Thistle ★ EXTRA! ★

Dean Tewhey Resigns!

Dean Tewhey resigned Tuesday afternoon amid charges of sexual harassment, incompetence and dishonesty [see article in this issue for details]. According to Ken Campbell, Director of the MIT News Office, Tewhey's resignation has been accepted by MIT Provost Mark Wrighton, and will take effect immediately. Associate Dean Robert Randolph will assume handling of disciplinary and harassment cases while Assistant Dean Andy Eisenmann sees to the day to day functions of the Residence and Campus Activities section. Tewhey's resignation cuts short a formal "evaluation" of his professional performance which was reportedly overseen by Institute Provost Mark Wrighton. Wrighton could not be reached for comment.

Community Reaction

President Charles Vest referred *the Thistle's* written questions to Ken Campbell.

Anne Tsao, UA President, declined to comment for the record, saying that the UA would probably issue a formal statement later in the week. Sources report that the UA is planning to participate in the search for Tewhey's replacement.

"Well, it's good news for harassment victims," said Mary Herndon of Peer Advocates Against Harassment. "It opens a window for MIT to finally do something about sexual harassment. I definitely think they should replace him with someone with a higher sensitivity and greater competence on this issue." Herndon continued, saying that "If the allegations are true of the abuses of power in his office, then Tewhey's resignation suggests that harassment cases should be handled by a central office where there isn't this sort of conflict of interest."

"It's good that he's gone, but this doesn't mean that problems of sexual harassment are over," commented Anne Russo of the Women's Studies department. "All the things that came out this week indicate that there were many layers of support and collusion within the administration. People in the administration knew about the problem for a long time but didn't move on it. Tewhey's resignation doesn't address the systemic nature of the problem," she added.

GSC President Anand Mehta said that "This resignation presents an opportunity for a new direction in the Dean's office. I was pleased with Mary Ni's appointment to the to the Assistant Dean's position. In my dealings with her I found her approachable, reliable, and concerned. Hopefully this trend started with the appointment of Susan Allen and Mary Ni will be will be continued through the choice of someone sincerely concerned with student needs for the Associate Dean's position."

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"Hopefully whoever takes his place will not have to start over from scratch," said Dale LeFebvre, an undergraduate resident of Chocolate City. "Because so many things in MIT's Harassment policy are unwritten, it is crucial to have someone who is aware of the precedents and what had gone on and can go on on this campus. Particularly in regard to the PBE incident he played an important role; even though the case has been turned over to the COD, he practically orchestrated the investigation. Whoever takes his place should have the experience necessary to act as effectively in the context of the current limited policy."

"If the allegations are true perhaps it would explain his vigor in pursuing sexual harassment cases," said Avik S. Roy of *Counterpoint*. "It's a surprise certainly. I hope that his successor is conscientious about the issue of free speech on campus and shares Dean Tewhey's concern for student life."

"God! I can't believe he's resigning, I thought he was being appointed to the Supreme Court," concluded Mary Herndon.