Talks Underway to Add Outside Cable Networks

**Cable, from Page 1**

... students would like to purchase it, and the price is reasonable, it will be available," Lippert said. Outside cable has already been installed in test locations around campus including the SCC 24-Hour Coffeeshop, Kresge Auditorium, 26-100, 10-250, the Bates Theater and the lobby of the Sloan Building.

New MIT Center to Probe Nature of Human Learning

**Grant, from Page 1**

Laboratory, the Department of Linguistics and Philosophy, and representatives of parallel computer manufacturers, such as Thinking Machines, Inc. Biaz, said that involving Thinking Machines Inc. is a "novelty for MIT," but "makes sense" because they use several MIT professors as consultants.

The goals are to use the advances in high performance computers in combination with some of the recent advances people at MIT have made in understanding learning both at the cognitive level, biological level, and the computational level," Biaz said.

"The aim is really to understand learning from the level of molecules all the way up to higher cognitive abilities," he said. "New researchers will actually produce hardware based upon what they learn, he continued.

According to Berwick, the center will have four major projects. The first is to look at new algorithms for learning — researchers will be looking for a connection between neural network systems and mathematics. The second objective will be to see if these algorithms relate to biological control, motor control, and visual perception. The third project will be to study higher levels of cognitive ability, including language and face recognition. And the fourth goal is the production of computer chips that will be able to include learning methods.

The center will coordinate projects linking existing research with other foundations. We definitely plan to expand on it," Berwick said.

Developing the new center

Berwick said that ideas for this type of center have been developing over the last few years. A meeting last January "served as a springboard," he said.

The NSF grant of $3 million will be spread out over a five-year period. "We plan to build on that through a number of sources, mostly other foundations. We definitely plan to expand on it," Berwick said. The NSF gave similar grants to five other institutions around the country to develop new technologies for the next century.

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