Tong Criticizes Media

Tong, from Page 1

Mariell law was imposed soon after Gorbachev left, and troops moved into Tiananmen Square two weeks later. "The government's response delegitimized the central government as the masters of the [Chinese] people," said Tong. "Repression [by the government] is nothing new," Tong said. Though some government officials may have sympathized with pro-democracy movements before 1989, prison factories and torture and forced labor policies existed then and still exist today, Tong said.

American policy criticized

Tong criticized American policy toward China, noting that then-President Bush granted "most favored nation" trade status to China on June 2, 1989, without any conditions attached. The implied signal, he said, was that the US would "do business as usual."

One day later Chinese troops entered Beijing to suppress the peaceful demonstrations. He attributed the American attitude in part to Cold War politics in which the United States attempted to use China as a buffer against the USSR. He expressed hope that President Clinton would require that trade with China be contingent on human rights improvements. Tong also expressed concern that Clinton's campaign rhetoric would not transform into concrete policies. Tong also criticized the media's ignorance of the situation in China at the time. Tong said that only the coincidental timing of Gorbachev's visit catapulted the Chinese demonstrations and government atrocities to the world stage. He cited the naming of Dong as Time magazine's "Man of the Year" twice as a sign of the media's ignorance of China's state of affairs.

Tong expressed hope for the future, saying "China is going to change — China is changing — and the change will come from within." Many of the "old guard" is dying off, he said. He emphasized that "external factors" can and should "play a positive role" in promoting reform in China.

Tong answers questions

After the talk, Tong was asked whether countries should do business with China. He replied that if countries attach conditions to trade, and follow guidelines like the Miller principles, which are analogous to the Sullivan principles formulated to guide dealings with South Africa, business would be acceptable.

Tong fielded a question about Chinese occupied Tibet, which he said was a politically sensitive situation about which there was little agreement among his colleagues. Self-determination is an ideal, he said, but may be difficult to apply because Tibetans are a minority in their own land as a result of recent Chinese immigration policies.

MIT/Lincoln Connect to Net

Fiber, from Page 1

Laboratories is known for its ability as a system integrator. Finally, MIT professors view the project in terms of its long range effects and possibilities, Kennedy said.

Fiber hard to connect

Lincoln Laboratories will soon be connected to the test bed, but it may take longer for MIT to become connected. There is already fiber optic cable underground from MIT to Lincoln Laboratories. But MIT is still negotiating with the New York and New England Telephone Company to try to use this cable. As it is, the cable has termination equipment on it. Just like other conventional communication lines, this cannot take advantage of the full capabilities of the fiber optic cable. The Institute wants permission to get at the fiber optic cable itself.

The phone companies feel that those lines are there for commercial use and to make money, not for research, "Kennedy said.

Meanwhile, Columbia University in New York City and Bellcore are working on a smaller fiber optic network which also has applications for a national information highway.

Biomedical Program Starts

Biomedical engineering, from Page 1

Richard J. Cohen PhD '76, Professor of Chemical Engineering Robert S. Langer Jr. '74, and Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Alan J. Grossinsky '69.

The biomedical engineering program is expected to hold a symposium on New Technologies in Health Care in 1994 to foster links with commercial firms in the health care industry.

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