In this, its seventeenth year, the Council exercised the patience requested of it by Provost John Deutch in response to the Report of the Committee to Review the Arts at MIT, while the Council staff carried out its usual array of activities.

Annual Meeting

The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Council took place on March 18. Chairman Jerome B. Wiesner introduced President Paul Gray to welcome Council members and then asked Provost John Deutch to present the Institute administration's response to the Report of the Committee to Review the Arts at MIT. (His presentation was substantially identical to the one he made to the Council's Executive Committee on December 17. The Minutes of that meeting are available separately.)

Stephen Inmerman, Director of Operations for the West Campus, described the ongoing renovation of the Stratton Student Center and pointed out the many internal space reconfigurations that will facilitate informal performing arts presentations.

After a box lunch in the atrium of the Wiesner Building and visits to the List Visual Arts Center galleries, the Council heard a discussion on creativity at MIT chaired by Associate Provost Samuel J. Keyser.

At mid-afternoon Council members adjourned to Elizabeth Parks Killian Hall, MIT's newly renovated music performance facility. There, Nancy Cavanagh, Administrative Officer of the Music and Theater Arts Section, described the transformation of the hall from the former Hayden Gallery into a concert space. Council members were entertained by a selection of student performances in puppetry, video, drama, and music, which had received funding from the Grants Program.

The 1988 Kepes Prize was presented, by Angus MacDonald '46, to C. Fayette Taylor, Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering, for his work in metal sculpture. Ida Rubin presented the 1988 McDermott Award to Council member Yulla Lipchitz for her work in photography. Marc Scheps, Director of the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, spoke in Yulla's honor at the Council's dinner, held at the Royal Sonesta Hotel, compliments of former Council member Roger Sonnabend '46.

Grants Program

This year, the Grants Committee, chaired by Bradford M. Endicott '49, received and evaluated 63 proposals from students, student groups, faculty, and staff, requesting a total of $104,689. Of these, 49 projects (78 percent of those submitted) were awarded $64,371 (61 percent of the amount requested). In addition, Council staff made five Officers' Grants for $985. A detailed report from the Grants Committee is available.

Substantial grants were awarded to the Student Art Association to purchase photographic equipment to bolster its popular basic photography courses, and to the MIT Music and Theater Arts Section in support of the year-long concert series "Composers in Recital," highlighting contemporary American composer/performers.

Publications

Four issues of the Council's calendar/newsletter, The Arts at MIT, were produced and distributed to a mailing list of 8,500 alumni, friends, faculty, staff, student groups, and other individuals.

The Arts Hotline, a weekly telephone announcement of all arts events taking place at MIT, was maintained for its fourth year.

Endowed Prizes and Awards

The Laya and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Awards were presented to Kirsten Hoyte '90 (Course XVII) for her contributions to the Dramashop, and to Julio Friedmann '88 (Course XXI) for his work in music and drama. The Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts was awarded to graduating senior Ellen Lin for her contributions to the MIT Symphony Orchestra and other music ensembles.

William M. Siebert, Ford Professor of Engineering, served as the Chairman of the Student Art Awards Selection Committee.
Independent Activities Period

During IAP, the Council again sponsored a very successful series called "ART: A User's Guide," which consisted of four arts field trips. Forty-five students attended a concert by the Boston Chamber Music Society, a tour of the exhibitions at the List Visual Arts Center, a production of August Wilson's "The Piano Lesson" by the Huntington Theater Company, and a performance of multicultural dance by choreographers Kei Takei and Uttara Coorlawala. Before each event, a faculty or staff member presented an informal lecture to illuminate the program; this year's guest speakers included Lowell Lindgren, Professor of Music, Dana Friis-Hansen, Assistant Curator of the Committee on the Visual Arts, and Robert Scanlan, Lecturer and Director of the Dramashop.

William L. Abramowitz Memorial Concert

The William L. Abramowitz Memorial Concert endowment provides funds for the Council to present a major performance event every 12-24 months. This year, on March 30, a near-capacity crowd filled Kresge Auditorium to hear the internationally acclaimed, Netherlands-based, 10-piece jazz ensemble, The Willem Breuker Kollektief.

In his review of the concert, published in The Tech, Mark Roman said:

[The Kollektief's] music is a manic and eclectic blend of folk music, blues, Tin Pan Alley, Broadway, the finest of collective improvisational jazz and Vaudeville—all rolled into a jazz concert that transcended the usual idea of a recital and moved more towards a piece of musical performance art.

Boston Museum of Fine Arts University Membership Program

For the eighth year, the Council funded MIT's participation in the MFA's University Membership Program which allows all MIT students to attend the Museum at no charge as frequently as they wish. This year's participation was made possible by special contributions from Bradford M. Endicott '49, and Bernard G. Palitz '47.

Institute of Contemporary Art Membership

Beginning this year, through the generosity of Ellen Poss, Boston psychiatrist and member of the board of the Institute of Contemporary Art, MIT students are now also able to attend the ICA at no charge and as frequently as they wish.

Programmatic and Technical Assistance

Council staff have continued to provide advice, ideas, research, and administrative support regarding the development of arts projects or organizations to MIT students, faculty, and staff. In particular, Mark Palmgren continued to assist a task group of the MIT Working Group on Support Staff Issues to develop a Support Staff Art Exhibition.

Development Activities

Most of the Council's funds for both its operating expenses and Grants Program continued to come from Council members and other donors. This year, 54 members made contributions averaging $4003 each, and 27 other donors contributed an average of $763 each.

Provost John Deutch announced to the Council's Executive Committee meeting on December 17 that the administration had accepted the recommendation of the faculty Review Committee that the Institute cover Council staff salaries and operating expenses, thus releasing all funds raised from and through the Council to support of programs. Later in the year, Provost Deutch authorized the contribution of $100,000 from general funds to the Council for FY89.

Gifts of Works of Art

Council members have regularly contributed works of art to the MIT Permanent Collection and to the Student Loan Collections. This year, Vera G. List contributed works by Jennifer Bartlett, Peter Bumels, Mary Frank, Ralph Humphrey, and Joel Shapiro to the Permanent Collection. To the List Student Loan Program, she gave works by Berenice Abbott, William Bailey, Susan Crile, Don Burdy, Eric Fischl, Mary Frank, Sergio Gonzalez-Tornerio, Judith Murray, and William Zimmerman. Mrs. List also established, by means of a generous cash gift, the Albert and Vera List Visual Arts Center Endowment for the Committee on the Visual Arts.

Ronald A. Kurtz '54 made a third gift of black and white photographs by Berenice Abbott: 176 to the Ronald A. Kurtz Student Loan Collection and 13 to the Department of Materials Science.
Membership

At the end of the year, Council membership stands at 84. Two Council members died during the year: James Killian (on January 29) and Bartlett Hayes (on February 14). Albert List passed away in September.

Peggy Lamson joined the Council for a three-year term beginning July 1, 1988.

All of the 16 members whose terms expired this year were asked to renew their commitments.

Personnel

Lee Higgins joined the staff in September as Senior Staff Assistant, following the resignation of Susan Downing, who became Company Manager of the MIT Shakespeare Ensemble. Associate Director, Richard A. MacMillan, resigned from the staff on March 31 to become Director of Corporate Support Programs for the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities.

HELVIE McCLELLAND