Rush Complete at Some ILGs; For Others, More Work Ahead

By Reaven M. Lerner

Independent living groups appear to be enjoying a moderately successful rush this year, and by last night some houses had at least as many pledges as they had hoped to find, according to Clearinghouse data as well as information obtained by The Tech.

But a large number of houses were far below expected pledge totals as of yesterday afternoon. Rush chairs at most of these living groups remained optimistic that they would approach their goals, however, saying that they were waiting to hear from a number of freshmen.

Many added that while fewer freshmen had visited their houses this year, the freshmen were of “higher quality” than those in previous years.

According to Clearinghouse data from yesterday afternoon, after over one full day of pledging, some houses — Alpha Delta Phi, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji), Phi Kappa Sigma, Phi Kappa Theta, and the Women’s Independent Living Group — were below 50 percent of their goal. A number of rush chairs refused to confirm the statistics, but refused to deny the validity of the data.

These same data showed two other houses, Delta Phi (Number 6) and Tau Epilson Phi, were at about the halfway point as of last night. Delta Phi members had originally set a goal of 15 new members, but told The Tech last night they were seeking only nine.

A number of ILGs were already fully by yesterday afternoon, and several others declared themselves closed later in the day. Terway House and Zeta Beta Tau exceeded their rush goals by one person each, but told The Tech last night they were seeking only nine.

“Rush chairs interviewed last night were generally upset by the prospect that pledge numbers might be published, saying that the numbers were confidential,” Eric C. Neherly ’94, rush chair at Tau Epilson Phi, said that publishing those numbers was similar to “gas-

sipping,” and refused to comment further.

Downe agreed with these assessments, saying that the publication of pledge numbers as of yesterday afternoon was sent smoke billowing up to the fourth floor and further.

(Continued)

Frosh Professors Excited About Fall

By Eve May

In a week, freshmen will be fac-
ing their first lectures at MIT. The majority will be taking the required frosh core courses in mathematic-
s and the sciences. Meet the some of the professors who teach these classes:

3.091 Introduction to Solid State Chemistry, 3.091, “is fundamentally a chemistry course. We stress the chemistry of the solid state,” said Professor of Material Science and Engineering August E. Witt. Witt will teach the course the fall semes-
ter.

The first six or seven lectures “bring everybody to a common base,” Witt said. “Students who didn’t have chemistry shouldn’t have to be penalized. They have to work a little bit harder, but tradi-
tionally the students who didn’t have chemistry do, on average, at least as well, if not even better than the students who did have chemistry.”

In addition to teaching the theory of topics such as atomic structures, crystal structures, and reactions of solids with the environment, Witt will also spend the last 5 to 10 min-
utes of each class introducing differ-
tent applications to the problem.

Some topics he wants to stress include magnetic materials, super-
conductors, infrared systems, silicon systems, polymers, new develop-
ments in processing, and high tem-
perature systems.

Witt said he wants to show “the relevance of the theory in daily life, in research, and in technology, to make chemistry relevant in the eyes of those who don’t see it.”

“One of the things I would like to do is to make better use of the Athena network. Athena can help us communicate better.”

Athena will be used to help in third-year factorization in crystallography, as well as with homework assignments, lecture summaries, and the class schedule. They are also in “the

Queer Elsewhere

By Eve May

There’s been a lot of publicity about the Elsewhere Lounge, an escape from Residence/Orientation Week on the fifth floor of the Student Center.

But on the other side of campus is another Elsewhere, called Queer Elsewhere.

Queer Elsewhere was acted “in response to a heightened level of homophobia during rush,” said Joseph A. Potenza ’93. Queer Elsewhere is a “safe place where gay and lesbian students who are proud of their identity and who are not afraid to support other gay and lesbian students can be comfortable.”

Queer Elsewhere is not exclusive, but it is a place where gay and lesbian students can get away from homophobia.

The staffs at Queer Elsewhere can also act as a go-between for freshmen and living groups that may be interested in rush.

“Freshmen feel they can’t say they are gay because of the pressure,” Potenza said.

Rush “definitely makes you more homophobic,” said C. Lindwe Emuogu ’93, adding that freshmen feel the need to fit in and make new friends during this time.

There is an extreme pressure by fraternities and sororities during rush toward heterosexuality and gender roles.

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