**OPINIONS**

**OUR VIEWS** Consensus Opinion

**Changes at Under the Couch**

The changes underway at Under the Couch seem to address problems that don’t actually exist. The current system allows both on-campus and off-campus groups to use the space. The proposed changes would allow only groups with an on-campus connection to use Under the Couch, which will result in the space being under-utilized. Campus groups have access to the facilities whenever they need them; without the off-campus groups using the venue, Under the Couch would probably be empty much more often.

Another new rule would allow only Tech students to attend events at Under the Couch. Off-campus guests would be limited to one per student. This policy is flagrantly unfair. Tech events should be open to any off-campus person who is willing to pay the whatever fee is required to attend. Tech officials would never consider applying the same policy to events at the Ferst Center; why should a different policy apply to venues other than the Ferst Center?

Administrators say that the changes stem from problems with the younger crowd that Under the Couch attracts. The obvious solution is to hire additional security for the area on the night of shows. The cost of these new guards could come from higher ticket prices, which would either have the effect of limiting the destructive power of those attending the events or of decreasing the number of off-campus people who attend the events. By limiting the groups that can use the venue and those who can attend its events, Tech is harming one of the few parts of campus that is alive on weekend evenings.

**JFC policy changes**

The recent changes in Joint Finance Committee policy for funding Tier Three organizations is a prime example of poorly-implemented ill-thought out administrative procedure that fails to serve the interests of the groups it affects. The first problem with the changes is that they are approved by neither the Undergraduate House nor the graduate Senate, as the JFC is technically only a “recommending body.” This means that no elected official has any control over these regulations.

Additionally, notice of these changes was not well promulgated through elected officials or the groups whose budgets will be effected. Although the policy seems to have been made in response to complaints about sports clubs using too much money, more feedback from students involved in these groups is needed to determine how students will be effected, either positively or negatively, by these changes. Sports clubs serve more than the purpose of exercise for their members; many of them provide Tech students with entertainment, especially ones that regularly attract fans, such as the hockey team.

The timing on these changes is particularly bad for the continued existence of some sports clubs. With the economy in a downturn, it may be difficult for these groups to find additional outside funding options, especially since many of them already fundraise heavily. This situation could spell disaster for those clubs with no other options. No one is contesting the fact that cuts must be made in student organizations’ budgets; while student activity fees have not increased in six years, staff salaries, many of which are paid by the fee, have increased by two percent every year per State of Georgia. However, the negative effects of these reductions in budget should be shouldered equally by all student groups, not laid entirely at the door of one type of activity.

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**JFC policy hurts students in club sports**

There are magical things happening in SGA. The Joint Finance Committee (JFC) is making budget policy appear from thin air. A major policy has been added without input from the rest of SGA and in effect the student body. This policy limits all clubs to five funded events. The group most affected by this policy is sport clubs and if enforced will be crippling to their teams.

The rule means that a sport club can only apply for money for registration fees and travel for five events. The fuzzy logic behind this cap of funding is to limit the teams to one national, one regional and three league games/competitions. Anyone playing on a sport team might not see a problem with this but every other club knows otherwise. Most of the teams play in leagues that require at least five away games. Other clubs such as crew compete in more than five tournamments, meets or regattas during the year. The fees for these can be as much as $500.

The rule means that sport clubs may be left without the money they need for some events.

Clubs already raise large amounts of their money through dues, fund-raising and sponsorship. SGA has constantly given the sport clubs the money for travel and registration because this is a required aspect of competing. Without reason, this principle was changed and the sport clubs may be left without the money for some events.

The Water Polo team is ranked 7th nationally. The founder of the Canoe and Kayak Club, Ty Haglar is now ranked internationally and training for the Olympics. These are athletes that don’t get scholarships and all the other perks of varsity athletics. They swim, cycle, row and so on because they love the sport and to get some release from school pressure. Why should these athletes be limited by their skills but funding their training?

Megan L. Applegate
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Consensus editorials reflect the majority opinion of the Editorial Board of the Technique, but not necessarily the opinions of individual editors.

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**Quote of the week:**

“Some people do not have the time to tell others to act responsibly, while bad people will find a way around the laws.”

— Plato

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**Editorial Board:**

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Alternate CS course will not help Tech students

Students have been spreading the rumor that there is a new introductory computer science course since I arrived at Tech. Any overseas listener likely hears the whispers through the halls of D.M. Smith and the JC.

“My advisor told me not to take this new course, that they are going to change the requirement soon.”

Although I knew the rumors well, I had to take a class in therumors until the Academic Senate approved the new alternative to CS 121 last Tuesday. The new alternative to this course’s Spring Semester affair major, I also knew that if the rumors were true, and an alternative was added to the current core curriculum, I was going to take a class in another school, as well as others in the Ivan Allen College and the Dupere College of Management, which most likely would adopt the new class as an acceptable one to fulfill its computer requirement, but I took the introductory computer course anyway. Though difficult, I found it to be one of the more beneficial courses I have taken at Tech. One of the main reasons was the decision by members of the Academic Senate to loosen the computer science regulations and add alternatives to the introductory course to fulfill this requirement troubles me, and I hope that the faculty and administrators in my major school, as well as others, will resist the temptation to add this substandard option for their curriculum.

The current introductory computer science course teaches students a way of thinking that transcends the textbook, tests and even the computing language itself. It teaches students to perceive a situation in a different manner, sometimes in an entirely new way, and categorize problems in a unique style in their future. However, my great power relations class, where I discussed this issu, forced me to think about problems in a unique way in a particular paradigm. And yet no one calls for its elimination. The introductory computer science course does the same; it promotes thinking in an abstract way.

“Stinger more reliable and more useful than main bus loops is that they bypass the Mabel and Southwood buildings, which are among the most utilized on campus.”

I have not taken a Stinger bus before. I was walking to class the other day when I was prep-gutting for an upcoming exam and I suddenly saw a Stinger bus pulled up to a stop. As I was walking to class the other day, I was prep-gutting for an upcoming exam and I suddenly saw a Stinger bus pulled up to a stop.

I first came to Tech, I would ride the Stinger more reliably and more useful than the main bus loops is that they bypass the Mabel and Southwood buildings, which are among the most utilized on campus. Cherry streets are both “pedestrian streets” it seems to work well and get the “pedestrians” into town. Allowing the Stinger bus to drive "the Hill" would be worthwhile for the bus. It would take less time to get around campus and at the same time get to where students need to be: in class, not on the back side of the campus.

“Campus transportation needs improvement. I have seen in Europe and many American cities where buses are regular, and there seems to be a regular transport. Currently all of the Stinger routes run around the perimeter of campus, avoiding entering the center of campus, where all of the academic buildings are. A good example of this is Atlantic Street. Many of Tech’s academic buildings are along this street, and the Stinger bus does not go by them in a regular loop. In order to provide services to these students, the Stinger should get making a schedule and keeping to it and increasing the Stinger’s coverage. Tech has done some things in recent years to deal with the Stinger problems. They have added routes going both ways to alleviate the trouble of having to ride all the way around campus. This seems like a good idea and could work, but not if more buses aren’t added. Otherwise, this plan takes away from other routes, making the bus stops less frequent than they already are for people waiting. They have also supposedly tried to implement a schedule for the Stinger service, but I have not seen it posted at any Stinger stop and the Stinger doesn’t seem to do a good job at a regular rate. These are the two main problems with the Stinger bus service: convenience and coverage reliability.”

Scott Meuleners Photography Editor

“The Stinger’s Lilacville College Newsletter” Published in 1911

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[36x64]plan takes away from other routes, busses aren't added. Otherwise, this
[48x492]piling on to a stinger bus and I
[48x656]“the liberal arts teach you to think.”
[48x966]“the liberal arts teach you to think.”
[48x977]“the liberal arts teach you to think.”
[48x988]“the liberal arts teach you to think.”
[48x324]to implement a schedule for the
[324x645] introductory computer science—es-
[324x677]who set Ivan Allen College
[324x688]in an editorial just two weeks ago,
[324x709]considering the type of thinking it promotes is not popular or useful enough for all of Tech’s students; instead of Tech administration—probably for
[324x718]challenging thinking is not always fun. It is, however, beneficial. Liberal arts and social science majors everywhere should be able to think in the manner taught in an
[324x729]an option for computer literacy require-
[324x752]the type of thinking it promotes is not popular or useful enough for
[324x763]tute of Technology. Should there not be one course that all Tech stu-
[324x773]mately one to fulfill its computing
[324x784]tute of Science from the Georgia Insti-
[324x795]lume? If the goal is to teach students
[324x805]the course because they are going to
[324x816]education course teaches students
[324x868]course based on the usefulness or
[324x870]course does the same; it promotes thinking in an abstract way.
[324x881]on time. The way it is now, it is
[324x891]low students to leave their dorms or
[324x902]i have used before.
[324x912]It seems to me that the Stinger doesn’t seem to do a good job at a regular rate. These are the two main problems with the Stinger bus service: convenience and coverage reliability.”

Scott Meuleners Photography Editor

“Those are the two main problems with the Stinger bus service: coverage and reliability.”

OPINIONS

Technique • Friday, September 27, 2002 • 7
Incoherent Scribbblings

Incoherent Scribbblings

Episode One: In which Mr. Squirrel offers profound advice.

SIGH

What's wrong?

See that girl over there? I'm head-over-heels in love with her, but she doesn't even give me the time of day! I've been left here to drown in pools of SMOKE. I guess I'm just not good enough.

Nonsense! Only an idiot would believe such BS! You must picture your goal and go for it, NEVER CEASING until that picture becomes reality!

So, what's her major?

Textile Engineering

Mmm! Picture rugburns?

Harris
Buzz
Around the
Campus

Question of the week
“What do you think the CS 1321 alternative?”

Erin Gatlin
INTA/ML Sophomore
“I’m thrilled to death because I’m a liberal arts major!”

Jessica Smith
STaC Sophomore
“They should have started it a year and a half ago. Is there an alternate 1322?”

Austin Nally
AE Freshman
“It’s good that they’re gearing it toward non-engineering curriculum.”

James Deen
CS Freshman
“CS majors should be able to take it because Scheme sucks.”

Erin Schwartz
PubP Grad
“I think it is helpful to present it in another way.”

Tommy Newton
ME Sophomore
“There shouldn’t be non-science, non-engineering majors at Tech.”

Mary Holder
PSYC Junior
“It’s about time they made a concession to the non-engineering students.”

Sarah Gausman
BIOL Freshman
“I think it’s a wonderful idea because I don’t see myself using it later in life.”

James Deen
CS Freshman
“It’s good that they’re gearing it toward non-engineering curriculum.”

Sarah Gausman
BIOL Freshman
“I think it’s a wonderful idea because I don’t see myself using it later in life.”

Feature and Photos by Andrew Saulters
Madame returns from a two-year hiatus

The smelly cheese finally got to me; I had to return to the States and the George Bushes. While my two-years in the French Riviera were memorable and taught me many things, I realized the flocks of floundering students I had left behind in me my exodus to my homeland, notorious for love, needed me back. Tech students need me to sort out their problems and I am here to help.

First, let me fill you in on what the Madame has been up to: mostly obsessing over and stalking a boy with huge wire-rimmed glasses that lead his tiny frame. That story will have to wait for another column, though. On to the questions!

The biggest difficulty of my life has been finding men to date. My friend and I formed a pact that any guy we met that we were interested in, we would go after unless they were gay, dating someone else, or indeed didn’t ask. My problem is that I only meet sportsmen, which I recalled at the beginning of the semester, its yours.

The library's new policy is to effect, but today my eyes were opened for. Like I said before, I'm not per- fect, but today my eyes were opened for. Like I said before, I'm not perfect and I am here to help myself. I needed some advice to help myself. I needed to sort out the problem of the gay student body didn’t represent me.

The situation made me dis- traught, what was happening to my life if I couldn’t even use my powers of advice to help myself? I needed to return to my roots at Tech. So now I’m back where I be- long, answering your questions with a little humor and even less compa- nion.

Do you have a question for Madame d’Amour? Email it to opinions@technique.gatech.edu.

Library policy shafts students

Recently, I returned a recalled book to the main library. I owed fines, which disqualified me from any further library services. Attempting to explain my honest mistake, I was made aware that I was given every opportunity to act as a re- sponsible adult but had chosen to be twenty-five-dollars-devious.

The library’s new policy is to loan a book out for an entire semes- ter, asking for its immediate return if someone else should request a recall. While the library normally charges fifty cents a day for late ma- terial, recalled books demand a $2.50 per day late fee. Really, who is so incapable of renewing a book that they need it for an entire semester? Okay, UGA fans, perhaps.

Regardless, $2.50 per day is ex- cruciating and immoral, seeing as the $0.50 per day charge is already five times the amount charged by Ful- ton County Public Libraries. I be- lieve the library charges these fees because they know that students do not have the time to protest, and if push comes to shove, they can charge it to your student account.

In my experience, the best way to avoid the shaft is to be forewarned. So, here it is. All you students out there, who, like me, manically con- spire to destroy all that is whole- some through the systematic collection of overdue books: they know who you are and they’re com- ing to get you. Oh, and if you have a copy of “Dynamics of Structures”, which I recalled at the beginning of the semester, its yours.

Matthew Schutz
gs9622b@mail.gatech.edu

Fans’ behavior disgraceful

Even though I attended BYU, being from Georgia, I have always loved Georgia Tech. I was at the Georgia Tech/BYU game earlier today and had a good time even through my Cougars choked. We sat in section 130, by one of the student sections. I am by no means a saint, and I know that emotions run high at sporting events, but I just had to write and tell you how offended I was at the behavior of many of the Georgia Tech students.

I realize that teasing and jawing at opposing fans is part of the game, but gross, vulgar and degrading lan- guage and behavior is another. While some students were good-natured, a good majority were over the line. It is just a game, after all. I have to admit that I was pretty dis- pointed in the students and the school as a whole.

I hope what I saw was an aber- ration and is not encouraged. I’m glad my wife decided not to come; I would have been embarrassed for her to see those gross gestures. A gesture or two is expected at a game like today’s, but the same crude ges- tures over and over again for the entire game was a little much.

I guess what I’m saying is that the student body didn’t represent what I thought Georgia Tech stood for. Like I said before, I’m not per- fect, but today my eyes were opened to an embarrassing side of Georgia Tech. I was not expecting to see such immature and rude behavior from Tech students.

Jeffrey Humphrey
jeff@bigbyteproductions.com

Advice on Love and Life

The really good service—how will seeing someone else. Consider your- self doing them a service—how will seeing someone else. Consider your- self doing them a service—how will seeing someone else.

I met him in physics class one day. He was incessantly staring at me, and even though he was not physically attractive, I became in- trigued. I started to stalk him. Under close observation, I quickly noticed his tendency to talk to him- self. Walking down the hall, through streets, during class events! It was as though there was someone next to him to carry on a conversation with. The shaky part was, I couldn’t see this person. Neither could any- one else. So I began to stalk him.

The object of my obsession loved to ride his bike everywhere he went. He usually fell over in transit, the rickety metal bike ejecting his gen- tly perched frame to the ground. He would always get up, turn to his side and started complaining to his friend, who no one else could see. It became very difficult for me to keep up with this biking speed demon, even when I ran frantically.

The situation made me dis- traught, what was happening to my life if I couldn’t even use my powers of advice to help myself? I needed to return to my roots at Tech. So now I’m back where I be- long, answering your questions with a little humor and even less compa- nion.

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