



1,000 brave cold to Take Back the Night



Photo by Ben Keyserling / Student Publications

Students dress for the cold as they listen to stories of sexual abuse and ways to prevent it at the 15th annual Take Back the Night.

By Kaitlin Goodrich
Staff Writer

Despite the teeth-chattering 41 degree weather, about a 1,000 people gathered around the Campanile Wednesday night for Tech's 15th annual Take Back the Night (TBTN). In the glow of the light from the lavender luminaries set up around the fountain, students and other supporters gathered to raise awareness of the issue of sexual violence.

"Take Back the Night is a re-

ally important event to let people know that this is not just an issue that you see on TV or the news. One in four women are sexually assaulted during their college career. It is something that could happen to your lab partner, or your friend or anyone, so it is really important to raise awareness to prevent it or know what to do if it happens to you," said Kelsey Tucker, second year PSYC and TBTN chair.

TBTN is held every year during Women's Awareness Month.

This year's theme was "It takes a thousand voices to tell a single story."

"Sexual assault is considered a crime of silence, since so many people are afraid to tell someone what has happened," said Andrea Naranjo, second-year INTA, survivor and one of the speakers at TBTN. "Take Back the Night is about breaking the silence and removing the stigma from sexual violence. Sometimes it is only with the support of others that your voice can be heard."

Over the course of the hour, five survivors' stories were shared, through stories, a poem and even a letter to one victim's attacker. The goal of survivor stories is both to raise awareness that these crimes do happen at Tech, to hopefully prevent them in the future and to give victims a safe venue to share what has happened and heal.

"Above all, for survivors this event provides a safe place for them to tell their story... while

See **Night**, page 4

Few turn out for GT Talks

Students at the talk pose more than a dozen questions to SGA, administration.

By Corbin Pon
News Editor

Although the Student Center Theater sat mostly empty, the questions posed the panelists for the second round of GT Talks filled the entire hour and a half session.

Organized by Finding Common Ground, the GT Talks series intended to give students the opportunity to have a dialogue with administrators.

The second round of talks was held on Wednesday at 12 p.m. in the Student Center Theater.

On the panel sat Sally Hammock, associate director of the Student Center, Bob Fox, associate director for Library Administration, Andy Smith, senior vice provost for Academic Affairs, Nick Wellkamp, undergraduate student body president and Director of Athletics Dan Radakovich.

"The forum you have today is the result of a... campaign

See **Talks**, page 5

SNOW DAY



Photo by Andrew Ash / Student Publications

Snow falls all over the North Avenue Apartment Complex on Sunday, clinging to the rooftops and trees. Four inches of heavy, wet snow fell all over downtown Atlanta on Sunday.

Historic Ajax building faces demolition



Photo by Priya Malhotra / Student Publications

The Ajax building once was a segregationist restaurant that resisted the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

By Zimu Yang
Contributing Writer

The Georgia Board of Regents (BOR) has approved the decision to demolish the historic Ajax building located on 881 Hemphill Avenue. The building's removal is intended to increase the amount of campus green space and to remove a structurally unsound building.

The Ajax Building was originally a well known restaurant named the Pickrick, famous for

its fried chicken. Former governor Lester Maddox originally owned the Pickrick, and it was under his stewardship that the restaurant became the subject of a major racial controversy.

In defiance of civil rights legislation, he filed a law suit to continue his segregationist policies at the restaurant. People gathered at the restaurant to protest Maddox's refusal to comply with the legislation.

There were several confrontations between Maddox and the

protestors, one of which ended with the future governor confronting them while brandishing a handgun. Maddox ultimately lost the lawsuit, and rather than integrate his business, he decided to sell the restaurant to his employees.

Congressman John Lewis of Georgia's fifth congressional district originally disagreed with the decision to destroy the building. During the Civil Rights Move-

See **Ajax**, page 7

TECHNIQUE

The South's Liveliest College Newspaper

Founded in 1911, the *Technique* is the student newspaper of the Georgia Institute of Technology, and is an official publication of the Georgia Tech Board of Student Publications. The *Technique* publishes on Fridays weekly during the fall and spring and biweekly during the summer.

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From the files of the GTPD... Campus Crime

By William Brawley
Assistant News Editor



String of Vehicle Break-ins

On Saturday, Feb. 28 at 4 p.m., police responded to Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity in reference to property damage. The officer met with a fraternity member who stated that very early in the morning the previous day, he observed Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity in a verbal altercation with other members of his fraternity.

The student also stated that he then saw the members of the other fraternity begin to trash the front yard. Tech police was immediately notified of the incident at this time, but the Pi Kappa Alpha students had left the scene before

police arrived that day.

The student also described how he noticed that three air conditioning units have been tampered with and the copper pipes had been wither bent or broken off. The cost to repair these units was estimated at around \$500. The student admitted that no one witnessed members of the Pi Kappa Alpha damaging the A/C units.

That's Not Your Bike!

On March 2 at 8 p.m., Tech police noticed a car make an illegal left turn from Cherry Street onto North Avenue. The police

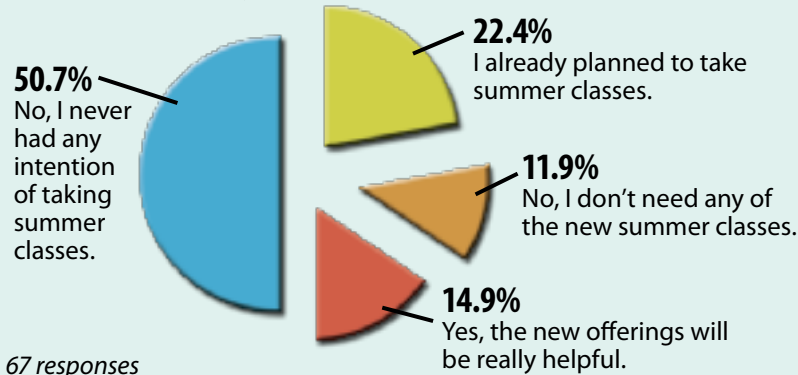
pulled the car over and made contact with the driver. The car's information was run through the police database and returned not stolen and with a valid registration. However, when the passenger's information was put through the database, his driver's license came back suspended and a current Fulton County arrest warrant was out for a probation violation.

When the officer obtained the passenger's license, he also noticed two half-full open containers, as well as two closed containers of Colt 45 beer on the floor in front of the passenger seat. The passenger admitted that the alcohol was his.

The passenger was transported without incident to Fulton County Jail. The driver was given a warning for the improper left turn, and the passenger was given a warning for the open alcohol containers.

POLL OF THE WEEK

Will you consider summer classes now that more are being offered?



Next issue's question:

What did you do over Spring Break?

Tell us at niquenet.net

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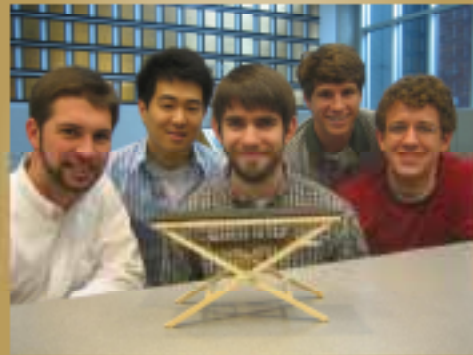
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Andrew Punnoose, Sanjay Challa, Kento Masuyama, Will Boyd, Joseph Abrahamson

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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 Corbin Pon, News Editor, and Zimu Yang, Contributing Writer

This edition of *Council Clippings* covers the UHR and GSS meetings from Feb. 17, 2009.

Progress and Service Award

The SGA Academic Affairs Committee requested funding to establish the Georgia Tech Student Government Progress and service award. They asked for \$3,218 for the award's stipend, an ad in the *Technique* and crystal paper weights.

The award is intended to recognize students who have made a positive impact on the Tech community. Any undergraduate student with good academic standing is eligible.

In order to be considered, the student must complete an application and complete an interview with the SGA Academic Affairs Committee. Three undergraduate students will be chosen to receive the award.

The authors of the bill asked to change the language of the language to state that the award winner would receive a \$1,000 stipend and not a \$1,000 scholarship.

Since this is an undergraduate student initiative the GSS did not consider the bill. The UHR passed the bill with little discussion 33-2-1.

Industrial Design Competition

The Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA) chapter at Tech requested funds to attend the IDSA Southern District Conference in New Orleans.

They requested \$2,693 for conference fees, trip reimbursement, their exhibit and promotional banners.

At the conference, students will show off an exhibit comprised of the collective work from Tech Industrial Design program. Students also use the conference to share ideas with students from other schools. Over 50 students are expected to drive to New Orleans to attend the conference.

The amount of money for promotional banners was reduced to \$36 by both the UHR and GSS. The bill passed GSS 18-0-1 and the passed the UHR 34-1-0.

Islam Awareness Series

The Muslim Student Association requested funds to pay the honorariums for four speakers invited to speak during the Islam Awareness Series.

The speakers are Jamal Ud-Deen Hysaw, Hadia Mubarak, Muhammad bin Yahya Al-Ninowy and Adeyinka Abdul-Haqq Mendes.

The Muslim Student Association asked each speaker for their lowest fee. Three speakers requested \$500 and Mubarak requested \$1,000, for a total of \$2,500.

The goal of Fifth Annual Islam Awareness Series is to inform and allow people to ask questions about Islam.

The GSS said that they were concerned about the series' growing cost over the years and reminded the UHR that the SGA should be viewpoint neutral. They also stated that none of the speakers intended to proselitize.

The GSS passed the bill 15-3-2 and the UHR passed the bill 34-1-0.

Megamod Policy

The SGA passed a new Megamod policy that will govern how campus-wide emails will be sent out by the Office of the Dean of Students. The new policy will send a weekly digest email to all students on Mondays. Chartered student organizations and Institute departments are eligible to submit announcements. Student organizations will be able to make only one announcement per week. This new policy is slated to be complete and fully enacted by July 1.

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.

Earth dodges asteroid impact

According to the Associated Press, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, CA reported on Monday that a very large asteroid just flew only 48,800 miles away from Earth. This distance is only about twice as high as the orbit of some telecommunication satellites and only about a fifth of the distance to the Moon.

The asteroid measured between 69 and 154 feet in diameter, which is about the size of the one that leveled more than 800 square miles of Siberia about a century ago. While astronomers are surprised by the close encounter, it was nowhere near the close call that occurred in 2004 when a meteoroid came within 4,000 miles of Earth.

The next space rock that will come close to Earth will be in 2029 and will come within

20,000 miles.

Microsoft permits disabling IE in new Windows

CNET News reported on Wednesday that in the latest build release of Microsoft's upcoming operating system Windows 7 gives the users an option to turn off various components of Windows. Included in this list of features is the option to turn off Internet Explorer 8. The software giant is not commenting on this new addition to Windows 7, but many people are speculating that this is in response to the recent EU latest objection to the inclusion of a browser with an operating system.

The EU had recently filed anew anti-trust complaint with Microsoft over the bundling of IE with Windows. This is a similar anti-trust violation that US regulators raised back in 1996. Microsoft recently commented that the EU might try to force Microsoft to allow PC buyers to choose their browser and make Microsoft disable certain IE code if the user chooses another brand of browser.

PCGB cordially invites all student organization leaders to:

Spring 09 Presidents' Council Meeting

The theme for the meeting is **"Motivating Your Members."** The meeting will begin with a talk from our very own men's **Head Basketball Coach Paul Hewitt**. After this, we will break into groups, mingle, and enjoy refreshments! Join us to discuss how to motivate your members, and to learn what is going on in campus organizations.

WHO: all organization presidents

WHEN: Tuesday, March 10, 2009, 11 am - 12 noon

WHERE: Student Success Center, President's Suites

RSVP: pcgb@gatech.edu

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Photo of Paul Hewitt courtesy of www.kumbakonnam.com

Student coders gather for Yahoo! Hack Week

By William Brawley
Assistant News Editor

Tech's student hacking community aims once again to take the lead in the Yahoo! University Hack Day event hosted by the Georgia Tech Association for Computing Machinery (ACM). This is the second year Yahoo! Hack Day hosted at Tech.

In last year's competition, Tech had twenty entries for the hacking competition, while no other school made it into the double digits. However, this year, Carnegie-Mellon had 28 entries, and Tech hopes to over take that number again.

"We've been bested [this year]," said Chris Sladky, president of ACM. "Let's make this year's event even better than last year's and take back our position squarely on top."

The Hack Day week runs this year from Tuesday, Mar. 3 through today, which includes a variety of events centering around different areas of computing and web development.

Various speakers will give talks and demonstrations on various programming languages, application programming interfaces (APIs) and also various Yahoo!-developed technologies.

This year's Hack Week was kicked off on Tuesday with a launch event in the Klaus building that included a presentation from Yahoo!'s UK Web Evangelist Chris Heilmann, who helped run last year's event as well as other Hack Week events around the globe.

Heilmann gave a brief history of Yahoo!'s culture and the formation of the Hack Week events, as well as examples of previous hack

creations from university Hack Week events.

The Hack Week event culminated with the 24-hour hacking competition, in which student teams are given twenty-four hours to design and build some form of "hack," be it a web applications or some form of computer controlled web-cam blimp, which was created at one of the international Hack Days last year.

The term "hack" is used in its original definition meaning a clever or innovative solution to a problem, or an otherwise unique modification or invention.

The Hack Day event is not focused on the widely misunderstood popular connotation of hacking related to illegal modification or computer system intrusion.

Tech has a reputation to defend in this year's hack competition. Last year, current ACM vice president Roger Pincombe's team won the national University Hack Day competition last year.

The winning hack called DialPrice allowed the user to call a phone number and enter the numbers found on a bar code to get find the range of prices for the product in the user's immediate area.

There are prizes for the winning teams from each school, which have been generously updated from last year's prizes. Each member from the top team from Tech gets a PlayStation 3, plus other Yahoo! schwag and goodies.

The launch event on Tuesday was packed, over-filling an entire auditorium in the Klaus building.

"[This year's event] is shaping up to be an even better Hack Week than our first one last year," Sladky said.

Night from page 1

letting people know that they don't have to be scared to talk if it happens to them or someone that they love," said Rachel Ellen Weinstein, ISyE '06, survivor and speaker at TBTN.

Along with the survivor stories, several sexual violence prevention supporters spoke. Ian Mayberry, crime prevention officer in the GTPD, spoke on ways to keep safe and to help prevent sexual assault. He urged students to be especially careful at parties where they do not know all the attendees and to always try to go places in groups.

Ricky Livingston, the sexual assault/violence prevention coordinator in the Department of Health Promotion, talked about the importance in engaging men in sexual violence awareness.

"Most of the men [on campus] aren't the problem. Most men are supporting this issue and helping out the best they can... Since

most of the people who [commit sexual assault] are men, what we hope is that, as men, we can look at those who are causing problems and tell them what they are doing is not right and help someone that has hurt by this," Livingston said.

Six male students came up and read "Spittin Nails" by Rus Funk, a poem about the feeling of helplessness and anger a man feels when a loved one is sexually assaulted.

Rome Lester, a therapist at the Georgia Tech Counseling Center, was the last speaker of the night. She not only told students about the many avenues of support students could find if they were sexual assault victims, but also she also talked about the strength of the victims that she sees and counsels.

"Over the years, I have been incredibly touched and moved by the mostly women, some men who have told me about the after effects of being assaulted... I have never seen such strength as in some of those people," Lester said.

She also read quotes of how rape had made victims feel, so that everyone could understand a little better the devastation felt after a sexual assault. One victim described rape as "shattering a pair of sunglasses. The eye becomes exposed to both safe and dangerous intensities of light... The eye can no longer see the world as it once did."

The night concluded with a candle-lighting ceremony in honor of all the victims of sexual violence. A few people lit candles, and then they then passed the flame on to the rest of the audience as the G.I.F.T.E.D gospel choir sang "This Little Light of Mine."

"I think that everyone went away with a little more understanding of why this issue is so important after hearing the stories of the survivors," said Nicole Thomas, co-chair for Women's Awareness Month. "Take Back the Night is such an eye-opening event every year."



Photo by Ben Keyserling / Student Publications

Kelsey Tucker, chair of Take Back the night, introduces the night's speakers, and as a survivor herself, shares her experiences with the 1,000 people who came out during Tuesday night's cold.

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Non Rowing Persons who use CRC "rowing machines": Please learn how to erg!!!

why do the third years I live with act more like freshman when they go out than I do? I'm a second year!

Somehow I missed the flirting 101 class that everyone else seems to have taken

Big Awkward Blue Bird! ah!

maaaaaagic!

I'm her mom!

No...she's...not!

I'm completely skipping class without a legit reason for the second time EVER!...wow

I was not at all surprised when I didn't see tech on the "school closed" list

There was so much ice I couldn't make it to my 8 am. Really, Tech? Give us a break. This won't happen for another five years.

I'm on a boat

Girl on wdfn

FABlows.

if fulton county schools are closed, and gt is a school in fulton county....WTF GT

GTCN decides to drop station dedicated to WREK

By Sijia Cai
Senior Staff Writer

WREK, Tech's student-run radio station, has run into another obstacle this year as the Georgia Tech Cable Network (GTCN) has dropped the WREK channel, moving its audio content to the TV Guide channel instead.

Earlier this year, WREK lost 30 percent of its budget when the International Sports Properties decided to move its broadcasts of men's basketball and football games off the student station, and over the winter break, a steam pipe burst in WREK's storage room, leading to an outbreak of mold that damaged recordings and backup equipment.

WREK became aware of the change at GTCN when a staff member noticed that channel 17, which used to play the radio sta-

tion's content, was empty.

"We were never really notified about [GTCN taking us off the channel], no warning beforehand at all," said Trey Rhodes, general manager of WREK. "We had a verbal agreement that we'd be getting another channel on GTCN for our new HD subchannel, but it looks like we won't have a presence on the network at all except for the music on the channel guide."

Channel 17 originally showed a slideshow of upcoming music and shows, a brief history of WREK and other content along with a WREK's current broadcast. According to a WREK staff member, the station had been planning to put sports programs, live concerts and even comedy shows on the channel.

Carol Pulliam, general manag-

er of GTCN, defended the choice, citing the technical benefits in the new digital system and saying that the music being broadcasted by WREK works well behind the channel guide.

"By combining WREK's audio with GTCN's programming guide, we were able to create space for two or three HD channels. Using WREK as background music enabled us to use the bandwidth more efficiently," Pulliam said.

However, staff members at WREK are skeptical about these reasons. "The impression we got from GTCN was that our content wasn't what students wanted to see," said Thomas Shanks, chief engineer of WREK. "The main thing is that they have a lot of bandwidth in their system, on the digital side and the analog side, and they could have moved us to

one of those channels, which right now are empty."

"Spaces or blank channels in our lineup are reserved for testing. There are a couple of channels that are unusable due to the location of a particular radio transmitter – it causes too much interference," Pulliam said.

WREK has recently obtained approval to increase the power of its transmitter to 100,000 watts to reach more listeners living in the Atlanta metro area. Brad Henry, third-year ME and a host of the Thursday evening talk show "Tech Talk," acknowledged that the impact of WREK on the average student's life is unfortunately very low. However, just like any other student organization, WREK has an annual budget allocated by the Student Government Association, which takes the money out of stu-

dent activity fees.

"I would like to see WREK become more accessible to students. Let's face it, no one is going to turn on their radio. So we need some easier way for students to listen – for example, playing WREK in the Student Center or the CRC," Henry said.

Despite numerous setbacks this year, Rhodes says that WREK is still growing thanks to a dedicated staff. The radio station will be celebrating its 41st anniversary by holding its annual WREKTACULAR concert at The Drunken Unicorn on March 28.

"Not all is doom and gloom in radio-land," he said optimistically. "We've just invested in this new HD transmitter and we're looking forward to more upgrading and improvement, so it's still a great time to be involved."

Talks

from page 1

that we started at the end of last fall where we asked students from across the campus, "If you could talk about one thing, what would it be," said Kaitlyn Fraizer, undergraduate executive vice president and moderator of the panel discussion. The GT Talks panelists responded to questions from an online survey.

The second round of GT Talks was sparsely attended, with just over a dozen in attendance, half of whom were students. The questions posed to the panelists were a combination of the ones asked by the audience and ones previously submitted online.

The questions asked during the panel discussion covered a wide breadth of topics, ranging from concerns over the graduate thesis formatting to how the Athletic Association would capitalize on the success of last year's football

team.

Questions from the audience and from the online submissions were normally directed to a single member of the panel.

The online questions usually covered broad topics, like the future renovations for the library and ways to make the SGA's actions more transparent to the student community. The questions from audience tended to be more involved.

Of the questions brought up by the students present at GT Talks, the ones that received most play were efforts of the Institute to improve student and faculty diversity in the face of budget cuts and the ways to ensure that Tech hires professors who can teach more effectively.

Last week, the first round of GT Talks took place. On that panel were representatives from Housing, Dining, Parking and Auxiliary Services.

GT Talks: Key Q&A

Q: What efforts are being made for African-American recruitment with the release of Keith Jordan from Minority Recruitment and the increasing competition for students?

A: Tech was encouraged to see the number of African-American applicants rise slightly this year. However filling this position is a priority and may be accomplished through reorganization. Recruiting diverse students and faculty is a major commitment for the Institute, exemplified by the Office of Academic Diversity receiving no budget cuts.

Q: What is being done to make sure professors are excellent researchers and teachers?

A: One of the major considerations when considering promotions to tenured positions is a person's teaching skills. Tenure packages with excellent research records have been rejected for poor teaching performance. Many efforts are being made, especially using course surveys, to evaluate a professor's teaching skills.

(Answers are summarized from statements made by Andy Smith, senior vice provost for Academic Affairs)

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sliver

www.nique.net

omg SNOW!

i made snow man :D

why so cold???

is it spring break yet??

maybe tech girls dont care how they dress (sometimes) and still expect attention because even when they dress up and look good no guys every say anything or act like they exist

i am starting to think that all tech guys are gay

please dont leave GLOBS of hair stuck to the shower walls...are you balding or something?

rinse your toothpaste DOWN THE SINK...it is NASTY that you leave it sitting there to catch hair and other bacteria

i <3 silver app :D

there is no need to wear rhinestones to a nine am class...kthanx spring break = SSI babyyy

why is tech supposed to be so "green" yet the professors dont allow laptops in certain classes so you must print out all 48 pages of notes for 1 section???

plus I want to play wow during class

why does UGA get a snow day and we don't? I feel like we work harder and deserve one more!



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12th Annual Earth Day Celebration
Friday, April 17, 2009 ♦ 10:00 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Lead the Way – Tomorrow is Today



Dr. Peter H. Plesch
Director of Georgia Tech's
Center for Global
Environmental
Systems

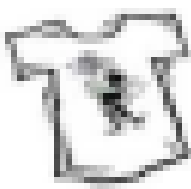
Environmental Leadership Award

Recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the environmental community through their leadership and actions.

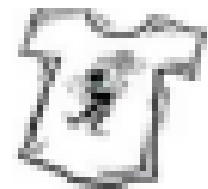
- Faculty
- Staff
- Students
- Alumni
- Other Environmentalists

Established in 1997 by the Georgia Tech Earth Day Environmental Leadership Award Committee. The award is presented annually to the recipient of the award.

For application information visit: www.earthday.org



T-Shirt Design Contest



Georgia Tech Earth Day

Design a T-shirt using our theme
Lead the Way – Tomorrow is Today

Design must be submitted
March 23, 2009

For complete rules and entry process visit:
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For more details on Georgia Tech's 12th Annual Earth Day Celebration visit: www.earthday.org

Lu chosen for prestigious Sloan fellowship

By Vijai Narayanan
Staff Writer

For the fourth year in a row, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation has awarded one of Tech's faculty the Sloan Research Fellowship. With 118 granted annually, the two-year fellowship seeks to support and recognize early-career scientists and scholars who show promise in becoming frontrunners in their field of research. This year's recipient is Hang Lu, assistant professor in the School of Chemical and Biological Engineering.

Along with the prestige that goes along with winning this award, the fellowship includes a \$50,000 grant. Lu was awarded the fellowship for her work in the field of neuroscience.

One of the major benefits of the Sloan Research Fellowship is the flexibility it provides for the use of the grant money. Unlike other grants, there are very few strings attached to the way that the fellowship money can be spent. This allows the recipient to undertake a higher risk project that may otherwise not be funded through traditional means, such as the National Science Foundation.

"This fellowship will allow me to get the preliminary data to support any out-of-the box ideas that I have and secure funding from other agencies," Lu said. The Sloan Foundation states that the funds granted through the award may be used for such purposes as research equipment, travel, training or any activity related to the recipient's research.

Lu's research involves coming up with the tools necessary to observe and analyze neural systems. More specifically, her research group engineers bio micro-electro-mechanical systems and mi-

crofluidic devices to come up with solutions to problems in neuroscience that are difficult to solve using conventional methods.

As part of her research, Lu and her group studies nematodes, small animals invisible to the naked eye. Still, they contain 302 neurons and have an excellent sense of smell, even better than that of humans. Lu and her team attempt to use novel engineering methods to fabricate microfluidic chips to analyze neural systems, a unique approach in a field dominated by mainly scientists.

These devices are especially useful in neuroscience, because they can be shrunk down to the scale of typical biological systems. In addition, unique phenomena at the micro and nano-scale can be exploited by these devices to measure and analyze those systems. These chips are fabricated using conventional means, much like the method used to fabricate computer chips.

Lu highlighted the increasing acceptance of engineering approaches in the biological community. "It's really nice to see that a bunch of engineers can get science grants to do science," she said. Lu hopes that her fellowship will encourage other engineers and physical scientists to jump in and take more qualitative approaches to biological problems.

"People are starting to value engineering or quantitative approaches to biological sciences, as opposed to hypothesis-drive approaches, which has been the norm for the past few decades," she said.

Lu went on to highlight several advantages that her engineering background provides in her research field. Since engineers are willing to make approximations, they can simplify the problem



Photo by Jarret Skov / Student Publications

Hang Lu, assistant professor in the field of neuroscience, was a one of the 118 recipients of the 2009 Sloan Research Fellowship.

and explore various dimensions of a problem simultaneously. This mode of inquiry is different compared to the approach used by traditional biologists. Engineers also use quantitative information differently.

"As an engineer, we like to control the input and see how things respond, while biologists observe systems more thoroughly," she said.

Lu also noted some of the drawbacks of attacking problems

with an engineering mindset. Engineers can sometimes oversimplify problems, leading to unusable or inapplicable solutions. Lu said that biologists are able to grasp more complex systems and understand more details involved in processes. She added that engineers could benefit from emulating the curiosity of scientists.

Since the Sloan Research Fellowship has been awarded, 27 of Tech's faculty have been granted the fellowship.

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ment, Lewis served as chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and played an important role in the effort to end segregation. To protest the decision by the BOR, Lewis sent a letter to interim president Gary Schuster.

"Atlanta needs to preserve sites which illustrate the opposition to leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr.," Lewis wrote in the letter. Contained in the letter were also suggestions to turn the building into a civil rights trail.

Tech students are divided on the issue. "John Lewis is wealthy, let him buy it and save it himself if he wants," said one Tech student who wished to remain anonymous.

"It's an important landmark for civil rights and it shouldn't be demolished," said another student who asked to not be named.

Schuster responded to Lewis' letter by telling Lewis that the BOR reached the decision because they had determined the building had become unsound.

Additional green space for the eco-commons would also be beneficial for the university. Additionally, Schuster pointed out that the confrontations actually occurred in the parking lot of the Ajax building.

"There will be a plaque placed on the location commemorating the event," Schuster said. "The plaque will contain further information regarding the confrontation. However, Tech will definitely restore the space to the eco-commons.... The congressman understands the reasoning behind the decision and now fully supports it."

When contacted, Lewis was unavailable for comment. Although the BOR has approved the building's demolition, the decision still needs authorization from Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue.

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Joe Palca is a science correspondent for National Public Radio (NPR). Since joining NPR in 1992, Palca has covered everything from biomedical research to astronomy. He has won numerous awards, including the National Academies Communications Award, the Science-in-Society Award of the National Association of Science Writers, the American Association for the Advancement of Science Journalism Prize, and the 2008 Victor Cohn Prize for Excellence in Medical Science Reporting. Recently he prepared a series of reports on the work of Charles Darwin in honor of the great naturalist's bicentenary.