

From the News Service
Mass. Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Mass.

For Release in AFTERNOON Papers
of FRIDAY, November 14, 1952

Dr. Alex Bavelas, associate professor of psychology in the Department of Economics and Social Science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is one of 45 scholars who have been awarded grants of \$5,500 each by the Ford Foundation, it was announced last night. The grants will be used for research in fields related to human behavior, and Dr. Bavelas will apply his grant to studies of the psychology of communication.

The grants, which total \$247,500, represent an important part of the program of the Foundation's Behavioral Sciences Division to "support scientific activities designed to increase knowledge of factors which influence or determine human conduct." This is one of the five general areas of activity assigned to the Foundation by its trustees; the other four are the advancement of peace, education, democratic institutions and economic stability.

The 45 grants went to faculty members of 15 universities in the United States. Specialized fields represented are anthropology, business administration, economics, education, history, political science, psychology and sociology. Some of those who received

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Bavelas
Ford F.
Award

Ford Foundation Award - M.I.T.

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awards are acknowledged leaders in their fields, and the others are promising young scholars.

The Ford Foundation made its selections for these awards on the basis of recommendations submitted by a committee of leaders in the broad field of the behavioral sciences.

Dr. Bavelas was born in Chicopee, Massachusetts, in 1913. He received the degree of bachelor of science from Springfield College in 1936, master of arts from the State University of Iowa in 1942, and doctor of philosophy from M.I.T. in 1948.

He was a research assistant at the State University of Iowa before joining the Institute staff as an instructor in economics in 1944. Two years later he became a research associate in economics, and in 1947 Dr. Bavelas was appointed assistant professor of psychology. He was promoted to associate professor of psychology in 1949.

Dr. Bavelas is a member of Sigma Xi, Pi Gamma Mu, and the American Psychological Association.