President, Speakers Welcome Freshmen

By Eric Richard

The Class of 1997 was welcomed to MIT, warned of the rigors of MIT life, and inspired to achieve by President Charles M. Vest, Professor Arthur C. Smith, dean for undergraduate education and student affairs, and yesterday's convocation speeches in Kresge Auditorium.

Vest, the first to congratulate the students, the leaders to celebrate their diversity, saying: Don't be afraid of your differences, but acknowledge them. Don't try to erase them; learn from them. Men and women together create a more balanced discourse and world view.

With each speaker giving his own personal advice to the Class of 1997, the new students were urged to reap all they could from their experiences at MIT and told that while MIT may seem trying at times it will prove to be an enormous benefit. In the end their experiences would serve you well. Vest added that while the next four years will be rigorous and full of pressure, "After you've gone through this remarkable place, you will know that you can do virtually anything."

By Eric Richard

Frosh Break the Ice at MOYA

By Peter Y. Park

Freshmen jumped right into the third annual Project Move Off Your Assumptions yesterday afternoon. MOYA leaders, who were eagerly awaiting them on Kresge Oval, then brought them to the athletic fields for the activities.

The freshman class form the numerals '97' in their class lap sit as a part of Project MOYA. Over 1,000 people participated in the lap sit. Other activities included trust-falls, cat and mouse, electric fence, and name games. These activities were designed to promote trust and cooperation among the new class.

MOYA Leades

Marcy Ammer '97 was less enthusiastic, commenting that the subgroups had too few people.

Mike Marganzo '97 described it by saying, "I was just so stimulated.""Debystralization was a concern because of the heat," Masiulewicz said. But the freshman class form the numerals '97' in their class lap sit as a part of Project MOYA.

By Eva May

Widnall Sworn In As Air Force Head

The Senate confirmation took place Aug. 5 — one day before closing session. The Senate Armed Services Committee approved her nomination earlier that week.

Widnall is currently traveling and will start her duties in Washington when she returns next week, according to Cook.

A committee to search for a new associate provost at MIT has yet to be appointed.

Widnall has never served in the Air Force, she has been on various military boards. Widnall was also the first woman president of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences. As president and chairman of AAAS, she testified on numerous occasions to Congressional committees dealing with issues of research, science education, and research faculty funding.

At MIT Widnall has also been a strong force in these issues. As associate provost since January 1992, she 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 signed an interesting in academic integrity at MIT, both with students and researchers. She was a chairwoman of the Committee on Discipline and supported the idea of having an honor code for students. She was also the first woman to chair the faculty.

At an engineering, Widnall also holds many distinctions. She was the first alumna appointed to the faculty in the School of Engineering, and received the 1986 Abby Rockefeller Muzaffar Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics Award.

In addition, Widnall is internationally known for her expertise in fluid dynamics, specifically in the area of aircraft turbulence and vortexes 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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