Minor option encourages depth in HASS

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courses in complement economics as much as it does chemistry or architectural engineering," he argued.

More effective than concentration

Professor of Foreign Languages and Literature Cherie J. Kramsch termed the creation of a HASS minor a "truly neat idea that is pragmatic." It is significantly different from the concentration requirement, she said, which requires three or four courses in a certain HASS field. "A concentration signifies interest in a field, while the minor would signify competency in a particular field. Such a minor would be a "much more effective way of getting students to sample another area," said a minor would be a "minimum competency," she said. "It is significantly different from the concentration requirement, she said, which requires three or four courses in a certain HASS field. "A concentration signifies interest in a field, while the minor would signify competency," she said. History Section Head Pauline Marx, who chaired a committee on humanities curriculum reform, and a minor would be a "much more effective way of getting students to sample another field (than the concentration)." The minor would add "more structure and rigor to a student's HASS program with a relatively small cost to the student." Diploma recognition is important since it can show an employer that an applicant has competency in a particular field. "The attraction of the HASS minor is that it can be built into the existing curriculum without an overload," said Anni F. Friedlander PhD, 64, dean of the School of Humanities and Social Science.

"A strong step for the humanities" said Tewhey, "From my perspective, and from the perspectives of all professors who take dual literacy seriously, this is a strong and forward-moving step," said Tewhey, "The proposal is in keeping with the vision of the Mars committee on an integrated curriculum, MacVicar said, by attempting to "improve and increase the viability of humanities on campus" and by aiming for "a dual competency in [HASS] science or engineering." In a larger context, MacVicar said, the minor proposal can be viewed in conjunction with the HASS-D proposal, a possible proposal for a dual major in HASS and science engineering, and other educational reforms that are aimed at strengthen-

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events prompt look at alcohol policy

The Institute might be named as a defendant in a civil suit brought by someone injured in an alcohol-related incident. But there is no clear legal precedent regarding host liability in Massachusetts, Henneberry said. He did not think that having a non-dry alcohol policy puts MIT at any more risk of legal liability. Though most of the discussions took place at dormitories, the problem also applies to fraternity houses, Tewhey said. But the ODSA does not have equal jurisdiction over what happens in independent living groups, he added. "After a whole series of those incidents, I began to raise some questions . . . and that prompted a discussion," Tewhey said. Tewhey and Hennessey met on two occasions last March to work out to the situation. Many housemasters have expressed concern about MIT's relatively moderate restrictions on on-campus alcohol consumption. Most other major universities in Greater Boston, including Boston University, Northeastern, and Harvard, are "dry," according to Margaret J. Keyser, housemaster at Senior House. A dry alcohol policy forbids alcohol in public areas, and requires a separation of those who are over 21 from those who are underage.

The disparity between MIT's alcohol policy and those of its neighbors has caused problems, according to Tewhey. "We draw a much larger constituency from other schools [at our parties] . . . It is fairly well-known [at other universities] that MIT is still available," he said. Some students alleged that the fight against House was partly motivated by students from outside universities, Tewhey said. After the March meeting, the

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