Hobbs to Head Dean Search Committee

By Christopher L. Falling

LaMacchia's attorneys, and will make a decision on whether oral arguments made in the David Baker Foundation will advise Provost Mark S. Wrighton on the appointment of new deans for undergraduate education and student affairs.

By Ifung Lu

The Baker Foundation will review the upperclass advising system and set up an infrastructure to improve it this academic year, according to Arlby Kim '95, foundation chair.

The foundation is currently looking at whether undergraduates are being well advised by their academic advisors. To this end, they will conduct a survey this semester to next term to compile data which may shed some light on how students feel, Kim said.

“arz to get student opinion. They should feel them can speak up and make a difference... We're trying to get a feeling for the depth of the problem,” Kim said.

Kim hopes that the foundation will keep communication open to students, advisors, and department. They can learn from each other.

The foundation will make a list of contacts and resources available to students and advisors. Kim hopes to increase student awareness of what different departments offer to their students.

The Baker Foundation is a think tank comprised of an undergraduate committee advised by three faculty members. Kim said. In addition to their yearly teaching award honoring outstanding professors, the foundation has played a role in creating the advising associate system.

“ar is a lot of concern whether students are well-advised.” Kim said. “The system is not working because there is a lot of miscommunication between students and advisors,” she said. The support system can be improved, she added.

According to Kim, some students are unsure of the role of their advisor. Some think that advisors are just to sign registration forms, she said.

“ar’s advisors can be useful in other ways – to help you focus on a career path, to show options in a field, direct you to colleges, and advise you on post-MIT life,” Kim said.

In order to make advising more beneficial to students, the foundation hopes to establish a framework beneficial to students, the foundation said. We’re working on it, she added, referring to the recent formed Senior House East Action Campus Committee. It would give that committee more time to prepare a great system for students, she said.

Undergraduate housing.

“We need more time. If [Vest] is going to be waiting, that would be much to our benefit,” Richkus said. “We were worried that he would make the decision sooner.”

Other students had hoped the decision would be made until at least until around February; otherwise “there is no time,” said John S. Holliday '96, chair of the Undergrad.

Decisions on Future of Senior House Expected by End of IAP

By Jeremy Hyton

The administration will try to make a decision about who will live in Senior House because “the demand from the students is high for EECS types,” according to Arthur C. Smith, dean for undergraduate education and student affairs.

The intent to wait until the end of IAP was welcomed by some Senior House residents. Rebecca F. Richkus '97, a member of the recently formed Senior House-East Action Campus Committee, said it would give that committee more time to prepare a great system for students.

“At a certain point, we’re going to have to make a decision,” she said. “We haven’t gone out of our way to attract students other than that we have strong students and strong faculty and have continued that tradi
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While the enrollment is pleasing, the department might have trouble accommodating future increases, said. “I hope we stay about the same size in the future because if we get any bigger, we’re going to be stretched out.”

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Biological engineering and chemical engineering, both in the top five, saw enrollments similar to last year. The physics department fell by 20 percent compared to last year, while the Sloan School of Management more than doubled in majors.

The number of total registered students fell by 7 percent, according to the report.

Despite changes across departments, the distribution of majors between the School of Engineering and the School of Science remained the same. About 62 percent of sophomores declared engineering majors and 27 percent chose science majors. Only about 3 percent declared majors in the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.

ECEs, Biology popular

Three hundred sophomores, or 28 percent of the class, chose to major in ECEs, the most popular major for the last three years.

Course VI attracts so many students because “the demand from the outside is high for EECS types,” according to Professor of EECS Leonard A. Goodell '84, undergraduate officer for the department.

In addition, the Master's of Engineering degree program is “a very attractive way to go through as an undergraduate,” said.

The level of interest expressed by Course VI is not the result of a planned effort, said. “We haven’t gone out of our way to attract students other than that we have strong students and strong ada
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