



OUR VIEWS CONSENSUS OPINION

Fixed cost?

The Board of Regents is looking to increase tuition rates for those entering into or beyond their fifth year in an undergraduate program within the University System of Georgia. Tuition will be fixed for Tech freshmen for a guaranteed four-years, and then the student is subject to a dramatic tuition hike upon entering their fifth year with the new system. The Board of Regents is currently ironing out details of the parameters of the fixed four-year system applicable to all in the University System.

The potential effects of a blanket tuition increase after the fourth year raises concerns. The Board of Regents should carefully consider the nature of each individual institution. At Tech many students commit to plans that require a minimum of five-years through co-op, dual degrees and rigorous undergrad programs. All of these students are putting in the effort and hard work toward achieving a degree. Other students who switch majors or encounter unforeseen events in their college career could potentially be forced to extend beyond an expected four-year completion. We would hope these type of students would be accommodated within the new system rather than penalized.

With these concerns and other considerations specific to Tech, hopefully the Regents will draft a policy that accommodates institute specific issues and allows flexibility. We value the already determined fixed rates, but the different major requirements should be respected. The fourth-year cap could be based around the HOPE hour cap revisions, where they considered hours and demands of major as a structure for exception rather than a strict one-size-fits-all system.

Still, there should not be so many exceptions that it would force the financial burden on future students as the fixed tuition policy averts tuition increase awareness among the current undergraduate student body by shifting it to unaware, prospective students.

The new system uses tuition increases beyond the fourth year as a tool to meet several goals within the University System. The Board of Regents is looking to increase four-year graduation rates to be more on par with national levels. Tuition increases at Tech, where the majority of graduating students take more than four years, could work against this goal by causing students who had no other option than to take longer to drop out because of the financial burden.

The policy does work towards meeting other goals, such as reducing over-capacity of facilities and allowing for better financial planning, but a flexible plan for increases after the fourth year is essential.

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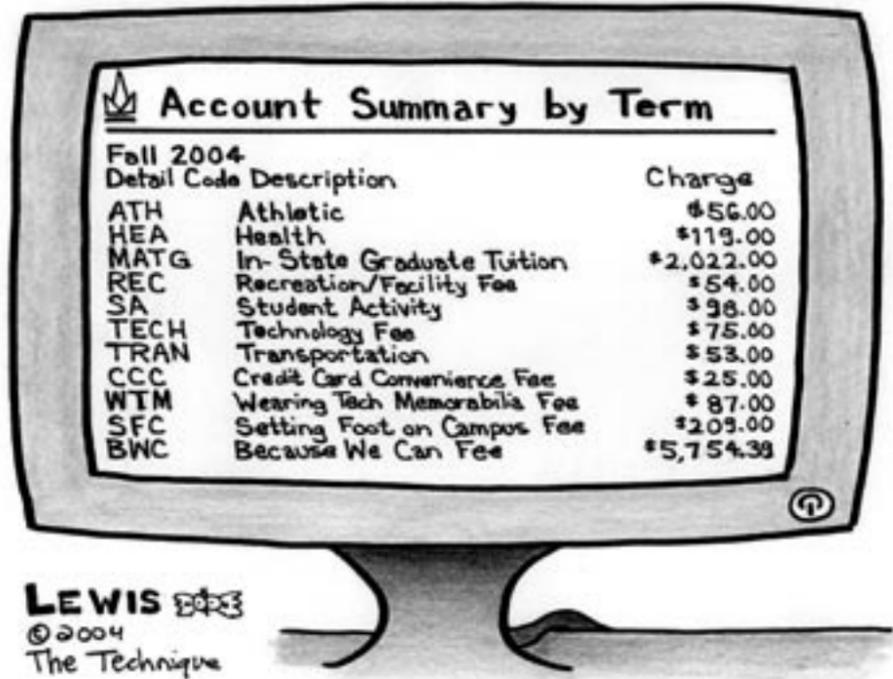
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By Biran Lewis / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Americans miss World Cup excitement

What event occurring every four years puts to shame all other sporting event in the world, involving 32 nations and nearly 1.5 billion observers, yet fails to generate any substantial interest among the American population? Short of being coy, the answer is the FIFA World Cup.

Despite its growing popularity, many Americans still do not understand the importance or magnitude of this truly global event. Indeed in the many months I have spent talking about the 2006 World Cup in Germany, I have encountered many people who simply deride the tournament as a meaningless diversion involving foreigners who cannot compare to American athletes in terms of fitness or skill.

Yet Georgia Tech boasts a substantial foreign population that holds down the soccer contingency. For a few months during the school year, a dedicated following of students can be seen glued to the television on the Student Center second floor.

The academic school calendar overlaps nicely with the Champions League, a tournament involving the most prestigious soccer clubs in Europe. If the Champions League packs the couches and sofas of the Student Center, the World Cup would probably cause Tech to close the building due to the students causing a fire hazard.

These same students can be found every week at SAC field pick-up games and scrimmages during all hours of the day. On these fields the name of the game is the language spoken. Proper names and fluency in English are of secondary importance. Winning games is of tertiary importance. It's all about the love of the game. And that's the beauty of the World Cup.

No other sporting event affects people on such a global level. Over the period of one month, a cumulative 28 billion people watched the



"Winning games is of tertiary importance. It's all about the love of the game. And that's the beauty of the World Cup."

Michael Ng
 Entertainment Editor

2002 World Cup. Analysts project viewership to rise to 32 billion cumulative people tuning into this year's World Cup.

As the world becomes more globalized and interconnected through communication, it is nearly impossible to avoid discussion or information about the World Cup.

To be fair, American interest in soccer has been on the rise since the United States hosted the World Cup in 1994. Interest further increased in 2002 when the men's U.S. soccer team reached the Quarterfinals of the World Cup and the women's U.S. soccer team won the whole shebang.

In 2004 the name Freddy Adu was on the tip of everyone's tongues for a few months when he signed to the MLS and at the age 14 became the youngest pro athlete in the world.

As of today, the United States is the fifth-ranked nation according to FIFA world rankings, and they have won the last two of their three friendlies leading up to the tournament.

So often Americans are stereotyped as only self-interested, but U.S. involvement in soccer should be rooted more deeply than in their day-to-day fortunes.

For example, a country that has never even qualified for the World Cup claims the highest national viewership of the 2002 World Cup: Thailand boasted the most cumulative viewers, with 269 million, barely narrowing out South Korea

and China.

Now imagine what fans are like in countries that are actually good at soccer. In Ireland, a group of concerned citizens tried to petition Parliament to officially switch to Korean time for the duration of the 2002 World Cup. The bill did not pass; in hindsight, perhaps the group should have enlisted the help of the IRA.

World Cup matches retain such importance that they sometimes provide insight into important world events. For example, England and Argentina have a long-standing soccer rivalry stemming from the 1966 World Cup.

Far from downplaying the seriousness of the situation, the Falklands War only increased the indemnity between the soccer factions. The two countries met again in the 1986 World Cup quarterfinals. This match stands as one of the most notorious games in soccer history.

Argentina emerged victorious due to a goal by Diego Maradona that has been dubbed the "Hand of God". As it turns out, the "Hand of God" was actually a handball.

English soccer fans and hooligans alike would have to wait another 16 years until they exacted their revenge in a 2002 World Cup match. The Queen of England reportedly tuned in to this match, no doubt a matter of national pride.

This brings me back to my original

See Soccer, page 6

Tuition increase that penalizes unacceptable

The Board of Regents' recent decision to set a fixed tuition rate starting with this year's incoming class is a good policy. It takes away the unpredictability of frequent tuition hikes and makes planning college finances easier. It is a program that addresses the needs of prospective students.

As long as there are not dramatic budget cuts or an unexpected increase in expenses, then each incoming class should still pay for only their costs.

However, if there is an unforeseen increase then the next year's incoming class may unduly bear the burden of paying for the mistake with a much higher fixed rate. The rates will have to be selected carefully so that Georgia's tuition rates do not skyrocket after one bad year as this could potentially deter potential students.

Still, any cushion built into the fixed rate is worth it compared to the financial planning benefits of the program.

It makes sense that the tuition rate cannot be fixed indefinitely. If that was the case, then a student from this incoming class that sticks around until 2013 would be paying based on forecasted education costs that only considered how college costs might change through 2010.

It is perfectly acceptable for the tuition to increase after the



"Policy should not be generated that hurts the majority...just to benefit the ignorant."

Amanda Dugan
Editor-in-Chief

fourth year to an amount that accurately covers the current cost of tuition.

What does not make any sense is increasing the tuition rate one penny over what is necessary in the fifth and subsequent years. Such a fine has been referred to as an incentive to graduate in four years.

Georgia does need to improve its graduation rates. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, only 25 percent to 28 percent of students in Georgia's public colleges graduate in four years compared to 34 percent nationally. Still, this penalty system is not going to solve the problem.

What more incentive does a student need to graduate than the additional cost of tuition, the loss of potential post-graduation earnings, and the extra time spent in school away from other things? If those

costs are not enough to make a student graduate in four years, than adding on an extra penalty cost for staying longer is certainly not going to have an effect.

A penalty could actually lower retention and graduation rates. Students facing unexpected additional years in college are already facing an economic burden. According to the Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics 65.4 percent of Georgia students who graduated in the 2003-2004 school year took out loans with an average loan total of \$20,767. The cost of education is worth it, but do not punish students still working towards a degree.

If tuition is increased any more than they absolutely have to after four years, then they may drive students to take longer because they are having to earn more money to pay for school or they may not finish all together. Those situations may only happen

occasionally, but it is still opposite of the goals of the program.

The only person that a penalty might motivate to finish sooner is the type of person that cannot realize the opportunity costs involved in staying extra years in school. Policy should not be generated that hurts the majority that it effects, just to benefit the ignorant.

There are plenty of reasons why people stay five or more years in school, many of which are not the student's own fault. For example, not being able to register for a prerequisite because a class was full can put students in school an extra semester; surely a student in this situation is already paying a high enough cost without adding on any penalty above what tuition actually costs that semester.

Instead of having to consider how to make accommodations for co-op, transfer, double majors or other students who are staying five years under a socially accepted program, the program should simply increase tuition each additional year they are in school only as much as it has increased to educate them in the last four years.

This differs little from what is in place now except that current students do not benefit from fixed

See **Tuition**, page 6

OUR VIEWS HOT OR NOT

HOT- or -NOT



Provost as president

Provost Jean-Lou Chameau was named CalTech's new president this week. Though we are sad to bid Chameau farewell, we are proud that Tech's provost is named to such a high honor; this truly speaks for the caliber and reputation of Tech. Chameau joined Tech faculty in 1991 and took the provost position in 2001. A committee formed today for an internal search for a new provost.

Construction woes

The guessing game continues on Ferst Drive, with construction creating road closings one minute and then opening for through traffic the next. Buses and trolleys continue to be re-routed and then switched back, with students never quite sure where the route will take them that day. A glimmer of hope was offered with cars and students passing through briefly, but the road remained closed at press.



Baseball Regional

Tech hosts the first round of NCAA regionals. After their stellar season they boast a number 8 ranking in the nation and a number one seed in the regional. Students no longer get in free for NCAA tournament games, but fans are encouraged to come out and support the team in the final stretch of their season.

-No food after 2 p.m.

Summer brings a quieter campus and less students, as well as all restaurants in the Student Center closing at an earlier time of 2pm over the usual 3pm close. This causes problems for crammed summer schedules. So get to the Student Center for lunch, or plan for a lovely vending machine lunch.

Pursue your passions over resume building

By **Laura Becker**
The Breeze (James Madison U.)

(U-WIRE) HARRISONBURG, Va. --I was sitting in the car with my friend and neighbor Sarah Peterson, a senior who will graduate in less than two weeks. She told me about all the weddings she will be attending this summer and how she is excited for the future.

She is going to miss Harrisonburg, Va., her roommates and the Thursday night game nights she invented for her and her friends. She hopes to use the knowledge she gained as a communication studies major in her future career.

I'm 19. I want to be a writer. I want to live in Washington, D.C., New York City and Europe. I want to work for the Washington Post Magazine someday. I want to have a study with floor-to-ceiling bookshelves stuffed with

the classics.

Listening to Sarah reminisce about her experiences at James Madison University only confirms my belief that the day I throw my cap into the air may be closer than I think. She made me aware of the fact that many of the decisions I make now may affect my future, even decisions like how to spend my summer.

A friend of my family often offers neighborhood teenagers a secretarial position at his office in D.C. for the summer. It is a high-paying job that would require long hours and a costly commute. I was tempted to take this job which was filled with great money, steady hours and experience that would look great on my resume.

However, something was holding me back. For the past four summers, I have regularly

See **Passion**, page 6

Letter Submission Policy

The *Technique* welcomes all letters to the editor and will print letters on a timely and space-available basis. Letters may be mailed to Georgia Tech Campus Mail Code 0290, emailed to editor@technique.gatech.edu or hand-delivered to room 137 of the Student Services Building. Letters should be addressed to Amanda Dugan, Editor-in-Chief.

All letters must be signed and must include a campus box number or other valid mailing address for verification purposes. Letters should not exceed 400 words and should be submitted by 8 a.m. Wednesday in order to be printed in the following Friday's issue. Any letters not meeting these criteria or not considered by the Editorial Board of the *Technique* to be of valid intent will not be printed. Editors reserves the right to edit for style, content and length. Only one submission per person will be printed each term.

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Coverage Requests

Press releases and requests for coverage may be made to the editor-in-chief or to individual section editors. For more information, email editor@technique.gatech.edu.

BUZZ

Around the Campus

What are you doing for fun this summer?



Susana Rodriguez
EE Fourth-year

"Research and exploring Atlanta."



Andrew D'Amico
ChemE Second-year

"Work...what's more fun than making money?"



Ariel Brown
EE Fourth-year

"Exploring Atlanta."



Jay Jackson
EAS Grad Student

"Wishing I were wakeboarding in New Hampshire."

Photos by Amanda Thomas

Passion from page 5

baby-sat for the past four summers for a couple of different families. I knew taking the secretary position would mean giving up building forts, creating Play-Doh dolls and watching "Dora the Explorer" all summer.

I love kids, and I wasn't sure if I was ready to give that up for a job answering phones and filing papers. However, the money I made baby-sitting could not even compare to the amount I would be receiving with the job in D.C. With my goal to be able to afford the cost of studying abroad while in college, I knew I needed to make some serious money this summer.

In the end, I decided to forego the opportunity to gain work experience

and a resume booster for a job that I love. I have a few more summers left before I enter the working world to hold internships and to build up my resume. My decision made, I felt great knowing that this is my summer to enjoy the kids and booster my bank account for the upcoming college expenditures that are sure to arise.

I wonder how I will feel when I am getting ready to end my life at JMU and begin a life as a career woman. I wonder if I will have gone on that study abroad trip, received summer internships and have boosted my resume. I wonder if I will graduate satisfied, knowing that I made the most of the time I spent at JMU.

My hope is that all who graduate now may have found that satisfaction, and that you find happiness in the life ahead.

Soccer from page 4

point. Americans who are usually oblivious to the world of soccer may tune in to see if the United States usurps the heavyweight nations to win the Cup, which is a step in the right direction, but it is too myopic.

The rest of the world will be monitoring the big names in soccer: Ronaldo and Ronaldinho of Brazil; Zizou and Henry of France; Shevchenko of Ukraine; Beckham and Owen of England; Figo of Portugal. The names go on, but most Americans do not know them.

Once the U.S. takes an interest in the world's game, perhaps the world will take an interest in the U.S.

Tuition from page 5

tuition rates. No additional penalty tacked on to tuition increases after four years is going to improve graduation rates.

In particular, the policy could affect Tech students for the worse because a larger percentage of Tech students take more than four years to graduate than at any other school in the University System of Georgia.

The Board of Regents should give each school flexibility when determining how to implement the tuition increase after the fourth year, but it should drop the idea of increasing tuition rates more than needed to encourage speedy graduation altogether.

Mandatory classes trap freshmen

By Stephanie Alessi
The Stanford Daily (Stanford)

(U-WIRE) STANFORD, Calif. -- Let me guess - when you decided to sell your soul in order to fund your college education, you assumed that, in exchange for your sacrifice, you would finally get to choose your own classes and pave your own path to the future.

Well, surprise! In order to prevent you from being intimidated by that beast of a publication that is the Course Bulletin, the friendly folks here at Stanford have kindly pre-selected a third of your freshman year classes. Between I-Hum and PWR, every freshman at Stanford (with the exception of the SLE kids, but we just won't mention them) has the pleasure of banding together and whining as one unified front. Some like to complain about the futility of the course content, others about the countless extra CS classes that they could have taken this year if not for the mandatory 19 units that they had to dish out towards the humanities. Still others argue that time conflicts with other classes are a good reason to banish I-Hum and PWR forever. They seem to think that Econ 1 is more important for their future career in business than "Myth and Modernity: Culture in Germany." Those silly freshmen.

University administrators have plenty of reasons to make these courses mandatory. Yet no freshman whom I have met yet seems to appreciate this "coordinated approach

responsive to how students mature as writers, researchers and presenters during their undergraduate years."

Not convinced? Well, believe it or not, the things you study in these classes actually do come in handy every now and then. For instance, you can analyze anything in the style of a PWR rhetorical analysis. Text messages, Facebook wall posts, love letters, you name it - if somebody

"They seem to think that Econ 1 is more important for their future career in business than Myth and Modernity: Culture in Germany"

Stephanie Alessi
Stanford Student

wrote it, its fair game.

If you think about it, this is a good argument for teaching PWR in middle school rather than in college. Imagine how much easier sixth grade love would have been if you had understood the not-so-subtle rhetorical devices that the cute boy in your class used when he passed you notes at recess. It might have been the beginning of a beautiful junior high relationship (i.e. you would have spent a week sitting at the same lunch table until you realized that his

last name didn't go well with your first name and therefore you could never be together).

Even newspaper columnists are known to use rhetoric to make a point every once in a while. Notice how I used pathos to make you reminisce about your middle school days in the previous paragraph's detour about sweet, innocent pre-teen love? Thanks to PWR, I can now put a label on my writing technique.

Oh, the things that you learn in school. But aside from teaching me how to analyze the punctuation in my friends' Facebook messages (hey, there's a big difference between an explanation point and a period), PWR has taught me many an important lesson. Perhaps the most important has been learning to navigate the labyrinths of Green Library - if you ever need a good place for a romantic rendezvous, I can give you some tips.

As I finish my freshman year and look back on these and the many lessons I have learned in I-Hum and PWR, I now realize that these courses are vital to achieving "the University's commitment to humanistic inquiry" (thanks, I-Hum website) and that all freshmen should be required to go through these Stanford rites of passage, no matter how much they complain. They will have plenty of time after college to make their own decisions. Until then, the middle-aged businessmen can do all the work and decide what is best for all these 18-year-olds. That's why we're paying the big bucks.

Just because it's summer doesn't mean we're on vacation.

The collage features several pages from 'The Technique' newspaper. Visible headlines include: 'Students support HOPE', 'IEC recharter sign', 'New USG Ch', 'Graab wins presidency, Byrne nabs VP', 'Klaus construction continues through fall', and 'ADF files free speech lawsuit against Tech'. There are also photos of students and a photo of a person holding a sign that says '5 STUDENTS support HOPE'.

The Technique publishes four issues over the summer!

All spaces are available for advertising.

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