TEP national fraternity forces local chapter to remove women

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Both Gold and Michael Ivers, executive director of the national chapter of TEP, declined to comment.

It is important for the national chapters to monitor what is going on with the local chapters, Dunn said. "It is especially disturbing when you have an undergraduate being quoted as saying that the fraternity did not intend to inform the national chapter (about the female boarders)."

"Our main concern was to make it clear to the national of TEP that they couldn't just throw these students out on the street," Tewhey said. Even though no deadline was given in the original communiqué to TEP, many TEP members felt they were under pressure to respond quickly, Tewhey added.

"We wrote a letter to the national and expressed our displeasure at their statement," Tewhey said. As a result the national became a little more patient in letting things happen, Tewhey added.

Other fraternities seek other options

Last Monday Zeta Psi held a dinner for freshman males living in the dorm system. Zeta Psi sponsored the dinner as a "second rush," according to Christopher R. Bergeron '88, president of Zeta Psi.

Bergeron said the action was necessary because Zeta Psi did not get all the pledges it desired in September. The house will also lose more people in January because of early graduation and other reasons. "We were hoping that if we could get four or five pledges, this would really relieve the pressure next September," he said.

Bergeron was disappointed with the results of the dinner. "Only about five to ten guys showed up. From those we really don't know how many pledges we may get," he said.

Zeta Psi will continue to hold similar small events over the term, according to Bergeron. "We'll continue having study breaks and things like that to try to bring people in. However you really can't get to know a person as a result of a dinner or study break," he added.

Bergeron added that intensifying the house's recruitment efforts during rush may be the only solution to the vacancy problem. Having boarders, male or female, was never an option considered at Zeta Psi, Bergeron said. "We strictly wanted to have brothers in our house."

The MIT Interfraternity Conference had discussed holding second rush events over a larger number of fraternity, but the idea fell through, Bergeron said. The IFC did not want to set a precedent for future freshman all looking them to join a fraternity whenever they desired rather than only during R/O week, Bergeron explained.

IFC President Paul Performale said, "We agreed, expressing concern that the dorms would use a second rush against the frats. Students in the dorms would encourage freshmen to try living in the dorms first and move to the frats later if they were not happy, Performale said.

"Mid-term rushes is perfectly fine as long as it doesn't interfere with any MIT rules or regulations," Eisenmann consented.

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Erratum

In the Nov. 10 story "MIT soon to move against 'Rent City,'" one of the statements attributed to "Walt," a tent city resident, was incorrect. Cambridge City Council member Alfred Velucchi did not make a promise to have trailers available for Tent City by the end of October.

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