A few weeks ago, a slide at an Lecoeur Series Committee (LSC) movie advertised a Project Athena movie. The title was "Project Athena," and the scene pictured two men attending a lecture. The students attending the movie did not have a very high opinion of Athena.

And how could they? When most MIT students think of Athena, images of the vastly overcrowded Student Center Athena cluster come to mind: a place where terminals are only available after 4 am, where printouts rarely arrive on time and where the volume of files stored is so great that each student is less than the amount of space on an IBM PC floppy disk!

The Student Center Athena cluster is substantially overcrowded because it is the only cluster where accounts are open to all undergraduates. Accounts in other clusters are only available for specific students enrolled in special subjects.

When the Student Center cluster was opened last year, Steven R. Lerman '11, director of Project Athena, expressed a hope that students would use their Student Center accounts to write educational software, called "courseware," for all students. Unfortunately, the Student Center accounts provide only enough file space for writing programs.

The goals of Project Athena were to investigate the ways in which computers could be integrated into the undergraduate curriculum, to write "courseware," and to construct a campus-wide computational facility.

Project Athena will not be able to realize these goals until it has provided students with adequate word processing facilities. "Adequate word processing facilities" include unlimited file storage, fast response time and easy access to terminals. Athena currently has the equipment to provide such facilities to its users, but has not done so.

If Athena provided all students with adequate word processing facilities, more students would obtain a familiarity and competence with the equipment. These students would then be more likely to explore the educational potential of Athena.

To the Editor:

There has been much discussion recently about the Sandinista government of Nicaragua and the propaganda which is being circulated. I would like to set one matter completely straight.

The Sandinistas are definitely anti-Semitic. During the revolution the Sandinistas persecuted Jews and forced them to abandon the country.

I know. I am a Nicaraguan Jew. In 1979 my family was threatened with death by a Sandinista agent. He threatened a gun and said that if we did not leave the country we would be killed. I fled. I immigrated to the United States and the Sandinistas approached us on two occasions.

We are a "colony" of exiled Nicaraguan Jews in Miami where I live. Luckily, the US government has given our family political asylum so that we can live here. Many other Nicaraguan Jews are now living in exile in Honduras and Costa Rica.

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