Library fountain faces demolition

The library fountain will be replaced with a new set of stairs, replacing the current stairs on Skiles walkway. The project is being carried out in conjunction with the building of the nearby Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons.

By Zimu Yang
Staff Writer

The lifting of drought water restrictions has allowed water to freely flow out of the Campanile fountain, but the library fountain will see a different outcome. Having been off all semester, the construction of the Clough Undergraduate Learning Center (CULC) is forcing its demolition.

“The library fountain will be going away as a part of the redevelopment of the Skiles walkway … and the stairs that are currently there and the bridge that bridges across from Skiles to Price Gilbert, they will all be redeveloped to make it more pedestrian and student friendly,” said Howard Wertheimer, director of Capital Planning and Space Management.

“The fountains in front of the library were generally used by students to relax and decompress while taking a break from academics. The fountains feature a tiered design, and were a gift from the Price Gilbert, Jr. Charitable Trust and the Gilbert family, and become a focal point of the campus. The restating of the campus fountains raised speculation about when the library fountains would re-start as well.

After the fountains are torn down, a series of terraced stairs will be built to replace the library fountain. “The metaphor is the Spanish steps in Rome as it becomes a gathering place. It will be integral with landscape as well,” Wertheimer said.

The library rotunda will be kept unchanged in its place and a renovation is planned for the library tower. The redesign of Skiles Walkway does not permit the existence of the fountains as they are. As of yet, the structures do not pose a structural problem to the CULC.

State budgets cuts have not yet changed the projected timetable for the construction of the CULC. The state legislature is currently shifting towards academics and have already strongly considering applying. However, if funding trends continue, book allowances may drop altogether by the next year. If the trend is not corrected by 2014, funding for school fees may be a major factor in a college education, would not be affected by re-budgeting around the lottery shortcomings and that tuition should still be met by HOPE’s provisions. However, if funding trends continue, book allowances may drop to half the current level by 2012 and possibly altogether by the next year. If the trend is not corrected by 2014, funding for school fees may drop. Current mandatory fees are $718, over half of which is covered for HOPE recipients. This could be an issue for prospective students in deciding whether to attend Tech for college.

Mock dorm fire emphasizes safety

Fires in a dorm room can quickly spread to engulf the entire room, as shown in this demonstration.

By Vijai Narayanan
Assistant News Editor

The Georgia Tech Police Department hosted its third annual mock dorm fire safety event on the afternoon of Sept. 9 in conjunction with the Georgia Office of Insurance and Fire Safety Commissioner. The event was held as part of the National Campus Fire Safety Month, an initiative launched in 2005 in order to drive down the number of fire-related deaths on college campuses across the country.

“Whenever you go, firefighters will tell you that the last thing they want to do during a fire is search and rescue. What we want to do is to show people how quickly fires can devastate a space and get them thinking about fire safety,” said John Oxendine, State Insurance and Fire Safety Commissioner.

In preparation for the event, Housing built a dorm style room using spare furniture and bedding. The space covered enough area to house a bed, desk and chair. The fire was started with a blowtorch and engulfed the room in seconds. Firefighters from the Atlanta Fire Department rushed to the room to put out the fire. The room was then completely gutted and the people living in the dorm were notified of the fire and were allowed to move to another dorm.

Students tweet and update their opinions on the two social media sites "Welcome Back"

Students tweet and update their opinions on the two social media sites!
Technique
The South's Liveliest College Newspaper

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

Did you go to President Peterson’s Investiture?

On Friday, Aug. 28, several employees of JSP Sports Con-
tracts left their offices at Bobby Dodd Stadium. When they re-
turned, they discovered several pieces of signage had been torn off
the wall in the hallway. The miss-
ing signage include a large gold
“GT,” two mid-sized gold T’s, and a mid-sized gold S.

An officer was called in two
days later on Aug. 30 to take
statements. The total value of the
damage is unknown, but the sto-
len signage amounted to approxi-
mately $1,000 in total.

In addition to the signage, sev-
eral cases of beer were stolen from
the Super Suite of the stadium. No
signs of forced entry were vis-
bile. However, a large window
located in the Club Extension
Room, which is accessible from
seats in the east stands, was found
opened.

POLLS OF THE WEEK

Did you go to President Peterson’s Investiture?

40.4%
No, I had class.

39.7%
No, I’ve got better things to do.

17.0%
Yes, it was a historic moment in Tech history.

11.9%
No, but I went to the strategic planning
discussion afterwards.

What do you think about the library fountain being demolished?

Tell us at

www.nique.net

Next issue’s
question:

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Undergraduate House of Representatives members review funding bills at last Tuesday’s meeting.

The UHR passed a bill granting an additional $10,000 to the Collegiate Readership Program. This program distributes newspapers to students at various locations across campus. The intent of the program is to expose students to relevant information about the community and the world.

The program currently has funding of over $30,000 per year, which covers the distribution of USA Today, The New York Times and the Atlanta Journal Constitution. Due to rising newspaper costs and an increase in circulation, the bill was passed 38-6. The bill was postponed in GSS after a lengthy discussion on whether funding newspapers was wise, given the failing nature of the industry.

Team Buzz
SGA approved a bill granting $3,485 to the TEAM Buzz service organization. The bill was passed 41-4 in UHR and 36-0-0 in GSS. Each year, TEAM Buzz puts on a service day dedicated to serving the Atlanta community. Started in 1997, the event draws together over 2,000 students and alumni. The event will be held on Oct. 10. Over 35 different projects will be available for students to participate in.

Homecoming
SGA also considered a bill providing funding for homecoming events, including the Wrek Parade and the homecoming concert. The Student Center is responsible for the planning and development of all homecoming events. A band has yet to be selected for the concert. The bill passed 41-4 in UHR and in GSS 9-6-1.

Be your own drummer

Or guitarist, cellist or saxophonist. Deloitte’s Dietrich Schmidt certainly is. He’s a business analyst by day and a rock star by night, playing across Texas with his band, The Air Supernova. You won’t find a more innovative approach to career-life fit. Dietrich’s or ours. Meet Dietrich at www.deloitte.com/yourfuture. It’s your future.

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Melkers awarded $1.15 million to study women in science

By Siddharth Gurnani
Contributing Writer

Dr. Julia Melkers was awarded over $1.1 million to study women in science by the National Science Foundation (NSF). In particular, her research addresses collaboration and network issues for academic scientists.

In partnership with co-principal investigators Dr. Eric Welch from the University of Illinois and Dr. Monica Gaugham from UGA, Melkers’ core project addresses the question of why professional networks are important for career advancement for women in science.

“Career Outcomes for Women and Individuals across America” is a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant limited Melkers to study women in science and technology workforce and further solidify the research. Practically, she hopes that the studies will develop a better understanding of the roles and characteristics the professional networks play for women. In addition, she hopes this research will help women improve career advancement and outcomes in academia.

“We hope that our results will inform structural aspects of non-Research intensive academic environments, and the nature of interventions designed to attract, retain, and advance women and minorities in those institutions, including mentoring program structure, as well as opportunities for faculty advancement,” Melkers said.

Dr. Melkers concluded that she was excited about the new grant and that she may be able to add an undergraduate student to the project through the generous support of the Tech’s Women, Science, and Technology (WST) Program Student-Faculty Research Partnership.

Associate professor of Public Policy in Ivan Allen College Dr. Julia Melkers was awarded over $1.1 million to study women in science by the National Science Foundation (NSF). In particular, her research addresses collaboration and network issues for academic scientists.

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Melkers’ team recently received a 3-year grant for $1.1 million dollars entitled, “Empirical Research: Breaking through the Repartition Ceiling: Professional Networks as a Determinant of Advantage, Mobility, and Career Outcomes for Women and Minorities in STEM.”

NSF has awarded four rounds of grants to academic institutions and individuals across America with the aim to recruit and retain women in science and engineering.

“This research is motivated by ongoing evidence of underrepresentation of women in academic science, particularly in some fields, as well as exit from scientific careers,” Melkers said.

According to her research, it is essential to be in the right social networks for female scientists to further their careers. She and her team were interested in finding out what made these networks of female scientists important for career advancement and job satisfaction.

Some results that Melkers and her team found were that women develop collaborative ties with colleagues that they meet for the first time at professional networks, as well as new ties that women maintain relationships longer than men with colleagues that they know from graduate school.

“We are more likely than men to be introduced to new collaborators by individuals in their academic research networks,” Melkers said.

Melkers feels this grant will help her team expand their sample to a wide range of schools, examine institutional effects on networks, as well as look more carefully at underrepresented groups.

The NSF grant limited Melkers and her team’s research, as there are very few minority scientists in Carnegie-designated Research 1 institutions. Minorities and women, statistics show, are underrepresented in Research I and comprehensive institutions as well.

The Carnegie designation is a classification of institutions based on a variety of aspects, such as degree programs and size. Because of this specification, Melkers promises that her team is capable of handling these studies now that they possess the funding.

When asked about the kind of impact she expected from this study and its impact on the Tech community, Melkers explained that she hopes that her studies will have a theoretical as well as practical impact.

She expects the quantitative study of the professional networks to add to the existing literature on the science and technology workforce and further solidify the reputation that other Tech colleagues have built in the area of women and minorities in science.

Technology currently has a robust Women in Science and Technology program and has numerous recruitment programs for women interested in attending the Institute.

Melkers was awarded $1.1 million dollars by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to study how women in science interact with different academic networks.

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Two students arrested in alleged manhole cover theft

By Vivian Fan
News Editor

Two Tech students were arrested Tuesday night for stealing manhole covers on Merritts Avenue at the Centennial Place Apartment complex, across from Tech's campus. Along with that manhole cover, two others were also missing along Huncutt St. near Luckie St., both located slightly south of Tech’s campus.

Located right off of the North Avenue Apartments bus stop, maintenance and the Atlanta Police Department discovered the missing covers Tuesday afternoon after a Tech student nearly stepped into a coverless manhole. The student contacted 11Alive News, who then notified the Atlanta Police Department concerning the missing covers. According to an interview with Tom Abrahamson, second-year MGT, done by 11Alive News, the covers had been missing for days before, and had caused Abrahamson himself to almost step into the hole.

After being alerted by the 11Alive News team, the Centennial Place apartment complex managers sent a maintenance crew to fix the problem, despite it being the city of Atlanta’s responsibility. Although the apartment managers had covered up the holes, Atlanta police department later investigated the area under suspicion of theft. When the Watershed Management Department, who is responsible for the covers, replaced the manhole covers, the police had notified them that the original covers were located.

Despite the suspicion that the manhole covers were stolen for their metal, police determined that the covers could have been recovered and that it was a less serious matter than that. Although Atlanta police has recognized the increase in copper and metal thefts in the last few months, they noted that this was likely not such a crime, due to the inefficiency and lack of monetary turnover for manhole covers.

Later that afternoon, police were called to Centennial Place after apartment maintenance workers spotted one of the missing manholes in the apartment of two Tech students, after one had placed a phone call concerning a problem in the apartment. Along with the missing manhole cover, police later recovered a stolen park bench and a pedestrian sign as well. Police arrested them later that night.

The names of the two students have yet to be released, but police did say that the pair lived only 100 feet away from where the manholes were missing. Although their aliases are still not known, the two students were sent to Fulton County jail immediately after their arrest. In addition to their night in jail, the pair also may face future charges including theft by receiving stolen property and reckless conduct.

Three manhole covers like this one were stolen from sidewalks near Centennial Place. The culprits appear to be two Tech students, who were sent to Fulton County jail and face criminal charges.

I was really surprised at how quickly the room caught on fire, it really shows how you can’t just brush fire safety aside,” said Angela Rice, CHBE ’99.

“The main thing we want people to take away from this event is to take fire safety seriously and make sure they know what to do in case of a fire. If a fire starts in your dorm you have less than a minute to make it out of the door,” said Chad Arp, the Fire Safety Educator for the Cherokee County Office of Fire-Emergency Services.

While personal safety in the wake of armed robberies around campus has been a topic of concern, Oxendine hopes that people also pay attention to fire safety.

“Always keep your head up when going home at night, and not being alone by yourself, but you rarely hear about fire safety. We want to get students active about fire safety so that when they find someone doing something unsafe, they can inform and prevent fires from occurring,” Oxendine said.

Fire from page 1
chair, similar to those found in freshman dorms. After a brief introduction, a spark triggered a fire in the room.

The fire grew large and spread quickly across the room, engulfing the entire room in flames within a minute. Regional fire departments were on hand to extinguish the fire after it had reached a high intensity level.

The aftermath of the fire showed a grim scene. Everything from the mattress to the bed frame was charred, and smoke continued to rise for several minutes after the flame was extinguished. At one point during the fire, the crowd voluntarily stepped back due to the intensity of the heat, which could be felt over 50-60 feet away.

“I thought it was a really great experience and I was really surprised at how quickly the entire thing went up in flames. I was also really amazed at how hot the fire felt even from far away,” said Chris Sanders, sixth-year ME.

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