Students Welcome New UROP Money

$1 Million Infusion Saves Summer UROPs

By Ramy A. Arnaout

Students are welcoming MIT's announcement that it will infuse the financially strapped Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program with $1 million to help defray the increased overhead costs for summer UROPs.

"The money 'should be adequate to maintain the program for the summer of 1994,'" said Provost Mark S. Wrighton. The infusion will help bridge the funding gap produced by a change in government regulations that will effectively double UROP costs after July 1.

Students expect the $1 million to ease the financial strain that might otherwise keep mentors from hiring UROPers, thus making UROPs easier to find.

Students are thankful for the added summer funding, but many are skeptical about how they will cope when the added funds run out this fall.

Effects already being felt

"I think [the infusion] is a good thing," said Lawrence W. Chang '97. "I've been searching for a UROP in this area, and a lot of professors are concerned about the change in policy."

"The $1 million will help, but it still seems kind of silly, since this government policy is hitting the wrong people," Chang said.

"I'm really happy because I didn't think I would get paid at all," said Shelly-Ann N. Davidson '97, who found a UROP on the day the new funding was announced.

"I didn't think I would be getting a UROP at all because the only way I could [afford to work] was if I got paid," Davidson said. The infusion has a special, immediate importance for students who use UROPs as a primary source of income over the summer, she said.

"Although I don't know whether or not my hiring had to do with the extra money now available for UROPs, I did feel more at ease knowing that funding for UROPs isn't as tight as it would have been otherwise," said Gregory G. Richardson '97.

"There seems to be a big problem when you're looking for a UROP because [few] at least professors say he has to see whether he will have enough money," said Eurec Y. Kim '97.

"From the people I've talked to, that seems to be the case, so I think it's great that we're getting funding," Kim said. "I'm just sorry it won't be around for the full term, UROP, Page 12

MIT Design Team Wins Contest

By A. Erv Holain

A four-member MIT design team placed first in the Eighth Annual District One Engineering Design Competition held last weekend at Virginia University in Northfield, Vermont. The team, sponsored by the MIT chapter of Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, included Cyrus P. Master '97, Mark D. Rentz '96, Aaron Q. Rogers '96, and Tan T. Trinh '96.

The other teams were from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, the University of Maine at Lowell, the University of New Hampshire, and Norwich University.

Participants were given a design problem where they had to determine the necessary size of a landfill for a growing population given a list of constraints, said E. Terrace Jean-Fre J. Cher '95. They also had to propose a location for the landfill on a topological map of Northfield, he said. The problem was created by a civil engineering professor at Norwich University.

Teams were given four hours to discuss the situation and prepare a 15 minute presentation.

"We had to calculate how much garbage we had to deal with," Master said.

The Weather

Today: Sunny, warm, 70°F (21°C)

Tonight: Fair, 59°F (15°C)

Tomorrow: Cloudy, breezy

Details, Page 2

Students Step Down As OME Head by Sept.

By Sarah Y. Keightley

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

After more than four years at the Institute, Judy Jackson, director of the Office of Minority Education, will be resigning from her position by September. She intends to pursue a PhD in higher education administration. The position views large scale cases of software piracy, whether for profit or not, as serious crimes and will devote such resources as are necessary to protect those rights.

Jackson's accomplishments as OME's programs, such as new communications technologies encourage. It sponsors legal cases where online civil liberties have been violated, but has not indicated whether such resources as are necessary to protect those rights.

Jackson expanded programs

Jackson's accomplishments as OME director include expanding OME's programs, such as the tutoring services, Project Intershape, and Program Excel. She has also improved relations with industry, providing more opportunities for minority students, according to Vest and Smith.

Jackson hopes that her successor will try to improve the current programs and develop new programs.

Minority education is not an afterthought or something extra. It's an integral part of an MIT education, and we have shown that with Jackson, Page 13