MIT addresses South African divestment

Coalition calls for MIT to release investments

By David P. Hamilton

The MIT Corporation has no plans to divest its investments in United States companies that operate in South Africa, according to President Paul E. Gray '54.

"The Corporation currently owns approximately $150 million worth of securities in corporations which do business in South Africa," said Gray. "This total is approximately $100 million, controlled by an Ad Hoc Committee of the Board of Directors. It does not plan to divest its investments in these companies."

The Corporation has no plans to divest its investments in International Business Machines Corp., Dun and Bradstreet, and the Ford Motor Co. in South Africa. Leon Milne, assistant to the Corporation's President on investment and proxy matters, said that the Corporation does not plan to divest its investments in the Ford Motor Co. in South Africa.

"The Corporation is a "coalition of individuals" rather than organizations," said Milne. "Some people are more convinced than others."

"There is no "practical impact" to the use of the dividend by non-whites," added Milne. "The rest (of the non-whites) are gated sections of the states that ten percent of the South African population is white, and eighty-seven percent is non-white, according to the Sullivan principles.

"The Sullivan principles include the principle of equal pay for equal work, regardless of the race of the employee; elimination of discrimination facilities in the [Please turn to page 15]

Experts examine apartheid

By Charles R. Jankowski

The apartheid situation in South Africa is "very simple - a power struggle between blacks and whites," according to Robert F. Reith, MIT professor of history and political science, and expert on South African affairs.

"The major components of apartheid are denial of voting rights to blacks," Reith continued. "Until the four-fifths are free and work "What can effectively use computers and create a need for people who have a broad background and are finding increasing opportunities in technology so that MBAa, if you can explain well," he said. ""Some students feel that if you want to work for Wall Street, you can't afford to be a nerd. It's better to have a 4.2 [grade-point average] and breadth than to have a 4.8 and have no breadth."

"You can get your ideas across if you can explain well," he said. "Engineers must be able to write about technology so that MBAa can understand it."

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Job prospects on decline

By Emil C. Yes

Company recruiters at MIT this year were more selective in their hiring than in previous years, according to Robert K. Weatherall, director of the Office of Career Development and Professional Advising (OCDSA).

"They came in great numbers," Weatherall said. "The paradox is that they organised more presentations and had more publicity than ever before, but in the end, the job opportunities seemed uncertain."

The economic difficulties of several key industries, such as the computer, semiconductor, oil and chemical industries, was the major reason for the companies' selectivity this year, Weatherall explained.

"The computer industry has affected recruiting," he said. "The computer companies came in great numbers until Christmas. IBM had cautioned the MIT Career Center that if it would slow down its hiring after Christmas, Weatherall said.

"One indicator of demand for graduates is the change in starting salaries."

"The starting salaries have hardly gone up," said Rebecca Stanley, associate coordinator of recruiting.

"The median starting salary for MIT graduates with an S.B. in computer science went from $28,500 to $28,600, according to OCDSA statistics. These changes correspond especially to a 1.7 percent and 0.4 percent increases over last year's figures, both of which are lower than the 1984 national rate of inflation."

"The high number of graduates with degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT has saturated the demand for MIT students in these fields, according to Weatherall."

"There are still many opportunities for work for other firms, he stressed. "I don't think it means that students are being pushed to work for defense companies."

"The information explosion has created a need for people who can effectively use computers and who have a high degree of quantitative ability," Weatherall explained. As a result, graduates are finding increasing opportunities in areas that require such abilities but are not necessarily engineering or science-related.

"It used to be liberal arts graduates in MIS (Management Information System) people now work with the people who are managing the brand. He added that there are still many opportunities for work for other firms, he stressed. "I don't think it means that students are being pushed to work for defense companies."

"The information explosion has created a need for people who can effectively use computers and who have a high degree of quantitative ability," Weatherall explained. As a result, graduates are finding increasing opportunities in areas that require such abilities but are not necessarily engineering or science-related.

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Erratum

Last Friday's Tech incorrectly stated the date of commencement. The actual date is June 3.