**Tuition to rise by 7.7%**

By Karen Kaplan

Undergraduate tuition for the academic year 1991-92 is expected to increase by about 7.7 percent, according to university officials. The increase is needed to cover additional expenses and to keep funds available for future needs.

A tuition increase of $16,800, or 7.7 percent, has been worked into account when setting tuition and student aid. Nonetheless, tuition will be self-help tuition category 1 for in-state and deanship residents; and deans must still decide whether the increase could be covered by anything else. (Please turn to page 3)

Jack Hoza, Kathleen Roche, Adam Skwensky '94 and Thomas R. Westcott '83 converse in sign language after a Physics II (1B.02) lecture in Room 26-100. See article, page 2.

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## Meal plan finalized

By Joey Marquez

At the Undergraduate Association meeting yesterday, Paul L. Antonic '91, chairman of the UA Food-Service Committee, presented a final proposal for a meal plan that would not require any one in the MIT community to purchase a meal plan.

The meal plan proposal would extend hours at Leddell Court, which would be open for dinner, and Walker Memorial dining hall would be open for dinner and lunch, and a convenience store would be installed there.

Under the plan, McCormick dining hall will provide a "community lunch service focused on healthy foods," which could be extended to dinner service, depending on consumer demand. A new convenience store would also be established at McCormick.

Other changes include changing the Baker dining hall for all food services. Also, either the MacGregor or Next House dining hall would open at no extra cost to students living in the dormitory, as well as a new convenience store in the dormitory as well.

Networks would be changed into an "old time dinner" that would offer services in the very late hour.

It was also suggested in the proposal that the contractor present a discount to students who purchase a meal plan.

Though this plan is in its final form, it still needs the approval. (Please turn to page 15)

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## Faculty discuss Athena changes

By Katherine Shen

Provost Mark S. Wrighton called for the formation of a new academic computing committee to make Project Athena self-sufficient at last Wednesday's faculty meeting. Wrighton also called for the formation of a committee to address gulf war issues. The faculty also discussed a timetable for the construction of a biology facility and a schedule of events for the inauguration of President Charles M. Vest.

"In order to move academic computing to a higher plateau," Wrighton said, "we need to think about how to organize the committee so that we can send it out with the admissions and financial aid packets.

More expenses anticipated

One reason for increasing undergraduate tuition is to curb the deficits MIT has been running in the recent past. The high level of spending in the past two years is expected to create deficits in the future, even if spending is curbed. The deficits for 1991 is $4.5 million, and is expected to be $5.5 million in 1992 and $6.5 million in 1993; Culliton said.

Culliton pointed out that these deficits was very small in comparison to MIT's overall budget of approximately $1.07 billion. Nonetheless, tuition will be raised in part to avoid a deficit in next year's budget.

A variety of factors are taken into account when setting tuition. "We look at how much academic program support is needed, at salaries and at expenses," Culliton said. The amount of unrestricted money needed to continue to support mind-admission is also considered. "Our major source of revenue is tuition income," he said.

Culliton said that tuition pays for only half of what it costs to educate each student for a year. "The real question in setting tuition is how much of a subsidy to give," he continued.

The plan that Culliton prefers would raise the tuition to $16,900 a year, $100 higher than the level in the current plan, with a tax burden of $1.0 million. The extra $100 would be added to the self-help tuition category. This money could be spent on academic computing, increased salaries, rising energy costs, capital and student aid.

"For the first time, we'll need a chunk of money to support academic computing [because corporate sponsorship of Athena will be ending]," Culliton said. "Energy costs are likely to increase by about 7.7 percent future, even if spending is curbed. The real question in setting tuition is how much of a subsidy to give," he continued.

The most important point is that what's in the budget is just a model, and that it can vary," Culliton said. "It's not yet decided yet at all. The increase could be either higher or lower.

The discussion about tuition will be made by President Charles M. Vest with the advice and guidance of the Academic Council. Council members include: Provost Mark S. Wrighton, associate provost, vice presidents and deans.

Self-help level, which is the portion of tuition that must be provided by and to the families excluding loans and restricted money needed to continue to support mind-admissions is also considered. "Our major source of revenue is tuition income," he said.

"It was decided by the department head had recommended me," Kerswell admitted that his appointment to the committee was a surprise.

"The provost called me up and asked me if I'd like to serve on the committee. ... Naturally, I asked why? (He told me) it was because he felt that I had had recommended me," Kerswell said that he was not even aware that he had been nominated for the committee.

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By Lakhman Rao

The Graduate Student Council voted unanimously to amend its constitution last Tuesday, changing the tenure of representatives to one year starting Oct. 15. The GSC meeting the council also changed an amendment criticizing the way in which a graduate student was named to the search committee for a new dean of science.

The GSC passed another resolution supporting the current location of the "Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Center" on the third floor of the Julius A. Stratton 23 Student Center.

The amendment to the GSC constitution will not affect the election of graduate students who are elected annually in April.

Preliminary results of a survey conducted by the GSC on Registration Day Jan. 31 indicate that... (Please turn to page 15)