On Nov. 12, members of Lambda Chi Alpha vandalized the Tau Epsilon Phi fraternity house and painted a homophobic slur on the sidewalk. Apparently, members of LCA were angry because TEP had painted over some of the Smoot markings on the Harvard Bridge. While neither fraternity was blameless for this incident, they are both fraternities that have been involved in activities offensive to the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community. The LCA brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha apologize to the members of the MIT community for the action of vandalism taken against the Tau Epsilon Phi fraternity. LCA would also like to apologize to the lesbigay community at MIT for the insensitive actions of some of our brothers. LCA does not condone, support, or endorse any actions taken by the brothers of LCA that may be offensive to the IFC or any other student group. The brothers of LCA recognize that the actions taken were incorrect and, in hindsight, not consistent with the values and beliefs of many of the members of the community. We realize that such behavior is unacceptable and exhibits that we have failed to respect the fact that at the core of any community is the need to be maintained and protected. Measurable steps are being taken to discipline the individuals involved and we intend to work with the Office of MIT to investigate and implement a sensitivity training program addressing the delicate issues mentioned above.

Nehelah H. Mehrdehd '94
for the brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha

TEP Graffiti Must Be Publicly Addressed

The Tech received a copy of this letter addressed to several administrators, including President Charles M. Vest:

On Nov. 12, members of Lambda Chi Alpha broke into and entered the house of Tau Epsilon Phi. The brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha fraudulently removed TEP's basement door and then proceeded to vandalize the house. They spread the five and one-half tons of waste around the kitchen and left a bag of insects in one of the rooms. The LCA brothers also defaced the sidewalk in front of the house with the homophobic slogan. "TO TEP " 33 N was written in spray paint. This act disproportionately affected the homosexual and bisexual members of our MIT community. The definition of hate speech and vandalism is not the same. The president of Lambda Chi Alpha publicly admitted that members of his fraternity were responsible for the incident. LCA made a monetary settlement with TEP for the property damage, but has made no public apology for the blatant homophobic nature of the action. The LCA campus and has harbored many largely ignored actions of the LCA brothers, viewing the incident merely as a clash of fraternal views. LCA's attack on TEP was not a harmless prank—it was a premeditated act of vandalism. The painting of a homophobic slur is an offensive act that is not protected by the First Amendment. We demand that the MIT administration, in its student affairs, and Lambda Chi Alpha publicly address the homophobia and the ways in which this attack should not be tolerated. The MIT community, gay, lesbian, and bisexual students at MIT, and how each of these organizations can take steps to rectify this incident and deal with the homophobia on the MIT campus. Hopefully, all of the recommendations will be implemented and will make such incidents rare.

Teresa W. Lau '95
Political Coordinator
Gay, Lesbians
Bisexuals and Friends at MIT
Kristen K. Nummendor '94
General Chair
Gays, Lesbians, and Others

On Nov. 12, 1993, students attacked the homosexual and bisexual members of the community. We realize that the actions taken were, at best, insensitive to individuals involved and we intend to work with the appropriate

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