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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

An \$8,000,000 building for chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was dedicated Friday (April 17) as the Camille Edouard Dreyfus Chemistry Building.

Symbolic presentation of the building was made by Charles C. Parlin, chairman of the Celanese Corporation and trustee of the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation. The building was accepted by President Howard W. Johnson of M.I.T.

Other speakers, at the dedication luncheon at the Faculty Club, were Dr. William D. McElroy, director of the National Science Foundation; Robert B. Semple, president of Wyandotte Chemicals Corporation, and Dr. John Ross, head of the M.I.T. Department of Chemistry. Dr. James R. Killian, Jr., chairman of the M.I.T. Corporation, presided.

The building, designed by I. M. Pei & Partners, is situated in McDermott Court, east of the central M.I.T. buildings. Nearby is the 20-story Green Building, also designed by Pei, an M.I.T. alumnus. The four-story Dreyfus building is of poured concrete, with one end dramatically cantilevered. It houses headquarters for the Department of Chemistry and laboratories for graduate students and post-doctoral chemists conducting research in organic, bio-organic and biophysical chemistry.

Laboratories in the new building are divided into efficient small bays, each with room for two or four students. Each bay has its own ventilation outlet and each has such facilities as nitrogen and vacuum pipes.

The new building was named for the late Dr. Camille Dreyfus, Swiss-born chemist who with his brother, Dr. Henry Dreyfus, pioneered in polymer research. The Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation contributed \$3,000,000 in gifts and pledges for chemistry at M.I.T., including provision for establishment of the Camille Dreyfus Professorship of Chemistry. The National Science Foundation made a grant of \$2,946,700 toward the building and there were other gifts, grants and pledges from corporations,

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Dreyfus Chemistry Building--2

foundations, alumni and friends. The total chemistry development program provides for equipping and maintaining the Dreyfus Building, for renovation of chemistry facilities in the main building and for strengthening the faculty.

Following the dedication, a reception was held in the building and three memorial rooms:

The Captain John Baptiste Ford Memorial Graduate Reading Room, named for the founder of Wyandotte Chemicals Corporation. The company contributed \$150,000 to make the room possible.

The Arthur Clay Cope Memorial Seminar Room, named in honor of the former head of the Department of Chemistry, who died in 1966. The room is a memorial gift from his wife, Mrs. Harriet Cope, Boston.

The James Flack Norris Memorial Room, the gift of the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society. A distinguished member of the M.I.T. faculty for many years, Professor Norris died in 1940. He was twice president of the ACS.

Three Nobel Prize winning chemists spoke in a symposium Friday morning at Kresge Auditorium. The speakers were Dr. Derek H. R. Barton of Imperial College, London; Dr. Manfred Eigen of Max Planck Institute, Germany, and Dr. Harold E. Urey, professor-at-large at the University of California. Opening remarks were made by Dr. Jerome B. Wiesner, provost. The chairman was Dr. Robert A. Alberty, dean of the School of Science.

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April 17, 1970