CAP has guidelines for student notices

By Charles R. Jankowski

Feature

"There are no clear-cut standards for putting students on academic warning, according to Stephen M. Patterson, staff assistant to the Committee on Academic Performance (CAP)."

"Instead, the CAP has guidelines," Patterson said. If a student has a term grade average of 3.0 or less, or is registered for less than 15 units in a given term, that student is "asterisked" in a Registrar's office computer.

"A lot of students think that this means they are on warning," Patterson said, continuing that "in practice, it depends on the individual student."

There are now approximately 150 undergraduates on academic warning, of which approximately 30 are freshmen, according to Patterson.

A student is usually restricted to 48 units in a given term on academic warning, although Course VI majors are allowed 51 units, as long as the student is registered for four classes or less.

A student's department or advisor sometimes limits the student to 36 or 45 units, Patterson said. "Again, it all depends on the student."

Students on warning can also be advised to spend less time in non-academic activities, according to Patterson. "Students can receive an extracurricular letter," Patterson continued, "telling the student know that we [the CAP]

CAP issues new guidelines for student notices.

Patterson explained that a department or advisor might urge a student to drop an extracurricular activity, leaving more time to concentrate on academics.

If a student receives a second warning after a first term on warning, the CAP re-evaluates the student's record. "If performance is bad, the student may be asked to take a term off," Patterson said.

In that event, Patterson continued, "we tell the student that they are required to withdraw. We also tell them that they should speak to their department or their advisor to discuss future plans."

Under this plan, students are required to take "at least a term" off from MIT, but "a majority of students take a year," according to Patterson. Approximately 40 students are now on leave from the Institute due to involuntary withdrawal.

"The door is always open for readmission following an involuntary withdrawal," Patterson said. Students required to leave the CAP or to the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs (ODSA), depending on the reason for involuntary withdrawal.

Requirements for readmission include recommendations from employers, letters from schools, and a letter explaining why the student is ready for readmission.

Students should go to the Student Assistance Services section of the ODSA to request a voluntary term of leave away from the Institute.

The ODSA handles all readmissions in cases where a student's transcript will indicate that the student temporarily withdrew from classes.

SUMMER JOB OPENINGS


WRITE: Kamp Kohnat, McCallum, 82, Bucksport, Maine 04616.

This is a picture of MacGregor House, where a lot of male undergraduates live. In fact, the executive editor, a night staff photographer live there now. Nice vertical picture, isn't it?

MIT will consider a dry rush

(Continued from page 1)

"We've been breaking the law for 20 years," he said. "What's new are the external factors: the 21 year old drinking age, Governor Dukakis' campaign against drunk drivers and criminal and civil liabilities reffecting on individual students, houses, fraternity and MIT."

All national fraternities and the National Intercraternity Conference have passed a dry rush resolution, he stated.

Anderson said a more voluntary, advisory society would "be a major factor behind the committee's discussion [of a dry rush]."

MIT's Alumni IFC Steering Committee unanimously supported the concept of a dry rush at their last meeting, Sherwood said.

"This is not the case. It depends on the alcohol," Sherwood said. "A lot of students think that they can't have alcohol with their fraternity house. This is not the case. It depends on the alcohol."

Sherwood added, "We tell the student that we support them. But we want to stay with a system of dry rush."

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The ODSA handles all readmissions in cases where a student's transcript will indicate that the student temporarily withdrew from classes. The only way [persons or organizations serving alcohol] can protect themselves is to not serve [alcohol] to underage [students]."

"Having successfully drilled freshmen during rush week, does not facilitate choosing a dry group," Sherwood said. "Even so, I would much rather see an 18 year old drinking age than 21," he said, "because the 21 year old drinking age spits the student body."

"Given the situation that there was a dry rush, I don't believe that the effects could be positive," Anderson said. "We will have to wait until after rush to assess the effects of the proposed dry rush."

MIT discusses alcohol

(Continued from page 1)

"We understand the position that MIT is in and recognize that it is trying to be responsive to this issue," said Lorenzo Flores '83, president of Sigma Phi Epsilon. "We feel that this school is setting a precedent by getting involved in its social life. If the policy passed attempts to regulate social functions in any way, it will not be taken well and will not have much resistance."

McKay said she hoped to use feedback she obtained at the discussion to establish a policy which reflects the views of the students.

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