



UHR, JFC cut student organization budget

By Emily Chambers
Editor-in-chief

Over the past two weeks both the Graduate Student Senate (GSS) and the Undergraduate House of Representatives (UHR) have been meeting late into the night to discuss and ultimately approve the Student Activity Fee budget that the two bodies jointly allocate every year. The budget has yet to be voted on in UHR, and the versions passed by both bodies will be reconciled in a conference committee.

According to a presentation made by Joint Finance Committee (JFC) Chair Matt Cauble to UHR, the most up-to-date projection given by the Tech Budget Office would allocate \$4.557 mil-

lion to SGA for the annual budget, a "pretty conservative projection," Cauble said.

In addition, the \$4.557 million figure does not include the five-dollar increase to the student activity fee (SAF) recently approved by the Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee. The increase, which would go into effect in the summer if approved by the Board of Regents as a three-dollar increase, would raise the fall student activity fee to \$123 per student. According to the Fee request made by the Budget Office to the Board of Regents (BoR) on Feb. 16, the total funds with the fee increase would be \$4.753 million.

According to the proposal, "Student organizations have also been impacted by the recession.

In some instances, student organizations were able to compensate for the economic downturn (and resulting harder fundraising climate) with assistance from academic departments. However, with state budget cuts, student organizations have shown an increased need for financial support from SGA..."

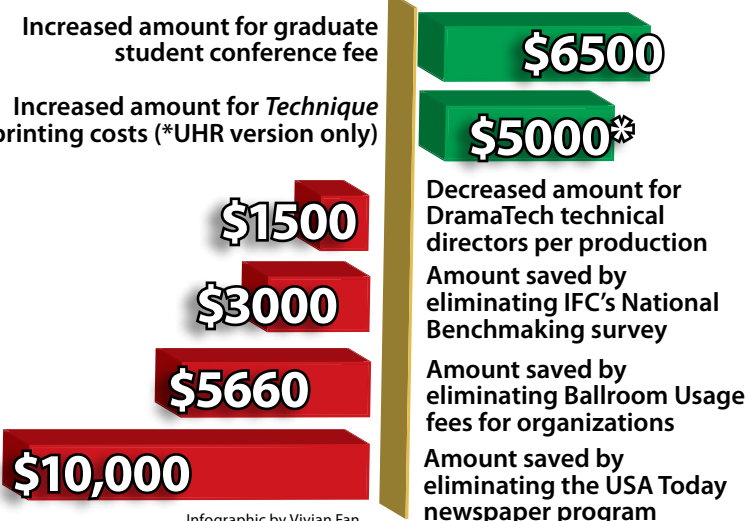
The two bodies have responded to the potential fee increase differently. GSS entered their budgetary procedures assuming that the increase would pass, and allocated a larger, \$4.5 million budget.

"The Board of Regents almost always votes on fee increases after SGA approves the Student Activity Fee budget. SGA has always

See Budget, page 7

POSSIBLE STUDENT BUDGET CHANGES*

*Potential budget changes for organizations to be voted on by UHR and GSS in the upcoming weeks.



Whaley, Vaden win Inventure Prizes



This year's Inventure Prize was hosted by former CNN correspondent Miles O'Brien and CHEM professor Bahareh Azizi. Patrick Whaley and his OmegaWear invention first place and the People's Choice award. Second place was Sarah Vaden.

By Kamna Bohra
Contributing Writer

Eight teams of Tech students put their inventions to the test, vying for cash prizes up to \$15,000, and a U.S. patent worth \$20,000 in the second annual In-Venture Prize Competition on March 17, sponsored by Tech and Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB) and hosted by former CNN correspondent Miles O'Brien and CHEM professor Dr. Bahareh Azizi.

The InVenture Prize finale took place at the Ferst Center and gathered all finalists of the competition to demonstrate their products in front of a live audience, and televised by GPB TV. Winners were judged by a panel of judges that included entrepreneur Greg Foster, MGT professor Lara O'Connor Hodgson, Regents' Professor and director of the Engineering Entrepreneurship Program David Ku and WSB Radio personality Scott Slade. In addition, winners were also judged by the audience for the new People's Choice Awards through text messages. Students

in the audience could also cheer on their favorite invention with posters and signs in each finalists' own fan sections.

Following the finalists' presentations to and questions by the panel of judges, Patrick Whaley, fifth-year ME major, and his product OmegaWear won the first place prize of \$15,000, and the People's Choice Award of \$5,000. Second-year AE major Sarah Vaden won the second place prize of \$10,000, for her drum tuning device. Both winners also received patents up to \$20,000, provided by Tech's Office of Technology Licensing.

The contest, which was stemmed by the organizers' desire for undergraduate students to create solutions to local and global issues, began last semester. Finalists were selected through a 3-month process consisting of preliminary presentations and judging. The other six finalists, selected from a wide range of competitors, included the teams for the products EEGLE EYE, the Multifunctional Automobile Powered Pump (MAPP) and the Koozie Cooler, and the individual finalists for

the products ExpressPress, FandomU and Memory Boosta.

The winning invention OmegaWear is type of "wear weighted clothing [that] enhances training and weight loss for a wide range of athletes from professionals to the recreational sports person wanting to improve their health, performance, appearance, or physique," according to Whaley. The product design strategically places hydro-gel over critical muscle groups to maximize the results of any physical fitness workout or of any daily activity.

"I had an idea for clothing that looked no different than regular clothing except it was significantly heavier. This way the user would be able to work out without anyone knowing," Whaley said.

Whaley is currently taking orders for his product via his website and also plans to pursue clinical trials of his product at local research institutions.

Vaden's drum-tuning device consists of a foot pump that blows air into the drum

See InVenture, page 3

Registration changes for Phase I

By Kamna Bohra
Contributing Writer

Following years of student population growth, Tech advisors and registration faculty are looking into and testing new procedures to streamline the course registration process. According to an email issued to students on March 26, changes for the upcoming course registration process will include limiting Phase I registration to 18 hours and combining summer and fall registrations.

"The processes we had when we had an enrollment of 10,000 students isn't working anymore. [We have to] see if this is the best answer for how Tech has grown and matured," said registrar Reta Pikowsky.

The previous credit hour cap for students in good standing during Phase I was 21 hours. According to the registrar's office, a large percentage of students register for 21 hours, often including courses these students have already completed successfully. This often occurs when students with early time tickets "reserve" seats in classes for students with later time tickets.

"It's harmful for the students who desperately need that class. It may be convenient for one student, but inconvenient and unfair for another," Pikowsky said. Pikowsky also noted that 18 hours are still high enough to offer flexibility during Phase I, but low enough to prevent students from registering for classes unnecessarily.

"If ten percent of our students are signed up for one extra course, that's 1200 seats that appear to be full," said Dana Hartley, director of undergraduate studies.

From an administrative perspective, this change was made to optimize resource information well before the fall semester. Pikowsky noted that the number of students registered for a course after Phase I often drops during Phase II, adding that the fluctuation makes selecting classrooms, changing sections for courses and cancelling classes logistically difficult.

"Otherwise, you [don't] have a good sense of this until right before fall starts, and then it's too late," Pikowsky said.

The registrar will increase the cap to 21

See Registration, page 5

TECHNIQUE

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From the files of the GTPD... Campus Crime

By Vivian Fan
News Editor

Spurned lover

A Tech staff member reported to the police that he had been harassed by his former boyfriend of a month. The staff member stated that he had ended a one month relationship, after he felt that his boyfriend was unstable. Following the break-up, the victim had received harassing texts, phone calls and emails that stated that the ex-boyfriend would show up on campus and distribute flyers with compromising pictures taken of the victim during their relationship. The staff member stated that his former boyfriend had already posted these compromising

pictures online. The GTPD then suggested that the victim file a report with the Atlanta Police Department.

A newspaper bonanza

Police were called to the IC at 4:13 in the morning after a facilities worker had witnessed two blonde, white males of approximately twenty years of age enter the building at 3:30 a.m. The males entered using their BuzzCards, and had begun causing noise inside of the foyer area.

When the facilities worker went to see the cause of the noise, she saw the two men throwing

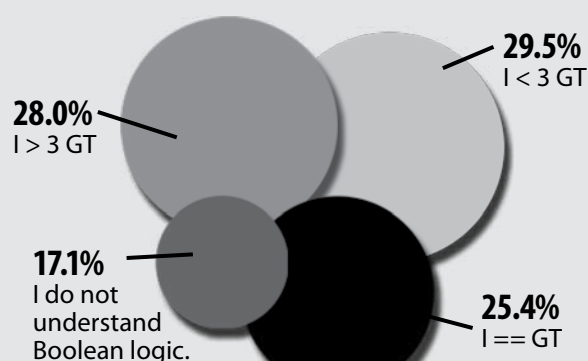
newspapers and trash around the room and then run off. Although there is no physical damage or sign of forced entry, the two men have yet to be identified.

Attack of the Anime fan

March 21, GTPD responded to a call from a student. The student was in the Student Center after alleging assault. The victim was a participant in the MomoCon anime conference that was occurring that weekend. The victim stated that she had been walking from the IC from the Student Center when a woman grabbed her around the neck and began to choke her for unknown reasons. The assaulter had arrived at MomoCon with the victim, but the victim did not know who she was or where she lived. Police advised the victim to call the police when she knew more information about the assaulter.

POLL OF THE WEEK

After "I <3 GT" Week, how do you feel about Tech?



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Council Clippings

This week in Student Government

Each Tuesday, elected members of the two houses of the Student Government Association, the Undergraduate House of Representatives (UHR) and the Graduate Student Senate (GSS), convene to consider allocation bills and discuss issues facing campus. Here is a summary of those two meetings.

By Vijai Narayanan, Assistant News Editor



Photo by Kelvin Kuo/Student Publications

SGA representatives listen to discussions on potential budget cuts for Tier III student organizations.

This edition of *Council Clippings* covers the UHR and GSS meetings from Mar. 30, 2010.

Bylaws Amendment

UHR passed legislation amending the undergraduate SGA bylaws, resulting in changes to the roles of multiple executive and non-executive positions throughout undergraduate SGA. One change will be the establishment of a new speaker of the house for UHR. The speaker will be the chief executive of the legislative branch and be responsible for overseeing joint SGA bills, presiding over UHR meetings and appointing several positions

for UHR meetings. If passed in referendum during elections these changes will become effective starting on March 12, 2011. The bill passed UHR 40-2-2.

Archery Club

The Archery Club requested funds from SGA to attend the US Intercollegiate Archery Championships. The club requested \$2560.30 from SGA, including \$1368 in registration fees. While JFC policy only allows up to \$1000 funding for registration to events, UHR waived JFC policy and funded the full amount upon recommendation of the JFC chair, based on the club's success at previous events. The bill passed GSS

21-2-0 and UHR 39-2-0.

International Food Fair

SGA considered a bill put forward by the Culture Tech organization to put on an International Food Fair on April 5 at the Tech Green. The bill was amended from \$6090 to \$2654 in order to conform to JFC policy regarding funding for food. Organizational representatives explained that they would need more funding in order to put on a strong event. Representatives claimed that JFC policy was there for a reason and, therefore, UHR should not fund more than the recommended amount. UHR passed the bill 40-3-0 and GSS passed by 25-0-0.

InVenture from page 1

while the musician is playing it, allowing the drummer to tune his instrument while playing. Vaden plans to take her product to market and is looking to hear back from investors. Additionally, she has received contact from drum-

mers looking for more information on the tuning device.

"[The Inventure Prize] would give me the means to fulfill my dream of applying my engineering talents to my creative passions," Vaden said prior to the competition.

Both winners and finalists

discussed their own plans to expand their product as well as the stories that fueled the creation of such products. Some finalists such as the Koozie Cooler team have already acquired provisional patents, which protects their product for one year.

"We have a useful product that

we passionately believe in and have received good feedback from our markets . . . If we pursue the Koozie Cooler, we know that it will be a long and difficult road, but a road well worth traveling in order to provide a more enjoyable drinking experience," said Robert Gillan, fifth-year ME major.

Finalists recommended for interested students to build off of their own passions.

"Find something you're passionate about and go for it. Make people fall in love with it, and make people see the product the same way you see it. That's the key to winning," Vaden said.

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.

Obama signs health care legislation into law

U.S. President Barack Obama signed the final element of the landmark health care legislation into law on March 30. The overall reform is set to make significant changes to the nation's health care system over the next decade including barring insurance companies from denying coverage for preexisting conditions and requiring all individuals to purchase health insurance by 2014.

The bill will cost \$940 billion over the next ten years, and is aimed at increasing coverage to 32 million Americans currently uninsured. According to estimates from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), the bill will reduce the deficit by \$130 billion over the next ten years and \$1.2 trillion in the second ten years.

Suicide bombers attack Moscow metro system

Over 60 people were injured and 38 killed as a result of two explosions on the Moscow Metro train system during rush hour on March 29. Chechen rebels claimed responsibility for the attacks in an effort to avenge the killings of "poor Chechens" by Russian security forces. The first explosion took place at central Lubyanka station in Moscow, directly underneath the headquarters of the Russian Federal Security Service. Another bomb exploded six stops away at the Park Kultury station. The blasts came six months after Russian President Dmitry Medvedev declared an end to counter-terrorism operations in Chechnya.

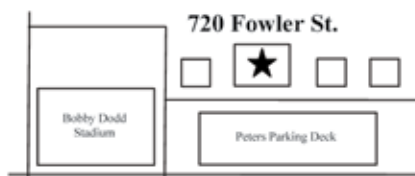
White House proposes drilling off coasts

The Obama administration is proposing to open areas off the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico and northern coast of Alaska, covering 167 million acres of ocean. The proposal drew criticism from a wide range of environmental groups.

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Students rally to protest budget cuts at State Capitol

By Vivian Fan
News Editor

While the decision regarding the University System of Georgia's (USG) budget cuts has yet to be slated for discussion within the state legislature, SGA representatives and students from universities across the state have continued to express their sentiments to legislators following March 15's rally at the state capitol.

The rally was held in protest of the potential \$300 million worth in budget cuts against the University System of Georgia (USG). The rally united students from nearly all of the USG's 35 public colleges. Also in attendance were SGA presidents from UGA, Tech and Georgia State.

The rally's events began at 8:00 a.m. in the morning at Hurt Park near the Georgia State University campus, and included a press conference by the presidents. The rally eventually led way to a march to the Capitol building at 10 a.m., where students stood outside the steps in protest.

Students wielded signs as speakers sponsored by the College Democrats of Georgia spoke to the audience about student activism.

"In an increasingly technological world the need for a better education is constantly growing. If we have budget cuts, that makes college education only available to the rich," said Clark Coleman, first-year CEE major. "We're all rallying together to stand up for a cause. We're just standing up for what we believe in."

Two separately organized rallies met simultaneously at Hurt Park before gathering in front of the state capitol. Initially, a rally was organized by Undergraduate SGA President Alina Staskevicius



Photos by Virginia Lin/ Student Publications

A speaker sponsored by College Democrats of Georgia and GSPHE addresses protesting students outside of the state capitol during the student rally against USG budget reductions on March 17.

and SGA presidents from the other 34 USG universities. However, a simultaneous and separate rally was organized by the Young Democrats of Georgia and the Georgia Students for Public Higher Education (GSPHE) at the same location. Overall, the rally remained peaceful, despite its somewhat partisan political tone given both parties' presence.

"All SGAs across the state have been non-partisan throughout this entire process. We firmly believe that this is not a Republican or Democrat issue; it is simply an issue of preserving the quality of higher education in Ga.," Staskevicius said.

According to reports, the USG

rally organizers had attempted to secure a permit to rally on the steps of the Capitol, but the Young Democrats had attained one before them. As well, some organizers had reported that following the SGA presidents press conference, representatives from the Young Democrats began their own march from Hurt Park after announcing their own rally. Eventually the two rallies merged at the Capitol.

"We saw that the SGA was having [a protest], and so I contacted individuals within the SGAs, the first question that we asked was, 'Do you guys have a permit?' They replied that, 'No we don't need one.' As someone who has got-

ten permits in the past... I went and got that permit ahead of the time," said Steven Golden, vice president of the College Democrats of Georgia.

When asked about the involvement of Tech's SGA, Golden responded that he had only been working with UGA's undergraduate SGA president Katie Barlow in the planning, and was not sure about the extent of Tech's SGA involvement.

"I think that, fundamentally, we and GSPHE are fighting for the same thing—preserving the quality of higher education in Ga. We do, however, have a different way of going about this," Staskevicius said. "I truly believe that a

part of this process and attracting attention to the issue is the rallying and the protesting; however, I think that we also need the meetings with legislators to be taken as seriously as we can be. The two groups balance out one another."

While students congregated outside, SGA representatives from the USG schools met inside with state legislators Governor Sonny Perdue's Director of Communications Bert Brantley, Deputy Executive Council Nels Peterson, and the Speaker of the House, David Ralston. The representatives also delivered a petition signed by 36,000 Georgians to Lieutenant Governor Casey Cagle. Following the rally, however, the representatives received criticism from a number of parties concerning the closed-door meetings between the legislators and SGA representatives and the inclusion of certain conciliatory statements within the petition, including opening up the possibility for a 20 percent increase on tuition.

"We would really love to, we would really love to open this up. What we would like to have open door meetings [with all parties]," Golden said.

State legislators have expressed interest in opening up discussion with students on alternatives to budget reduction, and ask for more student activism.

"There are alternatives on how we collect unreturned sales tax from people who are cheating the system. Tax benefits that have been given to companies who have not fulfilled that mission," said Dubose Porter, minority leader of the Georgia House of Representatives. "To cut education is the wrong message to the rest of the world. We have built a world class university system and we can't let it get dismantled."

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construction in the student center? Thanks Tech... Thanks a lot... If the CULC's nickname isn't "The Beard" then the election will have been a sham.

computer science

Why do so many individuals sit at group tables in the lib?! They should be reserved for groups of 2 or more so those of us in groups don't have to find other places to work

I'm liking how the warm weather is bringing out all the pretty girls.

to the guy in zhang's inorganic class that always stares: just come talk to me!

"Meet you at the C-Spot in 5 min" - adventurous student

"Just down the road from The Shaft" - adventurous student

russian jews like doughnuts

I'm pretty sure Newton's 3rd applies to emotions as well.

Please read signs when you enter a building so you can know where to go!!! Please!!! For the love of...

im in love with the boys on 2nd fitten

why does everyone talk about how bad the mens basketball team is instead of how good the womens team is?

is the sliver king looking for a sliver queen

while(true) { current state = thinkOf(you);}

To the kid studying in the library, please put your shoes on.

Baby move your butt, butt, butt

So is there going to be a sting break this year? haven't heard anything about it yet

I like rainy days because they give me an excuse to take my clothes off.

I don't have time for a relationship.

Guys across ulc courtyard with the laser pointers: We will come over there and stab you

Eat vanilla wafers

Re: poll everyone at tech understands boolean logic, we all have to take cs

The moment you're born, you start to die.

from tree to tree, from you to me

Registration from page 1

hours during Phase II registration for students in good standing. However, students may apply for permits for more than 18 credit hours for Phase I at the registrar's office, according to Hartley.

The purpose of changing the registration schedule is to allow students to select courses based on both summer and fall offerings, to receive simultaneous advising for summer and fall semesters and to simply have more time to register before leaving campus.

"If you had more time, you could maybe make more informed decisions about summer and fall courses," Pikowsky said.

Statistics indicate that many technological issues occur during registration, particularly when too many people access OSCAR at once.

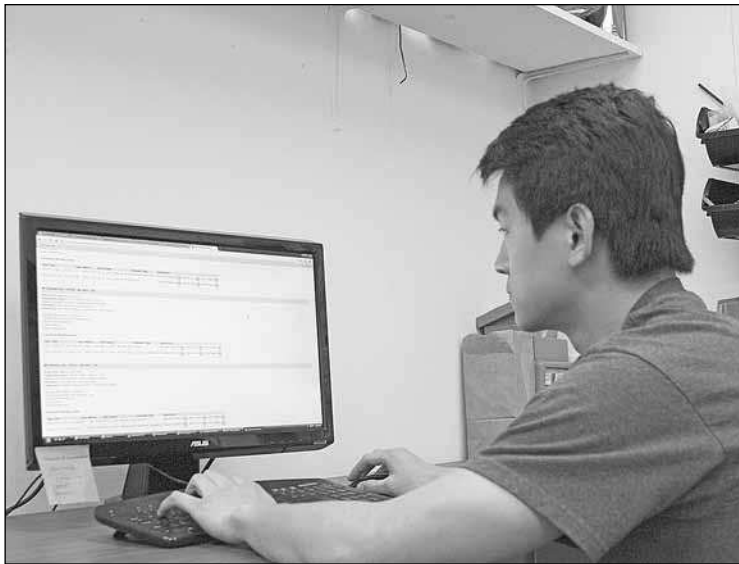
"We're taking a really hard look at the technology we have... we can't stutter along with the technology we have. Other institutions are doing things with better technology and more efficiently," Pikowsky said.

To fix these issues, the Office of Information Technology (OIT) updated the database and web servers in Fall 2009 to accommodate the large capacity of users. Additionally, the registrar is opening smaller groups of time tickets over a longer span of time to prevent overcapacity. OIT will also be monitoring the website around the clock to prevent and to fix errors.

The planning for changes to registration was conducted by the registration task force, which consists of academic advisors and student representatives.

"It's great that all these folks can come together and work for a better solution versus [us] just implementing something," said associate registrar Craig Womack.

The registration task force plans to later address issues such as academic major restrictions on course registration and ensuring that students register for the correct classes for their degrees, using a degree-auditing program that highlights what classes still need to be taken, tailored to each student's academic plans.



Photos by Caleb Phillips/Student Publications

A student researches different classes before his registration time ticket opens. Fall and summer registration began March 31.

ISyE chair White steps down

By Vijai Narayanan
Assistant News Editor

Dr. Chelsea "Chip" C. White III, the current H. Milton and Carolyn J. Stewart Chair of the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISyE), has decided to step down as school chair on June 30, following nearly five years in that role. White will return to the faculty and serve as co-director of the Global Transportation Center of Focused Research within the Supply & Logistics Institute and as the Schneider National Chair in Logistics and Transportation.

During White's tenure as chair, ISyE received a \$20 million commitment from Carolyn J. and Milton H. Stewart, allowing the school to advance its academic and research programs. The program has continued to be ranked as the top graduate program in the nation for 19 consecutive years. The school also expanded international programs beyond Singapore to include those in Shanghai and Costa Rica. In 2006, the school was renamed the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering. ISyE also increased its endowment from \$24 million to \$64 million.

White received his PhD from the University of Michigan in 1974 in Computer, Information and Control Engineering. Before



Photos courtesy of GT Communications & Marketing

Dr. Chip White will be stepping down from his position as H. Milton and Carolyn J. Stewart Chair of the ISyE school on June 30.

joining the Institute, White served on the faculties of the University of Virginia and the University of Michigan. In addition to his role as department chair, White serves on the board of directors for Conway Inc., the ITS World Congress, TLI-Asia Pacific, and the Bobby Dodd Institute. In 2008, White provided testimony during a roundtable discussion entitled "Reauthorization of the Federal

Surface Transportation Research Program", held by the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

His research interests include the analysis of the role of real-time information and enabling information technology for improved logistics and supply chain productivity and risk mitigation. A search committee for a successor to the post will be formed shortly.

IN MEMORIAM

Second-year IE major Tyler Robert Rowland passed away March 26 at 21 years of age, after a three-year battle with cancer. Rowland completed three courses last fall semester and was recently named probate of the Ramblin' Reck Club.

Family members have requested that in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Rowland's name. The address can be found below:

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Budget from page 1

adopted a budget assuming the Regents will approve the proposed fee increase. About five years ago, the Regents suggested that most fee increases would be denied, but SGA still requested a double-digit fee increase. That increase was approved. I also believe allocating a \$4.5 million budget sends a message to the Regents that the \$5 fee increase is essential," said GSS member Mitch Keller.

In contrast, members of UHR expressed concerns at their March 16 meeting that allocating a budget larger than the current fee would allow could result in severe hardships in the fall if SGA members are forced to go through and cut money from the previously approved budget. UHR instead initially chose to allocate a budget that initial aimed for a \$4.3 million target. However, the newer projections of \$4.5 without the fee increase did moderate the calls for fiscal conservatism during UHR's second week of budget debates on March 30.

"The numbers we have before us assume a decrease in enrollment from now, so we are assuming worst-case scenario. 4.4 million might be a good compromise between 4.3 and 4.5, so I would endorse a 4.4 million budget target," said UHR representative Adam Weiss on March 30.

While some drastic cuts were proposed during the budget de-

bates, many failed to gain traction. One such amendment was proposed to reduce the number of funded tournaments for Tier III competitive clubs to three tournaments a year, down from the current five tournaments funded. This amendment, which would have cut funding from over thirty organizations, failed the house.

There were several large amendments that passed both bodies. One large budgetary increase was to add in the salary of SGA accountant Ninh Tran, which was added to the Undergraduate Student Government budget. The salaried position has been funded in the past and was left off the initial budget submission due to error.

Tier I organizations, namely the Campus Recreation Center and the Student Center, saw no amendments to the budgets proposed by JFC. These two organizations comprise \$2.98 million of the total SAF budget.

Tier II organizations were cut approximately \$110,000 below the initial JFC version of the budget. Some were large program eliminations, like the decision to end the USA Today newspaper program, which was eliminated in amendments in both bodies to save \$10,000 and the elimination of funding for the Interfraternity Council's National Benchmarking Survey, which both bodies eliminated to save \$3,000. Other amendments reduced the funds



Photos by Kelvin Kuo/ Student Publications

SGA representatives review proposed budget reductions on organizations prior to the beginning of discussions at last Tuesday, March 30's SGA Undergraduate House of Representatives meeting.

allocated for certain line items, such as the pay to DramaTech Theater Technical Directors, which was reduced from \$3,000 to \$1,500 for each production.


Tier III organizations were cut as well, usually in sweeping amendments that altered the budgets of multiple organizations in order to avoid bias. All organizations lost funding for *Blueprint* group photos and pages, as well

as intramural participation costs. Organizations also lost Ballroom Usage fees, saving \$5,660.


While some organizations have felt the pinch of the tight budget planning, the discussion has been largely cordial. "In a tight budget season, we understand the cuts that SGA made to our budget request. I am confident that as SGA continues to investigate the benefit that IFC provides to the

campus, we will see more of the Student Activity Fee proportionally allocated to us because of our large constituency and broad campus impact," said IFC president Ashby Foltz.

Although the budget has not yet passed UHR, it will likely be passed in the next two weeks, and following conference committee, both bodies will vote on an identical final budget.



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