Huntington Hall Expected to be Ready by Fall

Dorms, from Page 1

the main campus and being in the city, while still having the convenience of a small town, security, and a college environment.”

Nevertheless, the administration is anticipating that the distance from campus might discourage some students from choosing Huntington Hall, and the Institute will sell monthly combination bus and subway T-Passes at half price—approximately $24 per month—to residents, according to Smith. In addition, a permanent Safe Ride stop will be added at the dormitory.

Whether students can park at Huntington Hall has yet to be determined. While there is a small parking lot behind the dormitory, MCA students are not allowed to park there, said Diana Glencon, secretary of housing at MCA. There is no security in the parking lot, which is only surrounded by a wire fence, and MCA doesn’t “want to have to deal with a lot of students’ cars on campus,” she added.

Eisenmann said there may be limited parking available. There is also some on-street parking, Smith added.

Day-to-day living arrangements

The rooms at Huntington Hall, measuring 9’x12’ feet, are intended as doubles, but will serve as large singles for MIT students. There are 30 rooms per floor on each of the five floors.

 Included are a bed, desk, chair, and closet. The furnishings are “adequate,” but “the standard is certainly no higher than MIT,” Smith said.

There is one pay phone per floor, and there are no personal phones in the rooms. The communications officer is currently looking into the costs of installing phones in individual rooms, as well as the possibility of bringing Athena to the dormitory, according to Smith.

There is currently no kitchen at Huntington Hall, although a small facility may be added later. Students may also opt to eat at the MCA dining hall, at $19.85 per year for 19 meals per week.

The neighborhood

Huntington Hall is officially in Roslindale. Nearby are Wentworth Institute of Technology, Massachusetts College of Art, Northeastern University, Harvard Medical School, Simmons College, and Emmanuel College.

With so many students living in the area, the crime rates are not out of the ordinary, according to a Roxbury Police Officer. There haven’t been any problems of students being harassed, but, “like any other resident you have your problems” with crime, he said.

There is a 24-hour security guard and security cameras at the dormitory, she added. These security measures will continue to be provided by MCA, according to Eisenmann.

However behind the dormitory is also the Mission Hill Projects, according to Glencon. “We advise students not to go back there,” she said, although the added that there have not been any serious problems recently.

The most frequent crimes involve motor vehicles and stereo equipment stolen from them, according to the police officer.

Dorm to relieve overcrowding

“We knew for a long time we were going to have trouble housing everybody,” Smith said. After admitting record numbers of students in recent years, the Institute decided to both reduce the number of admissions as well as look for other housing alternatives.

Led by Immernor, a group of MIT administrators started looking for a new dormitory site last spring. The Huntington Avenue site was seriously considered by June.

Most of the other potential dormitory sites were either in worse physical condition or could not have contracts negotiated in time for the fall term, Smith said. The Institute also looked at hotels as an option, he added.

For the 1992-1993 academic year, there were about 226 undergraduates in crowded dormitory rooms, Smith said. Twenty undergraduates were also housed in Westgate. This year’s goal is 165 crowds.

But, without including rooms in Huntington Hall, there are more unassigned people than beds available, he added.

Currently, there are not enough unassigned undergraduates, such as transfer students and students who have taken time off, to fill the rooms available at Huntington Hall, according to Smith.

“Until the incentives we have provided do not result in a large enough change in occupancy, we may have to move by some students who would normally be assigned to other dormitories. We do not expect that this will happen and hope that it will not, but if it does, we will notify you of any change of your fall dorm assignment immediately,” according to the memorandum.

Some alternatives may be to house freshmen or graduate students in the new dorm, if they choose to live there.

Above: Wentworth Institute of Technology’s name for 620 Huntington Avenue was Baker Hall. Below: An empty room awaits students at Huntington Hall.

There is currently a committee studying how to achieve a more stable admission and dormitory situation, Smith said. He added that MIT is close to reaching a decision to build another dormitory within the next few years.

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Widnall Experienced With Military Boards

Widnall, from Page 1

served in the Air Force, she has been an advisor on various military boards. These include: Chairman of the Air Force Academy’s board of visitors, member of the military air lift committee of National Defense Transportation Association, member of the National Academy of Sciences’ Panel on Scientific Responsibility and the Conduct of Research, the first director of university research at the U.S. Department of Transportation, and advisor on aeronautical systems at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton Ohio.

Widnall was also the fifth woman president of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences. As president and chairman of A.A.S., she testified on numerous occasions to Congressional committees dealing with issues of research, science education, and research faculty funding.

Back at MIT, Widnall has also been a strong force in these issues. As associate provost since January, 1992, Widnall has dealt with the issues of MIT’s policies and procedures for promotion and tenure policies, a study on mandatory faculty retirement, MIT’s international relationships, and the Council on Federal Relations.

Widnall also had a strong interest in academic integrity at MIT, both with students and researchers. She was a member of the Committee on Discipline and supported the idea of having an honor code for students.

She was also the first woman faculty chairman at MIT.

As an engineer, Widnall also taught at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She was the first alumni appointed to the faculty in the School of Engineering, and received the 1986 Abby Rockefeller Mauze Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics Award.

In addition, Widnall is internationally known for her expertise in fluid dynamics, specifically in the areas of aircraft turbulence and velocities created by helicopters. She also holds two patents, one of which is an aerodynamic device for either water or air craft.

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