one of five graduate residence halls: Ashdown House, Eastgate, Green Hall, Tang Hall and West- gate.

About 60 graduate students are graduate residents, Brammer said. The halls can house 1256 single and married students in either dormi- tory or apartment environments.

In addition, Campus Housing Management runs an Off-Cam- pus Housing Service that posts requests for roommate and lists of apartments for rent in the Cambridge and Boston areas.

Graduates make extensive use of the Off-Campus Housing Ser- vice, LeClaire said. "We'd even like to see it expanded, if possi- ble."

There has been a continuing effort to create new opportunities for graduate housing, Brammer said.

The effort began in 1983 when all rents on graduate housing were frozen at then current levels in order to build a capital fund, he said. The fund is intended to finance future improvements in graduate campus housing.

Associate Director of Campus Housing Management Larry Mag- gie said that although the capi- tal fund is built directly from rents, it is not currently used to finance any larger projects that would exceed the $15 million limit.

The staff is working on job satisfaction surveys of both graduate and undergraduate students.

The Institute faces a shortage in graduate housing.