MIT students confront Gray

By Michael J. Garrison

About 50 protesters marched to the office of President Paul E. Gray '54 on Wednesday. They questioned Gray on MIT's policy concerning alcohol consumption in South Africa (ODSA). The protesters came from an anti-Apartheid protest outside the Student Center (see story on page 19) and talked with Gray outside his office for 40 minutes.

Gray first offered to speak to students in small groups, but the protesters insisted Gray come out of his office. They shouted, "No backroom meetings." Gray was accompanied by Vice President Constantine B. Simonides and Walter L. Milne, assistant to the Chairman of the Corporation and the President, and several Campus Police officers.

Just before Gray emerged, a student announced, "Paul Gray is a paved by the Corporation to keep the peace . . . [He] will likely lie if we will diffuse student activism on campus."

As Gray came out of his office the crowd began to yell, "Divest Now! Divest Now!". When Gray turned to go back into the office, the crowd quieted down.

Gray stated that he spoke only for the MIT and himself, not for the MIT Corporation. "My view of apartheid is that it is evil, unacceptable, unjustifiable, vicious system; the sooner it ends the better," he said.

"MIT has investments in American corporations which some operations in South Africa," he said. "We are not likely to divest." He denied MIT investments strengthen the South African government.

One of the demonstrators, who was identified as a Vietnam veteran, replied, "We learned from the Vietnam War . . . how the US corporations invested, and without that the Vietnam government wouldn't last a day . . . Look how long they did stand without the backing of the US corporations - not a day. Without US investment in South Africa . . . the regime would have a very doomed and brief existence."

Another student said US investors should divest immediately. "We need to do what is best for the freshmen," Sherwood said. "By enforcing a policy that would not make alcohol so readily available, we can alleviate the concerns of parents, reduce the chance of becoming involved in liability suits, and most importantly, protect the safety of our students."

ODSA sponsors alcohol forum

By Laila Dall

Nearly 100 people attended an alcohol forum Wednesday sponsored by the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs (ODSA). They discussed policies concerning dry rush and guidelines for parties proposed by the Ad Hoc Committee on Alcohol.

Representatives of the Ad Hoc Committee on Alcohol, the InterFraternity Conference (IFC), the Dormitory Council, the Student Center Committee, Campus Police and the Committee on Student Affairs attended.

Dean for Student Affairs Shirley M. McBay and Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Robert A. Sherwood, as well as students from various fraternities and dormitories, also attended.

The meeting intended to elicit a wide range of views that students had. Their views regarded the 1 am closing of all parties and a dry rush during the initial days of Residence/Orientation Week. This dry rush would prohibit alcohol consumption in all common areas while freshmen are being recruited.

Barbara M. Fienman, campus activities director, summarized the 14 letters McBay received.

Fienman said there is not a very strong opposition to the barrending seminars, event planning, and reductions of advertisements on other campuses. Most agitation is generated by the dry rush and the 1 am closure.

"We need to do what is best for the freshmen," Sherwood said. "By enforcing a policy that would not make alcohol so readily available, we can alleviate the concerns of parents, reduce the chance of becoming involved in liability suits, and most importantly, protect the safety of our students."

John Ashley '85, president of (Please turn to page 10)

Dry rush is possible

By Craig Jorgwirth

The Ad Hoc Committee on Alcohol proposed a dry rush for the Friday through Monday of MIT's Residence/Orientation (R/O) Week. It is a "reasonable policy," said Robert A. Sherwood, associate dean for student affairs.

He felt that all social programs during the initial days of R/O Week are directed at freshmen. Most freshmen are younger than 21 years of age, the minimum legal drinking age in Massachusetts.

Rush differs from "private" parties occurring after rush, because rush is considered a formal part of MIT's orientation, Sherwood said.

"I cannot make a comment concerning dry rush," said InterFraternity Conference (IFC) Chairman Timley Anderson '86, "because the IFC has not made such a proposal to the Corporation, and without that the Vietnamese government wouldn't last a day . . . Look how long they did stand without the backing of the US corporations - not a day. Without US investment in South Africa . . . the . . . regime would have a very doomed and brief existence."

Another student said US investors should divest immediately. "We need to do what is best for the freshmen," Sherwood said. "By enforcing a policy that would not make alcohol so readily available, we can alleviate the concerns of parents, reduce the chance of becoming involved in liability suits, and most importantly, protect the safety of our students."

John Ashley '85, president of (Please turn to page 10)

Alley repairs impeded

By Edward Whang

Fraternity members impeded the already delayed Amherst Alley renovations, according to Paul E. Barrett, director of Physical Plant.

"We are running into difficulty with people on the street. They're annoyed with the construction," he said.

Barrett urged students to be patient with the construction. The construction is "annoying and frustrating, but harassing the work is only delaying completion. It's counterproductive." The project, which began last summer, has relocated Amherst Street closer to the tennis courts from Danforth to Powerhouse Street.

The change is intended to provide a better environment for dormitories and fraternity houses along the alley. "The project has been in the plans for 20 years. Moving the street north creates a buffer zone between the road and the dorms. It's not safe with the road right in front of the doors," he said.

Relocation of the road has resulted in an increase in the speed of vehicles traversing the alley, according to Campus Police Chief James Olivieri. "The relocation of the roadway has straightened it out. Speed bumps may be put in to slow down the cars," he said.

Students have continued to complain about the decision to restrict traffic to west-bound vehicles on a portion of the alley, he said. Residents of the dormitories and fraternities on west campus formed the Amherst Alley Reconstruction Committee (AARC) last November to protest the direction of traffic flow. The AARC claimed that west-bound traffic would inconvenece west campus residents, Olivieri continued.

Portions of Amherst Alley were designated west-bound because the nearest five houses are located in Kendall Square and in Lafayette Square, Olivieri said. "Police and fire emergency equipment can most rapidly reach west campus by entering through the Massachusetts Avenue entrance. Many drivers had been using the alley as a "short cut" to get from Memorial Drive to Massachusetts Avenue, according to Olivieri. "We wanted to make it a pedestrian path as much as possible," he said.