State orders budget cuts and furloughs on Institute

By Zimu Yang
Staff Writer

As funding cuts force schools in the University System of Georgia to revise their budget plans and accommodate projected funding cuts of between four and eight percent, Tech is turning to employee furloughs, decreases in employee benefits and a possible increase in student fees among other ideas to cover the cuts. The total estimated loss to Tech as a result of the budget cuts amount to between $10 and $20 million, depending on the severity of the cuts.

The decision to reduce funding was mandated by the Georgia state legislature in an effort to bridge the $900 million loss in state revenues over the past year. Tech will comply with a mandatory state directive to impose employee furloughs to reduce salary costs. A total of six furlough days are currently planned for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Those earning less than $23,660 each year, research and teaching assistants, non-resident aliens on an H1B visa, those critical to life and safety and residents, non-resident aliens on an H1B visa, those critical to life and safety and those on sponsorship money will be exempt from furloughs, causing some controversy.

“A problem arises when we do that and I understand this creates some iniquity but I’ll take responsibility for that decision — it was a business decision, and that decision was based upon this $6.2 million we save compared to the cost of forcing people to take furloughs if they’re on [sponsorship] money,” said Institute President G. P. Peterson, at the Budget Town Hall meeting on August 24.

While furloughs are expected to save Tech money, they would not cover the entirety of the cuts. Furthermore, furloughs are only a temporary solution and cannot sustain budget cuts over the long term. Where the additional money will come from is still to be determined. One way of meeting the remaining budget shortfall is to reduce funding for various departments across campus, both academic and non-academic.

“The academic areas last year absorbed a four and a half percent cut and the non-academic areas absorbed a seven and a half percent cut. But this year I think the commitment is to target the cuts more carefully,” said Jim Kirk, Director of the Office of Budget Planning and Administration.

Additional cost-cutting measures placed on Tech employees may include revisions to employee health insurance, a moratorium on future hiring and other actions the Institute deems appropriate.

Should the state decide to raise cuts to eight percent, there will be a $150 fee increase for students in addition to the normal $100 academic excellence fee. Undergraduate student body president said he would be opposed to such a fee increase.

Institute President G. P. Peterson spoke at the Budget Town Hall with other Tech representatives on Monday.
From the files of the GTPD...

Campus Crime

By Vivian Fan
News Editor

**Hot Mama**

On Aug. 14 at 12:02 a.m., Tech police were called to Maulding Residence Hall after the Hall Director for West Campus reported flooding on the first and second floors. The flooding was the result of the fire sprinklers going off. The director stated that the source of the flooding was from a room in the second floor.

The reporting officer inspected the dorm room and found the mother of an incoming freshman. The mother had been attempting to heat some tea in the microwave, which proceeded to light on fire. She then attempted to put out the fire quickly; however, the sprinkler system went off. While trying to stop the sprinkler system, she slipped and struck her chin on the wet floor.

The mother received a large cut on the chin and was then transported to the hospital for evaluation.

**A drunk keeps from falling**

Police were called to Forth Street, N.W., in front of the Catholic Center Aug. 16 where they found a white male holding onto a light pole. The man, who was heavily drunk at the time, was hanging from the light pole to prevent himself from falling. Upon speaking with the man’s friend (who was not intoxicated), the officer ascertained that both men were not Tech students, but had come to campus to look around after going to a bar in Midtown. The drunk man was taken to Grady Hospital.

**A smelly, weedy mistake**

Aug. 15, police were called to Brown Residence Hall at 11 p.m. after a complaint of a smell similar to that of marijuana coming from a student’s room. Once arriving at the room, the officer approached the room and smelled no such scent. The officer then spoke to the resident living in the room, who stated no one had been smoking in the room. The officer entered the room with consent and found nothing suspicious.

**POLL OF THE WEEK**

How do you feel about the downtime of Tech resources like OSCAR, webmail, etc. the first week?

14.2% Huh! I didn’t even notice

17.2% It was annoying but I didn’t care anymore.

9.0% No big deal. These things happen with increased user load.

59.7% I’m severely disappointed. This is an institute of technology!

Tell us at nique.net

Based on 134 responses

It’s hardly what you’d call joining the rat race

“Life is what happens while you’re busy working,” doesn’t apply to Deloitte’s Cedric Ncube. He’s able to work in risk consultation and toward his dream of running the 100 m dash in the 2012 Olympic Games, simultaneously. All thanks to Deloitte’s belief in career-life fit. Catch up with Cedric at www.deloitte.com/careerfuture.

It’s your future. How far will you take it?
Second-year Public Policy major Mike Donohue addresses an issue at the first SGA UHR meeting.

This edition of Council Clippings covers the UHR and GSS meetings from Aug. 25, 2009.

Peterson addresses UHR

Institute President G. P. “Bud” Peterson addressed UHR to begin the first session of the year. Peterson’s speech dealt with the Strategic Plan initiative that will officially open up to campus on Sept. 3 during the Investiture Ceremony. Peterson also announced that there will be nine topics of discussion for the strategic planning sessions, which were being finalized by the steering committee composed of faculty, students and friends of the Institute.

Crime and Prevention Night

SGA saw a bill to allocate $110 for the Crime Prevention and Awareness night. The event is intended to raise awareness about the Crime that has occurred on and around campus. Members of the GTPD and the Atlanta PD will speak. There will also be students speaking about how crime on campus has affected them. Pizza and other refreshments will be provided. GSS approved the bill, as did UHR with a vote of 39-1-7.

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Home sales, durable goods purchases rise

Reuters reported that sales of new homes hit their highest in 10 months last month. It was the biggest gain in home sales since Feb. 2005, and the supply of unsold homes on the market sunk to its lowest level in 16 years. In another report, the U.S. Commerce Department said that a rise in durable goods was up 4.9% in the past month, the largest increase in the past two years.

Space shuttle launch postponed by fuel valve

NASA called off launching of space shuttle Discovery at Cape Canaveral due to fears of a faulty fuel valve. The shuttle is expected to carry payload to the International Space Station. The most prominent payload is a new $5 million treadmill, named after the most prominent payload is a new $5 million treadmill, named after former astronaut and GSS approval was not needed.

Breaking the Bubble

A lot of things went on outside the bubble of Tech in the past week. Here are a few important events taking place throughout the nation and the world.

Senator Ted Kennedy passes away from cancer

Senator Edward Kennedy passed away at age 77 after a battle with brain cancer. Known as the liberal lion of the Senate, Kennedy was revered for his ability to reach across the aisle and forge bipartisan compromises on a wide range of political issues while still championing Democratic causes. Kennedy became the patriarch of the famed political family of Camelot following the death of his brothers. Throughout the years, Kennedy was haunted by a reckless private life that threatened his statured public reputation. Following a defeat in the Presidential primaries in 1980 against incumbent President Jimmy Carter, Kennedy plunged into his work in the Senate. His hand touched wide ranging legislation, from education, voting rights to health care, where he favored a single-payer system.

His death comes at a time when Congress is debating health care overhaul, a cause that Kennedy fought for his entire life.

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A true love for Georgia Tech

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All applications/supporting documents are due by:
Tuesday, September 8, 2009 at 4:30pm to the College of Engineering in Tech Tower - Room 301.

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JacketPages serves as new organization forum

By Vijai Narayanan
Assistant News Editor

The Student Government Association (SGA) and the Office of Student Involvement unveiled a new campus portal for student organizations called Jacket Pages. The website aims to increase transparency into the SGA bill process in addition to providing campus organizations with better tools to manage and communicate with members. It also aspires to provide students who are looking to get involved on campus with a better, more user-friendly experience.

"Jacket Pages is the new software that SGA will be using to communicate more effectively with student organizations. It is geared to become the student organization portal for involvement at Tech," said Linda Harley, the Graduate Student Body President.

Tech previously had in place another campus organization portal known as Cyberbuzz. That system was recently taken offline and has been replaced by Jacket Pages. Cyberbuzz faced much criticism from students and organizations for being difficult to navigate and manage student membership.

"Cyberbuzz was built back in 1995, and the programming was too old and it was difficult to make changes," said Danielle McDonald, the Director of the Office of Student Involvement. SGA began the process in January of looking around for a developer to develop a system like Cyberbuzz instead of trying to create the system using campus resources.

In addition to Jacket Pages, a new SGA website is being planned to provide students with more access and transparency into the workings of Student Government.

"In the past we've tried to create a similar system by hiring students and developers from Tech, but compared with what it would have cost to hire a full time web developer to develop a system like this, it was much cheaper to go with CollegiateLink," she said. "Jacket Pages provides student organizations with many new features, including the ability to organize events, and upload documents and photos onto a profile page. In addition, it allows organizations to maintain discussions boards, polls and surveys among members of the group. Campus leaders can communicate with group members more easily through Jacket Pages, and avoid going through the campus mailing list server. It also allows users the added functionality of receiving organizational updates through Facebook."

"We also hope that Jacket Pages will assist with the transfer of leadership within organizations from year to year by providing a centralized record of the previous year's events and membership," said Harley.

The system also tracks student membership and keeps a record of student in turnouts. The idea has been suggested to turn Jacket Pages into a co-curricular transcript in the future, in which students can see a history of their involvement throughout their time at Tech. Organizations must approve membership requests from individuals in order to be officially recognized as a group member. One of the most important features of Jacket Pages is the fact that the SGA bill process has been bound to the website. Campus organizations must now submit bills online through the website and can view the progress of their bills as it passes through the SGA process, including viewing amendments and decisions made on the bill. The paperwork associated with the chartering process for becoming an organization has also been moved online.

To the creep peering into windows, it wasn't a porn it was a scene from a movie. Not everyone at Tech is a HD porno watching fiend.

'Tnique needs to get their act together. the amount of errors in the freshman issue was outrageous Ford.-Klaus (see the Freshman Edition 'Nique)

Thanks for turning one of the last green spaces on campus into a construction site.

To HELL with georgia Tech. "let's outsource the design of things we're the best in the world at making, like registration systems, ticketing web sites and parking decks"

Do you realize how much it costs to replace a rear windshield? Why isn't there a sliver API? Or is there?

Sola lingua bona est lingua mortua!

"JacketPages serves as new organization forum"

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"JacketPages serves as new organization forum"

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THE BUSINESS SCHOOL AT GEORGIA TECH

Wednesday / 08.26.2009 ➤ David Murphy
CEO, Better World Books

Wednesday / 09.02.2009 ➤ Rodger L. Johnson
Chairman and CEO, Knology, Inc.

Wednesday / 09.09.2009 ➤ Dean H. Eisner
President and CEO, Manheim

Wednesday / 09.16.2009 ➤ Kristen Grimm
President, Spitfire Strategies

Wednesday / 09.23.2009 ➤ Dennis Sadlowski
President and CEO, Siemens Energy and Automation, Inc.

Wednesday / 09.30.2009 ➤ Dr. G.P. “Bud” Peterson
President, Georgia Tech

Wednesday / 10.07.2009 ➤ Martin Melaver
CEO, Melaver, Inc.
Author, “Living Above the Store”

Wednesday / 10.14.2009 ➤ Howard Behar
Retired President, Starbucks International

Friday / 10.16.2009 ➤ Bill George
Special Homecoming Session @ 3:15 PM
Professor of Management Practice,
Harvard Business School
Author, “7 Lessons for Leading in Crisis”

Wednesday / 10.21.2009 ➤ Tirza Hollenhorst
President, ifPeople

Wednesday / 10.28.2009 ➤ Robin Ferst
Founder and President,
Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy

Wednesday / 11.04.2009 ➤ Emily Lays
Global Program Officer,
Room to Read: Girls’ Education Program

Wednesday / 11.11.2009 ➤ Jerry S. Wilson
Senior Vice President and Chief Customer and
Commercial Officer, The Coca-Cola Company

All events are held at 4:30 PM (unless otherwise noted) in the LeCraw Auditorium, College of Management, 800 West Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30308. For more information, and updates to the schedule please visit http://ile.gatech.edu.
will be developed ‘for the future,’” said a representative from the Registrar’s Office and Enrollment Services.

T-Square, the campus collaboration and learning environment used by students and faculty was also down last week. The system was out of service from approximately 9:10 AM to 11:20 AM on Monday, August 17. The problem with T-Square was caused due to a corrupted database file. Teams attempted to fix the problem by trying to fix the file, but to no avail.

Once it was discovered that the corrupted database file could not be repaired, the work was begun to restore the database from backup and bring it back to functioning status. This process was the most time-consuming of the whole ordeal.

“We while we wish that we wouldn’t have problems in the first place, part of my hope for the future is that the technical team will continue to respond as effectively as it did last week when problems do emerge,” said Clay Fenlason, the Director of Educational Technologies.

“Think that the campus community and people need to keep in mind that novel H1N1 is a dynamic situation, and I think that the team of campus leaders that have taken charge of this project have taken that balance between complacency and panic and have taken a dynamic approach to it.”

Baker said. As far as students are concerned, representatives from the Health Services Center and the administration urge students to be more aware of their actions and to take precautions.

“Campus leaders have started to put together business continuity plans to prevent any concerns about the ill health and there being a reduction in workforce... We have encouraged social distancing which is one of the best things, but that is hard for campus to do right now because we are in tone of the highest periods of socialization in the year... Georgia Tech is a very busy place with lots of clubs and large gatherings. I would recommend that people try to avoid those, and if they are going to take the right precautions,” Baker advised.

Students are encouraged to wash hands and take the usual flu season precautions. If a student does believe he or she has contracted the H1N1 virus, the Health Services Center has advised the student to wait until a representative meets him or her with a mask. For more information concerning the H1N1 virus and its symptoms, look at the official CDC and Health Services Center websites.

### Budget from page 1

H1N1 from page 1 vaccines and medication from the national strategic stockpile,” he said.

Although Baker and the Health Services Center have requested a number of vaccines, there is no guarantee that Tech will receive enough for the entire student population. Upon receiving the vaccine shipment, the health center will be given direction as to who and which groups will get the vaccines first.

If the situation worsens, the Health Services Center has looked into providing a second location to better serve students. Although segregated housing for students with the virus has been discussed, the Tech administration has deemed it to be unfeasible.

“In remembrance of Justin Richard Bellmor, a sixth-year computer science major from Marietta, passed away Wednesday, Aug. 26 of complications from suffering a brain aneurysm in July.”

Bellmor was employed as a systems administration at the Georgia Tech Information Security Center. A memorial for Bellmor will be held Saturday, Aug. 29 at 3:30 p.m. in the Klaus atrium.

### Institute President G. P. Peterson addresses students and faculty cost-saving measures such as furloughs and reduced employee benefits

The National Science Foundation will receive $3 billion worth of funds for research projects. Funding from the NSF and other government agencies could be a new source of revenue for researchers, reducing the amount of money paid by Tech to employees.

Due to uncertainty about amount of budget cuts, estimating the impact on instruction and research at Tech is speculative. Current trends have already seen the faculty-student ratio slipping from 1:21 to 1:22 over the past four years.

Peterson continued to stress the importance of Tech’s academic and research excellence to the world and emphasized that there would be efforts to preserve that standard.

“All of us here at Georgia Tech recognize that these circumstances will create a significant hardship for many in our community, and we will do everything possible to minimize the impact on our students and employees,” wrote Peterson in a campus-wide email.

### Correction

Our Freshman Survival Guide referred to Cyberbuzz, gatech.edu as the primary resource for student organizations and involvement.

This was an error, and we apologize for any confusion. Interested students should refer to www.involvement.gatech.edu for information on student organizations.

Organizational leaders should contact Danielle McDonald for information about involvement opportunities online such as Jackets Pages at http://jacketspages.collegiateink.net (see page 3) and the student involvement website.

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### silver

Real men don’t “tweet” hoff is like edamame: tasteless and salty. where are the silver please stop polluting my trolley with your bad grammar and high school band talk. I LOVE COTTAGE CHEESE Coke: It’s the really good coal. Not the other two varieties you’re thinking of I just need a giant F*** off written on my forehead so creepers don’t bother me while studying if I’m doing work, please don’t try and hit me on. Foothall ticketing this year blows little balloon animals that I want to destroy Stochast- sucks Is it sad that sometimes when I park my car I think of it as a game to wonder if it will still be there when I get back Why is everyone and their mom getting married!!! I’m so behind schedule Waffle House in Tech Square: Just another way to consume excess calories after binge-drinking. At least I don’t have to drink and drive anymore to drag my economy and dollar collapse has made the annual “Freshman Survival Guide” to expensive to print online! Well, I could be wrong well yes but I’m still there on the front. course critique goes down more than your mother whoever steven is, can you keep your itunes account online always, your music selection is amazing ooh i like the new technique website I can’t believe the PRESIDENT didn’t come to the Welcome Back picnic. Way to go. John and Taylor: why do you dress that like at rush? We don’t dress like that. Your fudge isn’t the only thing keeping you fat.