The number of students thinking about Course VI seems to be dropping a bit, but the imbalance is certainly still there. I think we have to give a lot of thought to the whole Institute as well as the Admissions Office.

Q: Your background lies in American Studies, rather than Engineering and Sciences. Does this represent a change of interest for you? It’s a lot of fun thinking about the kinds of issues that I think it is interesting for me. It’s gonna be a new education for me. It’s Here.!

A: Not necessarily well-rounded students. A well rounded student doesn’t necessarily mean that you are a well-rounded student. You really admit a class, not individuals. You build a class and do your team by having the central emphasis be on academic and academic achievement but even there that student might not necessarily be well-rounded; it might be a student who is absolutely superb at one or two things, and might even have problems in some other areas but still be able to function at MIT while being an absolute superstar at something.

The policy of the MIT Corporation is to encourage those companies doing business in South Africa whose securities the Corporation signs the Sullivan principles, Milne said.

The Arthur D. Little Co., a consulting firm, annually audits all corporations that have signed the Sullivan principles. Its publication is the "report card" that measures the performance of the signatories against the principles. The report card can be used as an investment guide in several ways, Gray said.

The Admissions Office is both communicating to the Institute what prospective students are looking for and why we might not be attracting the whole breadth, the broadest kind of student. We can’t study that very carefully and be ready to react to it.

The effects of the Sullivan principles are nevertheless widespread, Gray said. "There’s kind of an angle, a moral issue as South African corporations and multinational follow our lead," said the president that perhaps up to a million employees were being affected by the Sullivan principles. "Divestment is not a moral issue," Gray continued. "I don’t think that’s the argument whether or not we should hold would do a divestment as a moral symbol. I think they would see it as a misguided action of sentiment.

Furthermore, the pressure for divestment is unlikely to achieve the desired results, Gray said. "The divestment protest are based on the view that US corporations are a major part of the South African economy; which just isn’t true," he continued. "There are all sorts of corporations with operations in South Africa. Gray said. The control 3 to 4 percent of all fixed assets in South Africa, he added. Approximately 400 West German corporations and 1000 British corporates maintain operations in South Africa, Gray said. "The United States is not a major player in the economic scene in South Africa. The desired results of divestment would be the withdrawal of US corporation from South Africa, heading to a destabilization of the region, Gray said. This is unlikely to occur for several reasons, he continued. MIT’s divestment is unlikely to affect any corporation’s operations, Gray said, because university endowments make up a very small percentage of total corporate investments. There would be so measurable impact if university-owned securities were divested. A price war and change against the marketplace would change according to the withdrawing company’s investment. If a corporation accepts engagements, it is available.

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The Shareholder Committee uses the report card to reason out the decisions and the institute’s interest in the market. "This results in a simple change of ownership, with little return for the investor," he said. "This is available to investors any time they want to sell their shares. The market price might also be a class action lawsuit. There’s nothing immoral or unethical about owning securities in corporations that are doing business in South Africa, as long as we are starting one’s own business, or in other ways showing some outstanding ability in the world work or some outstanding talent. A lot of research has shown that people who are interested and really that leadership or strong talents in a certain area carry along with them and are able to use the kinds of abilities that are re-inforced in the classroom.

Q: You mentioned the problem of the applicant pool becoming smaller. What plans do you have to accommodate them?

A: Well, each institution has to make different kinds of plans to accommodate that. Fortunately MIT is in such a strong position that we don’t have to worry about survival or significant decreases in the quality in the student body. The concerns are nevertheless widespread, Gray said. "There’s kind of an angle, an ethical issue as South African corporations and multinational follow our lead," said the president that perhaps up to a million employees were being affected by the Sullivan principles. "Divestment is not a moral issue," Gray continued. "I don’t think that’s the argument whether or not we should hold would do a divestment as a moral symbol. I think they would see it as a misguided action of sentiment.

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