Alum held in Sri Lanka may be released

By Akbar Merchant

Rahul Manikkalingam '85, who has been imprisoned in his home country of Sri Lanka for more than five years, was transferred from Kilinochchi and from the American Embassy in Sri Lanka to a jail in Colombo last night. Stewart said that this position was "very friendly, enthusiastic about the work he's doing, and very bright." He noted that the processing and functions of the immune system, for which the award is given, are known to adapt and change over time. The Institut's involvement in interdisciplinary research, the nature of the inquiry it fosters, and the complexity and technology of the intensified speed of development, and the increased understanding of interdisciplinary research, is an example of such an informative research program. The Institute's new polymer science major, for example, is an example of the diversity of science and technology programs, and the benefit of interdisciplinary research. These projects would also benefit the Institute's initiatives in manufacturing, engineering, architecture, and planning.

The Chronicle of Higher Education. (Next: Educational reform at MIT)

Legal officer favors tighter security

By Andrew L. Fish

(Second of two parts)

As MIT continues its upgrade of dormitory security, MIT's legal affairs office has stated its preference for more limited access to dormitories. According to the Chronicle, the Institute's initiatives in manufacturing, engineering, architecture, and planning, are all being combined to form new synergies. The Innsman's center which predicted severe problems concerning the aftermath of the attack, is now focusing in the United States. The Department of Urban Studies and Planning is working on a report to the President for Real Estate Development, along with individuals from government, industry, and social planning, are joining together to help formulate new housing policies for the country. (Note: Educational reform at MIT)

MIT professor wins prestigious award

By Kenyon D. Potter

MIT Professor Susumu Tonegawa (Japan) has been named a co-recipient of the Albert Lasker Medical Research Award. Tonegawa, of the Department of Biology and the Center for Cancer Research, won the Lasker Award for his work on the mechanism of the immune system. The Lasker Award, high- ly acclaimed by the medical field, is considered second in importance to the Nobel Prize. Tonegawa discovered that the apparent infinite diversity of anti- bodies is due to the human immune system, which is composed of 10 trillion cells.

The present "somatic theory" of the immune system, for which Tonegawa was awarded the prize, agrees that antibodies are formed from the recombination of gene segments. "We believe that we have pieced the pieces of a puzzle together," Tonegawa said. These particular gene fragments can thus combine, forming an infinite variety of gene sequences. By this process, the human immune system acquires the diversity of antibodies necessary to combat viral and bacterial infections does.

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