

"The South's Liveliest College Newspaper"

TECHNIQUE

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Baseball team advances to the College World Series in Omaha, page 16

Plus Volunteering to fight boredom, page 7



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First Honors class commits

By James Stephenson
News Editor

The Honors Program is set to begin this fall with a small group of students in the incoming freshman class designated to take part in the program.

"There will be 115 entering students as well as between thirteen and fifteen faculty teaching these students," said Greg Nobles, director of the Honors Program.

The program was created two years ago to open new opportunities for incoming Tech students.

"In October 2004, the Committee was formed to create the program. We got approval last November and have since been trying to recruit faculty and find students for the program," Nobles said.

The intent is not to create a new class of Tech students.

"We are not trying to separate the students from the general population. We don't want to create an isolated enclave," Nobles said.

The Honors Program students will live in Howell Hall as a co-ed dorm.

"We want to create a sense of community. The dorm offers informal

"We want to offer the group of students a different approach to learning."

Greg Nobles
Director of Honors Program

meeting spaces. There are entrances for non-residents, so faculty can meet with students in the building," Nobles said.

According to Nobles, the intent is to bring campus life into Howell Hall.

"We want to make the Honors Students visible on campus. I don't want students to be isolated or act elitist on campus," Nobles said.

The Honors classes will not be the same as normal classes on campus.

"It will be an inquiry based approach to learning, where students will be inclined to ask questions. We want to offer the group of students a different approach to learning," Nobles said.

According to Nobles, they are trying to create a common pursuit of answers.

Nobles did not create the Honors Program on his own. Several other people on campus contributed to the formation of the program.

"We had a good deal of help from admission staff," Nobles said.

There were 9,000 applicants to Tech with a subset of four to five hundred applicants for the Honors Program indicated by high school activities.

See Honors, page 3



By David Boivin / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Waiting for the dark: Students gather in anticipation of *Walk the Line*, the second movie in the Flicks on Fifth series.

Professor receives Medal of Honor

James D. Meindl, director of the Microelectronics Research Center and the Joseph M. Pettit Chair Professor of Microelectronics, will receive the IEEE Medal of Honor, the most prestigious award given in the field of technology.

Meindl's research helped improve portable military devices and resulted in the creation of a portable electronic reading aid for the blind.

Meindl joined Tech in 1993 and was appointed director of its Microelectronic Research Center in 1996. Meindl is researching the interconnectivity of billions of transistors in a tiny microchip.

The IEEE will present Meindl the award during their honors ceremony on Saturday, June 24 in Minneapolis, Minn.

Solar Decathlon unveils design

The Tech Solar Decathlon Team revealed its design concept for entry into the upcoming international Solar Decathlon competition. The team is made up of students from multiple disciplines and headed by three College of Architecture professors.

The competition requires that each team design a house that can acquire enough solar energy to run the household, a home-based business, and transportation. The Solar Decathlon draws students from universities in the US, Canada, and Europe. The basis of the competition is designing, building and operating highly energy efficient, completely solar-powered houses.

The teams will assemble their houses on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

Freshman class larger than expected

By James Stephenson
News Editor

The registration numbers are in for the incoming freshman class. The numbers are currently higher than was expected by the admissions office.

"Originally we had a target number of 2,400 students. We actually have a higher yield percentage and a higher number of deposits," said Ingrid Hayes, director of Admissions.

Tech is not the only school experiencing inflated freshman numbers. "This is a national trend. Lots of schools are experiencing this. Many students are submitting multiple deposits and putting off the decision on which school they are going to,"

Hayes said.

Submitting multiple deposits allows students to wait longer before they make their final decision as to which college they will actually attend in the fall.

"It makes it more difficult to plan for upcoming fall semester," Hayes said.

While the numbers are currently inflated, the numbers will decrease as the summer progresses.

"We typically lose three to five percent of students during the summer who submitted a deposit. This is known as the summer melt," Hayes said.

While the summer melt is typical of every summer, according to Hayes, the admissions office does not know exactly how many they will lose

during the summer months.

The admissions office is taking steps to keep the incoming freshmen numbers as updated as possible.

"We are staying in contact with prospective students so we can know as soon as possible if someone decides to go elsewhere," Hayes said.

The main reason to keep the numbers as updated as possible is to plan for summer events for freshmen.

"Students are pre-registered for orientation, so if a large number of students enrolled in the orientation are not coming to this school, we want to get them out of there so we can make room for students who are serious about coming to Tech," Hayes said.

The problem of double deposits

have brought the admissions office to question the deposit amount.

"There is a possibility we will raise the deposit amount to deter prospective students from double depositing, but we want to wait and see if the trend continues. We don't want to make the deposit cost prohibitive and deter those who really want to go to Tech," Hayes said.

Double depositing is still a new phenomenon and admissions officials are waiting to determine what to do about it.

"We will be watching very closely to see what comes of it," Hayes said.

Not all freshmen will be beginning their Tech careers during the

See Incoming, page 3



By Angela Kelling / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

GOOOOOOAAAALLLLL: Students watch a World Cup soccer games outside Pandini's in the Student Center Commons.

Tech releases '05 Freshman Survey

By Craig Tabita
Contributing Writer

The Office of Assessment published the 2005 Freshman Survey Report this past month. The survey, given annually to incoming freshmen during FASET orientation, is part of the Cooperative Institutional Research Program survey given nationwide by the Higher Education Research Institute. Tech has participated in the program since 1966.

The report summarizes the survey and presents selected results, including comparisons to aggregated results from public high-selectivity institutions and private very high-

selectivity institutions. Since the response rate of 47 percent was below the 75 percent minimum required by HERI standards, Tech's results did not factor into the national results.

Of the reasons for choosing Tech, the most common, given by 89 percent of respondents, was that it "has a very good academic reputation."

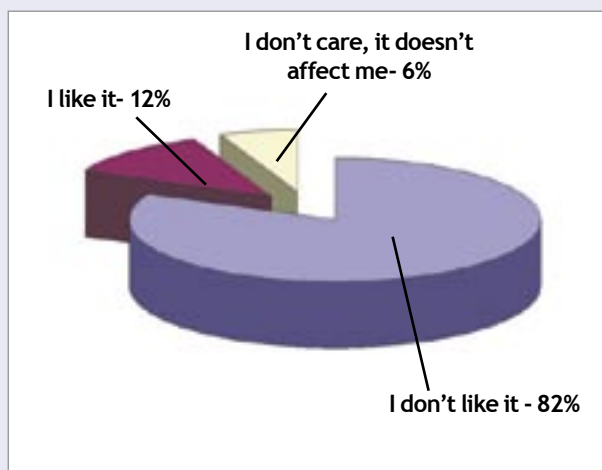
The second most common reason was "graduates get good jobs." Female students were more likely, at 86 percent, to choose this reason than were male students at 78 percent.

The third most common reason, "graduates gain admission to top

See Survey, page 3

TechniqueOnline Voice your opinion!

Last issue's question received 17 responses.

How do you feel about the tuition rate change?

By Hillary Lipko / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

*This week's question:***How many colleges did you submit a deposit to?**Tell us at www.nique.net**Lost property****6/8/2006 14:47:00 hrs.****Location:** 251 Tenth Street/Family Apartments**Incident:** Report of a lost passport and form I-94.**Entering auto****6/8/2006 3:04:00 hrs.****Location:** Peter's Parking Deck**Incident:** Report that a gold '95 Saturn SL-2 was entered and items were taken.**Violation of Code of Conduct****6/5/2006 11:27:00 hrs.****Location:** Maulding Residence Hall**Incident:** Report of criminal trespass, a '04 Honda Accord hit with paint ball.*From the files of the GTPD...***Campus Crime****Theft****6/12/2006 8:36:00 hrs.****Location:** 901 Atlantic Drive/Construction Trailer**Incident:** Report of a stolen Stihl Saw.**6/12/2006 11:23:00 hrs.****Location:** 154 Fifth Street/Delta Upsilon Fraternity**Incident:** Report of a stolen Samsung cell phone.**6/12/2006 16:21:00 hrs.****Location:** Maulding Residence Hall**Incident:** Report of a stolen Apple I-pod.**6/5/2006 16:21:00 hrs.****Location:** Delta Upsilon**Incident:** Report of a stolen laptop computer**Traffic Accident****6/8/2006 14:24:00 hrs.****Location:** 879 Hemphill Avenue/W25 Parking Lot**Incident:** Report of a two vehicle accident. No injuries reported.**Suspicious Person****6/12/2006 14:50:00 hrs.****Location:** ES&T Building**Incident:** Report of a suspicious person.**Larceny-Theft****6/8/2006 13:04:00 hrs.****Location:** Howey Physics**Incident:** Report of two stolen CPU monitors.**6/2/2006 12:11:00 hrs.****Location:** DM Smith**Incident:** Report of a snacks stolen from a vending machine

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President's Undergraduate Research Awards

Fall Semester 2006

**Applications Due
July 12th!**

Undergraduate students may apply for competitive \$1,500 salary awards for work with a faculty mentor on research or support for travel to present research work at a professional conference (\$1,000 maximum).

Visit <http://undergradresearch.gatech.edu/funding.php> for more information and application instructions.

Questions? E-mail PURA@gatech.edu

Incoming from page 1

fall.

"Two hundred and fifty freshmen are starting during the summer. There will be a Freshmen Summer Session that starts June 19th and will be completely separate from the other two summer sessions," Hayes said.

The diversity numbers of the incoming class have not changed much over the past few years.

"Currently, there are 2,699 incoming freshmen. Forty-one percent of students are out of state, 31 percent of students are female, five percent of students are African American, five percent of students are Hispanic and five percent of students are International," Hayes said.

The most popular major of the incoming freshman class is undecided engineering.

"Beyond that, the top five majors are Mechanical Engineering, BioMedical Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, Computer Science, and Computer Engineering," Hayes said.

According to Hayes, the two schools who had a significant increase are the College of Science, up 41 percent from last year, and the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, up 18 percent from last year.

"Both schools took individual recruitment measures and specifically reached out to prospective students," Hayes said.

"The division of the pie changes. The target number won't go up. There isn't room to increase the overall student population on campus," Hayes said.

"We have more flexibility with transfer students," Hayes said.

According to Hayes, Tech will

receive 400 transfer students this year.

Another aspect of Tech is also causing the admission office to be concerned about the larger than predicted freshman class.

"Retention is also up. If it comes to a point, the decision will have to be made at some administrative level. We don't want to diminish the quality of education students are receiving," Hayes said.

While the population on campus is growing, there is no consideration for creating more living space on campus.

"The Master Plan is looking at growth beyond the Atlanta campus. Tech can grow without affecting the quality of life on the Atlanta campus," Hayes said.

According to Hayes, Tech does not control the limit for the number of students that it can allow on campus.

"The University system has set capacities for all schools. We are just under our limit,"

Hayes said.

The application process will also be seeing some changes over the next couple years.

"We are adding a new feature to the enrollment application to Tech. There will be optional short answer essays where the prospective students choose two of five possible essays if they are interested in the Honors Program or President's Scholarship," Hayes said.

According to Hayes, the essays will also provide the admissions office with another evaluation tool.

"We are looking to see if the students had any research engagements in high school. For those who did, we are trying to reach out to them and let them know they can continue their work here," Hayes said.

Survey from page 1

graduate/professional schools," was given by 63 percent of females compared to just 48 percent of males.

Half of respondents indicated a very good chance of participating in the Cooperative Education program, with a further 30 percent indicating there was some chance that they would participate.

Following a nationwide trend of political polarization, the percentage of Tech students identifying their political orientation as "middle of the road" reached its lowest point in over thirty years.

Thirty-nine percent of respondents characterized themselves as conservative or far right, compared to 23 percent identifying as liberal

or far left.

At Tech's public peer institutions 38 percent identify as liberal or far left and only 21 percent as conservative or far right. At Tech's private peers where the figures are 40 percent as liberal or far left and 23 percent as conservative or far right.

Thirty-four percent of Georgia Tech respondents rated themselves above-average in public speaking ability, compared to 49 percent from private peer institutions. Tech freshmen were much more confident in their mathematical ability at 83 percent and computer skills at 55 percent compared to those from the private institutions (70 percent and 42 percent, respectively).

Tech students rated themselves higher in religiosity at 39 percent compared to students from other

public institutions at 28 percent or private institutions at 31 percent.

More Tech respondents were not worried about the ability to afford their college education at 46 percent as opposed to other public institutions at 36 percent and private institutions at 42 percent.

The survey showed that women were more likely to be concerned over the issue than men.

Over half, at 51 percent, of Tech students did not expect to pay for their first year of school out of their own funds, as opposed to 41 percent from other public institutions.

Fifty percent of students predicted getting between a 3.0 and a 3.5 GPA in their first year while 41 percent predicted receiving between a 3.5 and a 4.0 GPA. Males had higher expectations than females.

Honors from page 1

"We looked at three main areas to determine if a student was right for the program. [There was] some level of commitment to academics, extra curricular achievements, and intellectual engagement," Nobles said.

Nobles and other professors selected the students they felt would not be a good fit for the program.

"Out of the ones accepted to Tech, we read their files and tried to identify students that would fit in our program," Nobles said.

Invitations were then sent out to the students who were accepted into the program as a means to open communications between the students and the faculty.

"We were really gratified by the response," Nobles said.

The program will have a mix of in-state and out of state students, male and female students, and will represent all colleges on campus.

"We want to be representative of the larger population at Tech, and not just what Tech is now, but what Tech wants to be in the future. We want to have better ratios than are currently

on campus," Nobles said.

According to Nobles, that goal is not always easy to achieve.

"When you're dealing with only one hundred students it's hard to get a balance," Nobles said.

The only main requirement for the program is that students have to take at least two Honors courses

"We are trying to create a set of academic and intellectual opportunities...."

Greg Nobles
Director of Honor's Program

per semester.

"There is no minimum GPA that the students must keep to stay in the program. Our inclination is not to go just by the numbers. We don't want to set standards until we have met with the students," Nobles said.

The entire program is smaller than

many freshman classes, so advising the students who are struggling will be easier, according to Nobles.

"What I don't want to create is just another set of requirements. We are trying to create a set of academic and intellectual opportunities and a new approach to learning," Nobles said.

According to Nobles, what is important is how students engage the material.

"We are pleased with the profile of the students. We are also impressed and encouraged by the eagerness of the students," Nobles said.

The program is supported from faculty as well as admissions and housing. Nobles said that the program has strong support now.

"After initial skepticism, everyone is very supportive and enthusiastic," Nobles said.

The program is still in its infancy and the creating members of the program plan to allow the program to adapt as needed.

"We have a framework, but it will evolve and change overtime according to the types of students we receive and based on how Tech changes in the future," Nobles said.

sliver

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The heart beats in its cage
hiding behind Sliver to call TBS on the presidents of College Republicans and College Dems = LAME
is there any electronic "blackboard" out there, like "looking for" or "for sale"? thanks you

Tech has an ads newsgroup. Or try Craigslist.

preacher

tyree

So what made my day is when I found out that the paper is still running during the summer. I love you guys.

I bought an AJC for the comics and the crossword only. But now that I know the paper is running, Thank the Lord I never have to subject myself to that again.

WHY SPECTRUM!?!?! WHY ARE YOU DOWN???

OMAHA HERE WE COME

ohmama.... what a silly silly place

Tampon... i see you at the library...

you cant eat all those hamburgers

See page 8 for more Slivers!

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Weekly Activities



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Take a Prof to Lunch
Thursday, July 6
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
First Place Restaurant
Take your professor (or academic advisor, or department secretary, or research supervisor, or favorite staff member... you get the idea!) to lunch to show them just how special they are to you. The total price for both meals is just \$6.
RSVP by Wednesday, June 28 by calling 404-894-2805

Tie Dye and Ice Cream
Thursday, July 20,
11:00 AM, Skiles Walkway

Have We Met Yet?
Wednesday, July 26 &
Wednesday, August 16
3:00 PM, Skiles Walkway
Free card holder compliments of the Student Center.



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