 PROJECT TAC receives financial support for the Department of Chemistry and the MSU Center for Urban Affairs.

Following the meeting with the Alumni, the Board met in an informal open session to hear reports by Dr. Irvin Vance and Dr. J. B. Hamilton.

Dr. Vance of the MSU Department of Mathematics made a presentation on the Michigan State University Inner-city Mathematics Project. The program, entering its third year, cooperates with 11 Michigan inner-city school districts.

The objectives of the project are to provide meaningful in-service training for math teachers working in urban schools, to better prepare MSU students for inner-city teaching, and to encourage inner-city youngsters at an early age that they can go on to college. Dr. Vance observed that the project has learned that many urban youngsters who usually have the ability to do college level work, don't believe they can get into college.

The project works with youngsters who are entering the ninth and tenth grades. A summer program is offered which provides the inner-city teachers and the MSU faculty and students with a laboratory for trying new methods in teaching urban youngsters. Both high school students and teachers take part in the summer institute. A follow-up program follows the students and teachers back to their schools and assists them. The follow-up activities are handled by teams involving MSU faculty and students. Dr. Vance indicated that MSU is currently developing an evaluation of the project.

The Inner-city Mathematics Project has been funded by the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Office of Education with some additional assistance from the MSU Center for Urban Affairs. Dr. Vance stated that the project is seeking financial assistance from the State Department of Education but as of yet no such help has been received. The NSF part of the project has been completed and the program will now depend completely on the U.S. Office of Education for funds.

Dr. J. B. Hamilton of the MSU Department of Chemistry made a presentation on PROJECT TAG, an experimental program of tutorial assistance in chemistry. Dr. Hamilton stated that the basic objectives of PROJECT TAG are to provide a special educational opportunity to disadvantaged students, to provide graduate students in chemistry with unique teaching responsibilities and experiences, and to serve as a model for evaluating personnel, methods and procedures relating to instruction in freshman level courses in chemistry.

PROJECT TAG is structured into tutorial units. Each unit consists of a director, a coordinator, six tutorial assistants and a maximum of seventy-two undergraduate participants. Two rooms have been set aside by the Department for use by the tutorial units, usually on a weekly basis but depending on when the students feel they need help.

TAG is entering its second year. The majority of the students for each term major in life or health sciences. The black students accounted for 50% of those involved. Of the white students involved, 80% were women. Student response is excellent. It is hoped that for subsequent terms desk top electronic calculators can be made available for TAC students. Computer assisted instruction may also prove useful in the program.

PROJECT TAG receives financial support for the Department of Chemistry and the MSU Center for Urban Affairs.