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TECHNIQUE

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Too good to be true?
 See if the free iPod promotion is a scam or not.

The Jackets face off against
 Clemson this weekend. See
 how the two teams compare.



FOCUS page 13

SPORTS page 39

Serving Georgia Tech since 1911

Opinions 10 • Focus 13 • Entertainment 23 • Comics 30 • Sports 40



By Jamie Howell / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

WORSE THAN A PARKING TICKET: John Nodson views damage caused when high winds brought down a telephone pole Tuesday near the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity house. On Monday, wind knocked down a tree that blocked part of Fowler St.

Tech self-reports NCAA violations

By Michael Handelman
 and Stephen Baehl

Contributing Writer, News Editor

Tech incorrectly certified 17 student-athletes as eligible for NCAA play over the past five years, according to the findings of an internal review the Institute sent to the NCAA last week. Two of the students named in the report, a football player and a track athlete, are currently enrolled.

Ten of the athletes in the report were football players, three ran in men's track, three in women's track and one was in women's swimming.

According to Director of Athletics Dave Braine, the audit of the past five years' player eligibilities began last summer when a new employee from another school in Tech's academic advising office pointed out there was a possible problem with its interpretation of the rules.

"When we found out about the concern, we chose on our own to investigate every player in all sports

Findings of the Aug. 24 report

- Seventeen athletes declared eligible to play were done so in error.
- The errors occurred over a five-year period.
- The report examined 864 cases.
- Two of the ineligible athletes are still playing for Tech.

Tech's NCAA penalty proposal

- Pay a \$5,000 fine.
- Forfeit four football scholarships per year for two years.
- Forfeit 3.9 men's track scholarships for two years.
- Forfeit 3.5 women's track scholarships for two years.
- Issue letters of reprimand to the staff involved.

The NCAA can accept or reject the penalties, or impose other ones.

See **Ineligibilities**, page 5

Clough: tuition may have to rise

"I think you've got to look at something on the order of 10 percent," said Institute President Wayne Clough in the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* Tuesday about the size of a possible tuition increase.

Board of Regents Chancellor Thomas Meredith has indicated that he will push for a midyear tuition increase to offset a state budget reduction. Gov. Sonny Perdue has told the board to expect no more than \$1.69 billion for the 2006 fiscal year, short of the \$1.76 billion the Board of Regents said it requires to maintain service. The reduced funding this means for Tech may make a midyear tuition hike a more real possibility.

Student commits suicide in Brown

Elesha Spencer died Wednesday evening at around 6 p.m. from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Spencer lived in Brown Dorm on East Campus. She was a freshman majoring in Chemical Engineering. Dean Gail DiSabatino notified relatives Wednesday evening. Housing and Dean of Students Office personnel are offering grief counseling. The Counseling Center is located on the second floor of the Student Services Building.

Five thousand turn out for Six Flags



By Derrick Ma / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Students careen around a tight corner on the Scorchers at Tech Night at Six Flags. Five thousand people associated with Tech turned out for the event.

By Abhishek Narula
 and Grace Mookan

Contributing Writers

On the night of Sept. 3, 5,000 people entered the gates of a world of dizzying heights, blistering speeds and adrenaline rushes: Tech Night at Six Flags over Georgia. For six hours, Tech students were able to forget about their upcoming chemistry quiz, calculus recitation or thermodynamics lab.

SGA organized Tech Night to improve student life. "We wanted to give students an opportunity to celebrate Tech spirit," said Amy Phuong, undergraduate student body president.

This was the second time that Tech had rented out Six Flags exclusively for Tech students and their guests.

"This year I think Six Flags did a better job of keeping the wait lines short on the main rides like Superman," said fourth-year Industrial Engineering major Adam Hudson.

There were some problems such as rides like Déjà Vu stopping midride as well as occasional

delays in some other rides.

"Initially when the ride stopped I got nervous because I was afraid my harness was going to let go, but after a few minutes everyone was laughing and it turned into a mere annoyance," said first-year Undecided Engineering major Greg Carter, one of the students who was stuck on Déjà Vu for 15 minutes.

All in all, the night was deemed a success by students.

"I got nervous because I was afraid my harness was going to let go, but after a few minutes everyone was laughing..."

Greg Carter
 Student stuck on ride

"I had a blast," said first-year Management major Neela Balkisson. "It was very memorable."

SGA worked to improve this year's Tech Night by remedying the problems from its first year. Last year, students stood for hours after

the park closed at midnight waiting for Stingers to take them back to campus.

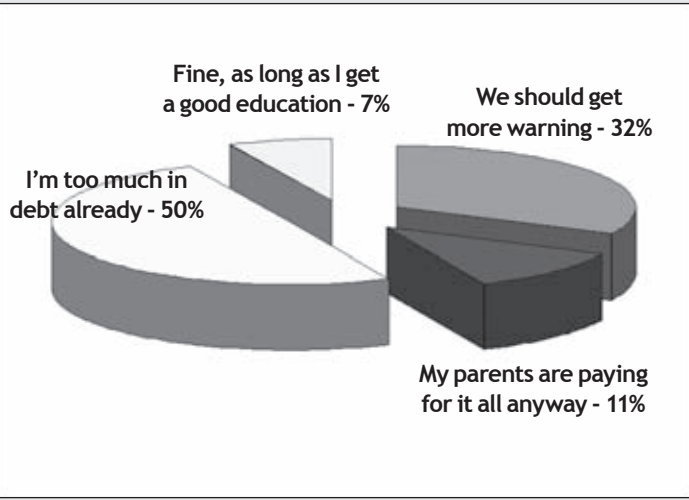
Also, certain rides did not run at full capacity. To make matters worse, some people felt that the park was crowded with non-Tech students.

This year, SGA's executive board began planning it in early

See **Six Flags**, page 8

Technique Online Voice your opinion!

Last week's question received 99 responses.
What do you think of midyear tuition hikes?



By Lauren Griffin / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

This week's question:

What do you think of Tech's NCAA violations?
 Tell us at www.nique.net



From the files of the GTPD...

Crime Reports

Theft (continued)

9/2/2004 16:50:00 hrs.

Location: 177 North Avenue

Incident: Report of a stolen cell phone.

9/3/2004 14:32:00 hrs.

Location: O'Keefe Main Building

Incident: Report of a stolen computer.

9/7/2004 14:47:00 hrs.

Location: French building

Incident: Report of a lost or stolen wallet.

9/7/2004 15:06:00 hrs.

Location: Bobby Dodd Stadium

Incident: Report of a lost or stolen wallet.

9/7/2004 19:39:00 hrs.

Location: Bobby Dodd Stadium

Incident: Report of a lost or stolen Motorola phone.

Controlled substances

9/4/2004 15:15:00 hrs.

Location: North Avenue

Incident: Offender arrested for the possession of a controlled substance.

9/5/2004 1:41:00 hrs.

Location: 875 Curran Street

Incident: Report of public drunkenness and criminal trespass.

Traffic accident

9/1/2004 11:36:00 hrs.

Location: 182 Fifth Street

Incident: Report of a hit and run accident.

9/6/2004 21:42:00 hrs.

Location: Hemphill Avenue, 8th St.

Incident: Report of a two vehicle accident.

Theft

8/31/2004 13:18:00 hrs.

Location: Architecture building lot

Incident: Report of a stolen bicycle.

9/1/2004 12:29:00 hrs.

Location: 760 State Street

Incident: Report of a stolen bicycle.

9/1/2004 16:43:00 hrs.

Location: Luck building

Incident: Report of stolen clothes.

9/2/2004 13:09:00 hrs.

Location: 311 Ferst Drive

Incident: Report of stolen currency.

Corrections

- In the Sept. 3 issue, a graphic in the Focus section stated that the Aerospace Engineering program is ranked fourth by *U.S. News and World Report*. While the graduate program was ranked fourth, the undergraduate program is ranked second.

- The Sept. 3 Entertainment review entitled "Comedy open mic night opens fire on old jokes" incorrectly reported that comedian Gramma Lee will perform at the upcoming Nerd Comedy Jam Sept. 17. The article also failed to note that the Aug. 27 event was sponsored by *T-Book*.

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

***** Student Orgs *****
Promote your upcoming events!
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UHR approves Women's Lacrosse bill requests

By Arcadiy Kantor
Staff Writer

The Undergraduate House of Representatives passed two bills allocating over \$7,000 to the Women's Lacrosse Club on Tuesday night. The versions of the bills passed at the meeting were significantly cut back from the organization's original requests.

One of the bills, presented by organization representative Jennifer Crews, was a basic budget request to help fund the club's operating expenses. The club representative cited a period of officer transition last year as the reason it failed to submit a budget request on time.

The original bill requested \$6,255 to cover expenses such as referee and trainer costs, as well as an advertisement in the *Blueprint*.

The representatives chose to follow the decision of the Graduate Student Senate to not cover those costs, noting referee and trainer pay came out of student dues in the past. The advertisement was also struck down because the representatives felt the club had already achieved sufficient popularity.

Also removed from the bill was an \$850 allocation for the national championship because SGA only funds up to three tournaments and the organization requested funding for four. The national championship was cut, as the team would need to win a certain number of games in order to be eligible for it. Representatives said the club would be able to ask for funding for this tournament if the team qualified.

See UHR, page 7

Grads approve overdue budget allocation bill

By Stephen Baehl
News Editor

The Graduate Student Senate met Tuesday morning to consider a bill that amounted to a delayed budget request for the Women's Lacrosse Club.

Organization representative Jennifer Crews said the team missed last school year's budget submission deadline due to a change in leadership. The club received about \$7,000 from last year's SGA budget, according to Crews.

This request, totaling \$6,255, covered annual expenses like general equipment, things normally requested in year-end budgets.

As such, JFC chair David Ander-

sen gave a set of recommendations assuming the bill was a budget request.

The grads subsequently considered the bill largely as a budget request that would take money from accounts typically used for the year's bill requests. The senators cut some funds from the bill, including a request for national championship expenses. JCOC chair Ed Greco said the cut would be prudent, "as they haven't even made it to the national championship yet."

The team also submitted a more typical bill requesting funding for a set of 50 uniforms. The senators reduced the number to 35 to match team sign-up estimates, making the bill total \$2,450 before passage.



By Stephen Marek / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

New Joint Finance Committee (JFC) members are sworn in at Tuesday night's meeting of the Undergraduate House of Representatives. UHR also considered two bills on the Women's Lacrosse Club.

Bills considered by both houses of the Student Government Association

Undergraduate House of Representatives

| Title | Author | Status |
|---|----------------|--------|
| Joint allocation to Women's Lacrosse Club | Eleanor Baccay | Passed |
| Joint allocation to Women's Lacrosse Club | Eleanor Baccay | Passed |
| Appointments of Joint Finance Committee members | Amy Phuong | Passed |

Graduate Student Senate

| | | |
|---|-----------------|--------|
| Joint allocation to Women's Lacrosse Club | Pelham Norville | Passed |
| Joint allocation to Women's Lacrosse Club | Pelham Norville | Passed |
| Appointments of Joint Finance Committee members | Kasi David | Passed |

Come write for us! Weekly meetings on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in Room 137 of the Flag Building.



By Christopher Gooley / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

HOMELAND SECURITY: Governor Sonny Perdue answers questions at a town hall meeting at Technology Square Tuesday. Perdue and others, including Atlanta Police Chief Richard Pennington and Bill Hitchens, Georgia's Homeland Security Director, spoke on the topic of homeland security.

Alpha Xi builds new house

By Alexandra Pajak
Contributing Writer

Alpha Xi, Tech's oldest sorority, is currently raising funds to build a new house, projected to reach completion by January 2005. Until the new housing project is complete, Alpha Xi stands as the only sorority without its own house.

The sisters have long resided in the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house.

Alpha Xi members hope that

the new structure will help Alpha Xi remain a competitive sorority on Tech's campus.

Holding 28 residents, the new building is projected to have 10,480 square feet of living space. This includes a dining room, study room, a commercial kitchen, and sleeping and bathing areas. Brick and stucco will frame the exterior of the house.

Projected to cost \$1.4 million in total, the house will be funded by

both donations and a long-term loan. Members have already raised roughly \$200,000 in donations through alumni and other sources.

Alpha Xi obtained the land from the Georgia Board of Regents, who will rent the land to the sorority for \$1 per year for the next 40 years.

Architect Janice Wittschiebe designed the house. Wittschiebe is an Alpha Xi alum with over 20

See House, page 7

SGA releases fiscal year account totals

By Nikhil Joshi
Contributing Writer

Totals are in for the 2004-2005 SGA budget, and the amount of available funds has dropped \$53,936.

This translates into less funding for student organizations, a concern among many student leaders seeking financial support from SGA.

Abishek Shah, President of the India Club, heads one of the organizations that did not receive as much funding allocated to it as it had hoped for.

"We are the largest cultural organization on campus. We were given about \$1,000 as compared to about \$4,000 last year," Shah said.

The Joint Finance Committee (JFC) of the executive branch of SGA is responsible for recommending amounts of fund allocation, based on the year's budget, to undergraduate and graduate houses, who then decide the final amount.

According to David Andersen, chair of the JFC, the committee

faced a considerable challenge in managing the accounts for fiscal year 2004-2005.

Funds in all four accounts—undergraduate, graduate, prior year, and capital outlay—totaled \$553,034. This number is 95.71 percent of last year's total. The prior year and capital outlay accounts, designated for the purchase of equipment used by undergraduate and graduate organizations, lost the greatest pro-

portion in fund allocations; their funds added up to 91.6 percent and 89.1 percent of last year's, respectively.

"JFC is facing a challenge this year in that our account totals are lower at the beginning of the year than they were last year,

and we anticipate more organizations than last year to come before SGA to request money through bills," Andersen said.

The drop in funds, according to Andersen and Ambika Bumb, undergraduate SGA treasurer, was due largely in part to the renovation of the CRC.

See Budget, page 8

"JFC is facing a challenge this year in that our account totals are lower... than they were last year."

David Andersen
JFC chair

Administrators worked to fix communication problems last year

Ineligibilities

Continued from page 1

who had played in the past five years," said Institute President Wayne Clough in an email statement.

As such, Tech examined 864 cases, of which 17 were found to be problematic. The discoveries, which resulted from a yearlong examination, led to Tech's report to the NCAA.

Clough said the eligibility questions relate to a single-term issue for the players named, not to their entire career.

All problems reported were found to have taken place between 2000 and 2003, prior to last year's change in the athletic advisement process.

The report included possible self-imposed sanctions.

Braine said he is unsure of what the NCAA's response will be. It could determine that the report is sufficient and its penalties satisfactory, or it could impose penalties of its own.

According to Braine, 94 cases of this sort have come to the NCAA's attention over the past five years.

Of these, only six were found to be non-secondary, or more serious, in nature. If the NCAA finds that Tech's violations are non-secondary, it could require NCAA representatives to examine the ineligibilities.

Current students in report

Athletes named in the report do not know they were named, and, according to Braine, they will not know.

He said due to the Buckley Amendment and federal privacy laws, the students' names are not releasable.

The exception to the students themselves knowing about their ineligibility would be the two currently enrolled student-athletes named in the report, due to the re-certification process necessitated by this discovery.

"There are two student-athletes that are still enrolled that are caught up in this," Braine said. "One of them is a football player. We explained to the NCAA what happened, the student-athlete did what he had to do to get the correct paperwork done, and he was re-certified within two days by the NCAA."

"So," Braine said, "it's not like it's a major problem. It's just a matter of doing the paperwork."

There is also a track athlete whose eligibility came into question, but that student will not participate until this winter at the earliest. Braine said the paperwork to reinstate eligibility in that case will be done, as well.

The bulk of the report's repercussions stem from the past ineligible athletes allowed to play since the 2000-2001 school year.

A misinterpretation

According to Braine and Clough, much of the ineligibility problem resulted from a misinterpretation of an NCAA rule. The difference between an acceptable credit and applicable credit came up in several of the cases where students did not properly qualify for academic eligibility.

"What is applicable and what is acceptable are two different things," Braine said. "If a student-athlete had not declared a major, then certain electives could have counted."

In most of the ineligibility situations, Braine said, "an elective was used that wasn't accepted by the major, or during the transition from the quarter to semester system, [the student-athlete] did not ask for permission to use it."

That permission is given a lot of times, he added.

Braine said the students did not know to do this in these instances. "What is the cause for them not knowing? I can't answer that question."

Other problems, however, resulted from improper review rather than misinterpretations. According to Braine, one improperly certified student-athlete lacked the proper number of credit hours for a term.

Letters of reprimand have been sent to staff involved in the issue, according to the Sept. 3 edition of the

"Departments know around campus that our athletes need to be treated like every other student."

Jennifer Condaras
Director of compliance

Atlanta Journal-Constitution. Director of Compliance Jennifer Condaras said such letters were not sent to any offices outside of the AA.

However, she added, "I don't think it would be fair to single out one office when several offices were involved."

The problem did not appear to arise from anyone in the process intentionally following poor procedure, Condaras said. "We honestly feel, after speaking to the persons involved, that it was honestly a misinterpretation," she said.

Lack of communication

Condaras cited a lack of communication causing much of the difficulty. Not only were students sometimes unaware of unacceptable courses, but those involved in the certification process were not aware of some problems. They sometimes counted courses toward eligibility that should not have been.

For example, Condaras said a D grade in a course might not have been acceptable to the department in which it was earned, but communication channels between the Athletic Association and individual departmental advisors did not provide this information.

Students who had such grade problems might themselves have been unaware that the grades were an issue in that department, she said. As such, not only were some courses improperly reported as acceptable with regards to the grade made and credit earned, but students lacked the knowledge to do anything to rectify the situation.

Such remedies could include appealing the grade or attempting to get an exception, Condaras said.

"I know that students all over campus have the opportunity to discuss with the professor or department the opportunity to allow that grade to be accepted," she said. "You never know what the department would have said."

Condaras emphasized, however, that students would have to pursue any such course of action on their own, as athletes are not to be treated differently from other students. "Departments know around campus that our athletes need to be treated like every other student."

Improving the process

Tech has worked to fix problems with its advising system for student-athletes so no more of these cases fall through the cracks.

"We've changed the way we certify eligibility now," Braine said.

"With the changes we have put in place for certifying eligibility," added Condaras, "I don't think we'll have these errors."

The process of reviewing each student's eligibility was reorganized last year in order to streamline the procedure. The report mentioned no student-athletes who were improperly certified since the changes in advisement were implemented.

"The registrar, the academic

advisor, the director of compliance and the NCAA faculty representative all are in the same room at the same time," Braine said. When a problem comes up with a student's eligibility, he added, the student-athlete is notified.

"Our advisors are bent out of shape a little bit because when the article came out in the *AJC*, they thought that I pointed a finger at them," Braine said. "But I didn't.... It was both an Institute and an AA combined effort that caused the problem." Condaras added, "We made the mistake together, and we're going to fix it together."

"There are several different people that have to sign off on this, and it does start with the academic advisors," Braine said. However, he added, the process includes more than just them.

The registrar, academic advisor, director of compliance and NCAA faculty representative all are involved in the certification process.

"It starts in academics, but everybody else has a chance to catch it also," Braine said.

In fact, Braine added, "It was the Academic Advising office that brought it to our attention that we could have a problem.... So give them credit."

Braine added, "I need to point out that every person thought that they were doing it right."

But everyone working on the process separately led to problems—problems administrators aimed to address with improved communication in the advising process.

"Based on past experience," Clough said, "we are sure that upwards of 10 of these [students] would have been eligible based on a simple appeal to the academic unit.... The appeals are done all the time for students in general as well as student-athletes."

That correction would have left seven improperly certified players. Clough said, "If you are down to six or seven players over five years, that is a pretty small error rate."

Research lab planned for old Facilities building



By Jamie Howell / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Facilities has moved out of its old location on Atlantic Dr. The King Facilities Building is now slated for demolition to make way for a new research lab.

By Haining Yu
Assistant News Editor

The Facilities Department is moving its operations to make room for the construction of a new research laboratory building. The location currently occupied by King Facilities Building, just down the street from the Parker Petit Biotechnology Building, will eventually be home to a new research laboratory building jointly operated of the College of Science and College of Engineering.

The Molecular Science and Engineering building will be used jointly by the College of Science and College of Engineering as a shared complex between the two colleges. Research to be conducted in the new facilities will include nanotube research, fatigue and fracture

research, and ceramic and materials processing research. The Molecular Science and Engineering Building will provide an "interdisciplinary environment for scientists and engineers" to conduct project examining materials at the atomic and molecular levels. The new facility could aid in Tech's development of biomaterials for artificial tissues, advanced materials for faster computers and electronic communications, and lightweight materials for more efficient planes.

According to Fred Dolder, senior project manager in the Design and Construction division of the Facilities Department, the building is "in the design and development stage now. The design effort should conclude late this year, early next year," and possible activity might

commence as early as the end of this semester. A design firm and a construction manager have already been selected and contract documents are being finalized. Slated at an impressive 275,000 square feet in size, the building will be roughly the size of the Earth Science and Technology Building built in 2003. The project budget for the building is \$60,000,000.

Since the labs will be built on an existing site, "there's a lot of preparatory work that comes with the demolition of the old building," Dolder said.

Safety issues need to be addressed properly before any construction begins. Dolder said to look for "some activity visible later this fall and certainly early next year."

See **Facilities**, page 7

Come to the Photo staff meetings ... Thursday at 6 p.m. in Room 137 of the Flag Building

Facilities from page 6

"It is going to be a significant structure," Dolder said. Interior design on the building will be done with the same philosophy as in the current biomedical buildings, creating comfortable common areas with lively décor.

The moving process for the Facilities Department is going on a step-by-step basis, said Frank Lamia, the Interim Construction Program Administrator of Design and Construction. "We moved in phases so not to disrupt the whole operation," he said, "it

"It is going to be a significant structure."

Fred Dolder
Senior project manager

went pretty smoothly and we did it in stages so that we wouldn't shut down entirely."

Only minor modifications were made to the OHR building in order to facilitate the move, though the former ORGT space in the O'Keefe Gym had to be modified to a greater extent.

Facilities is also occupying the Alexander Memorial Coliseum Annex, formerly occupied by WREK studios. "This may be a temporary location" for Facilities, Lamia said, so as little changes as possible were made to the spaces. Future plans for another move, though, have yet to be finalized.

House from page 4

years of experience in architecture and design.

When complete, the new location for Alpha Xi will stand on the corner of 6th Street and Techwood. This is a prime location on campus, as the plot of land rests among other Greek houses and Technology Square.

Alumnae appear enthusiastic about the new house, donating money and openly praising Alpha Xi's endeavor in architecture. Alumnae get to request that certain rooms be named for them or for a person of their choice.

Said '82 graduate Susan Fulton Nicholson, "I love that the chapter has stayed so strong. We need to make sure their housing stays competitive so the next 20 years are just as successful."

an away jersey, as well as a skirt.

According to Crews, the team's existing uniforms are showing their age, and that they do not have enough uniforms for every member who may otherwise play in a game. "Last year we had a few girls that didn't have kilts," she said.

Currently the team has roughly 25 jerseys and a similar number of skirts. The club also only has one set of jerseys, rather than both home and away sets like most college teams do.

The House amended the bill to fund only 35 sets of uniforms, matching the number of members currently in the club and bringing the total cost to \$2,450, before passing it.

The Representatives also moved a bill for the appointments of Joint Finance Committee members to old business and passed it by unanimous acclamation.

The UHR meeting also featured a short speech by special guest Jeff Snow, this year's president of the Student Center Programs Council. He spoke about future plans for the Student Center Commons and discussed some of the new features he was most excited about, including the new TVs in the post office area.

The TVs currently broadcast primarily news and weather, but the Student Center has more plans for them. "Organizations will be able to start advertising on those," Snow said.

College of Computing streamlines curriculum

By Joshua Cuneo
Senior Staff Writer

Computer Science majors dreading their turn at the infamous CS 2130: Languages and Translation—often touted as one of the most difficult courses at Tech—may breathe a sigh of relief. In a move designed to improve student understanding of computer hardware fundamentals, the College of Computing has dropped both CS 2130 and its precursor, ECE 2030: Introduction to Computer Engineering, from its program and replaced them with CS 2110: Computer Organization and Programming.

This new class guides students through the basics of computer hardware, starting with transistors and logic gates and continuing up the hierarchy to assembly language and C programming. Compilers and the language translation process—traditionally the second half of the CS 2130 curriculum—have been moved to one of the two new 3000-level courses that have been split from the former theory course, which has also been dropped.

"There was a lot of concern that the 2130 class in particular had too much material, and the students were finding it... [difficult] to assimilate that much," said Merrick Furst, a professor in the College of Computing and the associate dean for undergraduate programming

and faculty development.

"We had some issues with 2130," said Bill Leahy, a lecturer for the College of Computing and a former CS 2130 teacher. "For one thing, [we were] introducing... the whole translation process, and we thought perhaps it was really a little bit too early in the four years. We would be better off [introducing it] later on. We also recognized that... [Computer Engineers] were taking 2130 for the C language programming, not so much for the translation process."

The School of Electrical and Computer Engineering has decreed Computer Engineering majors, who were required to take CS 2130, will not be required to take CS 2110. They will instead be exposed to this material within the ECE courses. Computer Engineering majors will still be required to take ECE 2030 as well.

According to Leahy, the new course will also help solve the problem of CS majors who might take ECE 2030, CS 2130, and the follow-up course—CS 2200: Systems and Networking—several semesters apart.

"[The students] may come into 2200 much later on, and so by the time they come... they don't have a complete [skill set in C]," said Kishore Ramachandran, a professor

See CoC, page 8

UHR from page 3

Public Policy representative Alex Suarez asked why the club needed separate funding to stripe the CRC field rather than sharing the stripes used by the men. Crews explained that the stripes used by the men were inappropriate for the women's club. "We use different lines than the men do," she said.

The bill, having been amended to a sum of \$4,705 as a result of the cuts, was passed by a wide margin.

A second bill for the Women's Lacrosse Club, also presented by Crews, requested funding for 50 sets of new uniforms for the team. Each set would include a home and



By Jamie Howell / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The College of Computing has changed its curriculum in hopes to provide Computer Science majors with a better foundation.

Budget from page 4

The CRC is a Tier I organization, and student organizations are considered to be Tier III. According to JFC policy, higher-tier organizations are given higher priority.

"The CRC asked for a large increase last year, and there is not as much money left over to allocate to the other organizations," Andersen said. "We tried to allocate funds as fairly as possible and to be consistent."

Bumb added, "The offices in the Student Center Commons—Tier II organizations—also requested large amounts of funding to finance their moves."

Leaders around campus have mixed feelings about SGA's fiscal strategy. Shah said, "I understand that a large portion of the budget was allocated to the CRC. But how can SGA justify spending on bills like

\$2,875—a sign for their office?"

Parag Gajarawala, President of the Men's Ultimate Club Team, said, that the club's "budget this year was dropped from about \$2,500 to \$600. I understand that they made cuts to all Tier III organi-

"I think SGA has done its best to meet the needs of organizations..."

Wuwei Liang
Badminton Club president

zations, but I wasn't satisfied with the way they went about it."

Other student organization leaders were pleased with the allocations. Wuwei Liang, president of the Badminton Club, said, "As

CoC from page 7

in the College of Computing and the chair of the Core Computing Division, who also formerly taught CS 2130. "That was a big source of frustration for the both of us."

To address these issues, Leahy and Ramachandran turned to a book by Yale Patt on computer hardware basics. "We became aware of a new textbook... [that] said what you should do is start out and expose students to the fundamentals of hardware," Ramachandran said. "And what was appealing to us was...that you had people in one semester [who] knew what was happening.... It was one continuous sort of experience."

The idea was taken before the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee and the faculty in the College of Computing, and finally the Institute. It was approved by all three groups, who lauded the effort to help students make connections.

a new student organization, we're glad that we received a budget from SGA. I think SGA has done its best to meet the needs of organizations with a reduced budget."

SGA Undergraduate President Amy Phuong offered her opinion on the 2004-2005 budget. "Although we have less money this year than last," she said, "our funds are not at an all-time low. Spending will be tighter than last year, but we will still be able to allocate funds to organizations that need them the most."

Both Andersen and Bumb said it is important for student organizations to find methods of acquiring funds themselves. Bumb said that the organizations should use SGA as a "last resort, after trying to raise money in other ways."

"I encourage organizations to fundraise," Andersen said. "Fundraising can be very effective—it helps to relieve the burden on SGA's budgeting and bill allocation process."

"The light bulb [will go] on, hopefully, for some of them," Ramachandran said.

Computer Science majors who have not taken CS 2130 will be required to enroll in CS 2110. Ramachandran assures students who

"The light bulb [will go] on, hopefully, for some of them."

Kishore Ramachandran
Professor

have taken ECE 2030 that the new course will still offer an exciting look at the material.

"One of the objectives that [Ramachandran] set forth... is to make the course fun," Leahy said. "We think that making it interesting and fun is a better learning environment, and

that's what we're trying to do."

For instance, this class makes use of Logicworks, special software that allows students to design and test circuits on their computers. The slides have also changed.

Otherwise, the class structure parallels the CS 2130 format. Students attend lecture, lab and recitation every week and are given assignments.

Because the new course is only in its fourth week, Leahy, Ramachandran, and Furst all agree that it is too early to gauge its success or clarify what needs to be changed. However, they said the buzz so far has been positive.

"I talked to a couple of students who [said that it] made a lot of sense," Furst said.

"I [was] in the meetings where this was discussed... Everybody is pretty positive as far as I'm concerned," Leahy said. "I think it's going to be a great course, and people are going to have a lot of fun, and students will learn a lot."

Six Flags from page 1

summer and enlisted the help of volunteers to help with everything from handing out flyers to selling T-shirts.

SGA issued time tickets to students for the Stingers to ensure that there was a steady flow of students going from campus to the park and back. Double the number of Stingers were used as well as several coach buses provided by Parking.

In addition, SGA and Six Flags signed a contract stipulating that all the rides would run at maximum

capacity.

Six Flags made sure that the contract was upheld and tried to limit wait times. SGA also kept tabs on the lines.

"We kept Six Flags and their staff in check by riding around the park

in scooters and checking that the lines weren't too long," Phuong said.

The marching band played and Buzz joined in on the fun at the park.

"I enjoyed Buzz being there and riding the rides with the students," said

"We kept Six Flags and their staff in check by ... checking that the lines weren't too long."

Amy Phuong
Undergraduate president

Undecided Engineering major Kevin Dirth.

"We got more than our 12 dollars worth," said another student.

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