Asian Group Holds Seminar on Violence

By David D. Hu

The Asian American Caucus, a new student group, sponsored a symposium on anti-Asian violence called "A Legacy of Isolated Incidents" on Sunday.

The symposium consisted of a workshop and a panel discussion that included three leaders who have dealt with cases of anti-Asian violence. As part of the discussion, Asian American Jose N. Suzuki, who talked about his personal experiences. In the workshops, led by the Asian community group SafeNet, participants discussed race riots of anti-Asian violence.

The Caucus sought to educate and reach out to the community through the symposium, according to founding member Pauline A. Hsieh.

"We wanted to learn more about anti-Asian violence," Hsieh said. "We've talked to people for all the different [MIT] organizations. One of our goals is community outreach."

The Caucus was generally pleased with the symposium. "The speakers were very exciting," said Wells W. Chen '95, another founding member. "We got a pretty comprehensive picture."

Assistant Dean of Residence and Campus Activities Mary M. L. Ni, a 1984 alumnus, advised the Caucus, said the symposium was about more than just Asian issues. "It was looking at violence against people and misdirection."

Only about 25 people showed up for the symposium, which was fewer people than expected, Hsieh said. "The student body has been supportive, but the support hasn't manifested in bodies and people speaking out," she said.

Despite having over 50 people on their mailing list, the Caucus has had sparse attendance at meetings. "We need more input in order for us to be a cohesive voice," Hsieh said.

At the community activism, the Asian American Caucus was formed in the spring of 1994. Ni said. After the first student-produced "Intensively Obvious" minority issue videos, Ni felt that Asian input was needed. A group of students met and formed the Caucus, she said. The Caucus is aimed at community activism. "Our purpose isn't for cultural awareness or advancement," Hsieh said. "Our main goal is to increase awareness about cultural, political, and academic issues involving Asian Americans."

Members have been active in social issues concerning Asian Americans. During Residence and Orientation Week and Parents Weekend, the Caucus held a panel discussion on Asian American student life at MIT for parents, she said.

The group also helped with the new "Intelligently Obvious" course and directed a letter-writing campaign concerning an Asian discrimination case, Hsieh said.

The Caucus plans to continue its community service, Chen said. During Independent Activities Period, the Caucus will sponsor a film screening. In the future, they intend to hold more symposiums, build a network with Asian faculty, and meet with the administration.

"I think we're learning a lot of the students have never been here about. We're getting connected to the community," Chen said.

The team, led by Assistant Director of the Campus Activities Complex Karen A. Nilsson, has already established ways to unify and simplify operations after interviewing many customers, she said.

The Ma group is redosing "out of date systems" involving a new centralized mail service with a manager, greater automation, and a "drastic office in the" campaign, said team captain David H. McMillian, manager of computer operations at Information Systems. The team is also looking to add to that robust security, electronic signatures, "work flow software" and "a bewildering cacophony of other projects," Bruce said.

The Community Involvement Team "works to communicate the re-engineering work to the community and to involve the community in the work of the team," Bruce said.

This group is responsible for communicating and helping the faculty, students, and staff understand the re-engineering program and soliciting and incorporating the views of the community.

Finboard Allocates Spring Funds

Finboard, from Page 1

Finboard's Spring budgeting process for student groups is complete. During the past few months, Finboard held budget request meetings for the many events open to the MIT community. While many active members and have many events open to the MIT community, in the process, Finboard has made a number of changes to how the budgeting process is handled.

This year, Finboard has made a number of changes to the budgeting process, including moving budget requests from the groups to Finboard each term, Kao said. Finboard then holds budget compilation meetings that last for several hours. After that, the groups submit their budgets to Finboard, and the controllers hold budget meetings to defend the budgets proposed to their group. Kao said.

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