Whaley, Vaden win InVenture Prizes

This year’s InVenture Prize was hosted by former CNN correspondent Miles O’Brien and CHEM professor Bahareh Azizi. Patrick Whaley and his OmegaWear invention first place and the People’s Choice award. Second place was Sarah Vaden.

By Kanna Bohra
Contributing Writer

Eight teams of Tech students put their inventions to the test, vying for cash prizes up to $15,000, and a U.S. patent worth $20,000 in the second annual InVenture Prize Competition on March 17, sponsored by Tech and Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB) and hosted by former CNN correspondent Miles O’Brien and CHEM professor Dr. Bahareh Azizi.

The InVenture Prize finale took place at the Ferst Center and gathered all finalists of the competition to demonstrate their products in front of a live audience, and televised by GPB TV. Winners were judged by three judges, including entrepreneur Greg Foster, MGT professor Sara O’Connor Hodgson, Regents’ Professor and director of the Engineering Entrepreneurship Program David Xu and WSF Radio personality Scott Slade. In addition, winners were also judged by the audience for the new People’s Choice Awards through text messages. Students in the audience could also cheer on their favorite invention with posters and signs in each finalist’s own fan section.

Following the finalists’ presentations to and questions by the panel of judges, Patrick Whaley, fifth-year ME major, and his product OmegaWear won the first place prize of $15,000, and the People’s Choice Award of $5,000. Second-year AE major Sarah Vaden won the second place prize of $10,000, for her drum-tuning device. Both winners also received patents up to $20,000, provided by Tech’s Office of Technology Licensing.

The contest, which was stemmed by the organizers’ desire for undergraduate students to create solutions to local and global issues, began last semester. Finalists were selected through a 3-month process consisting of preliminary presentations and judging. The other six finalists, selected from a wide range of competitors, included the team for the products EEGLE, the Multifunctional Automobile Powered Pump (MAPP) and the Koozie Cooler, and the individual finalists for the products ExpressPress, FandomU and Memory Boost.

The winning invention OmegaWear is type of “wear weighted clothing [that] enhances training and weight loss for a wide range of athletes from professionals to the recreational sports person wanting to improve their health, performance, appearance, or physique,” according to Whaley. The product design strategically places hydrogel over critical muscle groups to maximize the results of any physical fitness workout or of any daily activity.

“I had an idea for clothing that looked nothing like regular clothing except it was significantly heavier. This way the user would be able to work out without anyone knowing,” Whaley said.

Whaley is currently taking orders for his product via his website and also plans to enter clinical trials of his product at local research institutions.

Vaden’s drum-tuning device consists of a foot pump that blows air into the drum and judging. The other six finalists, select-

POSSIBLE STUDENT BUDGET CHANGES*
*Potential budget changes for organizations to be voted on by UHR and GSS in the upcoming weeks.

Increased amount for graduate student conference fee
Increased amount for Technique printing costs (*UHR version only)

Decreased amount for Dramatech technical fees per production
Amount saved by eliminating IFC’s National Benchmarking survey
Amount saved by eliminating Ballroom Usage fees for organizations

Registration changes for Phase I

Following years of student population growth, Tech advisors and registration faculty are looking into and testing new procedures to streamline the course registration process. According to an email issued to students on March 26, changes for the upcoming course registration process will include limiting Phase I registration to 18 hours and combining summer and fall registrations.

“The processes we had when we had an enrollment of 10,000 students isn’t working anymore. We have to see if this is the best answer for how Tech has grown and matured,” said registrar Reta Pikowsky.

The previous credit hour cap for students in good standing during Phase I was 21 hours. According to the registrar’s office, a large percentage of students register for 21 hours, often including courses these students have already completed successfully. This often occurs when students with early time tickets “reserve” seats in classes for students with later time tickets.

“It’s harmful for the students who desperately need that class. It may be convenient for one student, but inconvenient and unfair for another,” Pikowsky said. Pikowsky also noted that 18 hours are still high enough to offer flexibility during Phase I, but low enough to prevent students from registering for classes unnecessarily.

“If ten percent of our students are signed up for one extra course, that’s 1200 seats that appear to be full,” said Dana Hartley, director of undergraduate studies.

From an administrative perspective, this change was made to optimize resource information well before the fall semester. Pikowsky noted that the number of students registered for a course after Phase I often drops during Phase II, adding that the fluctuation makes selecting classrooms, changing sections for courses and cancelling classes logistically difficult.

“Otherwise, you don’t have a good sense of this until right before fall starts, and then it’s too late,” Pikowsky said.

The registrar will increase the cap to 21
From the files of the GTPD...

**Campus Crime**

**POLICE**

**Spurned lover**
A Tech staff member reported to the police that he had been harassed by his former boyfriend of a month. The staff member stated that he had ended a one month relationship, after he felt that his boyfriend was unstable. Following the break-up, the victim had received harassing texts, phone calls and emails that stated that the ex-boyfriend would show up on campus and distribute flyers with compromising pictures taken of the victim during their relationship. The staff member stated that his former boyfriend had already posted these compromising pictures online. The GTPD then suggested that the victim file a report with the Atlanta Police Department.

**A newspaper bonanza**
Police were called to the IC at 4:13 in the morning after a facilities worker had witnessed two blonde, white males of approximately twenty years of age enter the building at 3:30 a.m. The males entered using their BuzzCards, and had begun causing noise inside of the foyer area. When the facilities worker went to see the cause of the noise, she saw the two men throwing newspapers and trash around the room and then run off. Although there is no physical damage or sign of forced entry, the two men have yet to be identified.

**Attack of the Anime fan**
March 21, GTPD responded to a call from a student. The student was in the Student Center after alleging assault. The victim was a participant in the MomoCon anime conference that was occurring that weekend. The victim stated that she had been walking from the IC to the Student Center when a woman grabbed her around the neck and began to choke her for unknown reasons. The assaulter had arrived at MomoCon with the victim, but the victim did not know who she was or where she lived. Police advised the victim to call the police when she knew more information about the assaulter.

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**POLL OF THE WEEK**

After “I <3 GT” Week, how do you feel about Tech?

- 28.0% I > 3 GT
- 29.5% I < 3 GT
- 17.1% I do not understand Boolean logic.
- 25.4% I == GT

Based on 193 responses
This edition of Council Clippings covers the UHR and GSS meetings from Mar. 30, 2010.

**Bylaws Amendment**

UHR passed legislation amending the undergraduate SGA bylaws, resulting in changes to the roles of multiple executive and non-executive positions throughout undergraduate SGA. One change will be the establishment of a new speaker of the house for UHR. The speaker will be the chief executive of the legislative branch and be responsible for overseeing joint SGA bills, presiding over UHR meetings and appointing several positions throughout undergraduate SGA.

**Archery Club**

The Archery Club requested funds from SGA to attend the US Intercollegiate Archery Championships. The club requested $2560.30 from SGA, including $1368 in registration fees. While JFC policy only allows up to $1000 funding for registration to events, UHR waived JFC policy and funded the full amount upon recommendation of the JFC chair, based on the club’s success at previous events. The bill passed GSS 21-2.0 and UHR 39-2.0.

**International Food Fair**

SGA considered a bill putting forward the culture by organizing the International Food Fair on April 5 at the Tech Green. The bill was amended from $6900 to $2804 in order to conform to JFC policy regarding funding for food. Organizational representatives explained that they would need more funding in order to put on a strong event. Representatives claimed that JFC policy was there for a reason and, therefore, UHR should not fund more than the recommended amount. UHR passed the bill 40-3-0 and GSS passed by 25-0-0.

**InVenture**

from page 1

while the musician is playing it, the musician can change the pitch and is looking to hear back from investors. Additionally, she has received contact from drummers looking for information on the tuning device. "The Inventure Prize" would give me the means to fulfill my dream of applying my engineering talents to my creative passions," Vaden said prior to the competition. Both winners and finalists discussed their own plans to expand their product as well as the stories that fueled the creation of such products. Some finalists such as the Koozie Cooler team have already acquired provisional patents, which protects their product for one year. "We have a useful product that we passionately believe in and have received good feedback from our markets. .. If we pursue the Koozie Cooler, we know that it will be a long and difficult road, but a road well worth traveling in order to provide a more enjoyable drinking experience," said Robert Gillan, fifth-year ME major.

**Breaking the Bubble**

Suicide bombers attack Moscow metro system

Over 60 people were injured and 38 killed as a result of two explosions on the Moscow Metro train system during rush hour on March 29. Chechen rebels claimed responsibility for the attacks in an effort to avenge the killings of “poor Chechens” by Russian security forces. The first explosion took place at central Lubyanka station in Moscow, directly underneath the headquarters of the Russian Federal Security Service. Another bomb exploded six stops away at the Park Kultury station. The blasts came six months after Russian President Dmitry Medvedev declared an end to counter-terrorism operations in Chechnya.

**White House proposes drilling off coasts**

The Obama administration is proposing to open areas off the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico and northern coast of Alaska, covering 167 million acres of ocean. The proposal drew criticism from a wide range of environmental groups.

Finalists recommended for interested students to build off of their own passions. “Find something you’re passionate about and go for it. Make people fall in love with it, and make people see the product the same way you see it. That’s the key to winning,” Vaden said.
Students rally to protest budget cuts at State Capitol

By Vivian Fan
News Editor

While the decision regarding the University System of Georgia’s (USG) budget cuts has yet to be slated for discussion within the state legislature, SGA representatives and students from universities across the state have continued to express their sentiments to legislators following March 15’s rally at the state capitol.

The rally was held in protest of the potential $300 million worth in budget cuts against the University System of Georgia (USG). The rally united students from nearly all of the USG’s 35 public colleges. Also in attendance were SGA presidents from UGA, Tech and Georgia State.

The rally’s events began at 8:00 a.m. in the morning at Hurt Park near the Georgia State University campus, and included a press conference by the presidents. The rally eventually led way to a march to the Capitol building at 10 a.m., where students stood outside the steps in protest.

Students wielded signs as speakers sponsored by the College Democrats of Georgia spoke to the audience about student activism.

“In an increasingly technological world the need for a better education is constantly growing. If we have budget cuts, that makes college education only available to the rich,” said Clark Coleman, first-year EEE major. “We’re all rallying together to stand up for a cause. We’re just standing up for what we believe in.”

Two separately organized rallies met simultaneously at Hurt Park and the Capitol building at 10 a.m., where students stood outside the steps in protest. While the decision regarding the University System of Georgia’s (USG) budget cuts has yet to be slated for discussion within the state legislature, SGA representatives and students from universities across the state have continued to express their sentiments to legislators following March 15’s rally at the state capitol.

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To fix these issues, the Office of Information Technology (OIT) updated the database and web servers in Fall 2009 to accommodate the large capacity of users. Additionally, the registrar is opening smaller groups of time tickets over a longer span of time to prevent overcapacity. OIT will also be monitoring the website around the clock to prevent and fix errors.

The planning for changes to registration was conducted by the registration task force, which consists of academic advisors and student representatives.

“It’s great that all these folks can come together and work for a better solution versus [us] just implementing something,” said associate registrar Craig Womack.

The registration task force plans to later address issues such as academic major restrictions on course registration and ensuring that students register for the correct classes for their degrees, using a degree-auditing program that highlights what classes still need to be taken, tailored to each student’s academic plans.
## COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE
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#### EARLY MINI-MESTER  
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- ARCH 6427  
  Parametric Modeling and Design
- MUSI 3450/4450  
  A/B/C  
  * Integrating Music Into Multimedia

#### FULL SEMESTER  
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- ARCH 4107/6107  
  + Introduction to Historic Preservation
- BC 4120/6275  
  Community Design & Construction
- BC 4700/6225  
  Construction Management
- BC 4720/6220  
  Residential Construction & Property Management
- BC 4730/6910  
  Best Practice Multi-Family Property
- BC 4735/6175  
  Real Estate Development & Construction
- CP 4510/6514  
  Geographic Information Systems
- CP 4610  
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- MUSI 1202/2202/3202/4202  
  Chorale
- MUSI 3610  
  Composers 1600-1800
- MUSI 3620  
  Composers 1800-Present
- MUSI 3803-3  
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- MUSI 2521/2522/3521/3522/4521/4522  
  Electronic Percussion Studio/Ensemble
- MUSI 4630/4630A/B  
  Music Recording and Mixing

#### LATE MINI-MESTER  
JUNE 28-AUGUST 6
- ARCH 4110  
  * Public Space/The Roman City
- ARCH 4411  
  Introduction to Visual Arts
- ARCH 4420  
  Introduction to Design Computing
- ARCH 6426  
  3D Modeling
- ARCH 6427  
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- MUSI 2600  
  * Music Theory

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* offers Humanities credit  
+ offers Social Science credit  
^ listed as 4803 or 6803 during early registration  
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Budget

from page 1

adopted a budget assuming the Regents will approve the proposed fee increase. About five years ago, the Regents suggested that most fee increases would be denied, but SGA still requested a double-digit fee increase. That increase was approved. I also believe allocating a $4.5 million budget sends a message to the Regents that the $5 fee increase is essential,” said GSS member Mitch Keller.

In contrast, members of UHR expressed concerns at their March 16 meeting that allocating a budget larger than the current fee would allow could result in severe hardships in the fall if SGA members are forced to go through and cut money from the previously approved budget. UHR instead initially chose to allocate a budget that initially aimed for a $4.3 million target. However, the newer projections of $4.5 without the fee increase did moderate the calls for fiscal conservatism during UHR’s second week of budget debates on March 30. “The numbers we have before us assume a decrease in enrollment from now, so we are assuming worst-case scenario. 4.4 million might be a good compromise between 4.3 and 4.5, so I would endorse a 4.4 million budget target,” said UHR representative Adam Weiss on March 30.

While some drastic cuts were proposed during the budget debates, many failed to gain traction. One such amendment was proposed to reduce the number of funded tournaments for Tier III competitive clubs to three tournaments a year, down from the current five tournaments funded. This amendment, which would have cut funding from over thirty organizations, failed the house. There were several large amendments that passed both bodies. One large budgetary increase was to add in the salary of SGA accountant Ninh Tran, which was added to the Undergraduate Student Government budget. The salaried position has been funded in the past and was left off the initial budget submission due to error.

Tier I organizations, namely the Campus Recreation Center and the Student Center, saw no amendments to the budgets proposed by JFC. These two organizations comprise $2.98 million of the total SAF budget. Tier II organizations were cut approximately $110,000 below the initial JFC version of the budget. Some were large program eliminations, like the decision to end the USA Today newspaper program, which was eliminated in amendments in both bodies to save $10,000 and the elimination of funding for the Interfraternity Council’s National Benchmarking Survey, which both bodies eliminated to save $3,000. Other amendments reduced the funds allocated for certain line items, such as the pay to DramaTech Theater Technical Directors, which was reduced from $3,000 to $1,500 for each production.

Tier III organizations were cut as well, usually in sweeping amendments that altered the budgets of multiple organizations in order to avoid bias. All organizations lost funding for Blueprint group photos and pages, as well as intramural participation costs. Organizations also lost Ballroom Usage fees, saving $5,660. While some organizations have felt the pinch of the tight budget planning, the discussion has been largely cordial. “In a tight budget season, we understand the cuts that SGA made to our budget request. I am confident that as SGA continues to investigate the benefit that IFC provides to the campus, we will see more of the Student Activity Fee proportionately allocated to us because of our large constituency and broad campus impact,” said IFC president Ashby Foltz.

Although the budget has not yet passed UHR, it will likely be passed in the next two weeks, and following conference committee, both bodies will vote on an identical final budget.

We’d like to hear from you.
Write us a letter.
letters@nique.net

TAO-
THE MARTIAL ART OF DRUMMING
Friday, April 9
8 p.m.
Explosive Taiko drumming and innovative choreography showcase the extraordinary precision, energy and stamina of this ensemble. TAO creates a unique allure with the performers, who have undergone years of rigorous training in the ancient art of Japanese drumming. By drawing on backgrounds as diverse as rock musicians, gymnasts, and comedians, each member brings their own special flair, resulting in a unique and vibrant interpretation of this traditional art form.

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Thursday, April 22
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For more information about this and other fellowship opportunities, contact Dr. Karen Adams: karen.adams@provost.gatech.edu

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