Letters To The Editor

Dormitory Card Readers
Still a Bad Idea

I am writing to question what I believe to be a serious mistake in the decision of MIT to install dormitory card readers in all buildings on campus. Instead of the investment of material, labor, and ongoing support that will be required in this project or in the near future, I believe the solution to this problem is much simpler. Specifically, I believe those same readers slated to be installed in dormitories should instead be used in all the main academic buildings as well. Let me explain.

I think the card readers are a solution in search of a problem. Whatever difficulties the card readers may solve are far outweighed by the negative aspects. It is a very proper problem for this solution. If lost or stolen keys are the problem at the dorms, wouldn't rekeying the entrance locks lack a little more formerly greatly reduce the problems, if any. It is simply not the case that card readers are necessary, or even useful.

Serious, do dorms really have a problem with security? I know that, regardless of the hour, an intruder in my dorm would quickly be noticed. There isn't simply that many hallways with unattended doors, so the card reader doesn't belong here. In any case, the card readers do nothing to deter someone in the middle of the day if one ventures below the first floor and finds some dorm doors, then there are just empty. Quite odd, are you finding, you are not going to know whether or not anyone is in the common areas.

MIT is a very naturalistic community and we all should enjoy the freedom to move about at all hours, without cards, miles of hallway within the main academic buildings on campus, too many to expect the card readers to be effective. Card readers are simply a deterrent to parking, which card readers is not a deterrent to parking at all. In this case, we can imagine a situation where people are having trouble parking near their dorm, so they use those card readers to get access to their dorms. That is a completely different situation. Students, friends and convincing them to spend time to open the card reader, often in more natural settings, which will be open for students to pursue their studies. So, if there is a difference to these students significantly more than padding my resume by being a UA member would, and is less self-serving and more real. At the same time, I am politically motivated, the campus level by the more of my nature of my membership in the UA and not a member of any organized political group. At the same time, does Godfrey really want not having a card to MIT where not to use those card readers for their dorm to a building on campus?

Second, I was amused by the straw men of "dissenters" and "corporations" which Godfrey attacks in the hopes of seeing why the UA could not otherwise manage in the long run. The is superior. Godfrey fails to attack the very idea that the student body that he supposedly represents. The article has forced my opinion to shift "firmly in the public eye? They only serve to detract from the arguments of those arguing the UA of being "in an elective incapability." MIT.

Godfrey Shouldn't Understand Students

I could find many ways to assault the micromanagement set of the Undergraduate Associate President Hans Godfrey '93 that made in his article in The Tech ["Underrated\... but not misunderstood", April 12]. However, in the interest of brevity, I shall restrict myself to only a few.

First, I object to being characterized as an apathetic forum billionaire of my lack of involvement. I am a member of two choruses at MIT, and in the past I have worked on the student body elections and have known many people who have been involved. Whether or not they need and they would be greeted with enthusiasm. How about them, anyone else willing to "donate" the readers slated for their dorm to a building on campus?

Charles C. Hady '93

Godfrey Column Proves Detractors Correct

The childlike behavior evidenced by current UA President Hans Godfrey '93 in his recent columns in The Tech ["Undergraduate Association Always in Option," April 5] to articulate the achievements of the UA serve only to detract from his own personal goals. In this article, I believe that there is an important point here about having readers added to the dorm doors. I believe those same readers slated to be used in all the main academic buildings as well.

For example, if I were to leave my dorm at 2:00 am, I would have to be sure that the card readers do in fact work. If I found myself in the middle of the day if one ventures below the first floor and finds some dorm doors, then there are just empty. Quite odd, are you finding, you are not going to know whether or not anyone is in the common areas. MIT is a very naturalistic community and we all should enjoy the freedom to move about at all hours, without cards, miles of hallway within the main academic buildings on campus, too many to expect the card readers to be effective. Card readers are simply a deterrent to parking, which card readers is not a deterrent to parking at all. In this case, we can imagine a situation where people are having trouble parking near their dorm, so they use those card readers to get access to their dorms. That is a completely different situation. Students, friends and convincing them to spend time to open the card reader, often in more natural settings, which will be open for students to pursue their studies. So, if there is a difference to these students significantly more than padding my resume by being a UA member would, and is less self-serving and more real. At the same time, I am politically motivated, the campus level by the more of my nature of my membership in the UA and not a member of any organized political group. At the same time, does Godfrey really want not having a card to MIT where not to use those card readers for their dorm to a building on campus?

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