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Women Faculty and Graduate Students at MIT

MARY P. ROWE at Assistant for Women and Work

DEC 6 1978

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Vera Kistiakowsky October 13, 1976

A study of the faculty (assistant professors, associate professors, and professors, not including visiting or retired) listed in the MIT annual catalogues shows that there has been a steady increase in the number of women over the last three years. The data are shown in the accompanying table, the first three columns of which give the number of women faculty in each course, as well as in the total faculty for the three academic years. A 1/2 signifies an appointment divided between two departments. The fourth column gives, for 1976-77, the percentages of the faculty who are women. The fifth column gives the numbers of women faculty which would be expected on the basis of the number of faculty in each course and the percentage of Ph.D.'s awarded to women in the top ten departments for the particular fields between 1947-70. Where this information was not available, the percentages for all U.S.A. Ph.D.'s were used and this is indicated by parentheses. When more than one discipline is represented in a department, the range of numbers corresponds to the range of percentages for the various relevant disciplines. It should be pointed out that the percentages used in deriving these numbers are significantly lower than the percentages of Ph.D.'s awarded to women in the period 1971-76 and thus the numbers are a conservative estimate. Comparison of columns three and five indicates that many departments at MIT have seriously considered women for faculty positions, and have been able to find them and attract them to MIT. Three departments, chemical engineering, mathematics, and nuclear engineering, have not had women on their faculty, and two, materials science and engineering and economics, have only had a woman on a joint appointment with another department. In the above three engineering disciplines the pool of doctorate women is very small, as shown

by the corresponding predicted numbers of women faculty, but this is not the case for economics or mathematics.

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Women faculty are mainly concentrated at the lower ranks, an observation merely reflecting the fact that most of their appointments are quite recent. In 1976-77, 1.8% of all professors are women (9 women professors), 10% of all associate professors (20 women associate professors), and 17% of all assistant professors (32 women assistant professors).

Data on admissions to graduate school compiled by Dean Richard show that the numbers of those entering graduate study who are women have been increasing steadily, as shown in the figure. However, in both 1975 and 1976 the percentages of women applicants who were admitted to graduate school were slightly smaller than the percentages for men (27% vs 30% for 1975 and 31% vs 35% for 1976). This was due to corresponding differences in the Schools of Science and Humanities and Social Science. The percentages for women were somewhat larger than those for men in the Schools of Architecture and Planning, Engineering and Management. The only courses which admitted a smaller percentage of women applicants than men in both years were psychology, mathematics, and nutrition and food science.

The percentage of admitted graduate students who were offered support was somewhat greater for women than for men (48% vs 42% in 1975 and 49% vs 38% in 1976). Within rather large uncertainties and with a few exceptions this pattern holds true in all schools and departments.

Unfortunately, it has not been possible to carry out a similar study concerning minorities because of the unavailability of the necessary data. However, it is the impression of the author of this study that much less progress has been made at the Institute with respect to minority faculty and graduate students.

NUMBER OF WOMEN PREDICTED ON MIT FACULTY, BY DEPARTMENT

Course	Field for which Percentage applies	Percentage*	Percentage Used	Total MIT Faculty**	No. Women Predicted
1.	Civil Engineering	0.3%	0.3%	43.5	0.13
2.	Mechanical Engineering	0.1	0.1	55	0.06
3.	Metallurgy and Physical Met. Eng.	0.5	0.5	28	0.14
	Solid State Physics	1.9			
4.	Architecture	7.1	7.1	31	2. 2
5.	Chemistry	5.8	5.8	34	2: 0
6.	Electrical Engineering	0.3	0.3	104	0.31
7.	Biology	14.9	14.9	34	5.1
8.	Physics	2.5	2.5	89	2, 2
9.	Psychology	20.2	20.2	12	2.4
10.	Chemical Engineering	0.4	0.4	24	0.10
11.	Economics Sociology Anthropology Psychology Urban and Regional a Planning	5.2 17.0 21.8 20.2 mkuith 0.0	17.0	31	5.3
12.	Earth Sciences	2.5	2.5	24	0.60
13.	Oceanography	2. 2	2, 2	22	0.44
14.	Economics	5.2	5.2	30	1.6
15.	Industrial and Personnel Psychology	5.0	5.0	57	1.5-2.8
	Business Administration	2.7	2.7		
16.	Aero and Astro- nautical Engineering	0.8	0.8	45	0.36
17.	Political Science	8.1	8.1	28	2.3
18.	Mathematics	6.7	6.7	59	4.0
19.	Meteorology	·1. 5	1.5	12	0.18

Course	Field for which Percentage applies	Percentage*	Percentage Used	Total MIT Faculty**	No. Women Predicted
20.	Food Science and Technology Chemistry Nutrition	$ \begin{array}{c} 10.5\% \\ 5.8 \\ 27.5 \end{array} $	10.5%	34	3.6
21.	Arts and Humanities	s 20.7	20.7	50	10.4
- 22.	Nuclear Engineering	g 0.3	0.3	18.5	0.06
23.	Linguistics German Lang. + Lit French Lang. + Lit. Span. Lang. + Lit. Russian Lang. + Lit	42. 1 33. 0	25	17	4. 2
24.	Philosophy	11.6	11.6	13.5	1.6

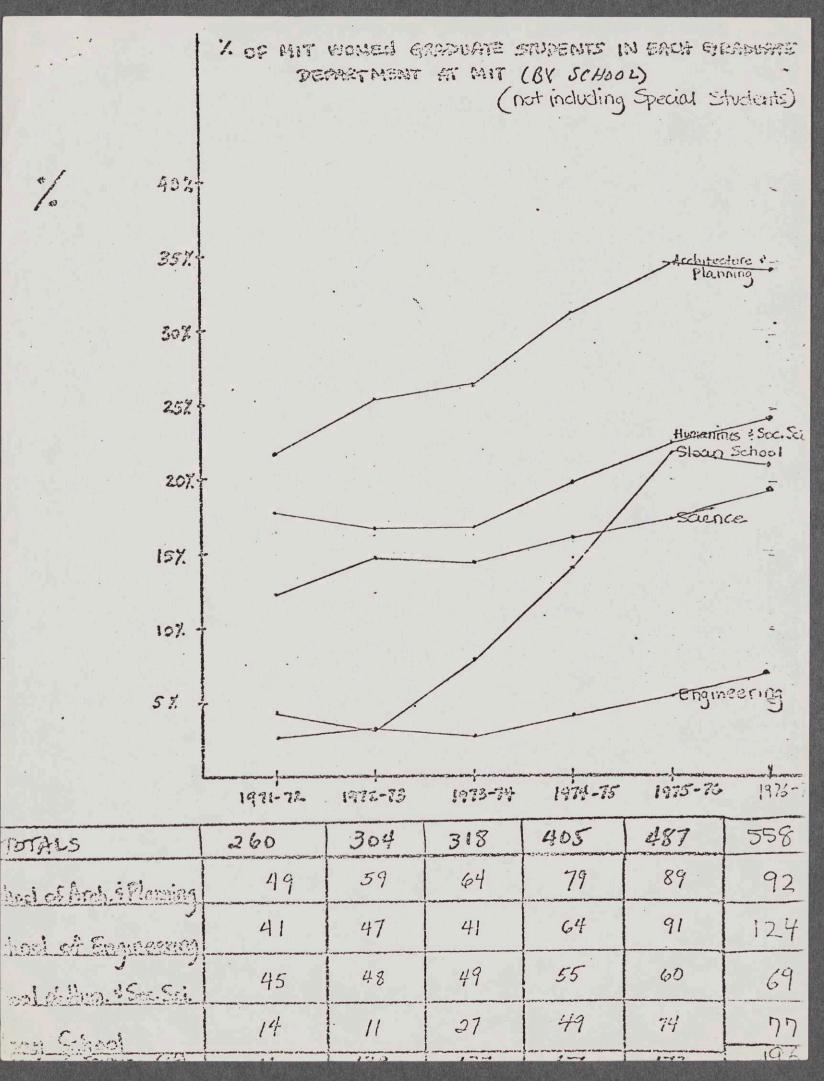
* The percentage of Ph. D. degrees awarded to women in given field or sub-field for the period 1930-71. It is from this period that our present faculty is drawn. Data from the Doctorate Records File, National Research Council.

** These numbers were complied from the MIT 1972-73 general catalogue.

10/28/73 V.K.

Women	Faculty	at MIT	- Total	
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	Number of Women			Woman as Percentage of Total	Predicted Number
Course	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1976-77	1976-77
1	1호	2불	3 ¹ /2	7%	(0.1)
2	1		1	2	(0.1)
3-Mat. Sci. and Eng.	12	12	12	1	(0.1-0.5)
4	3	6	6월	16	2
5	1	2	2	5	2
6	3	4	4	4	(0.3-7)
7	6	6	6	16	4-6
8	4	5	5	6	2
9	212	2월	21/2	19	2
10-Chemical Eng.		. 5 9			(0.1)
11	4	4월	4	12	0-6
12	1	1	1	4	0.6
13	1	1	1	4	(0.4)
14-Economics	12	12	고	2	2
15	1	2	2	3	(2-3)
16	1	1	1	3	0.4
17	2늘	3	3	11	. 2
18-Mathematics					3
19		1	1	8	0.2
20	2	2	2	6	(2-8)
21	7호	7호	()11章	22	(11-22)
22-Nuclear Eng.					0.1
23	3	4			
24	2	2	>3	14	(2-5)
Total	48	57	61	6.9%	38-74



MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

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4/23/79 Dear Mary-It doesn't mate any difference except possibly in hermities. I are enclosing a comparison, Top ten are underlined in red.

Jour.



MARY P. ROWE Special Assistant for Women and Work

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5.	Chemistry	5.8 6.6	5.8	34	2.0 2.2
6.	Electrical statistics 22 Engineering Solid total	9 0.0	0.3	104	0.31 -2-2.4
7.	Biology biolisci 185	14.9 15 5	14.9	34	5.1 4,4-6,2
8.	Physics biology 17.5	2.5 2.4	2.5	89	2.2 2.0
9.	Psychology	20.2 18,5	20.2	12	2.4 2.2
10.	Chemical Engineering	0.4	0.4	24	0.10
11.	Economics Sociology Anthropology Psychology Urban and Regional Planning	$ \begin{array}{c} 5.2\\ 17.0\\ 21.8\\ 20.2\\ 0.0 \end{array} $	7	31	5.3 0-6.4
12.	Earth Sciences Geophys	2.5	2.5	24	0.60 Dib
13,	Oceanography	2.5 <u>8.6</u> 2.2	2. 2	22	0.44
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