

"The South's Liveliest College Newspaper"

TECHNIQUE

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At last, they're back!
Yellow Jacket basketball
returns this Saturday.

We're not all nerds. See how a
model Tech student fared on
Bravo's *Manhunt*.



SPORTS page 32

FOCUS page 11

Serving Georgia Tech since 1911

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Plan outlines major Institute initiatives

By Haining Yu
Assistant News Editor

A plan up for a vote in the Academic Senate this month lays out the basis for an Institute-wide push to give undergraduates greater access to both research and international opportunities.

Focusing on improving both

the quantity and quality of undergraduate research and international education, the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), if approved, would take effect in various phases throughout 2005.

The international component of the QEP is the more developed of the two facets, and that part of the plan will be up for vote in the Academic

Senate Nov. 30.

According to Jack Lohmann, associate provost of institutional development, the QEP is "one part of a two-part effort" towards renewing Tech's accreditation that "demonstrates our commitment towards improving student learning on campus."

Though the QEP is still tech-

nically a proposition, extensive planning teams have already been formed, with about 40 faculty and staff presently working on the project. Though the QEP focuses exclusively on improving educational opportunities for undergraduates, "it's not to say that we don't care

See QEP, page 6

Security concerns cancel CoA project

By Nikhil Joshi
Contributing Writer

Pedestrian Experience, a student project for the COA 1060 class, was recently called off by the College of Architecture because of homeland security issues.

Bob Lang, director of Homeland Security at Georgia Tech, said that the project, known as Ped Ex, had the potential to cause concerns among the public at a time of "heightened national security."

"Our major concern was that we would have students going around Atlanta taking pictures and notes during a time when the homeland security of the United States is on alert, between now and inauguration day," Lang said.

Dean Thomas Galloway and Associate Dean Sabir Khan, who teach the COA 1060 class together, decided to cancel the project after being advised by Tech's Office of Homeland Security.

Lang emphasized the short-term nature of the problem. "This is not so much of a long-term issue," he said. "For this semester, at this particular time, [Ped Ex] creates reason for concern."

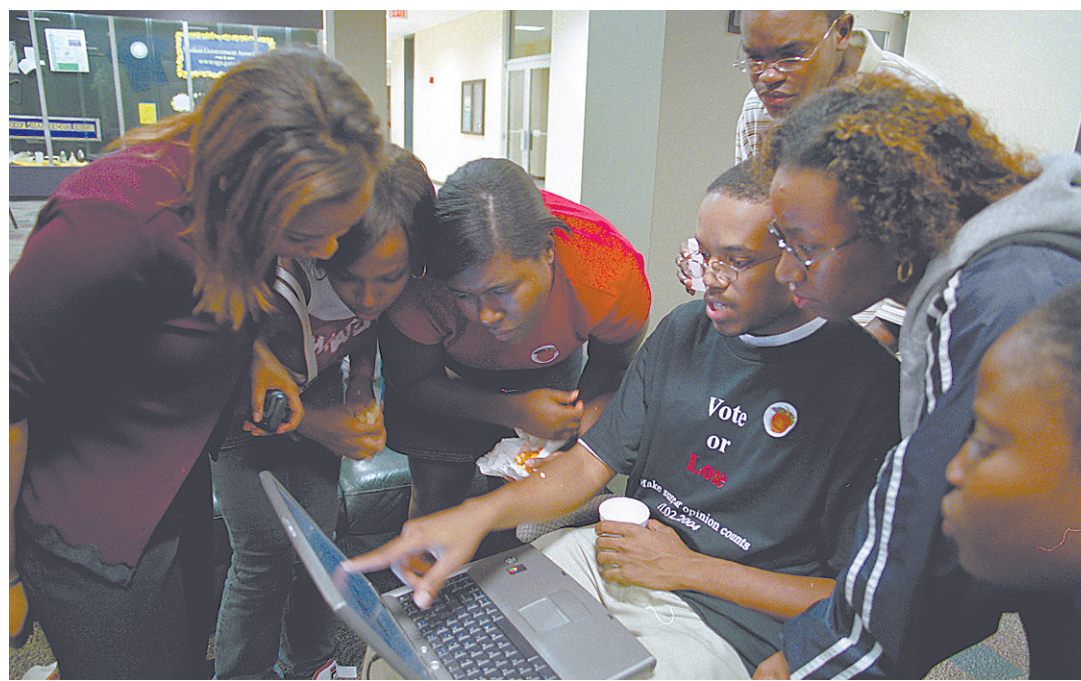
Galloway and Khan were first alerted when a student reported being approached and questioned by an observer. In order to confirm with authorities that they could proceed with the project as planned, the professors consulted the Office of Homeland Security.

"We were not given clear guidelines by which to proceed," Khan said. "We only received a strong recommendation to postpone the project. If we were given a framework within which to work, the project could have continued."

Because of the office's recommendation, Khan and Galloway decided to give an alternate assignment. "Considering the welfare of the students, the project had to be called off," Khan said.

As a substitute for Ped Ex, COA 1060 students will continue with weekly readings and summaries.

See Threat, page 4



By Andrew Saulters / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

And the winner is: Election day saw crowds of students huddling around computers and televisions in the Student Center to keep up to date with current results from the polls (above). Earlier, students and others from around the community flocked to the polls to cast their electronic ballots in the Student Center Commons.

By Christopher Gooley / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



SGA consolidates course critique information

By Raghav Himatsingka
Contributing Writer

For the first time, SGA's Course Critique gives students the opportunity to access course survey results directly through its Course Critique website at www.sga.gatech.edu/critique.

The survey questions are answered by students who have actually taken the respective classes. The surveys include questions regarding the effectiveness and usefulness of the course, difficulty of exams and the general teaching ability of the instructor.

The survey results for professors for whom data is available can be accessed by clicking on an icon which appears next to their names whenever a search is conducted on

the website.

Each survey question is rated on a scale of five, and an interpolated median is displayed for the complete data in each field.

The website also displays which professors are teaching a particular course in the forthcoming semester. This is indicated by a star next to the professor's name.

According to an SGA press statement, Course Critique worked with Tech's Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning (CETL) for almost six months before reaching an agreement with them to allow Course Critique to link directly to course survey results, "satisfying student demands to make the course survey system easier to access."

"Linking to course surveys is something that students have been

asking Course Critique to use ever since I started as chair almost a year ago," said Justin Harper, co-chair of Course Critique.

"However, because CETL is responsible for the data, we needed to do three things: first, we had to get their permission to link to the results, we needed CETL to put together listing of what courses have survey data available, and we needed to write a program that would actually link to the surveys."

When asked about the six-month duration of working with CETL on this, Harper said that it took a lot of convincing to get their permission and it especially took time to figure out how their system actually works in order to link it to the critique website in a secured manner.

Richard Wright, the other co-

Everest climber addresses WLC

The 2004 Women's Leadership Conference (WLC) took place this past weekend. The Friday and Saturday event featured keynote speaker Cathy O'Dowd, the first woman to climb Mt. Everest from both the north and south sides.

The conference also recognized outstanding women faculty and students with the 2004 Women of Distinction awards. Recipients include: Sue Rosser, outstanding faculty member; Dana Hartley, outstanding staff member; Lara O'Connor Hodgson, outstanding alumna; Jennifer Harper Ogle, outstanding graduate student; and Jennifer Melynn Smith, outstanding undergraduate student.

Isenhour toy drive seeks donations

The Student Athlete Advisory Board is holding a toy drive at the Tech vs. UVA football game Nov. 20. Representatives from the SAAB will stand outside each gate for about two hours before game time to collect toys from any who wish to provide them.

The drive is done in memory of Michael Isenhour, who served on the board a few years ago and first thought of the idea. Isenhour passed away in June 2002 after a struggle with leukemia. The drive has been held annually in his name since then.

Programmers beat competition

Tech's team of three students placed first in the Southeast Regional competition of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) International Collegiate Programming Contest Oct. 23. The team will compete in the world finals in Shanghai April 3-7.

chair of Course Critique, said that it still does not have complete access to the data. He said, "...the data is on their [CETL's] site and we have just provided a link to the data."

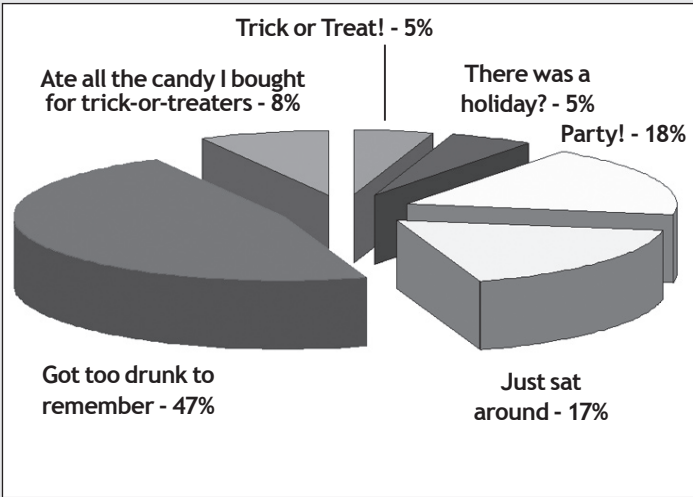
The data has always been available on the CETL website, but according to Harper, "The course survey system never included a way to index which classes had results available. Instead, it required you to enter course numbers and section numbers. You could sit there all day entering numbers, and never see a course survey result," he said.

Now, it is simpler. "We indexed the survey results, and have linked directly to them," Harper said.

Wright believes that this new development in the Critique would

See Survey, page 6

Technique Online Voice your opinion!
Last issue's question received 207 responses.
What did you do for Halloween?



By Lauren Griffin / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

This week's question:
How big of a problem is campus drug use?
Tell us at www.nique.net



Terroristic threats	
10/28/2004	19:24:00 hrs.
Location: EST loading dock	
Incident: Report of terroristic threats.	
Theft	
10/29/2004	14:00:00 hrs.
Location: Folk residence hall	
Incident: Report of a stolen bicycle.	
10/31/2004	8:05:00 hrs.
Location: 220 Ferst Dr.	
Incident: Report of a stolen copper Suzuki motorcycle.	

From the files of the GTPD...
Crime Reports

Traffic accident		Damage to property	
10/28/2004	19:32:00 hrs.	11/1/2004	14:00:00 hrs.
Location: Atlantic Dr./Peachtree Place/Eighth St.		Location: Curran parking deck	
Incident: Report of a two-vehicle accident (no reported injuries).		Incident: Report of a broken exit gate arm.	
10/29/2004	15:12:00 hrs.	11/1/2004	14:36:00 hrs.
Location: Atlantic Dr./Ferst Dr./Fourth St.		Location: Curran parking deck	
Incident: Report of a two-vehicle accident (no reported injuries).		Incident: Report of a damaged gate controller.	
10/31/2004	18:22:00 hrs.	Battery, assault	
Location: Techwood Dr. at Bobby Dodd Way		10/28/2004	17:11:00 hrs.
Incident: Report of a two-vehicle accident (no reported injuries).		Location: Woodruff South	
Incident: Report of a two-vehicle accident (no reported injuries).		Incident: Report of simple battery.	
11/1/2004	15:28:00 hrs.	10/29/2004	23:05:00 hrs.
Location: O'Keefe east parking lot		Location: Eighth St. Apartments	
Incident: Report of a hit and run accident.		Incident: Report of a possible assault.	
		10/31/2004	3:09:00 hrs.
		Location: Sigma Phi Epsilon	
		Incident: Report of simple assault.	

Corrections

- In the Oct. 29 issue, the article “Small turnout for Nappy Roots at Ferst disappoints concertgoers” failed to properly attribute several quotes. The quotes were taken from an interview conducted by the online magazine Murder Dog.
- In the Oct. 29 issue, the consensus editorial “Don’t tune out now” misidentified the sponsor of a recent *Fahrenheit 9-11* showing. The organization was Delta Sigma Theta, not the College Democrats.

The *Technique* welcomes your comments and suggestions, as well as information about errors that call for correction. Messages may be emailed to nique@gatech.edu. Letters to the editor may be directed to the same address, or to opinions@technique.gatech.edu.

sliver

See page 5 for more

Girls are crazy, don't trust them!
Lunar Eclipse
peach white owls wrap up well
i love art
When bread becomes toast
it can never go back to be bread again.
void swap(int *a, int *b){ int t;
t = *a; *a = *b; *b = t; }
Dr. Clough is the best president
a university could possibly ask for!
Marta would be better if they cleaned the smell from the trains and buses.
Heresy grows from idleness, jabronery
where does this stuff get posted anyway?
GT Theme song should be Linkin Park's "In the End".
MATH 2605 Projects kill my inner child.
We shouldnt have to cringe and pray everytime we realize our quarterback is about to throw the ball.
Tonite sucked....can we hire steve spurrier!?
If girls would say "thank you" when I held doors for them instead of walking through, not looking at me or saying anything, I'd be a lot more inclined to keep it up.

Threat from page 1

Many students expressed disappointment with the cancellation of the project.

Dayinta Sururi, a first-year Architecture major, said, “It is wrong that the project [Ped Ex] got cancelled for those reasons. We’re not a security threat.”

Louise Pan, also a first-year Architecture major, said, “I can see the concerns. However, they have been blown out of proportion—I don’t see how anything we do as a class could be considered a serious threat to national security.”

According to Galloway, projects like Ped Ex have been useful to the city of Atlanta and to organizations such as the Midtown Alliance, which work to improve the public space. Students working on Ped Ex were to both “document and analyze the public realm.”

This would have been done using digital photography, video, drawings and elevations.

“This is a clear example of conflict between homeland security priorities and civic improvements,” Galloway said.

The 270 students in the class were broken up into 48 teams, each of which covered an area of three to six blocks.

“The focus of the project was the sidewalk,” Khan said. “Students were to walk the streets and document the physical, social and civic aspects which they observed.”

After documentation, students would have performed detailed analysis, Galloway said. “They were to list problems, issues and opportunities,” he said. “They were

also to identify neglected areas and suggest redevelopment for the purpose of greater public enjoyment of the space.”

Similar projects, according to Khan, were done successfully by the previous class. “The project is a legitimate one,”

Khan said. “There are also legitimate concerns, and to address these we need specific guidelines and a framework within which to work.”

He said, “[Ped Ex] is something which is common for a college of architecture to do, and we plan to do it again.

“In the future, we will work with a partner—a city or neighborhood organization—which will be interested in that research.”

“This is a clear example of conflict between homeland security priorities and civic improvements.”

Thomas Galloway
Dean, CoA

College Republicans letter angers GTCOW organizers

By Stephen Baehl
News Editor

A letter the College Republicans sent to organizers of Georgia Tech Coming Out Week (GTCOW) and the Pride Alliance has prompted an angry response.

The letter, prepared by the Executive Board of the College Republicans, was sent last month to explain the Republicans’ refusal to participate in GTCOW’s debate on gay marriage. GTCOW organizers claimed the letter’s characterization of itself and Pride Alliance was a misrepresentation.

Republicans cited the hostile atmosphere encountered at the debate last year in the explanation of their refusal to participate. “In our previous experience with GTCOW,” the letter read, “we felt that we were not given an equal chance to put forth our viewpoints in a fair and unbiased forum.”

Britton Alexander, state chair of the Georgia Association of College Republicans, said, “We got left with a bad taste in our mouth last year.”

The Pride Alliance claimed that the problem last year was the event’s location—due to rain, the debate could not be held at the Campa-

nile as planned. “It was always our original intention to make it very open,” said Felix Hu, organizer of GTCOW and former secretary of Pride Alliance.

He said they did lots of advertising to everyone on campus, but invariably more people in Pride Alliance and those who agree with it are drawn to the event due to their interest in GTCOW. The intention of holding the debate at the Campanile was to allow more students with views on either side of the debate to stop by.

However, the debate environment was not the only reason cited by the Republicans. “It didn’t really matter to us if it was going to be more open or inclusive, because we were bringing credibility to their event,” Alexander said. “Why are we going to bolster the turnout of the event for a group that we completely disagree with? The main reason was that we found as an organization, with very few dissenters, that a lot of the events they were having were inappropriate for public display.”

Alexander specifically cited the “Sex for Ramblin’ Wrecks” trivia event. For example, he said, it included an instructional course on how to masturbate. “I don’t know about you, but I think most of us

have figured out how to do that by now. . . . As Republicans, we believe sex is a very private matter that is to be shared between a man and a woman.”

“We take issue with this group—not as individuals, not as people—but with their political stance as an organization and Tech’s allocation of resources to. . . what is basically a sex club,” Alexander said.

Hu objected to the characterization, which he said is a misrepresentation. “We are not a ‘sex club,’” he said in a written statement. “To call it a sex club is very, very ‘in-your-face.’ It’s not the kind of way we want to portray our organization.” He said the club focuses on doing community-building activities like movie nights to simply make people realize they are not alone on campus: “They’re things for people to feel comfortable with themselves,” he said. “While we are focusing on sexual orientation, we aren’t focusing on sex.”

Alexander, however, maintained it is wrong for Tech to use school resources on the club, saying it is a politically-focused group, and that it also does not give added value to the Tech community.

See **Pride**, page 7

Council Clippings



Each week, elected members of the houses of the Student Government Association (SGA) meet to consider allocation bills and talk about campus issues. Here are summaries of those meetings.

Graduate Student Senate

Grads debate response to lacrosse allocation

By Stephen Baehl
News Editor

Tuesday's GSS meeting focused on how to deal with the last of four conference committee bills concerning the men's lacrosse team. The bill had been passed unanimously by UHR last week to ensure the bill's passage no matter what the graduates did.

The maneuver was based upon a ratio rule agreed upon between GSS and UHR; in the case of conference committee bills, which cannot be altered and either pass or fail as they are, the undergrad vote is multiplied by .6, and the graduate vote is multiplied by .4. These factors represent the relative composition of the student body.

The original conflict between the two houses on the bill came from the graduates not wishing to fund any equipment requested by the lacrosse team, claiming they'd given the group enough money. The undergraduates disagreed.

Ultimately, the graduates decided a simple vote on the bill would best express their position, declining to try using any rules or technicalities.

"It's just not appropriate behavior

Bills passed
• Joint allocation to Outdoor Recreation Georgia Tech (ORGT)
• Joint allocation to Cycling Club
Bills failed
• Joint allocation to Men's Lacrosse Club (d) Conf. Committee
Postponed
• Joint allocation to Tennis Club
• Joint allocation to Yellow Jacket Fencing

for us to come in and play tricks," said secretary Mitch Keller. "It'd be better to just give this a straight up-and-down vote."

President Kasi David agreed, saying the senators should consider each bill on its merit, not on other factors. The bill failed, but with no actual effect on its ultimate passage through SGA as a whole due to UHR's vote and the ratio rule.

The graduates also passed with little discussion a bill allocating about \$2,600 to ORGT for funding for new whitewater equipment. They also amended and passed a bill paying for expenses incurred by the cycling for a competition in Pennsylvania.

Undergraduate House of Representatives

UHR allows caucus time changes

By Stephen Baehl
News Editor

Tuesday night's Undergraduate House of Representatives meeting launched into two bylaw amendments before allocation bills were considered.

The first of the amendments dealt with the creation of a new committee to focus on civic involvement on campus and among students—it passed by unanimous acclamation after no discussion.

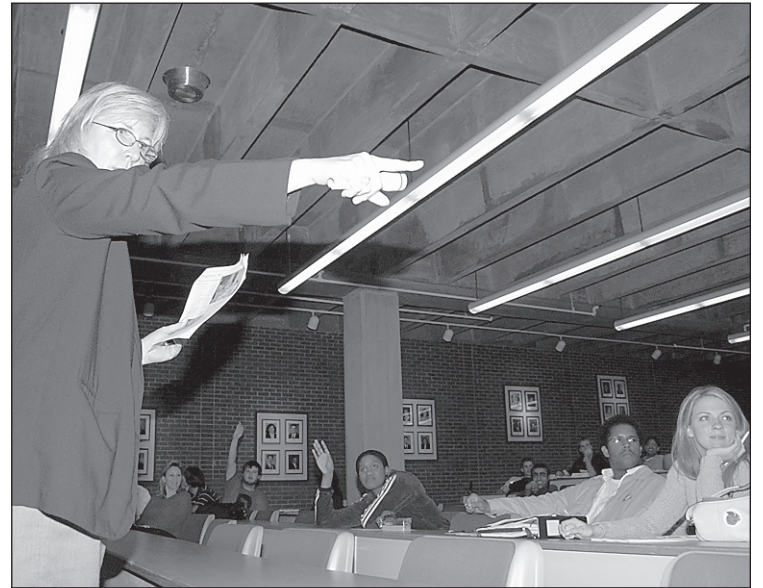
The second amendment took significantly longer to pass. It abolished the set 7 p.m. Tuesday time for caucus meetings, described by some representatives as what were intended to be "office hours" for SGA reps to meet and speak with their constituents. The amendment instead allowed for individual schools' representatives to determine a time and place for the meeting to take place.

Earth and Atmospheric Sciences representative Hunter Oates, the bill's author, said the move was designed to help increase the low use of caucuses. He argued that more flexible meeting times would allow more constituents to find a time suitable to them, and perhaps draw more of them.

One representative, however, pointed out that the problem with caucus meetings lay more with a lack of publicity, not meeting times. He said this would not sufficiently address the problem. Oates and other representatives pointed out that publicity was important, but that meeting flexibility would help caucus popularity, as well.

After some failed attempts to bring the bill to question, the House finally voted on and passed it.

The undergraduates then moved to considering allocation bills. The first was a request from ORGT's whitewater committee for \$2,600



By Stephen Marek / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Melissa Moore of Auxiliary Services spoke to the undergraduates Tuesday night about the Tenth and Home family housing.

to buy some new equipment. The bill saw very little discussion before passage.

The house then moved to a bill request from Tennis Club for funding for equipment and court fees. The court fees, however, were determined to not be needed until August 2005—as such, the organization representative said there was no need for that money.

JFC further recommended cutting funds requested for personal equipment such as strings, shoes and grips. The players would get to keep the equipment once dispensed, and such personal equipment is generally not funded by JFC. The bill was then passed as per JFC with no discussion.

The final allocation up for consideration was a request from a new club, Yellow Jacket Fencing. The bill asked for funds for basic equipment needed by the organization.

They requested funding for electric fencing equipment as well

Bills passed
• Amendments to the bylaws of the UHR (1)
• Amendments to the bylaws of the UHR (2)
• Joint allocation to Outdoor Recreation Georgia Tech (ORGT)
• Joint allocation to Tennis Club
• Joint allocation to Yellow Jacket Fencing

as body armor for club fencers.

"It is essential for the club to obtain our own equipment," said organization representative Haining Yu.

The fencers currently use equipment from the CRC options class—however, the gear is old and does not include electrical equipment, which is the accepted standard in fencing matches, she said.

See UHR, page 6

sliver

www.nique.net/sliver. See page 6 for more.

Fire Chan

Will Barnes---I am calling you out son. Who's your daddy?

GT football's famous last words: "Hey, where's PJ?" No offense woods, but you aint go the mojo

Nirav from Orlando, FL thinks they should extend in-state tuition to Florida residents..



By Raymond Chafin / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Does This Match My Eyes? Chemical Engineering graduate student Bill Madden gets some help finishing his Halloween costume during a Halloween party on Saturday, Oct. 30.

QEP

from page 1

about graduate education,” Lohmann said. “We had to make some choices in an environment of limited resources...to where we think we have the best opportunities to make a significant difference.”

Before the plan was actually sent to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in September, many options were considered at the time, including an ongoing effort to improve the quality of freshman laboratory classes. Research and international education were chosen, however, because they represented areas holding “the greatest momentum,” for improvement.

According to Lohmann, about one-third of Tech students go abroad, either to study, conduct research, or work as part of an internship or co-op. With the implementation of the QEP, Lohmann hopes that

the amount of Tech students going abroad will increase to about 50 percent.

The plan will consolidate the existing international programs into a more structured “pathway” that will culminate in a special diploma, much like that of the co-op program. Once the program is in place, students interested in pursuing an international education will find much more guidance available to them, especially stemming from their respective majors.

The proposed pathway includes a language requirement, at least two terms abroad (at least one of which needs to be with a study program), a selection of internationally geared electives and a capstone senior program.

With specific departments having a large say in the exact requirements for each major, requirements for such a diploma will vary from major to major.

The senior program could take the form of a senior design project, a seminar or a course, but all programs will be designed to allow the student to “reflect back on his or her international experience,” Lohmann said. The electives, also varying from major to major, will be geared towards “experiencing how the student’s particular major applies worldwide,” he said.

The specifics of the research component are still vague, but the focus will be on fostering greater communication between research faculty and undergrads looking to get involved in research.

According to Bob McMath, vice provost for academic affairs, the plan will emphasize “getting the word out” to both sides of the equation, including refining the website and matching professors with students.

“We are a big research university,” McMath said. “Sometimes that does not benefit the undergraduates the

Survey

from page 1

“help students choose courses that best suit their needs and furthermore create accountability for professors to improve their teaching.”

He said he considers this to be the “biggest breakthrough that Course Critique has experienced since the new critique system launched last January.”

He hopes to add new features in the future, such as an online interactive schedule. With this, students would be able to look up professors and their respective class times and create and print a tentative personal course schedule prior to registration.

The critique program is also working on providing students with information on the availability of course books, with information taken directly from the website www.gtbooktrade.net, which is an initiative of the SGA Campus Services Committee.

UHR

from page 5

The bill requested 20 sets of equipment to be funded by the Capital Outlay account.

However, JFC recommended funding only 11 sets of equipment, excluding the following: gloves, since they would not last the three years required by Capital Outlay funding; knickers and jackets, since they both qualify as personal equipment not reusable by the club due to specific sizing.

Also, the House cut funding of electric swords from 11 to six to more accurately match the two scoring systems currently owned by the club (which each accommodate two fencers with one sword each at a time).

Afterward, they passed the bill. Oates said this would be a good set of equipment to start the club with, allowing it to become more active and possibly return for more needed funding later.

undergraduate research in their grants. According to McMath, while it is relatively simple for professors to request additional funding for undergraduates, many professors simply are not aware of this option when applying for grants.

The QEP’s goal is not to start anything really that different, but rather to build on the research opportunities and international programs available, stressed both Lohmann and McMath. The difference, they say, with the QEP will lie in the aid and guidance available to students.

While most of the burden of accessing such opportunities currently lie on the student, in the future the QEP will make it easier on students to access research and international opportunities. With individual departments more involved in promoting these opportunities, problems such as getting the “runaround” from different offices may be lessened.

SLIVER

www.nique.net/sliver

“A STAC alumna?” I’m a CS major, and even I know that the singular of “alumni” is “alumnus.”

Thanks for proving yet again that STAC is fluff.

No one ever told me that they don’t allow alcohol on the stingerettes.

Must buy panda deflamboyant spray.

Arrrgg...pandamonium at its worst.

Students turn out to vote for first time

By Ross Fitch

University Daily Kansan (U. Kansas)

(U-Wire) University of Kansas students and Lawrence, Kan., residents flocked to Allen Fieldhouse, but basketball was not on their minds. They went to vote.

At the fieldhouse, one of the many polling places throughout Lawrence, many students were voting for the first time.

"I hesitated before filling in the circles," said Katie Middendorf, Olathe freshman. "This isn't like taking a test. It really counts."

Middendorf and her boyfriend, Elijah Hubbard, a freshman, even made plans to vote together. The couple said they met each other after their 8:30 classes and walked down to the fieldhouse.

"It was good I had someone else to share it with," Middendorf said.

Jason Baker also voted for the first time Tuesday.

"I felt like I had the power to say who stays and goes," the Houston freshman said.

For one student, faith brought him to the polls. It's a Christian responsibility to have a voice in politics, said Chris Carter, a sophomore. "God put it in my heart to vote today," he said. Lawrence High School poll workers also saw their share of first-time voters.

Katherine Mann, a sophomore, said she was voting to state her opinion.

"I felt like I wanted a voice, and to take a stand," Mann

said. "I think this year is going to be down to the wire."

Across Lawrence, voter turnout was high throughout the day. At the Lawrence Public Library, Betty Kennett saw the biggest crowds of her 20 years as an election poll worker.

"I've never seen this many people come out, especially this early in the morning,"

said Kennett, a Lawrence resident.

After the polls at the library opened at 7 a.m., about 200 people voted in the first couple of hours, she said. That is close to 23 percent of the 881 registered in the polling location's precinct. Close to 40 percent, or 344 people had voted by 2 p.m.

Voting did not proceed without some hassles. Tosha Jansen-Conkey said there were only six people in front of her when she arrived at the fieldhouse, but it still took about 30 minutes to vote.

The use of provisional ballots was part of the cause. "Four out of six did a POV, and that's insane," said Jansen-Conkey, a senior.

Some of the people were at the wrong polling site, which also made the lines slower, she said. Overall, most students predicted a strong turnout and national impact from their fellow students.

"There will be a bigger turnout on campus than last election because everyone has an opinion," said

Travis Dambach, a junior. "It'll be a huge deciding factor."

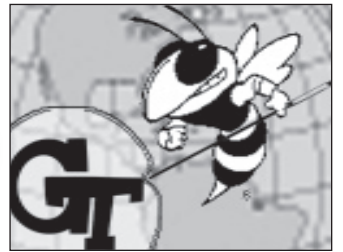
"I hesitated before filling in the circles. This isn't like taking a test. It really counts."

Katie Middendorf
Freshman, U. Kansas

"I felt like I wanted a voice, and to take a stand."

Katherine Mann
Sophomore, U. Kansas

Breaking *the* Bubble



A lot of things went on outside the bubble of Tech in the past week. Here are a few important events taking place throughout the nation and the world.

Star Wars: Episode III trailer hits theaters

The official trailer for *Star Wars: Episode III* will be shown in theaters starting this Friday with the opening of *The Incredibles*. The trailer for the highly anticipated final film in the series will also be available on the official Star Wars website, but only for paying subscribers.

Student takes self hostage, gets arrested

A student at Loyola University attempted to hold his classmates hostage by putting a knife to his own throat Monday. Thomas Newton, a 21-year-old sophomore, was arrested shortly after he put down his weapon, which was secured by police special operations officers.

Students reported they were not threatened; however, after

four students left the classroom during the incident, Newton stood on a desk and instructed no one else to leave. A later search of his residence turned up a shotgun and two rifles.

Newton was booked with 18 counts of false imprisonment with a weapon as a result of the incident.

Karzai wins Afghan presidential election

Hamid Karzai fulfilled expectations as he was declared the official winner of the Afghan election Wednesday. The official announcement is expected to put an end to the allegations of fraud, as the final count showed Karzai had a commanding victory, earning 55.4 percent of the vote.

Approximately eight million of the 10.5 million registered voters turned out in the nation's first election since the overthrow of the Taliban, which failed to disrupt the election despite several threats.

Pride

from page 4

"This is a science and technology school, and we should be encouraging things that benefit the community in some way," Alexander said. "We should be using our resources to help benefit the community."

Hu said that the group rarely engages in political activity, and when it does, such is more issue-oriented than partisan. And when such activity is engaged, he said the club pays for the events out of its own pocket and

does not use school funding.

He added that the group serves a necessary purpose on campus. It is the main resource center for GLBTQ (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transsexual and questioning) students. Unlike other colleges of Tech's size and prestige, he said, the Institute lacks an official, school-run center for GLBTQ students. Being student-run leaves the organization struggling to keep up with demands. "We are in dire need of help," Hu said.

Alexander said it was a mistake to not consider the group a politically-

inclined one with its own political agenda. "We are denied SGA funding because we are a partisan political organization," he said. "Now that's all well and good, but we need to be consistent. Let's make no mistake about it—the Pride Alliance has a political agenda, and that's a partisan political agenda."

According to Hu, however, GTCOW's funding came from the Student Foundation. But Alexander contends SGA records indicate it has funded the organization. He also said, though, that he and the College

Republicans have no problem with the group's sexual preferences or choice of people to hang out with.

"That's by all means their business," Alexander said. "This is America and they certainly have the right to behave within the laws as they see fit...and last I checked, having a homosexual relationship wasn't against the law...We are tolerant of their choices to behave in that manner, and we certainly seek no malice toward them...but tolerance does not mean putting aside your principles and your views."

Hu maintained that the Pride Alliance and GTCOW focus on community building, not sex and politics. "The GTCOW committee was quite shocked by what the College Republicans had to say about our organization," Hu said in a letter. "We hope that by openly talking about this, people will be more aware of what Pride Alliance is and what it is not...It is difficult for us to come to terms with the misconceptions, and it is quite sad to have to be reminded of them in ways such as this."

SLIVER

www.nique.net/sliver

When the alarm goes off, wake up before your roommate does!!
Do homework before the due time, not way after.
Ah yes, calc class is the time for a round of fast paced killing in a game of GTA vice city.

See page 13 for more.