Letters To The Editor

Recruitment of Minority Students Gives Blased View of Reality

The spectacle of MIT administrators beating their chests in anguish because of the paucity of underrepresented minorities here is becoming a regular feature for The Tech. Your article on minority graduate student enrollment ("MIT Unchanged in Minority Ph.Ds.", Feb. 3) is again replete with quotes. "If there are any excellent students of color out there, we ought to be able to attract them," enthuses Paul Allee, associate dean of the Graduate School. Beautiful sentiment, but unfortunately the commonly sought PhD is in education. Is Colbert proposing that we start an education school?

Clarence Williams, special assistant to the president and assistant equal opportunity officer, he has everybody in departments, but they aren't properly administered. "The problem lies in departments that make the decisions." Would the problem be fixed if departments accepted every minority student who applied?

Apparently not, Colbert returns to claim. Society is at fault. He says: "Do not put [sec- ondary school] students to math, science, engineering." If these are such great careers, how come Colbert himself has chosen paper shuffling? When he is singing the praises of "hardwork" to a high school class and one of the students asks him what happens after graduate school, do you think that he mentions that there are about 750 applicants for every engineering position in MIT? He doesn't. He says: "Why should I believe that there is a future for a black student at MIT?" But it is ridiculous to ask a black student if there is a future for him at MIT. Colbert is an Albert Shanker for MIT.

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OPINION

Stevenson Mistaken

In Praises of Rushdie

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APPENDIX

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Scott Stevenson, or with previous criminal records)." Frankly, although the living conditions may be similar, I doubt that prison is a common system (i.e., either imprisoned, under indictment, or in jail). I would like to bring the argument presented in "In Defense of Blasphemy" (Counterpoint, Jan. 24, 1994) to a more constructive level by clarifying my position and pointing out three major flaws in Daniel C. Stevenson's column in "The Tech Word," not Martin, Deserves Respect," Feb. 8).

First, Stevenson not only incorrectly asserts that I have a "profound misunderstanding of speech codes. An example of a speech code is freedom, but I am vehemently opposed to any system that unduly or excessively limits free expression, as they should be. Third, Stevenson repeatedly mistakes me for a "the" in his column. Although I've raised to do.

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