One month ago in this space, we asked the Campus Police for help in reforming the campus card system. We received a number of responses from both the administration and the student community, as well as some of the otherwise nebulous perceptions of campus crime. To help solve this problem, the Campus Police have taken a noteworthy step with the creation last month of an electronic mailing list designed to keep rumbling the MIT community informed about crime on campus.

In the near future, students and faculty will be notified of crime incidents, and will likely add themselves to the list, which those who are not aware of such issues may not know about the list or choose not to add themselves to it. Yet, these are the very steps that can be taken to request that the administration consider the adoption of a new system.

And while MIT students may pride themselves on their technical prowess, not all students read or check their e-mail regularly, and not all the people who should be notified of crime concerns have e-mail access. Therefore, while electronic mail can be an integral component of a communication system, a new system could be implemented to the mailing list as the remedy to all of their communications problems.

How should the Campus Police better communicate about campus safety issues? Posters in living rooms are unlikely to reach infrequent living groups or students living in apartments, let alone faculty and staff. Another possibility, interdepartmental mail, is sometimes slow and is notoriously inefficient for communicating information to ILG residents.

In a remarkable drawback, the electronic bulletin system currently represents an opportunity for improving communication with ILG residents. The Campus Police should also explore other methods, perhaps coordinated through the regular and frequent activities of the Interfraternity Council, to improve the likelihood that important crime information will reach ILG residents.

Electronic mail, posting, and interdepartmental mail all lack person-to-person communication. To remedy this thin and superficial e-mail bulletin, the Campus Police should seriously consider notifying graduate resident tutors about campus crime issues, possibly through the e-mail bulletin. Graduate resident tutors in the undergraduate dormitories have close connections to the 30 to 40 students they each advise. The tutors can easily communicate important crime and safety bulletins as part of their regular interaction with students. They are also more likely to regularly read their e-mail than some students and house masters, although house masters, house managers, and house fellows also have their own network of student contacts.

The occasional failure to be aware of our surroundings is an unfortunate consequence of our busy lives as MIT students, faculty, and staff. The open and urban nature of our campus demands that we recognize the limits of the Campus and Cambridge Police to absolutely protect us from the crime. The electronic bulletin is a first step to increasing awareness and thus safety, but further methods need to be implemented before the job is complete.

MIT Card: Plans to Improve Student Safety at Risk

Guest Column by Kathleen Misovec

Observing the trend of several recent administration decisions regarding life on the MIT Cam-

pus, one seriously begins to wonder if MIT will still be qualified to call itself an "Institute of Technology" in the near future. Some of these decisions cause only embarrassment and threaten only our reputation as one of the world's premier institutions for engineering design. For example, while it is desirable to have all buildings close by the end of the day, the decision to close Buildings 1 and 5 can swing open in the face of a controversy. The decision consider and act on student input on important decisions which affect student lives. The MIT Card is a picture ID with a magnetic strip similar to a bank card. The multi-

polar card functions as a key, an ID, and a cash card. The key functions as a non-identifiable magnetic strip card could be issued as a key and the MIT card could be separated into an identifying card and a cash card. The third purpose of this letter is to request that in the future the administration consider and act on student input on important decisions which affect student lives. The MIT Card is a picture ID with a mag-

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