Divestment not necessarily the answer

Gray recommends change to discriminatory ROTC policy

(Editors note: The Tech received a copy of this letter addressed to Undergraduate Association President Mitch Nagy ’91.)

Both the Provost and I are troubled by the contradiction between MIT’s policy of non-discrimination and the Reserve Officer Training Corps policy of discrimination on the basis of sexual preference, and we believe that this ROTC policy should change. Indeed, this contradiction was one, though not the only, reason for Dona Margaret L. A. MacVicar ’65 appointing an ad hoc faculty committee last year to review the relationship between MIT and ROTC. Among the recommendations of the ad hoc committee was that MIT should endeavor to convince the military services to do away with policies that discriminate on the grounds of sexual preference.

We are making such efforts. MIT’s position on these matters is contained in the statement from MacVicar, which appeared in recent issues of The Tech [March 23] and Tech Talk, and the one from the provost, John Joseph Deutch ’63, in a letter to the secretary of defense, Dick Cheney last front page.

I believe that the military services not only should but will change their policies regarding sexual preference, because the continuation of ROTC programs at leading colleges and universities will be greatly influenced by this question. Clearly, this will not happen overnight, but we will continue to work on this issue, and I think we will see a change.

Paul E. Gray ’84
President

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AEPi held no meeting

I would like to correct your assertion in last Friday’s article on Alpha Epsilon Pi [“AEPi without controversy,” Apr. 12] that Steven H. Baden ’92 and I held a meeting with the 200 AEPi members. This is not correct. A few of my friends came in asking what was going on. We spoke for about 15 minutes. We did not discuss the circumstances of the meeting at issue, which we felt was an “official” meeting; however, this was not the case.

Christopher B. Moore ’90
Anastasios E. Perperoglos ’91

Gallrey theft deters artists

On the night of April 12 a color photograph of ours was stolen from a locked display case in the Fall Gallery at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Art Gallery. This picture was part of an exhibit of color photgraphs which ran from April 2-24.

Theft is not the first such experience however. In fact, preparing and securely hanging a valuable painting for a gallery exhibit is a major concern. As the theft was the result of an exhibit which was approached by the public, we were honestly quite shocked that we would be a part of such a theft. We feel it would be appropriate for me to tell the MIT administration what to do with its money.

So what should I do? Should I boycott the whole campaign of cooperation? I am still working with business with or in South Africa? I don’t think I can turn in my Citicorp credit card, stop using IBM computers, stop riding in all GM vehicles, etc. This is not easily said.

I will not say that the theft was solely the result of political motivation. Perhaps that is too simple a reason. I have a suspicion that the stealers were motivated by the same reasons that others steal art. They are motivated by the fact that they are not able to purchase art themselves. We are very angry about the theft. The police say they are looking for the people. We hope they will be caught. We are very angry, but we are not going to allow the theft to deter us from trying to sell our art, even in South Africa.

We would like to express our thanks to the MIT administration for its assistance.

Having spent several hundred hours preparing for this exhibit, we found this theft not only shocking but disheartening. We were generally quite shocked that we would be a part of such a theft. We feel it would be appropriate for me to tell the MIT administration what to do with its money.

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