MIT begins reappraisal of its education

By Katie Schwartz

First in a series

MIT has embarked on a "major reassessment of undergraduate education," said Dean of Humanities and Social Science Amy F. Feldsanger in a summary of a May meeting of humanities and engineering faculty. The reappraisal could become one of the most significant landmarks in the Institute's history, said Dean for Undergraduate Education Margaret L. A. MacVicar '85.

The reform movement began a year ago with faculty concern that the humanities and social sciences are not receiving enough emphasis at MIT. The movement now encompasses consideration of the science requirements and balance in engineering education.

MacVicar will coordinate four faculty committees evaluating institutional requirements, engineering curricula and the possible establishment of an integrative program in liberal arts and technology.

The organization of the curriculum review began with a meeting May 9 and 10 at the Woodstock Inn in Woodstock, Vermont, among representatives of the School of Engineering, the School of Humanities and Social Science and the Provost's Office.

Four committees had review

Two faculty committees were established immediately after the Woodstock meeting to examine the role of the humanities and social sciences in an MIT education. Two more committees will focus on information gathering.

Moser, SCEPT ask MacVicar to ensure student voice in reform

SCEPT, the Student Educational Policy Committee, sent a letter to MacVicar expressing concern that the present humanities distribution requirement is "too diffuse" and fail to provide enough breadth, according to Fiedler's Ad Hoc Stockwood summary.

Educational reform has been a focus of the developments during that year, see Page 2.

The HASS Committee includes faculty from MIT's five Schools (Architecture and Planning, Engineering, Humanities and Social Science, Management and Science). The dean of the respective schools and the Dean for Undergraduate Education appointed its members.

By Amy S. Gold

Two members of the MIT community have been diagnosed as having Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), according to Professor of Chemistry Pauline R. MacVicar, who is chairman of a committee on "the impact of a shift in government priorities on research and education from the civilian to the military sector.

The committee is inspecting the influences of Draper and Lincoln Laboratories, ROTC and military research on the campus, Keynes said.

"The first goal of the committee is information gathering," he stated. The committee is collecting data from the Office of Sponsored Research and the Committee on the Status of Women.

The diagnoses were made before the beginning of this term, and according to Keynes, an additional six or seven employees will be added.

Student Center set to celebrate anniversary

By Benny McGough

The MIT community marks the 20th anniversary of the Julius A. Stratton '23 Student Center this Wednesday. Stratton will be present, as performances by student music and drama groups highlight the occasion.

Former MIT President Julius A. Stratton '23 proposed construction of the Student Center in his 1929 inaugural address. Walkers Memorial, which served as MIT's student center at that time, was becoming overcrowded as a dining hall and student activities center, he said.

The Institute named the Student Center in honor of Stratton and opened it Oct. 9, 1965. The Second Century Fund, a $166 million capital program, underwrote the construction costs. The fund was devoted to the provision of new facilities for both education and community, basic research, endowed student aid funds.

Stratton will preside at an ice cream party sponsored by Food Services in the Sala del Puerto Rico. He will cut a cake in the shape of the Student Center donated by the Student Center Committee. Commemorative T-shirts will also be distributed.

The MIT Dramashop, the MIT Ensemble of MIT and the Musi- cal Theatre Guild will each perform throughout the three and a half hour celebration. (Please turn to page 15)

AIDS cases diagnosed at MIT

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