A primer on the...

Student Life Fee

If you’re an undergraduate...

You already pay it, but you don’t have a say as to how much you pay.

You pay it in three parts: First, $9 per term comes out of your tuition to support campus-wide events and student activities. Second, the Athletic department charges $20 from each student for an athletic card. Third, $3.50 per term comes from tuition, gets sent to the Deans of the five Schools (Engineering, HASS, etc.), which they then provide to support the Course Evaluation Guide.

Because administrators set tuition, the cost of Athletic cards, and MIT’s budget, students don’t control the overall amount that gets collected from them and used for these student activities, events, and services.

The point of the Student Life Fee is to give undergraduates control over how much they pay.

It doesn’t have to cost you any more money.

The idea is to transfer the first part (student activities) and the third part (the Course Guide) out of tuition, where students have no control over how much (or how little) they pay, and place it into a charge collected through the Bursar’s Office that students do control. For the second part, the idea is to make athletic programs and facilities available to all undergraduates without the hassle of athletic cards and to eliminate the temptation for people without cards to sneak past security or “borrow” a friend’s card.

You will be voting on the Student Life Fee Referendum on April 23 and 24 (Thursday and Friday).

Look for upcoming ads, pamphlets, and visitors.
Call 253-2696 or send email to slf@athena.