Schuster steps down as the provost

By Matt Hoffman
Advertising Manager

Tech campus was informed on Wednesday morning via email from Institute President G. P. “Bud” Peterson, that Gary Schuster, provost and executive vice president for Academic Affairs, will be stepping down from his post. He has served as provost since Aug. 2006.

“All I ever wanted to be was a scientist... The clock ticks and I am getting older, and I have always wanted to spend the end of my career teaching research as a faculty member here,” Schuster said.

Peterson’s email also said that a search committee will be appointed in order to find a new provost, and that Schuster intends to remain in the position until a successor has been appointed. As the chief academic officer at Tech, the colleges report directly to the Office of the provost.

The provost also has oversight of the budgeting process for the Institute and supervises the hiring and retention of faculty.

“The good thing about an institution like Georgia Tech is that the infrastructure is well built,” Schuster said.

According to Jara, the certificate programs will allow for these students to better familiarize themselves with these focuses, without having to spend the amount of time or money it would take to acquire a minor in the biology department.

Like certificate programs in other schools at Tech, each of the newly founded biology certificates requires a basic number of 12 additional hours of coursework.

The specifics as to how those 12 credit hours are completed

T-Square experiences server failures

By Siwan Liu
Layout Editor

T-Square has returned back online following recurrent server failures occurring earlier this week. The website returned back online late Wednesday night.

“We’re getting at a point where [T-Square] is stable again. We don’t know what triggered it,” said Cliff Fenlason, Director of Educational Technology.

Beginning the afternoon of Monday, Oct. 19, Tech students and faculty found themselves experiencing problems with T-Square. Certain applications of the website have been down periodically as a result of server failures, which have made uploaded files and attachments inaccessible.

According to Fenlason, T-Square itself and its databases were fine; however, the infrastructure team had been having problems with back file storage, particularly in services related to the Banner system and the College of Management’s data storage.

Services that were affected by this failure included Techworks, Peoplesoft financials, GTED and gewapps. Servers storing uploaded files and attachments on T-Square had been problematic, rendering the website unusable until Wednesday night.

Before fully recovering, T-Square administrators explained in an announcement that while access to uploaded files or the ability to upload new ones, including assignments, resources or other areas that involve attachments, has been experiencing issues, the application itself would continue to be up and running.

Activities that do not require the use of files, such as chat, wiki pages and announcement postings were still accessible and in service.

Due to the fact that T-Square has a very large volume of files and content, the process to fully restore T-Square did not finish until Thursday afternoon.

“What’s basically happening is that the files are being trickled back into the system as there is a full back-up,” Fenlason said. “As of [Thursday], we’re looking for the last [file] to be in place and check that we haven’t missed anything.”

Wednesday night, T-Square administrators released the following apology on their website: “We deeply regret the severe disruption to coursework we know this has caused, and will be reviewing the hardware issues thoroughly to make sure this can’t happen again.”

Fenlason and the T-Square team will be determining the cause of the failure over the next week.

School of Biology announces new certificate program

By Matt Schrichte
Contributing Writer

Tech’s School of Biology and the Biology Student Advisory Board have announced the enactment of six new certificate programs, open to all non-biology majors.

Although Tech has been undergoing budget cuts and changes throughout each department, the School of Biology has taken a different approach by expanding their available curriculum. Starting at the beginning of the semes-
ter, the School of Biology opened up the new undergraduate cert-
tificate programs to all interested Tech students.

The biology department approved the six new certificate pro-
grams this past spring after current biology majors responded to a survey asking which certificate topics they would be most inter-
ested in pursuing.

The recently introduced certificates include biomedical science, biomedical technology, computational and quantitative biology, environmental science, marine science, and integrative biology.

According to Jara, the certificate programs will allow for these students to better familiarize themselves with these focuses, without having to spend the amount of time or money it would take to acquire a minor in the biology department.

The specifics as to how those 12 credit hours are completed

New Certificates Available

- Biomedical Science
- Biomedical technology
- Computational and quantitative biology
- Environmental science
- Marine Science
- Integrative biology

See Certificates, page 5
What do you think of the Tech SWAT team?

31.2% It's a good idea, but there are better ways to address crime on campus.
24.6% It's needed.
7.4% There's a SWAT team?
36.9% It's unnecessary.

Based on 122 responses

NEWS

Events and happenings across campus next week

Campus Calendar

Wednesday, Oct. 28

One mile without shoes
WHAT: Tech students will be teaming up with the bands Hanson (most famous for their song “Mmmbop!”), Hellogoodbye, and the organization TOM’s shoes for a one mile walk through the city of Atlanta. The walk will be along side band members from both groups and will try to raise awareness of poverty and AIDS in Africa. The two bands have been hosting this walk across the nation as they go on their national tour. Hanson will also perform a few songs following the walk.
WHO: TOMS at Georgia Tech, Hanson and Hellogoodbye
WHERE: Ferst Center
WHEN: 12:15 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 28

Get Jazz Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra
WHAT: Tech’s jazz ensemble and symphony orchestra will team up to perform a variety of songs including Paul Dukas’ “Sorcerer’s Apprentice,” Andrew Lloyd Webber’s “Think of Me” and Michael Jackson’s “Thriller.” The concert will also feature one of the three winners of Tech’s Student Concerto Competition Ruoting Geng. The concert is free for Tech students with a Buzzcard and $10.50 for general admission.
WHO: The Campanile
WHERE: Ferst Center
WHEN: 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Honeywell Science’s Nobel Initiative Lecture Series
WHAT: Allowing for students to meet and listen to Nobel laureates, Georgia Tech will be hosting Professor Sir Harry Kroto, winner of the 1996 Nobel prize for chemistry. The lecture is part of Honeywell Science’s Nobel Initiative (HNI) series, which began in 2002 and has been presented at lecture halls in the U.S., China and India. The event will also be webcasted on http://www.honeywellscience.com
WHO: Professor Sir Harry Kroto
WHERE: Ferst Center
WHEN: Nov. 4 to Nov. 5, first lecture at 10:00 a.m. on Nov. 4, others’ time to be announced.

POLLS OF THE WEEK

What do you think of the Tech SWAT team?

Be your own drummer

Be your own drummer

Or guitarist, cellist or saxophonist, Deloitte’s Dietrich Schmidt certainly is. Mr. is a business analyst by day and a rock star by night, playing across Texas with his band, The Ars Supernova. You won’t find a more innovative approach to careerlife. Dietrich is ours. Meet Dietrich at www.deloitte.com/yourfuture. It’s your future. How far will you take it?

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By Vijai Narayanan, Assistant News Editor

Council Clippings
This week in Student Government

Each Tuesday, elected members of the two houses of the Student Government Association, the Undergraduate House of Representatives (UHR) and the Graduate Student Senate (GSS), convene to consider allocation bills and discuss issues facing campus. Here is a summary of those two meetings.

Underwater Hockey Club

The Underwater Hockey Club requested funding to attend an intercollegiate tournament in Charleston, SC. The team wanted to purchase 20 additional headguards and 10 sticks for the competition. In addition, the team requested funding for the registration fee and travel to the event. The bill totaled approximately $2300 and passed UHR 43-0-2 and the GSS 24-1-0.

FIMRC

The Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC) at Georgia Tech requested $1400 to fund a trip to Costa Rica for one week. In the past, groups have volunteered in Trujillo, Peru by assisting and shadowing doctors. The bill was amended to decrease travel funding and reduce lodging as per Joint Finance Committee policy. The bill passed UHR 41-1-3 and the GSS with a vote of 24-3-1.

LeaderShape

LeaderShape, a six-day intensive development program hosted at Tech each year requested funding to help cover the costs of the program. LeaderShape was also the genesis of the Team Buzz service day event. The organization requested funding to pay LeaderShape, Inc. in part for the cost of the program, totaling $16,200. The overall cost of the program totals $45,000. UHR commenced a lengthy discussion about the cost of the bill and the amount of people it would affect on campus. LeaderShape currently only accepts 50 people for the program. After taking into consideration the potential of the program to largely impact campus, the bill passed UHR 29-1-3 and the GSS 20-8-0.

Project Honor

Project Honor requested funding for a service trip to New Orleans over Winter Break. Each year the organization takes a trip to New Orleans to help with Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts. Due to the economic crisis, the organization has had more troubling funding trips. The team will partner with Habitat for Humanity for the duration of the trip. Volunteers perform tasks varying from house construction to painting. The bill requested funding for equipment and van rental, totaling approximately $5550 and passed the UHR with a vote of 38-2-1 and the GSS with 27-1-0.

Multicultural Greek Council

The Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) requested SGA to approve an amendment to their constitution that drops the number of people required to become a chartered organization down from ten to seven. Chartering allows organizations to advertise and hold campus organizations. The MGC oversees several different organizations, and focuses on increasing cooperation and communication between them. The MGC has its own constitution and internal processes, but must have constitutional changes approved by SGA.

During a lengthy discussion about the need for this amendment, concerns were raised about the amount of advertising employed to recruit new members and maintain high membership. Chartering allows organizations to advertise on campus and hold campus wide events. The bill passed UHR with a vote of 30-12-2 and the GSS with 18-10-0.

John Kerry conducted a round of negotiations with Karzai in order to convince him to hold a runoff election. Analysts say that such an election will be difficult to hold, as winter approaches and the Taliban becomes more emboldened.

On Oct. 15, a six-year old boy was mistakenly believed to have floated away from his home in Colorado in a helium balloon, raising alarm throughout the country. He reportedly climbed into the balloon when it became untethered. The balloon was 20 feet in diameter and five feet in height. It is said to have reached a height of 7,000 feet and drifted for 60 miles, before landing just north of the Denver airport. Air traffic was rerouted for the duration of the ordeal and even the Colorado National Guard assisted in the recovery effort. The boy was not found in the balloon, but instead found safe within his home several hours after the incident. On Monday, Larimer County sheriff Jim Alderden announced that the incident was a hoax and that federal charges would be pressed against the family.

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.

Karzai agrees to runoff

Afghanistan’s President Hamid Karzai agreed to a runoff election in his country following intense diplomatic pressure from the United States. Last week an international audit by the UN found that nearly one-third of the votes cast in his favor during the general election were tainted by fraud, driving his vote count below the majority. Karzai initially balked at the idea and refused to entertain any idea of a runoff election. The Obama administration sees the restoration of a credible government in Afghanistan as a key part of its war strategy, with administration officials hinting that the results of the election may play a role in the President’s decision whether or not to send additional troops to Afghanistan. As a result, Sen. John Kerry conducted a round of negotiations with Karzai in order
SGA, MOVE and Red Cross hold flood relief

In light of the recent flooding sustained in the metro area, SGA, MOVE, and the Red Cross partnered to provide flood relief for the thousands of metro Atlantans affected last Thursday through Saturday. The flooding claimed ten lives and caused millions of dollars in damage to property and roads across the metro Atlanta area. Members of each organization came together to collect canned goods, clothes and money. The total amount of donation received has not yet been calculated, but the event was considered a success.

Tech named No. 12 engineering school

Tech dropped four spots to No. 12 in the U.S. News rankings of the top engineering schools in the world. MIT retained the No. 1 spot with a subject score of 100. Tech was passed by University of Tokyo, University of Toronto, ETH Zurich and University of Oxford. Tech dropped nine points from a score 68.9 to 59.3.

The top three remained unchanged with MIT taking the top spot and Cal-ifornia and Stanford at No. 2 and No. 3, respectively.

NEWS BRIEFS

Ellis, Frazier named Mr. and Ms. GT

During half-time of the annual homecoming game last weekend, Robert Ellis, a fifth-year CEE and Kaitlyn Frazier, a fourth-year BMED were named Mr. and Ms. Georgia Tech, respectively. Both were nominated by their respective Greek organization (Delta Chi and Alpha Delta Pi) and underwent a rigorous selection process, including interviews, presentations and talent shows.

"Just being with so many other people that love the school as much as I do, just being associated with those people is a pretty big honor," Ellis said. "I think it’s humbling to be part of the [selection] process."

"It was a complete shock and definitely an honor to be considered by my fellow students. I didn’t believe that it was my name when they called me, I had to be told that it was me before I realized what was going on," Frazier said.

The contest began about a month before homecoming week, when organizations across campus nominated individuals to be considered for the honor. Candidates were required to present an application, recommendation letter, and an essay on leadership experience. In total, 23 men and 26 women were nominated. Candidates were put through interviews held by alumni and administrative officials. Following this process, the number of candidates was narrowed to 10 male and 10 female semi-finalists, who were then asked to make a presentation about what they felt was the most formative part of Tech for them.

Semi-finalists were also asked to record talent videos, which resulted in the submission of talents such as catching gummi bears and hula-hooping. The students also recorded a group song and dance of the fight song which was broadcast on screens across campus.

During homecoming week, semi-finalists were asked to participate in events such as Mock Rock and the talent show. The top five finalists were announced on Thursday of homecoming week. At the homecoming football game on Saturday, finalists were brought to the field during half-time and the winners were announced.

"I pride myself on valuing relationships with other people. I think Tech has taught me how to deal with other people...I enjoy talking to others and making them feel comfortable," Ellis said.

As part of the recognition, the recipients are required to represent the Institute at campus events, including Up with the White and Gold and When the Whistle Blows, a memorial ceremony for students and alumni.

there are ten pints of blood in the human body.

you only need seven to survive.

give a pint, save a life.

BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, October 26th to Thursday, October 29th
11 AM to 4 PM daily in the Student Center Ballroom

Sign up today.
Register at givelife.org, sponsor code: gatech.
As of Wednesday afternoon, the GTPD reported and confirmed two injuries involving a broken arm and an ankle injury. The student who sustained the broken arm received it while jumping from the stands onto the field and was taken to the hospital. The student with the ankle injury refused treatment.

“Preliminary reports are a possible broken arm, asthma attack and a hurt ankle all from coming over the wall,” Nagel added.

“Some students continued to ride the goal post as others carried it out of the field. Following the game, students stormed the field and climbed the North end-zone goal post until it snapped. Some students continued to ride the goal post as others carried it out of the field.”

Schuster from page 1

is that it is not so dependent on the personalities that are in particular places. It is much dependent upon the history, the traditions, the objectives of the institution,” Schuster said.

“As we look ahead to the search for our next provost, we plan to conduct a national search. In doing so, we are signaling that we intend to find the most talented person available in the country. That doesn’t rule out anyone already on campus, it simply sets the bar at the appropriate level for a university with our future potential,” Peterson said.

It is the hope of the administration that the new provost will be in place by July 1, 2010. Schuster will stay on until his successor is in place. The timetable for the Strategic Plan has the new provost being rolled out around this time.

“The [strategic planning] process will be nearly complete when the new provost arrives and as a result the biggest challenge for this individual will be in the implementation of the plan,” Peterson said.

“We are in the midst of a really important strategic planning exercise...One of the major challenges for the new provost will be to understand the objectives of the strategic plan, and then to begin to put the mechanisms in place that are going to be necessary to execute the strategic plan,” Schuster said.

Schuster stepping down is one of many changes to the top-level administration at Tech over the past few years. In addition to Schuster, former dean of Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts Sue Rouser stepped down in the summer to take over the provost position at the University of California, San Francisco, and Richard DeMillo resigned from his position as dean of the College of Computing in June 2008.

“There is a delicate balance between in depth knowledge of an institution and a ‘fresh eyes’ approach. Part of the challenge of leadership is ensuring that one has the appropriate mix and balance of both...The time in these types of academic leadership positions [Provost] is typically around 5-7 years so these types of changes are not uncommon or unexpected,” Peterson said.

“I expect that who ever is selected...will have some familiarity with Georgia Tech as an institution...[The most important qualities for the new provost are] integrity and energy,” Schuster said.

Schuster was named the Dean of the College of Sciences in 1994, after serving 20 years on the faculty of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, in the department of chemistry. He was head of the department when he left Illinois. In 2001, he was also appointed to be the Vasser Woolley chair of chemistry and biochemistry.

Schuster was named to the provost position after Jean-Lou Chameau left the post to become the new president at the California Institute of Technology. Schuster was selected over former dean of Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts Sue Rouser and Chair of the Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering Eugene C. C watchas, Jr. and Bill Wepfer, who at the time was vice provost for distance learning and adult education, who were also finalist for the provost job.

In April 2008, Schuster was named Interim Institute President, succeeding former Institute President G. Wayne Clough. During his tenure as interim president, Schuster led the institute through budget cuts, which were caused by revenue short falls associated with the financial crisis. Schuster played a crucial role during the transition process last spring, after Peterson became the new Institute President.

“[Becoming interim president] was a very enlightening experience. I got the opportunity to see aspects of the university that you don’t from the academic side,” Schuster said.

“[Schuster] has served the institution very well over the course of the past few years. Especially last year when we went through challenging economic times...Dr. Schuster was the leader of the institution, and he did a great job transitioning with Dr. Peterson,” said undergraduate student body President Alina Staszkevicius.

“Dr. Schuster was called upon to lead Georgia Tech through one of the most difficult economic periods in its history. He did a very good job setting the right priorities and maintaining the moral and confidence of the entire Tech community,” Peterson said.

While the economic challenges that Schuster faced during his tenure greatly shaped his duties as provost, Schuster said he particularly enjoyed working with students and student leadership.

Schuster intends to return to the faculty. Currently, he is listed as director of the Institute of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

“Dr. Schuster’s desire to return to research and teaching as the culmination of his career is well known,” Peterson said.

“I maintained an active research presence for all the years I was dean and provost...I am absolutely looking forward to getting back into the classroom...I would like to teach in the organic chemistry program, and one of the things I would really like to do is teach in the honors program,” Schuster said.