Summit Examines Roles of Academia, Government in Industrial Development

Leaders in industry, academia, and government converged on Cambridge in early September for a weekend of discussions on industrial development, billed as the Industry Summit.

The summit, organized by the World Economic Forum and MIT, brought more than 500 corporate and government leaders from over 50 countries to attend working sessions in 11 different areas.

Mingling from this group were several of the biggest names scheduled to attend the summit. At the last minute, United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali canceled his speaking engagement at Sunday's cling session.

President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore also could not attend because they were traveling to promote Gore's new plan for government and bureaucratic reform.

The guest list nevertheless remained impressive; U.S. government leaders included Massachusetts Governor William F. Weld, Senator John F. Kerry (D-Mass.), and Federico Peña, secretary of transportation.

The summit began on Sept. 9, with the first of three plenary sessions chaired by MIT President Charles M. Vest and Klaus Schwab, founder and president of the WEF. Plenary sessions on ecological governance and the effects of the technology on a global scale were held on Sept. 11 and Sept. 12, respectively.

Summits activists participated in programs for one of 11 separate industries: automotive, computer, telecommunications, financial services, food and agriculture, health, information technologies, media and communications, mining and metals, textile trade, and transportation and logistics.

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By providing opportunities for new and renewed intellectual dialogue between our faculty and corporate leaders, this meeting will help to ground our relevant teaching and research programs with the world of practice, and will reinforce our rapidly emerging strength in the industrial sector and our long tradition of cross-disciplinary and policy-oriented scholarship.

President Charles M. Vest

In March, President Charles M. Vest was appointed to head the Space Station Design Review Panel. The committee presented two redesigns to the Clinton Administration by June.

The panel submitted redesign options for Space Station Freedom, which was being developed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The committee was charged with recommending ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of NASA's space program, specifically the safety of the station, and help lower national space policy goals. In the report, the government between $6 to $10 billion.

The panel included experts in government, industry, and academia from all over the country.

On June 10, the panel suggested two proposals for the mission's rendezvous system. The committee was asked to recommend ways of making the station self-sufficient, which allowed for the station to be inhabitable by the year 2000 or 2001 and maintained for 10 to 15 years after its completion.

The committee acknowledged that their proposals do not fully meet the desired cost reductions. "The ultimate cost of a space station and its operations will be minimized only if Congress and the Administration make a firm commitment to the

EVA MOY

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April 22

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Various world leaders participate in the opening plenary of The Industry Summit organized by the World Economic Forum and MIT.

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program and provide stable funding," the committee reported.

The committee recommended Option A and Option C. Option A presented a smaller station design derived from the original plans for Freedom. This option had larger capability and cost itself to "modular build up," according to the report. Option C proposed a new single-launch design, possessing the lowest risk and cost but the lowest cost as well.

Among the other recommendations made by the committee was an increase in the angle of the station from the ground, the increase, nearly two years after the original plans, would ensure safety and flexibility of launch, as well as guarantee the "redundancy of launch and assured crew return vehicles." The early proposal angle would allow access to many space faring nations.

This change, however, would increase the cost of the plan from $100 million to $300 million.

They also suggested the use of expendable rockets such as the US Titan IV, rather than the Space Shuttle as previously planned, to lift the heaviest space station elements into space.

April 24

The men's rugby team wins the eastern regional championship in Philadelphia. The team beats Columbia Medical School and Uniformed Services University to finish the season at 14-1.

April 25

A student is robbed at gunpoint on Memorial Drive near Building 1. The 12:30 a.m. robbery left the thief $10. The student is not hurt.

April 26

Popeye, Walt 5. Wrighton announced that only one formal complaint had been filed against Associate Dean James W. Tewey during his tenure and that complaint was found to be without merit.

April 26

Students voice their concerns about the SI- kay committee's calendar proposal at a UA Council meeting.