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TECHNIQUE

THE SOUTH'S LIVELIEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

New nano shakes it up

"Shake to shuffle" is just one of the cool features in iPod's fourth-generation nano. ▸ 13

Schuster delivers State of the Institute

Interim president discusses Tech's reputation and future leadership

By Corbin Pon
News Editor

Interim President Gary Schuster stood before a crowd at the LeCraw Auditorium in the College of Management to give the annual State of the Institute address. Omicron Delta Kappa hosted the Tuesday morning event, which saw attendance from both the student body and faculty.

While the speech carried no overriding theme, like last year's emphasis on "Vanishing Boundaries," Schuster spent equal time highlighting the accomplishments made this year by members of Tech's community and laying out the future challenges remaining to be tackled.

"Wayne Clough certainly played a key role...in all of [our accomplishments], but he was always the first to tell you that what made Georgia Tech great was the quality of the players. Georgia Tech's most valuable resource has always been its people and that will continue to be true in the future," Schuster said.

He spoke about several students who had received prestigious scholarships, including winners of the Marshall Scholarship, the George J. Mitchell Scholarship, the Gates Cambridge Scholarship and the Fulbright Scholarship.

Mostafa El-Sayed, Regents professor in the School of Chemistry and Biochemistry, was recognized for winning the 2007 National Medal of Science, the first one awarded to a faculty member of any college or university in the state of Georgia. Elliot Moore, assistant professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was also acknowledged for being awarded the PECASE award, which recognizes the nation's top young scientists.

Looking into the future, Schuster claimed that the current challenges facing the world today presented a prime opportunity for Tech to take a leadership role going forward. He cited the research efforts into nanomedicine, high-performance computing models and energy and environmental sustainability as areas where Tech

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Drop Day today

Today is drop day, the last for students withdraw from a class and not receive a grade on their transcript. However, the grade for the class will be replaced by a "W."

SGA surveys students' alcohol use

An ad hoc committee formed during a legislative session of SGA is gauging student attitudes on the current state of alcohol laws. Their website, **www.gtalcoholdebate.com**, has been created to get student feedback on the isue.

Family Weekend draws 2,300

Photo by Eric Turner / *Student Publications*

The Ramblin' Wreck sits outside the CRC during Family Weekend. The annual event, co-hosted by the Alumni Association and the Division for Student Affairs, had a turnout of more than 2300 guests.

By Sijia Cai
Staff Writer

More than 2,300 guests, making up 593 families, traveled from over 35 states to attend Family Weekend, an annual event co-sponsored and staffed by the Alumni Association and the Division of Student Affairs. Held last Friday and Saturday, the overarching theme for the this year's Family Weekend was "Opening a World of Possibilities."

The program began with a series of informational sessions that were intended to familiarize parents with Tech and many of the opportunities that it offers.

New sessions this year included a presentation from the Music Technology Group, a Persuasive Games seminar and a tour of the $1 million trading floor in the College of Management.

Afterwards, 19 colleges and schools held receptions, where parents could meet and talk with faculty members and deans.

"[Family Weekend] gives parents, especially freshmen parents, an opportunity to come back to Tech and reconnect," said Amy Lancaster, manager of Student Engagement at the Alumni Association. "We provide useful information to help the parents build support systems for the students."

Some of the most popular events at this year's Family Weekend included new events like RecFest, star-gazing at the Howey Physics Building observatory and the Dive-in Movie.

RecFest, which was co-sponsored by the Campus Recreation Center (CRC), offered such activities as belly-dancing lessons and inner-tube races. Friday night, the observatory on the Howey Physics building was open, and Jim Sowell, graduate recruiter for the School of Physics, showed parents views of the moon and Jupiter. Alternatively, guests could float around on inner tubes at the CRC pool while watching *Hancock* at the "Dive-In Movie" event.

The weekend showcased performances by the Marching Band, the Salsa Club and the Atlanta Diving Association, but the highlight of the entire weekend was the tailgate party and subsequent football game against Duke, which Tech won 27-0.

The parents immersed themselves in more school spirit as they participated in activities like face painting, cornhole and golf games.

"The innovative initiatives helped to spur parent involvement," said Kimberly Sterritt, director of the Parents Program. Although this year's Family Weekend saw about 100 fewer people attend compared to last year, Sterritt was upbeat about attendance. "The turnout, in general and for the individual programs, was great, especially considering the state of the economy."

The Parents Program is a year-long program focused on keeping the parents of current students engaged in the college experience. Family Weekend and the Parents

See **Weekend**, page 4

Tech to define new bike, moped policies

By Ben Keyserling
Assistant Photo Editor

With record enrollment, the increase in students on campus can be experienced firsthand with the increase in people walking along Skiles and the corresponding increase in cyclists trying to ride to class. Tech has also seen an increase in the number of students using mopeds to get around campus.

"[Mopeds are] not really special; they just don't have a set of specific governing laws," said Crime Prevention Officer Ian Mayberry in a comment about the moped's legal status.

A moped, or scooter, is a gasoline-powered vehicle that resembles a small motorcycle. Mopeds with engines that have less than 49cc of displacement do not need to be registered as motor vehicles.

When traveling on public roads, Officer Mayberry said riders of mopeds and bicycles are required to follow "the exact same laws that you would have to follow if you were driving a car down the road." As with bicycles, mopeds must follow these rules to avoid both traffic accidents and citations for moving violations.

Mayberry also explained that there are some particular situations where cyclists may be at an increased risk for a potential accident.

"When a person has been operating their vehicle on the sidewalk and [then transitions] to the roadway, [many accidents occur]," Mayberry said.

He further explained that riders of bicycles and mopeds could compromise overall safety by avoiding stop signs, red lights and failing to follow right-of-way guidelines.

The storage of mopeds has also been an issue, and appropriate storage on campus can be hard to find.

"Anything that has gasoline

See **Moped**, page 5

"No person 13 or more years of age shall ride a bicycle upon any sidewalk in any district."

– Atlanta Code of Ordinances, Sec. 150-210 (b)

Photo by Ben Keyserling / *Student Publications*

A student rides his bike between classes in the area just outside Skiles. Bikers commonly ride on the pathways on campus.

Technique Online Voice your opinion!

Last issue's question received 101 responses.

Did you watch the vice presidential debate?

17.8%
Yes, but I am still undecided.

10.9%
No, I'm not paying attention to the presidential election.

13.9%
No, I don't think that the vice presidential debate was important.

57.4%
Yes, I now know who I will vote for.

Poll graphic by Ben Keyserling / *Student Publications*

This week's question:

How much have you lost in the stock market this month?

Tell us at **www.nique.net**

No Gas, No Getaway

The police discovered a black Chevrolet Lumina parked diagonally across two handicap parking spaces next to the Graduate Living Center on Oct. 5.

The police officer ran the license plate number of the car and found that it was reported stolen from the Henry County Bureau of Police Services.

The vehicle was locked and there was noticeable damage to the exterior of the car, consisting of scratches, dents and a large paint transfer on the rear driver side quarter panel.

There was also a Tech Parking citation found on the vehicle's window. In the citation envelope, there was a handwritten note that included a phone number and a statement explaining that the car had run out of gas and that the driver would return in the morning.

The car was then towed and released to the A-Tow company impound.

From the files of the GTPD...

Campus Crime

By William Brawley
Assistant News Editor

Drink No More

The police were called to investigate a report of an intoxicated person at the North Avenue Apartments on Oct. 4 at around three in the morning.

The officer found a female Tech student on the upper level of the North Parking Deck, lying on the pavement. The student was semi-conscious, yet responsive.

She was asked to identify herself and was found to be under the age of 21, which violated the Student Code of Conduct. She stated that she had become sick from drinking alcohol.

Grady EMS was called, and the student was transported to Crawford Long Hospital and treated at around 4 a.m.

That isn't a Toilet

On Oct.6, the police observed a black male loitering around parked vehicles next to the Kappa Alpha fraternity house. Upon seeing the police car, the suspect left the area. Another police officer in the car checked all the parked vehicles in the fire lane, and found no evidence of forced entry. The police then stopped the suspect and he stated that he was urinating next to the vehicles, and when he saw the police, he got scared and left the area. The suspect had no outstanding warrants, but he did have a prior arrest for criminal trespass earlier in the year. The suspect was then arrested for criminal trespass and transported to the Fulton County Jail.

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 Sijia Cai, Staff Writer, and William Brawley, Assistant News Editor

This edition of *Council Clippings* covers the UHR and GSS meetings from Oct. 7, 2008.

Sports and the SGA

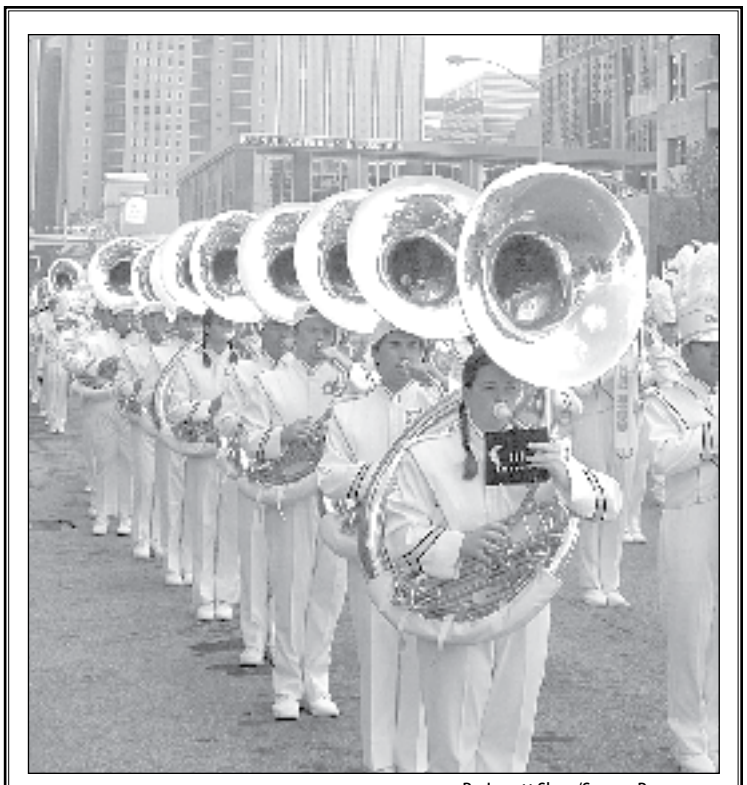
The first bill was the Joint Allocation for the Clemson Game Tailgate. It is a collaboration between Clemson and Tech, intended to promote non-alcoholic pregame tailgating celebration. The JFC recommended a few deductions from the costs of some individual components of the bill, lowering the total cost to $269. The bill was passed in amended form in UHR 30-12-0 and GSS 15-10-0.

Another athletic bill on the agenda was for the Tech Golf Club. This $800 Joint Allocation bill funds the tournament fees for the Second Conference Golf Tournament in North Carolina. The bill was presented to SGA once before, but was denied funding because the tournament required qualification to attend. This time, the tournament no longer requires qualification, so the bill was resubmitted. It was passed UHR 38-3-0 and GSS 23-2-1.

The last bill was for the Tech Wrestling Club. The $900 bill was for new uniforms. The current uniforms date back to the 1990s. Every season, each athlete rents a uniform and returns it at the end of the season. The bill was passed in GSS 24-1-1, but postponed in UHR on account of the organization representative being absent.

SGA LCD TV

The SGA requested $1,075 to put a 52'' LCD screen outside the SGA office. This screen will be used for advertising student government events, initiatives, accomplishments and recruitment efforts. Unlike the rest of the screens in the Student Center, this one will be dedicated to SGA. Though the video feed will be hosted by the Student Center's computer system, the content will be directly controlled by SGA. Half of the cost is being paid by the Student Center. The bill passed UHR 33-8-1, while GSS postponed it for one week, citing a need for more specific policy outlines as the reason.



By Jarrett Skov /Student Publications

Practice makes perfect: The Marching Band rehearses its steps on West Peachtree St. for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Institute from page 1

can make an impact.

"[Tech] has long taken an entrepreneurial approach to energy, with a focus on the development of alternative sources and technologies. For a while, our efforts in this area were considered a little esoteric, but the day and time is right for our work in alternative energy to play a more central role," Schuster said.

"We're gaining attention for our expertise...with faculty increasingly quoted in news reports and testifying before Congress.... These are complex issues and there are few in Washington with the background or knowledge required to sort them out."

The field of nanomedicine, which sits at the intersection of nanotechnology, medicine and computer science and high-performance computing simulations, also melds with Tech's current research directions.

Schuster said that Tech's interdisciplinary environment is allowing it to assume a leadership role in nanomedicine, and because computing simulations are the test tubes of the 21st century, Tech's concentration in that area will allow it to define new uses for these systems.

Schuster outlined several other challenges that Tech faces in the coming year, with the foremost being the search for a new institute president. Until this new person is found, Schuster said that the Institute will review their administrative processes to make sure they serve Tech and uphold the highest standards of ethics and integrity.

Each unit on campus, academic and administrative, will also develop a white paper, in order to help the new incoming president get up to speed as quickly as possible.

With six percent of Tech's state budget being cut, Schuster addressed how Tech would be prioritizing its efforts.

"As we absorb these cuts, the constant priorities are to keep our resources focused on the academic core and to maintain the same level of excellence so that the quality is not sacrificed," Schuster said.

"These times of financial austerity provide an incentive to cast a critical eye on how we are spending our money. They call us to make sure that we spend our resources wisely... and we are getting the biggest possible bang for our buck."

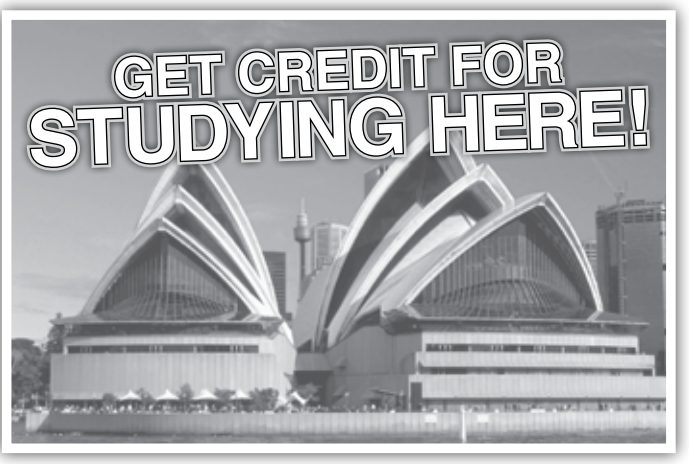
At the end of the session, Schuster answered a couple of questions submitted by members of the student community.

One person asked the interim president about the complaint regarding the lack of writing in the Tech curriculum and what changes students could expect going forward.

Schuster answered that the process to deal with this problem was currently underway, as two task forces, one to address undergraduate education and the other interdisciplinary studies, were considering the issue.

Schuster recalled that when he was the head of the chemistry department at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the best predictor of success for a graduate student was communication skills.

"I think that our faculty knows [communication skills are important], and that we're going to work to enhance in the curriculum here at Georgia Tech," Schuster said.



Nanotech Building to open this month

Photo by Joey Cerone / *Student Publications*

When the Nanotechnology Research Center Building opens, it will provide 15,000 more square feet of clean room space on campus.

By Vijai Narayanan
Contributing Writer

After two years of construction, the Marcus Nanotechnology Research Center Building (NRCB) will open Oct 31. When it is completed, it will be one of the largest nanotechnology research centers in the country.

Located at the intersection of Atlantic and Ferst Dr., the $80 million building boasts over 15,000 square feet of clean room space, almost double the existing clean room space available for research.

"Over 10,000 square feet of clean space will be dedicated to semiconductor research, and the remaining 5,000 square feet will be dedicated to biological clean room research," said Bob Rose, the assistant director of operations at the Microelectronics Research Center. The biological clean room will have two bays of Bio Safety Level-2 (BSL) and six bays of BSL-1 space.

"Each clean room will be fitted with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters [or] ultra-HEPA filters," Rose said. This will help keep the air in the room very clean and allow nano-scale experiments to take place.

The facility will also have 30,000 square feet of non-clean research space, dedicated to research involving chemical processing, nanomaterials, biotech and space for advanced research equipment. The construction of the NRCB also worked to eliminate vibrations that may interfere with experiments.

The NRCB was designed with future research needs in mind. The space available in the facility can be adapted to serve different research requirements. This means that space can be converted to clean room quality research areas in the future.

The facility will be used by researchers from Tech and other universities in the world, along with scientists from the private industry.

"This facility will support research efforts nationally and internationally," Rose said.

Currently, Tech has around 8,500 square feet of clean room space in the Pettit Microelectronics Research Center, in addition to about 3,000 square feet in the Van Leer Building.

Space has become tight and the facility is overloaded with equipment. When the NRCB opens, the MiRC will shift some of its activities to the new research building.

However, Tech will continue to operate the MiRC for research. "The MiRC is nearing the halfway point of its life," Rose said. Constructed in 1990, the MiRC has been host to countless research projects.

"The new nanotech building will not change the day-to-day activities in the MiRC. Instead, the [NRCB] will help us expand our research operations to more sophisticated levels," Rose said.

"We're 95 percent done with the construction. We are testing the systems and verifying that everything in the facility is working properly. In the meantime, construction crews are working on the landscape surrounding the building," Rose said.

In fact, due to a recent increase in funding, the NRCB will continue to host minor construction projects to enhance its facilities after the opening date.

In addition to minor projects following the opening date, Facilities is planning on constructing a small pedestrian-friendly walkway between the NRCB and the Biotechnology Complex.

A Stinger shuttle stop is planned in front of the building, eliminating the traffic problems caused by the current stop in front of the Biotechnology Complex. Looking towards the future, Tech is planning on closing off Atlantic Dr. altogether to provide access to the new Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons.

Weekend from page 1

Program were both previously run by the Alumni Association, but this year, the Parents Program was transferred to the Division of Student Affairs.

In addition, Family Weekend is currently in the process of changing hands, and this year, staff members from both organizations were on hand to help out at the event. "We felt that the programs would be a good fit for Student Affairs to be in charge of," Sterritt said. "The Alumni Association has always done a fantastic job and we'll be trying to keep the standard high."

"The success of the program depended on the colleges, organizations and volunteers involved, and they were extremely cooperative," Lancaster said. "We were really pleased with how smoothly the program went."

Photo by Eric Turner / *Student Publications*

RecFest invited families to try to scale the CRC climbing wall.

sliver

www.nique.net

so no parties during parents weekend? what am i supposed to do now?
Suprise! I love you!!
Sec is the singular for sex... It's when it's just one person...
The only thing you're gonna be wearing is a smile.
blacklisted already?
boys with swooping haircuts are bringing me down
To the girl with the cape on, EXCELSIOR!
The Buzz statues are really cute!!
despite an overwhelming awkardness I walked away laughing
win00t!!
beer pong with greasy bearings...wtf?
next time it will be my penis
nuttless
Fritz and Cody, no more brains. Seriously....
Everyone should go to Nepal before the economy hits the fan
There's spewing from my lovely vagina.
The new statues of Buzz are dumb. It looks like Tech is trying to copy u(sic)ga.
Finally found the cat. It's been stuck up a tree for a couple days.
im tired of these pills that make he sit still
I'm through with these pills that make me sit still
I'm sick of the things I do when I'm nervous
Like cleaning the oven or checking my tires
Or counting the number of tiles in the ceiling
give me a reason to end this discussion
A puppy would be a hard Gaussian surface...
Actually, it wouldn't, because the shape of the surface doesn't matter!!! ... Wow, I sound like a nerd.
I see the same asian kid 500 times a day...i can tell bc his eyes are the same
the physics professors are the worst teachers at tech, which is ironic bc they seem to care the most about our learning
does everyone at tech have some sort of psychological disorder or is it just the 300 kids i see day to day

Moped from page 1

in [its tank] is not appropriate to be stored in a bike room or bike cage," said Dan Morrison, director of Residence Life. Across campus, owners of mopeds have found creative places to park.

The ability to link a moped to its owner presents challenges for both the Housing and Parking departments. "Some [serial numbers] are in places that we do not want our officers to go after…we don't want our guys to lift the seat or move the handlebars," said Carlton Morgan, operations manager for Parking and Transportation.

Even if the serial number is visible, Parking would only be able to search for mopeds that had been registered.

Parking and the police have different views on some aspects of motorcycle parking. Currently, Parking is focused on the storage of the mopeds in safe and appropriate locations, while the police are focused on maintaining a safe environment for students on campus. Aware of the growing popularity of mopeds, the two departments met Wednesday to collaborate and create a unified policy.

"By a strict law sense…they are required to be on the roadways," Mayberry said, with respect to both bikes and mopeds. However, in the absence of reported pedestrian-bike collisions, the police have not been focusing on enforcement.

Whether a moped is over 49cc or not, owners are encouraged to register it with the GTPD. "The only reason we would use [owner information] is if we have recovered something," Mayberry said, explaining that the system is used to benefit the owners.

For Parking, their goal is to have mopeds registered as vehicles and parking alongside motorcycles. "We need a license plate to issue a citation," Morgan said, stating that current registration requirements for mopeds fall short of Parking's needs.

Moped owners wishing to park on campus can currently register their vehicles as motorcycles.

"[Parking will] seek out other parking locations.… [Mopeds] will not be attached to bike racks or signs," Morgan said.

Parking is not opposed to moped use by the campus community. "[Mopeds] are something the campus needs to deal with, because they are a good alternative," Morrison said.

Tech graded 'B' for sustainability

By Laleh Khoogar
Contributing Writer

The Sustainable Endowments Institute has given Tech an overall grade of 'B' on its 2009 College Sustainability Report Card. Up a letter grade from last year, this grade moves Tech into the Campus Sustainability Leader category.

"We have worked very hard all across Georgia Tech, in education, research and operations, to make [Tech] a leader in sustainability," said Marcia Kinstler, sustainability director for the Office of Environmental Stewardship.

Currently, half a dozen Tech projects are registered as LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) projects with the U.S. Green Building Council.

The Klaus Advanced Computing Building, which features 40 percent energy savings, 50 percent water savings and 60 percent recycled construction materials, was LEED Gold-certified this year.

According to Kinstler, energy use in existing buildings on campus has been reduced by 11 percent due to energy-efficient retrofitting of over 64 buildings, with features such as enthalpy wheels and motion sensors.

The Green Cleaning Program accounts for cleaning equipment that uses 70 percent less water and 90 percent less chemicals than traditional equipment. The cost of removing all the waste on campus is about $900,000 per year. "[Tech] is one of the top waste producers in the metro area, but we also have the best recycling program in the city," said Cindy Jackson, program manager for the Office of Solid Waste Management and Recycling. Tech is the 2008 recipient of the National Recycling Coalition Outstanding College or University Program Award.

"I think the awareness in the past three years has really grown, with all the students coming in who are impassioned about the environment.... I think students can lead by example," Jackson said.

Due to student push, the recycling program is switching to a dual-stream system, meaning students now only have to separate their recyclables into two categories. According to Carly Queen, fifth-year ME major and president of Students Organizing for Sustainability (SOS), this will increase student participation in recycling on campus.

Recent partnerships with local farms have been made to bring organic foods to dining halls on campus. The Vegetarian Society feels food sustainability has been under-represented.

"People need to be aware of the economic, sociocultural, political and environmental effects, both on a local and global scale, of [their] habits and decisions," said Samuel Tettner, fourth-year PUBP major and president of the Vegetarian Society.

According to Alec Manfre, president of the Environmental Alliance, Tech can commit more effort to decreasing energy usage and implementing more forms of alternative energy.

"Students can contribute by doing their part in talking about it. Walk the walk and talk the talk," Queen said. Energy efficiency will be the main focus of SOS this year. Queen also stated that converting the Stingers and Trolleys to run on biofuels could be accomplished by next year.