opinion

feedback

IAP should not be “spring training”

To the Editor:

Since Draw for Undergraduate Education Margaret L. A. Max- 
Vicar '87 et al. are so concerned about MIT students using their time “productively” during IAP (“MIT considers IAP chan- 
gers,” Oct. 30), I’d like to suggest one possibility for giving us more work to do.

As MacVicar points out, “rest and relaxation really miss the boat as to what IAP is all about.” I think that each depart- ment ought to offer its most draining and demanding classes during this interval, and make registration mandatory. This 
would serve as sort of a “spring training” for the upcoming term and would ensure that students wouldn’t be distracted by waste- 
ful activity like reading or socializing and instead jump right into an 18-hour workday. With only three and a half 
weeks to cover an entire semes- ter’s material, the pace would be aggressive, but no double reward-
ing. IAP would serve as a fantas-
tic opportunity for professors to 
eliminate the deadwood in their 
classes as they put their students to the ultimate test of their intel-
lectual caliber and physical endur-
ance — five all-nighters in a 
time for everyone who’s left.

Robert T. German

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