MIT at fault in housing crush

To the Editor:

"Tent City" was made on MIT land, but MIT's actions probably helped force some of the demonstrators onto the streets. MIT deliberately blocked a plan to ameliorate the Cambridge housing shortage and now plans knowingly to make it worse, because of the political problems. The many other causes as well, these actions are a high reason to blame MIT for its role.

The amelioration MIT blocked is linkage, a plan already in use in Boston whereby commercial builders are required to build a proportionate amount of housing as well. A majority of the Cambridge city council voted for linkage, but this wasn't enough because linkage is classified as a zoning change, which means it requires a certain fraction of the land in the city.

At the head of the list of landowners opposing linkage were Harvard and MIT. Because they own so much land, they play an important role in defining linkage. It would be a lot easier for you to find a room if the buildings recently built in Kendall Square had been accompanied by an

Individuals should help homeless

To the Editor:

Now that the homeless people at "Tent City" have been brutally evicted by the MIT police, we can see still another cause of the issue for a while. I believe I have found a short-term solution.

MIT seems to stand alone in its callous disregard for the homeless. Then why waste our time and money at MIT? Why force MIT to be altruistic if it doesn't want to be? There are enough concerned and caring people in the Cambridge City Council and the MIT student body to care for the homeless without need for a simple shelter, which would be more than a temporary solution.

Think about it! We can begin with any available vacant rooms in the homes of the members of the Cambridge Civic Association and their supporters in the Cambridge City Council.

Let's start with the house of Counsellor David Sullivan. Surely Sullivan must have at least one vacant room in his house or apartment where several homeless people could live. Or maybe Counsellor Alice Wolf could spare space for an extra bed in her children's bedroom.

Face it. The cold in the past few nights has been unseasonable. On Saturday, the day after the election, it was estimated to be biting 20-wind chill.

Even such an inhuman institution as MIT had the heart to pay for hotel accommodations for the Tent City residents during the extreme freeze. Now, we citizens must demonstrate that we are morally superior to MIT by offering to house the homeless into our very own homes!

Come on, Steven Penn G. practice what you preach! If you demand MIT to give up its private property to the homeless, then you too must have some room to spare in your Allston apartment for just anybody off the street.

We can start a campaign called "Adopt a homeless one." In the plan, each and every MIT student would be able to have a small room to spare next to his bed for a homeless comparable amounts of new housing. (We can see how much MIT cares about the cost and diversity of student life.) Now MIT plans to build University Park, which is expected to create many new jobs — something useful in other ways.

The righteous people of Cambridge must not be blind to the housing shortage. Thus, our refusal to open our own homes, apartments, and dorms to strangers from the street is the moral equivalent to MIT's refusal to open Simplex to the homeless.

This point is crucial because many people may suspect that a group such as the Simplex Steering Committee or the Cambridge Civic Association actually don't care about the plight of the homeless. Rather, people might think, these special interest groups are only interested in using the homeless as a political tool to embarrass MIT and ultimately halt its expansion in the city.

Richard M. Stullman PhD '75

We've got your date for the weekend

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The Full International Careers Forum will provide three seminars in parsing or managing careers with the opportunity to attend workshops in the international fields. The seminars are: "Careers and the World" with Dr. Carena Mello, Professor of the Business School, Siena College; "Careers with the United Nations, and Non-Profit Organizations" which will be led by Dr. Donald B. Smith, and "Careers in Science" with the Dr. George Girshein, Director of the Center. The forum will be held on Saturday, December 5, from 9:00 am to 4 pm in Building 10, Room 250, MIT, at 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

International workshops will discuss ways in which students can prepare for a career in International Relations, Sciences, Law, Journalism, Diplomacy, the United Nations, and Non-Profit Organizations. Interested persons should contact their college career counselor for registration forms which should be mailed to the United Nations, Greater Boston in cooperation with the Career Planning and Placement Center of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. It will be held on Saturday, December 5, from 9:00 am to 4 pm in Building 10, Room 250, MIT, at 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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