International students learn about MIT

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formal tea party for the freshmen and some of the faculty. But the highlight of the day was the international slide show. Every freshman introduced himself or herself and showed some slides of their country.

Unfortunately, the slides had been previously collected by the international R/O workers and sometimes the freshman involved had no idea what the slide was. One such slide was completely drowned out with the terse explanation, “That’s not a part of my country.” Most creative was a freshman from Trinidad who showed a slide of his birthday party which looked suspiciously like a traditional tribal dance.

Immediately afterwards the group was taken to the nightclub Celebration to cap off a day of glorious weather and lots of fun for all.

By now most of the freshmen looked remarkably confident, ready to face and fight the world. The next day it rained. A planned tour of Boston was scrapped and the freshmen watched a slide show of Boston, that is, those who had become used to sleeping very late and waking up very early. Spirits were somewhat damped, but then it was a morbidly cloudy day.

By Thursday, as all the other freshmen started coming in, International R/O was over. The band of lost, confused and slightly scared freshmen who had come in over the weekend now knew their way around the campus and had found a group of friends for themselves. As they saw hundreds of freshmen coming in, each as lost as they had been, they realized the full value of International R/O.

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