

OUR VIEWS CONSENSUS OPINION

New provost to be chosen

Hopefully change is chance for positive progress

We were surprised to hear of Schuster's decision to step down from the post of provost, but are glad he will be staying on at Tech, as he did a good job in all the roles he has served here, especially stepping up as interim president.

With Schuster's resignation, we look forward to the future provost with hope for positive change. This change cannot happen without targeting specific traits for the new provost during the search for his successor.

This search must specifically look for diversity of candidates. This does not just mean looking for candidates from varying roles around Tech, but a full national search that will allow us to pick from top candidates everywhere. At the same time, a nationwide search does not mean we should adopt the mind set that an in-house hire would be a failure. This may mean that the best candidate would be a person with some sort of connection with the Institute, be it an alum, a former pro-

fessor or other role.

Tech must consider a variety of candidates who are focused on progressive moves for Tech's future while staying in touch with our culture. At the very least, by the time the new provost starts, they should be well aware of the unique Tech culture to ensure that we do not change the core of what Tech is, but rather revise the way we do business.

Diversity of candidates must finally ensure that the true diversity of the student population is represented in every aspect from considering hiring of people with non-engineering backgrounds to a true consideration of the female population in the upper echelons of power at Tech.

A new provost is only one of many newly replaced positions on campus in the past year. With so much new blood on campus, we hope that it will be a catalyst of change that will improve campus, without losing the character of Tech in the process.

The Consensus Opinion reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board of the Technique, but not necessarily the opinions of individual editors.

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EDITORIAL CARTOON BY SIWAN LIU



The Athletic Association shows solidarity with Tsquare's difficulties

YOUR VIEWS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gun control debate should have middle-ground options

The debate over university gun control laws has risen again in the national media and here in the *Technique*, bringing with it the usual arguments.

Many people feel threatened with potentially fatal weapons in the classroom, while others feel safer with the opportunity for self-defense.

But what if there were an option to answer both sides' concerns?

Defensive tools like stun guns and pepper spray offer a reasonable alternative for personal safety, without creating a significant risk of serious injury.

Unfortunately under Georgia state law, no student can have a taser on campus, even if locked away in the glove compartment of their car.

When every year seems to bring another school shooting by a mentally unstable student, and when every third school email explains a mugging incident on the back steps of campus, it becomes clear that we need to find a practical solution to make everyone safer.

How differently could that day at Virginia Tech have been if one of those professors or students had been prepared for the unlikely?

And how would our campus crime statistics change, if criminals knew there was a good possibility of a painful jolt?

Georgia Tech does its best to keep students safe with the Stingerette and a very visible police patrol.

But what about those 10 minutes alone on the street in the middle of the night before the Stingerette arrives, or those dark walks back into Homepark?

Granted, there is a chance for misuse or abuse, but what if there was a police directed, safety training course?

Questions like these should be included in an expanded campus discussion, because we as a community need to find a practical solution to the right to feel safe on our university campus.

Lizzie Elbel
Fourth-year ME

Internet grammar

In "Peterson responds to the undergraduate white paper," I noticed that the *Technique* doesn't capitalize the word "Internet".

Write to us:
letters@nique.net

We welcome your letters in response to *Technique* content as well as topics relevant to campus. We will print letters on a timely and space-available basis.

Letters should not exceed 400 words and should be submitted by Tuesday at 7 p.m. in order to be printed in the following Friday's issue. Include your full name, year (1st, 2nd, etc.) and major. We reserve the right to edit for style and length. Only one submission per person will be printed per term.

I am aware that this is a growing practice in some publications and was wondering if this was the *Technique's* official stance on the matter, or just a slip-up.

I am genuinely interested in this, so I'll avoid an all out rant about how much I hate the dropping of capitals and punctuation in an effort to be trendy and cute.

I certainly wouldn't complain if it were capitalized, though.

Thank you for your time.
Nic Reveles
Fourth-year MGT

Response from the Editor

While yes, grammatical convention accepts internet as a proper noun, in the context of an engineering and technical school it seems a bit silly to consider it as an individual, novel format.

Therefore we generally treat the word "internet" much like radio or television, a technological medium and commodity that does not merit capitalization.

You will however, see instances of capitalization of the word at the discretion of our editors for emphasis or clarification, as our style guide does not dictate a hard and fast rule at this time, like say our rule to call our school only "Tech" or the "Institute".

If you have any further questions on our style, feel free to refer to our style guide, which can be found at nique.net.

- Emily Chambers
Editor-in-Chief

Halloween just improves over time

Even in the midst of all the mid-semester homework and tests on top of working and attempting to keep a somewhat balanced social life, there are still somehow things that make me extremely happy.

The month of October reduces my stress level significantly, and it still surprises me that a simple little change in a month can have such an effect on my mood and overall outlook of life.

As a Tech student, I need all the stress relief I can possibly get my hands on.

October is the month when the weather finally begins to cool down to a bearable (and sometimes even enjoyable) temperature. The leaves change colors, the breeze picks up and the outdoors becomes so incredibly pleasant.

It is my favorite month for these reasons and one other that is by far the very essence of the month: Halloween.

Everything about October just screams ghosts and goblins and witches.

There is a pumpkin on practically every doorstep, and those who are particularly huge fanatics of the holiday even go as far as decorating with spooky ghouls and robotic monsters meant to scare anyone who comes near.

It brings back many fond memories of trick-or-treating in homemade costumes and stuffing myself with sugar un-



“To put it quite simply, the month when the undead is celebrated makes me the happiest to be alive.”

Jennifer Aldoretta
Entertainment Editor

til I felt completely satisfied and slightly sick to my stomach.

Halloween is one of the few holidays that hasn't lost its magic as I've gotten older. Growing up and learning that Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny aren't real changed the holidays for me and made sure that they were never quite the same.

Halloween, however, is still just as great and magical as ever. I can now watch scary movies that I wasn't allowed to watch as a kid (even though I'm still just as scared of them as I used to be). I can still eat candy until I feel sick and I can still dress up in a costume and I don't feel like I am too old for it.

Adult beverages definitely enhance the experience as an adult celebrating the holiday, but the childhood spirit is still fully there.

It's not one of those holidays that people dread because they have to drag themselves home to spend tons of not-so-antic-

ipated time with their family. It's not one of those holidays, like Christmas, that loses its spark until you have children of your own to rekindle it. It is certainly not one of those holidays that you cannot celebrate unless you have a sweetheart.

Halloween makes me feel like a child again.

I get to dress up as whatever my heart desires (though for most women now involves a little less fabric than it used to), and I still have to explain to everyone what I am supposed to be as I eat myself into a sugar-induced coma.

Going to the pumpkin patch and picking out a pumpkin with the smell of hay in the air still brings as much enjoyment as ever.

As if Halloween night itself wasn't great enough, the weeks leading up to it make October that much better. For me, it is filled with late-nights spent watching scary and often horrible movies that perhaps should have never made it to the big screen in the first place.

A few of the recently watched greats are Trick-or-Treat, My Bloody Valentine 3D and The Thing. No matter how terrible or scary the movie, I am much more likely to watch it during October than I am throughout the rest of the year.

The spirit of the holiday helps me overcome the “scared-y cat” in me and I am able to watch movies I usually wouldn't. (Sometimes I watch only through my fingers, but I watch them all the same).

As adults, not only can we watch movies that we weren't allowed to as kids, but we can do other things as well. Halloween is almost improved by getting older, which doesn't happen with other holidays.

We are now able to satisfy our need for adrenaline thrills by going to the scariest haunted houses in the state and paying to practically pee in our pants as we scream our insides out.

We can also pay to go get completely lost in a giant field of corn that has been cut into a maze.

The weather, the movies, the traditions, the spooky objects, the costumes and the candy all make the month of October my favorite of the entire year.

To put it quite simply, the month when the undead is celebrated makes me happiest to be alive.

Internet neutrality must be maintained

For those of you unaware of what it is, Net Neutrality is the current debate raging between Internet Service Providers and online businesses and organizations. Recently the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Obama administration have weighed in on the side of online businesses and organizations. More recently, Fox News and Glen Beck have weighed in on someone's side, I am just not sure whose.

Normally it would be against my moral code to provide one more article to Mr. Beck's Google searches, but in this case, due to the obscure nature of the debate he is warring, I will accept the karmic reduction and forge ahead. Neutral internet is the system that we have now. End-users, meaning us, the citizenry, pay a rate per month for a certain speed of connection. If you pay 30 dollars, you can get videos and text faster than the people who pay 15 dollars a month. The news from the AJC will get to you at about the same download speed as the news from us, and Skype will load at the same speed as MSN messenger.

Internet service providers have figured something out though. With the many innovations in internet speed and bandwidth, they can now control the download speed from different ISP addresses. This means that the services providers can walk up to firms



“If an end-user has paid for high-speed internet, all content should be available ...at that same speed.”

Emily Chambers
Editor-in-Chief

or organizations with online content and demand payment in exchange for priority in the race for bandwidth.

Yes, the free market would say that if the service providers are going to charge companies and organizations in order for their content to download, then they will only be able to do so if online firms are willing to pay. However, this is not the issue of ISPs offering a new service and waiting to see how much firms are willing to pay for it. In this debate, ISPs are effectively threatening a reduction in services rendered should firms not comply, and they are not even threatening their clients, but instead their business partners, the very firms whose content drives people to pay phone and cable companies for internet each month.

Legislation proposed to regulate this new business plan would place the FCC in charge of regulating internet service, much like it does radio or television. This legislation would state that while ISPs are more

than welcome to offer various internet speeds, they cannot peg content to certain speeds. If an end-user has paid for high-speed internet, all content available to that user on the internet must be broadcast at the same speed. Seems logical, right?

Unfortunately, not to some people. According to the ISPs and their current blond and screaming mouthpiece, by protecting the access to the internet that end users get, after paying for that access, the Net Neutrality bill will infringe on first amendment rights. According to the coalition against neutral access, the goal of regulating access speed has something to do with subsidizing broadband access. This could not be farther from the truth.

By giving citizens the ability to download “fringe organizations” like The Christian Coalition (which has come out for Net Neutrality) at the same rate they can download information and content from major corporations, the Net

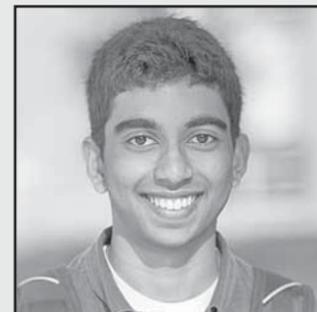
Neutrality bill will protect the free speech rights of those smaller organizations. The step from paying for preferential bandwidth access to paying to eliminate bandwidth access for a content source is miniscule. Bandwidth is an end-sum game, and by moving one content provider up in the line, you will always move someone else down, and ultimately, off the list. As the internet has been ruled a free-speech zone of sorts, using preferential business interests to reduce or eliminate the access of not-for-profits or small groups is and would be censorship.

The stimulus bill money that has gone out to support broadband access has nothing to do with net neutrality. That is a separate issue dealing with funds that were accepted by the service providers to expand end-user access to the internet that they now wish to double dip into.

As a closing note, please understand that net neutrality is a minor political issue to most people, but as Tech students, students who will manage internet start-ups or work for online publications or blogs, it is one that will affect all of our futures as end users and business people. In order to encourage a lively online business culture with low barriers to entry as well as protect free speech, the neutral platform of the internet must be maintained.

BUZZ Around Campus

What do you think about Wingnuts moving?



Abhi Gukal
Second-year BMED

“I don't really go there anymore.”



Jackie Hicks
Fifth-year MGT

“Oh no! That was a staple in my freshman year diet.”



Tamara Johnson
Fourth-year BIO

“It's shutting down a bit of nostalgia from freshman year.”



Andy Bardagjy
Fifth-year ECE

“It deeply saddens me.”

OUR VIEWS HOT OR NOT
HOT-or-NOT



VT victory

Tech had what will inevitably turn out to be a legendary Homecoming victory last weekend against VT. Not only did we beat a top five team at home for the first time in five years, but we managed to do it in the presence of all the alumni in town for homecoming, and we used the opportunity to fulfill the Tech tradition of taking down the goalposts in our excitement.



T-Square fail

T-square downtime has yet again plagued the lives of students this week. While it is always frustrating when T-Square decides not to work, now that it is midterm season, it causes altogether panic across the student population. While the occasional hour or two of outage is understood, days of T-Square failure is completely unacceptable on all fronts.



Trolley at Publix

For Tech students who depend on the Trolley to get groceries, it was always a point of frustration that the closest stop was at the MARTA, even though the route passes right by Publix. Needless to say, much celebration followed the announcement that a stop will be added at Publix. Now we will only have to drag our groceries to the curb instead of all the way down the block.



Goalpost injuries

While we are all for tradition, it is never fun when people get injured and trampled in the process. With thousands of industrial engineers in the mob, we should have at least been able to carry off lowering goalposts and creating a flow of activity out of the stadium without injuring students in the process. We hope that everyone who was a casualty statistic recovers quickly.

Alumni enrich the experiences of students who reach out to them

When I was a senior in high school faced with choosing a college, Tech did not become my top choice until I attended the UGA vs. Tech game in Bobby Dodd Stadium. My mind was easily made up as I left. This was not because Tech won, but rather because of my interaction with the people at the game.



“Alumni relations don’t have to be as formal as they do intentional. Alumni... are looking to connect with students.”

Emily Jackson
 President of GT Ambassadors

As I observed the Tech alumni in their white and gold, cheering for their team with heart and energy, treating others with respect and exuding a sense of pride in their school, I knew I had identified a group I wanted to join. They were the peers I hoped to have in the future. It is this sense of pride I wanted to have for myself as I graduated.

Ambassadors is a student organization run through the Alumni Association. Part of our responsibility is to represent the student body to alumni, faculty, staff and visitors. We want to promote Tech for what it is today, better understand where it has been and partner with current initiatives to create a better and brighter future for the institution.

Through Ambassadors, I have had a variety of interaction with alumni and have been given a multitude of lessons from the alumni and their perspective on Tech. I think that the opportunity for partnership between Alumni and students starts while we are students.

They are able to communicate Tech’s past while we as students are able to describe the present and how we can work toward shaping the future together.

That perspective of the past is often the crucial link we miss as current students. There is a mindset that alumni-relations are only

for when you graduate.

The reality is that building partnerships today enhances our time here. Seeing Tech through their eyes opens our eyes to opportunities for impact.

The alumni discuss the development of programs, ideas, values and organizations that have made a lasting impression on the school. Hearing these is motivating for us to seek out chances to do the same. The example alumni set for us as students to life out while we are here as well as after graduation.

Alumni relations don’t have to be as formal as they do intentional. Alumni of Tech have pride, class and prestige and are looking to connect with students today to find those same traits. Through the various interactions with Alumni there is a chance to find the similarities across gender, generation, discipline, affiliation and interest.

When we as students come to appreciate the experiences of Alumni, we can incorporate them into our lives as students today. Building on past experiences gives us the chance to maintain momentum in learning, tradition and growth for the school.

They are able to teach us to appreciate what we have. They are the givers of the opportunities, celebrating student successes and

searching for ways to support the institution.

Alumni are seeking opportunities to support students. Alumni express an appreciation for the school developed through the perspective of looking back. They understand that the reputation of the degree they hold lies in the hands of students today. Alumni help you see the value of your education, even before you graduate.

Whether it is watching someone’s face light up when you say “go Jackets”, hearing about the legendary drown proofing or singing the fight song with someone you don’t know, the connection between Tech graduates and students is about finding common ground.

I have begun to understand that I am not just a yellow jacket for four years but for my lifetime. Seeing alumni interact at events, ceremonies or just around campus there is a sense of family among them. There are few schools with a bond that has the depth like the “white and gold.” There is an instant connection you will have with anyone in the Tech community.

This loyalty unifies people around the world. Interacting with alumni gives you the chance to develop that sense of ownership and belonging, as well as see Tech through their eyes.

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