

TECHNIQUE

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See who enjoyed a rare Kodak moment with *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*

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Beautiful, starring Minnie Driver, opens today. For a complete review, see...

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School of Physics abandons evening quizzes

Physics administrators change Monday night testing policy in response to student government, Technique demands; student and faculty opinion divided over the future of unscheduled, evening quiz administration

By Jody Shaw
Managing Editor

Students in Physics 2211 took their last evening exam this Monday, as faculty from the School of Physics struck a deal with the Student Government Association bringing the experimental practice to an end.

"We reached a decision after a heated meeting of about forty minutes," said Nate Watson, Freshman Representative and Chair of the SGA Academic Priorities Committee. "First, they will discontinue Monday night examinations immediately. Next, unless students have a general outcry against this change, then it will remain the rest of the semester."

Students enrolled in Physics 2211 will also be given the opportunity to express their opinions at the end of the semester, when a neutral survey question concerning the issue will appear on one of the quizzes. While the results of the survey are non-binding, the information will aid in determining whether or not to administer evening examinations, scheduled in OSCAR, in the future. If a reasonable amount of students oppose such exams Physics will most likely discontinue the policy

all together.

The School of Physics allowed Mike Schatz, the professor in charge of Physics 2211, to give quizzes on Mondays from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. as an experiment. The School implemented the policy for several reasons. By holding evening exams, six lecture hours were freed up, which allowed the course to be taught at a less rigorous pace. The policy also provided students with an hour and a half to take the quiz, rather than the fifty minutes given during a normal class period. The School also felt that requiring every student to take the same quiz made comparing the results for their fairness and accuracy easier.

However, because the decision to make this change was made on an experimental basis, it was not included in OSCAR, and therefore students signing up for the course remained uninformed until they arrived in class.

"We felt that it was unfair for students to have to take a test outside the hours listed in OSCAR," said Undergraduate Student Body President J.R. Spriggle.

SGA opposed the change in policy, claiming that requiring students to attend such unscheduled instructional sessions violates the Rules and



By Bill Allen / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Students in Introductory Physics I leave the last of the Monday night quizzes. Due to pressure from students and SGA, the School of Physics agreed to reschedule the previous quiz time and test during regular lecture hours.

Regulations of the Georgia Institute of Technology and the Student Bill of Rights.

"We do not like the precedent that could have been set. Imagine if the one department wants to have quizzes on Tuesday nights, and then another department wants Thurs-

day nights," said Spriggle. "If one school can justify it, then if another school presents the same logic, they have to be granted the same ability."

Members of the Undergraduate House of Representatives expressed their disdain for the Monday night

quizzes by unanimously passing a resolution condemning the policy. Watson, who authored the resolution, then met with Schatz and Ronald Fox, Chair of the School of Physics, to discuss the issue.

See *Physics*, page 5

Talbott leaves Ferst Center, moves to local non-profit arts federation

By Tony Kluemper
News Staff

Since January 1999, John Talbott has served as the Director of the Robert Ferst Center for the Arts. However, on Wednesday, September 20, the relationship between Tech and Talbott ended when he resigned from his position.

The resignation came just months after Auxiliary Services announced that it was canceling 18 previously scheduled shows for this season because of a lack-luster season last year.

According to Talbott, these cancellations had a major effect on his decision to resign as director of the Ferst Center.

"When auxiliary services made the decision to cut the shows for this season, I decided to take a look around for other jobs in my area," said Talbott.

The cancellations of the 18 shows were made in June of this year as a result of the loss in funds the Ferst Center suffered last year.

According to Auxiliary Services, the Ferst Center lost \$1.3 million last year with a palette of 45 shows.



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

John Talbott, Director of Tech's Ferst Center for the Arts, recently announced his resignation; he plans to remain in the Atlanta area.

However, Talbott feels that this loss was not as great when the increase in the amount of shows is considered.

"The Ferst Center has been losing money since the day it opened in 1992," said Talbott. "In fact, when it opened, it was already assumed that the center would lose around \$300,000 a year."

"The main problem last year was that the student tickets were no longer \$10-\$15 and the num-

ber of shows on the schedule was tripled. Therefore, with more shows the amount of debt increased to \$1.3 million."

Although last year's season was not as successful as many would have wished, Talbott still feels that much has been accomplished in his two years at Tech.

"When I was hired in 1998, I was told that my goals were to

See *Talbott*, page 6

Students organize petition to support Music Department

By Elizabeth Costner
News Staff

Students rallied this week in support of Music Department funding and programming with a petition that calls for "adequate rehearsal facilities."

The petition arrives in the midst of a struggle between the Chorale and administrators for funding to renovate the sanctuary of a 10th Street church for rehearsal space.

Due to the growing number of students in the music program, the Couch Building can no longer comfortably house the program; a move to the 10th Street church would provide rehearsal space and performance opportunities.

"So many students are involved, but we practice in poor facilities that are not conducive to producing the best quality of music that we can provide. A student's time is very valuable and these facilities make a student's practice time less effective," said sophomore Rusty Johnson, the author of the petition.

Additionally, the document states that "although Georgia Tech musicians attain high standards with the facilities provided, the facilities are a limiting factor in students' musical growth and ultimate well-being, and

even higher goals could be achieved with their enhancement."

In addition to the petition, "we are presenting a joint resolution to SGA stating our concerns about the music department and the promised space. Hopefully, there will be many students at the SGA meeting who are supporting us," said Johnson. The resolution is scheduled to be presented in the October 3 meeting.

The church and its sanctuary, which would provide a rehearsal space and performance venue for Music Department ensembles, fall under the control of the School of Architecture, the parent school for the Music Department.

Dean Thomas Galloway of the School of Architecture supports renovation of the sanctuary. One issue preventing the Chorale's immediate use of the space is finding adequate funding for renovations; a second is the eventual plan to demolish the church in conjunction with Tech's Master Plan.

"Regardless of what we do ten years from now, 15 years from now, we have to worry about what's happening right now. Music, and Chorale particularly, are very important ele-

See *Petition*, page 5

Academic Common Market lets non-residents pay in-state tuition

By Matt Gray
News Staff

Unbeknownst to many students, Georgia Tech now participates in a program that allows certain out-of-state students to pay in-state tuition rates instead of the much higher out-of-state costs. This program, commonly known as the Academic Common Market, applies only to students who are residents of one of the participating states and can cut the cost of tuition by as much as \$5000 per year.

The program is available only to students from a participating state that want to attend college in another participating state. However, the student can only become a part of the program if none of the universities located in the student's home state offer the desired major of the student or if the program is significantly different from the program of another out-of-state school.

At this time Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia are the only states that participate in the Academic Common Market.

"The program is really a lifesaver, and I've saved almost \$18,000 since I started in the program," said Clyde Watson, an Aerospace Engineering ma-

jor from Virginia. Watson is eligible for the program because he was a resident of a participating state that did not offer a degree in Aerospace Engineering.

Although many students don't know of its existence, the Academic Common Market is not a new concept. In fact, the program was started in 1974 when only 89 students participated. The program has grown tremendously since 1974 with over 2,200

"I've saved almost \$18,000 since I started in the program."

Clyde Watson
Aerospace Engineering

students participating last year alone. Overall over 25,000 have benefited at some point in the program's twenty-six year history.

Each participating state has an Academic Common Market coordinator who oversees the program for that particular state. Students can contact their state coordinator by visiting www.sreb.org or by calling the

See *Market*, page 6

Athletic points encourage giving back to Tech

By contributing to the Roll Call through the Student Foundation, students can start working towards earning better football seats.

By Mary DeCamp
News Staff

Like most universities, Tech relies greatly on the donations of both former and current students. In order to encourage giving back, the Student Foundation (GTSF) has developed a system where students can earn points towards benefits such as better seats at football games.

Megan Winn, a member of the Student Foundation's Board of Trustees and former Development Campaign director, explained why the Student Foundation is involved with this program.

"The points program is beneficial to the GTSF because it provides an incentive for students to give," said Winn.

"Students especially do not like to part with their money, and if we can offer something in return they are much more likely to give."

When a student gives a gift to the Student Foundation, he or she is granted one athletic point. A student can earn a maximum of one point yearly, regardless of the donation amount.

Gifts to the Student Foundation become part of the Roll Call; these monies primarily fund programs which pay student tuitions.

"As a student, getting points puts you one step ahead of everyone else who graduates with you," said Winn.

When a student donates to the Roll Call, the Student Foundation

"As a student, getting points puts you one step ahead of everyone else who graduates with you."

Megan Winn
Student Foundation Board of Trustees

enters the pledge or gift into a database which keeps track of how much each student has given and how many points have been received by the student.

The Student Foundation keeps all donation and points information confidential.

After graduation, points are based on donations to the Alexander-Tharpe Fund. This program helps to fund athletic programs.

With the first donation to this fund post-graduation, the amount of points that were accumulated before graduation are activated, and the Student Foundation adds a 10-point graduation bonus to the amount earned during a student's years at Tech.

Therefore, if a student donates for four years, graduates, and donates a gift after graduation, the total number of points for that student would be fourteen.

As an alumnus or alumna, if one continues to donate to the Alexander-Tharpe Fund, more athletic points can be attained.

The amount of points that can

be earned each year depends on the size of the gift, so more than one point may be granted per year.

Furthermore, each donation to the fund after graduation leads to an opportunity to purchase better seats for Tech's home football games.

Winn feels that donations to these programs should not be based solely on the fact that athletic points can be earned.

"I would be lying if I didn't recognize that some students give solely to get that point every year, and not because they love Tech or want to give back," said Winn.

"This can be both a positive and a negative."

"Part of me says 'thank you' and appreciates the fact that they are giving back, and the other part of me wishes they could recognize the personal benefits of giving back, like knowing their gift will be in the endowment forever, continually generating funds to provide to student organizations that need help, and that their gift is used to help make Tech a better place not in the future, but this year."

News briefs

Tech's 'Supreme Court' seeks new justices

The Undergraduate Judiciary Cabinet of the Georgia Tech Student Government Association is seeking new members. Applications will be available on Monday, October 2 in room 221 of the Student Services (flag) Building. The deadline for submitting an application is Tuesday, October 17. Applicants should be of sophomore status by spring semester, 2001.

Please contact the UJC Chief Justice, Charles Voelker, at charles.voelker@sga.gatech.edu for more information.

Options class instructor application deadline today

Applications to teach Options classes for the Spring 2001 semester are due today, September 29, to the Student Center Programs area. Faculty, staff, and students are invited to submit applications to teach a class. Please visit the Programs area, call 894-2805 or go to <http://studentcenter.gatech.edu/programs/options/application.html> to get an application. Contact Brett Bailey at gte322j for additional information.

2000 molecular design institute fall lecture

The Molecular Design Institute will be hosting the 1987 Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry, Professor Jean-Marie Lehn, on October 19th as the Distinguished Speaker for the 2000 MDI Fall Lecture. The MDI Fall Lecture will be held at 11:00 AM (refreshments at 10:45 AM) in Room 16 of the Chemistry Annex.

Change in Office of Financial Planning hours

The office hours at the Office of Student Financial Planning and Services are changing. The new hours will be 8 am to 4:30 pm beginning October 2.

Today is the last day to drop classes

Today is the last day to drop a class for Fall Semester 2000. For more information, or to electronically submit a course drop form, visit <http://oscar.gatech.edu>.

Hands on Atlanta community service day nears

Saturday, October 7, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. is Hands on Atlanta Day, a city-wide volunteer and community service day. For more information, or to register for a project as a team or individual, visit <http://HandsOnAtlanta.org/day/>.

Would you like to share news or announcements with campus? E-mail news@technique.gatech.edu.

Student Government Undergraduate House of Representatives House discusses budgets, student center

By Shala Sundaram
News Staff

The September 26 Undergraduate House of Representatives meeting began with a report from Vice President of Finances David Stopp on this year's budget. Stopp informed those present that there is \$2.2 million in the budget and \$2.7 million to be allocated, therefore Stopp announced that Undergraduate Student Council needed to make a half a million dollars in cuts.

Next, Vice President of Administrative Affairs Joey Katzen presented a report on representative e-mail accounts. Katzen talked about the work that is progressing on the new email accounts for all representatives of the Undergraduate Student Council. It was announced that

"Buzz the Vote" would take place on October 2, and the day would consist of a mock election, survey, and distribution of voter information packages.

Ryan McPherson gave Vice-President of Campus Affairs Erica Young's report. He began by announcing that the Physics situation had been resolved and that Monday night quizzes in Physics would now be given during lecture. Campus Affairs is looking into the idea of having a golf course available to Tech students as well.

Vice President David Moeller then announced that JCEUL is continuing successfully. Rich Steele is currently allocating a logo campaign to celebrate the Student Center's 30th anniversary. In addition, food court renovations are continuing and

should be finished when students return from fall break. It was also reported that Elliot Dale, director of Expansion of the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, is looking to recruit new founders in order to return the chapter to campus.

President J.R. Spriggle announced that the SAC II Aquatic Center should be finished by 2003. Spriggle also reported that the Department of Education is sponsoring discussions on Racial Discrimination to take place Wednesday, October 11 at Georgia State. It was also announced that the SAC Conference will be held October 27-October 29 at Albany State. If anyone is interested in attending should contact Spriggle.

See UHR, page 6



By Andrew Pae / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Dave Stopp, UHR Member at Large and Vice President of Finance, discusses student government business during a recent meeting of the undergraduate house. Undergrad SGA meets every Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m.

Feature Photo 1999 Mini 500



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Wendy Anderson shows her Reck Pride at last year’s Mini 500 homecoming tricycle race around Peter’s Parking Deck.

Six universities refuse Napster ban

By Parker R. Conrad
Harvard University

(U-WIRE) Six more universities announced Friday they would not block access to Napster on their computer networks, despite a request by an attorney for Metallica and Dr. Dre that they do so.

The recent decisions by Princeton University, Georgia Tech, the University of Florida, the University of California at Los Angeles, the University of California at Berkley and the University of Michigan bring the total number of schools officially refusing a request to block access to Napster to ten.

Four other schools -- Harvard University, Boston University, Columbia University, and the University of Pennsylvania -- have yet to announce their decisions regarding attorney Howard E. King's recent

request that they block service to the Napster server.

Harvard's announcement was expected Wednesday, September 27. At the time of publication, no decision from the university was available.

Although three schools agreed to block access to Napster last spring when King added them to a lawsuit against the company, no schools have blocked the service as a result of King's most recent round of letters.

King has said that he will not immediately sue schools refusing to block the service and will instead try to informally convince them of their legal and moral obligation to do so.

The arguments over a university's legal obligations with respect to Napster hinge on provisions in the 1998 Digital Millennium Copyright

Act.

The act stipulates that Internet service providers (ISPs) have no legal responsibility for copyright violations on their network of which they are unaware.

However, once notified of a violation, they must take reasonable steps to correct it.

King argues that the use of Napster is itself sufficient evidence of copyright violations.

"I don't think there's any doubts that people know what Napster's used for, and how much it's used on college campuses," he said.

In their letters to King, the universities all say that Napster use itself is not sufficient evidence for them to take action under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and say they will only take action in the case of individual acts of piracy brought to their attention.



Be creative.

Express
yourself.

Don't fit the
stereotype.

Sumbit your
original:

poetry
short stories
fiction
nonfiction
artwork
photography

dspubera@prism



Petition from page 1

ments of the richness of Georgia Tech and very important in the recruitment of potential students,” said Galloway.

In order to fund a renovation, the Music Department would need an amount in the vicinity of \$380,000. One proposal would allocate roughly \$50,000 annually from the Spring Arts Festival.

“All we need is the money,” said Galloway. “We have the church; the church belongs to the College of Architecture, the Chorale, the Department of Music. It’s very hard to raise money for the Chorale, as opposed to going to an alum for [funding] engineering.”

Although Johnson does not know how many signatures have been collected on the Music Department’s behalf, a number of Chorale members are vocally supporting the student movement.

“I think that the students in the Chorale need to make their point,” said Galloway.

“The acoustics in the current rehearsal room for the Chorale are terrible,” said Chorale member Joni Butler. “It’s like working in a lab with no electricity.”

“Simply put- a music hall can be used as a lecture hall, but a lecture hall cannot be as easily used as a music hall. We need a music hall,” said Shaun Morber, a CS junior who sings with the Chorale as well as the Men’s Glee Club.

Other students, such as fourth year CS major Jack Harris, took a more philosophical view.

“We are like poor Cinderella, receiving an invitation to the ball only to have it nullified by our evil stepmother’s additional stipulation of fulfilling an impossible task. Unlike Cinderella, the chorale has no fairy godmother to turn our pumpkins into carriages or to renovate the old church into a decent rehearsal hall.”



By Andrew Pae / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

A student petition gathers signatures calling for funds that would renovate the sanctuary of a 10th Street church for use as a Chorale rehearsal hall.



By Alisa Hawkins / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Physics from page 1

“From that meeting, Physics chose to take action,” said Watson. “SGA did not force them to take action, SGA doesn’t have the power to do that. SGA wanted things to be fair for the student body.”

According to Fox, SGA’s action took the School of Physics by surprise; its professors received almost no negative feedback regarding the evening exams before SGA approached them.

“[SGA] claimed that there was a lot of negative input from students. Now there are over 800 students taking this class, and during the first evening quiz, only 20 had conflicts. The overwhelming majority took [the quiz] in the evening, so we didn’t think that there was opposition. In other words, the students had an opportunity to express opposition to this, and virtually none did,” said Fox.

Physics, which according to Fox had no intention of changing its policy going into the meeting with SGA, had a change of heart when confronted with the possibility of a student boycott of the exams.

“Suppose fifty students decided to do this as a show of support for opposition to evening quizzes. They’d get ‘F’s. They wouldn’t get their grades changed. There would be a battle about that. That would wage for some period of time. It might even occur that some administrator would feel that he had the right to change those grades. It would cause a lot of unnecessary trouble, so I thought the simplest thing to do here for the time being is to go back to the regular in class quizzes until we could straighten this out one way or another,” said Fox.

Since the decision was announced in Physics classes earlier this week, some students enrolled in 2211 have expressed concerns about how the change in policy will affect their grades.

“I’m mad that the test policy was changed, because now I will only have 50 minutes to take a test, when I used to have an hour and a half,” said Neal Sheldong, a freshman engineering student enrolled in Physics 2211.

“If they make the tests the right length, appropriate to the material covered and in sync with the time given for the time given for the tests, then there should be no problem. It’s when they overstep those bounds and give a test that is too long that people need more time,” said Watson.

According to Fox, the quizzes were designed to be taken in fifty minutes. They were not lengthened when the decision to allow an hour

“I thought the simplest thing to do here [was] to go back to the regular in class quizzes.”

Dr. Ronald Fox
Chair, School of Physics

and half to complete them was made, and therefore their length will not be reduced as a result of the reversal to administering tests during regularly scheduled class hours.

Students will have the opportunity to voice their opinions about such quizzes at SGA issue tables throughout the remainder of the semester.

Watson hopes to receive feedback in survey form from at least 400 students.

“I think the Physics department had the best interests of the students in mind, I just disagree with the way they went about catering to them. We got what the student body wanted—the end of Monday night exams,” said Watson.

just say yes to dating, that was the past two weeks theme. have any of us gotten dates? NO! why do you think the technique puts just say yes to dating psas in the paper, because we want dates! the people down my hall have put the original just say yes to dating on their door. they rock! but i wonder if they have actually taken the advice and asked someone out on a date.

JOIN THE
TECHNIQUE

tuesdays ° student services ° rm ° 137 ° 7 pm

it has been suggested that this week’s favorite psa is just say yes to random making out. Now the technique staff doesn’t know anything about random making out. they have heard that is it is a good thing. of course only if your significant other is okay with you randomly making out with others. it is all good.

Talbott

from page 1

take the Ferst Center to the next level, dramatically increase programming, and make the Ferst Center an integral part of Atlanta," said Talbott.

"I feel that in many ways we have achieved all three on some degree. We went after bigger name artists and expanded the marketing of the center to all of Atlanta."

"In addition, during my time here, the Center underwent a half a million dollar renovation project during which the electrical and sound systems were replaced and upgraded and many cosmetic changes, such as new paint and carpeting, took place."

However, Talbott feels that the greatest improvement that has been made to the Ferst Center since his arrival was the establishment of the Student Advisory Board as a way to create a link between the students and the Ferst Center for the Arts.

"With the establishment of the Student Advisory Board, students will now have a voice in the Center for the Arts which is something I feel is very important to the success

of the Center," said Talbott.

Talbott is now looking forward to a new opportunity at the Southern Arts Federation, headquartered in Atlanta, where he will serve as the executive director in charge of programming and marketing.

With Talbott's resignation, the need for a new director of the Ferst Center is a top priority for Auxiliary Services.

According to Assistant Director of Auxiliary Services Rosalind Meyers, Georgia Tech should have no problem finding a new director for the Ferst Center.

"With the wonderful programming we have this year and the amount of marketing we have done to improve the center, we should not have a hard time attracting interested and well-qualified replacements," said Meyers.

Talbott's replacement will most likely continue on the same road as Talbott when dealing with marketing and programming; no major changes taking place, according to Meyers. However, Talbott feels that in order for the Ferst Center to in-

crease its level of success, many changes need to be made.

"First of all, Georgia Tech needs to make arts a larger priority on campus and realize that we are not an Auxiliary Service, due to the fact that we will never make a profit, unlike the Dining Services or Parking and Transportation," said Talbott.

"Furthermore, I think that with the hiring of a new development director, we will see increased funding from outside sources in the next three years, and hopefully, within the next five years the Center will receive an endowment that will help to pay the costs of the shows."

Talbott is of the opinion that the Ferst Center will only be successful if it incorporates the students into the art and culture that the Center can provide.

"I realize that most students here are not going to be artists or musicians," said Talbott. "On the other hand, many of our students plan to become the major business leaders of America, and when they enter the real world they will need to be exposed to the kind of art and culture that the Ferst Center can provide."

UHR

from page 3

Dean Gail DiSabatino then gave the advisor's report, during which Disabintino commented on the results of the recent survey on academic integrity.

The survey results showed that the percentage of students who admitted to cheating has decreased since past years. Many account this decrease to the fact the Honor Code is starting to take effect on campus.

After Dean Gail gave her report, the council recognized a special guest speaker, Zach Procter, who is a Tech student running as a candidate for

the Georgia State House of Representatives. Procter announced that he was aiding in the voter registration drives and he aid that voter registration forms were now available.

The Undergraduate House of Representatives meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in Room 117 of the Smithgall Student Services Building. All students are welcome to attend and are encouraged to contact their class and major representatives concerning issues before the contacting the House.

Market

from page 2

Southern Regional Education Board in Atlanta at (404) 875-9211. Any student interested in participating in the Academic Common Market should contact the state coordinator of their home state.

Here at Tech, students majoring in Aerospace Engineering and Textile Fiber Engineering are eligible to receive assistance from the Academic Common Market.

If anyone is interested in becoming involved in the program, a student must meet two general requirements to participate. First, the student must be accepted for admission into a program that is part of their home state's Academic Common Market arrangement, and secondly, they must have proof of legal residence in a participating home state.

Just Shoot It.

photoed@technique.gatech.edu.



Feature Photo Students on the Skiles Walkway



By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Busy students hurry to and fro on the typically busy Skiles Walkway. This week, even more students than usual could be seen outside, enjoying the beauty of campus in the almost-autumnal September weather.

Today is... Drop Day

Visit <http://oscar.gatech.edu> to submit an online course drop request. Remember, it's one of *Technique's* 99 things to do before you graduate...

DROP
DAY