MacGregor will vote on coed plan

Berenberg predicted the plan would gain easy approval. In last fall's informal poll, only two of the nine entries had significant numbers opposed to the idea of accepting women. Even in those two entries, a majority approved of the proposal, Berenberg said. Any plan approved by MacGregor students would also have to be accepted by the ODSA. However, Towhey said that he was not opposed to seeing MacGregor's going coed.

The MIT administration has been concerned about the shortage of housing for the increasing numbers of female students. Opening MacGregor to women would help to alleviate the problem. While the ODSA is receptive to the idea, the proposal originated at MacGregor House. The idea of accepting women has been raised for the past several years, Berenberg said. At the beginning of last term, former MacGregor President Michael S. Cuffe '87 set up a seven-member committee, chaired by Kesavan P. Srinivasan '87, to formulate a specific proposal.

Supporters of the measure were motivated not only by a desire for a coed environment, but also by concerns about the increasing female enrollment at the Institute. Berenberg said. With such a large percentage of male freshmen now entering the freshman system, MacGregor students were concerned that their dormitory would have problems filling all of its freshman spaces.

Robert S. Kennedy '89, housemaster of MacGregor House, also voiced support for the idea. "Both my wife and myself have long been in favor of accepting women," he said. While a small number of students wish to remain the all-male environment, Berenberg did not foresee many problems in implementing the coed housing plan. Berenberg doubted that MacGregor would have trouble recruiting enough women. Last fall, nearly twenty women marked down MacGregor House as their first choice dormitory even though it was closed to women, he noted. If the ODSA approves, MacGregor may hold a "mini R/O week" this term for women students in other dormitories interested in moving.