Tech Rec opens after summertime renovations

by Andrea Preininger
Communications Intern
Auxiliary Services

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eonations are finished at Tech Rec and it is now ready for use. Renovation started the second week of summer classes and lasted until the start of the fall semester.

“We've worked hard, making sure all the renovations were just the way we wanted them. We are very pleased with the results,” said Mike Coleman, program advisor, Student Center.

A major concern with Tech Rec was its old-fashioned bowling pinsetters which would often break. Not anymore! All bowling lanes have brand new pinsetters. Tech Rec also added new games and created more lounge space. This year there is a multi-purpose lounge where students can hang out and watch TV.

“All of our televisions are plasma screens and the overall feeling is very modern. We made a lot of upgrades and are very pleased with people's responses,” Coleman said.

One of the new initiatives that Tech Rec is planning is a collaboration with student organizations and departments. This semester, Tech Rec is partnering with the Residence Hall Association (RHA) to create a “Freshman Week” that is aimed at giving freshmen a place to have fun on campus with other freshmen.

Tech Rec has always been a place where students could get away from the stresses of school and relax with friends. Now it's even more so. It's a place like none other on campus which is why it was so important to make sure it was renovated and student friendly.

“We know students get stressed and sometimes need a place to get away from school for a little while. Tech Rec is an excellent place to do just that,” Coleman said.

Tech Rec is also planning to have “Study Break” which will run Wednesdays from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. This is a time for students to play some billiards, play on a PS3, lounge around in the multi-purpose room or bowl among other things. All the activities will only be $1.

“We are really excited about all the new changes. It's going to be a great year for students and Tech Rec staff,” Coleman added.

Tech Rec is open Monday-Thursday 10 a.m.-11 p.m.; Friday 10 a.m.-2 a.m.; Saturday 5 p.m.-2 a.m. and closed on Sunday. Tech Rec is closed during holiday and semester breaks.

Weekly Fall Semester Specials:
Monday - Wednesday
99 cents per game bowling 11a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Shoe rental not included.
Thursday
$2.55 per hour pool 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Friday $2 per hour video game rentals 11 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Cosmic Bowling every Friday and Saturday night!

WOW! It’s a New Sensation

Jackets featuring WOW Cafe & Wingery in the Student Center Commons

by Andrea Preininger
GT Dining has opened a new concept, Jackets featuring WOW, and it not only introduces wings and salad bowls with homemade salad dressings like fat free sundried tomato basil vinaigrette and Thai Peanut but new and exciting things to do too.

It still has the fun atmosphere of Jackets but now it has much more, new food items and nine television screens scattered throughout.

“The menu is New Orleans inspired so we are serving menu items like red beans and rice,” said Shequita Barnes, marketing manager, GT Dining.

In addition to wings, other menu items include fried mushrooms, cheese fries, gumbo, wraps and sandwiches, Texas Toast burgers and WOW shrimp.

Jackets featuring WOW is also available for tailgate parties at home football games.

“People may rent Jackets featuring WOW for catering events too,” Barnes said.

A tradition that Jackets featuring WOW will continue is Thursday night trivia which has been a big success with students.

“Jackets featuring WOW is really a great restaurant with a good variety for every taste. We plan on making it a fun and great place to eat for everybody,” Barnes added.

And people who like WOW's food and Tech Rec's fun can soon enjoy the best of both worlds. Look for a WOW ordering kiosk in Tech Rec to order and have food delivered while playing pool, bowling, gaming and all other Tech Rec activities, including just hanging out.
The Board of Regents, the governing body for the 35 universities and colleges of the University System of Georgia, began a customer service recognition program two years ago to honor its schools and individuals who exhibit extraordinary customer service.

This year Auxiliary Services submitted three nominations to the program and all three won.

Rosalind R. Meyers, associate vice president, Auxiliary Services, received the silver 2008 Outstanding Customer Service Leadership award.

She was recognized for her customer service leadership, particularly the annual Auxiliary Services online customer satisfaction survey when Georgia Tech students, faculty and staff are asked to review each department’s services, programs and facilities and recommend improvements.

Once the survey results are compiled, all Auxiliary Services’ departments meet and share action plans.

Auxiliary Services has conducted the online survey for eight years. The Georgia Tech Office of Organizational Development administers the survey each year, making it a completely random sampling of Georgia Tech students, faculty and staff.

“They told me to continue with the customer service recognition program,” Meyers said.

Loren Sumerlin, the Student Center Operations Manager, won a silver 2008 Excellence of the Year award in the individual category for his professionalism and calm approach during sometimes stressful situations.

He is engaging and Student Center customers routinely compliment his work.

Rich Steele, Student Center Director, said of Loren, “He is constantly entrusted to manage a tremendous volume of events, a huge customer base, significant capital assets and he does this in a way that makes the Student Center and Georgia Tech look exceptionally good.”

Rosser Jones, a Stingerette driver, won Honorable Mention in the individual category for his friendly and helpful service driving students to and from their residence halls and other buildings on campus during evening hours.

“In an organization like ours, where we all depend on each other and work to serve the students, Rosser is one of the individuals who genuinely cares for the students he interacts with every day,” Meyers said.

“We, in Auxiliary Services, will continue to make changes to our programs, services and facilities, ever striving for higher levels of customer service,” Meyers added.

BuzzCard eMarketplace proves a hit with students by Andrea Preininger

BuzzCard has launched a new online system called the eMarketplace that allows students to purchase items that were once sold at student booths.

The eMarketplace was introduced because many student groups were asking for the portable BuzzCard readers to sell their merchandise.

Because of the high demand, the BuzzCard Center asked the groups to consider putting their products online.

Thus, the BuzzCard eMarketplace was launched.

Four campus entities tested the system. Parking & Transportation, Alpha Gamma Delta, Omega Phi Alpha and Student Center Programs were the first to use the system.

“The response we got from students was great. The eMarketplace really took off and student groups love it,” said James A. Pete, director, Auxiliary Services Technical Support.

Because of the response that the eMarketplace received, the Six Flags tickets were exclusively sold on the eMarketplace this year and all Student Center Options classes were set up for payment on eMarketplace.

“It was time we started using the eMarketplace because it is a resource that will benefit everybody greatly. It is convenient, easy to use, and in general, generates more revenue for student groups,” said Donald Smith, director, BuzzCard.
President in overseeing the association’s finances as well as its strategic direction.

On March 17, 2008, he was inducted as President of ACUI and now has full responsibility of executive meetings and governance over the ACUI Board.

As ACUI President, he will travel internationally consulting with other professionals and colleagues on student center and student union programs and issues.

He will attend the international and regional conferences where he will gain insight into many issues pertaining to student centers from around the world.

As the ACUI President, Steele will also bring additional recognition to Georgia Tech. He will share Georgia Tech Student Center programs, goals and accomplishments and he will learn new programs from other schools, including the recent initiative, Digital Now. Digital Now focuses on Web 2.0 functioning and other web-related areas.

“We are looking into a variety of ways to incorporate more advanced technologies into the everyday running of the Student Center from security cameras that can be seen via the Internet to online payments of the box office tickets,” Steele said.

Being president of an international association is not something everyone will or can achieve. But when it happens, it is beneficial for the individual and the company or school the person represents.

“It is an honor to be serving an association that’s been around for 100 years,” Steele said.

New Director of Parking & Transportation

Georgia Tech Parking & Transportation announced its new director, Lance L. Lunsway who began his position on July 28. He replaced Bob Furniss who had been the Parking & Transportation Director since May 2003.

Before coming to Georgia Tech, Lunsway worked at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, as Director of Transportation Services from 2000-2008. Before that, he was at Arizona State University as Parking and Transportation Manager from 1997-2000 and Parking Operations Manager from 1991-1997.

A graduate of Kansas State University with a bachelor of science degree in psychology and an associate’s degree in business from Colby Community College, Colby, Kansas, Lunsway is a member of the Board of Directors for the International Parking Institute.

The first 50 people to e-mail melissa.moore@gatech.edu the answer to this riddle win 2009 Auxiliary Services’ T-shirts. What is the cost of Tech Rec game rentals on Friday + the number of years Auxiliary Services has conducted its annual customer satisfaction survey + the cost of a one-hour nutrition appointment at Stamps Health Services.

Lance L. Lunsway, director, Georgia Tech Parking & Transportation
Go West, Young Man (or Woman)!

by Andrea Preininger

When students think of the word WESTech they might assume it means west campus life, but in reality it means “Weaving Every Student Together” which is exactly what Georgia Tech Housing and Residence Life is trying to do this year.

The WESTech initiative hopes to make West Campus an even better place to live for its residents, academically and socially.

In the past, WESTech has hosted events like study group sessions and socials, but this year the group plans for more involvement from the Residence Hall Association (RHA) and possibly from professors.

“What we are doing this year is called C-squared, or Campus Colleagues. C-squared is a program that assigns a professor to each residence hall.

“The professors will put on a couple of programs for the building and be there to answer questions students have about professors in general,” said Monique Lett, assistant director of Housing Residence Life.

Another initiative that West Campus is doing is creating more study groups with people taking the same classes.

Typically, there is a trend that once students move away from the freshman halls they tend to stop utilizing the tutoring resources, but through focus groups, Housing has learned that older students also need attention.

West Campus is a very diverse place with many different nationalities. WESTech is working to bridge the gaps between different groups on campus by creating more international programs.

“We would love to create an international experience for all students living on West Campus. We are trying to create a great learning environment for everybody,” Lett said.

One of the goals of creating this learning environment is hosting programs on a variety of topics like life skills after graduation, buying/leasing a car, renting an apartment, or even how to change a car’s oil. Some other programs that are being considered are how to apply to graduate school and resume writing.

“We are so excited about WESTech initiatives and everything that it has the potential to be. We started off the year with a carnival in Burger Bowl which was a great start to the new semester. I’m excited for the students and for this year!” Lett added.

Stamps Health Services’ Health Promotion offers $5 per hour nutrition appointments
Cristina Caro (above), clinical nutritionist and licensed registered dietitian, reviews nutritional products in her office at Stamps Health Services on Mondays and Fridays to discuss such issues with students as nutrition, weight management, disease prevention, sports nutrition and health maintenance. Students pay a five-dollar fee for a one-hour appointment. Appointments may be made with Cristina online at www.myappointment.health.gatech.edu or by calling 404-894-1420. For more information on other health issues, visit www.health.gatech.edu.

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