By Tony Kluemper
Assistant News Editor

In less than two years the GT bookstore will have a new home with the completion of the Fifth Street project, thus leaving the space in the Houston Bookstore Mall open to new ideas and functions for students. Although the space will not be empty until the Fifth Street project is completed, the Tech community has already begun preparing plans for the old bookstore once it becomes vacant.

In fact, earlier this semester Senior Vice President of Administration and Finance Bob Thompson organized the beginning of a task force to look into the needs and wants of the student body in reference to the space. According to the task force, the primary objective of the task force is to perform a needs assessment of the students. Although the space will not be empty until the Fifth Street project is completed, the Tech community has already begun preparing plans for the old bookstore once it becomes vacant.

Bob Thompson asked us [the task force] to consider the overall needs of the campus by collecting information from students and then provide a report to him,” said Steele.

“This report will deal more on function or purpose of the space and less on the physical layout of the area.”

From the beginning of the planning process, the members of the task force have realized that the most important concept behind making the decision of how to use the old bookstore space should be made through student input. “Because [the decision] is going to affect every student that comes through Tech in future years, it is important that the students opinions are heard and their ideas are represented,” said President’s Council representative Natasha Gagnon.

According to task force member and Associate Dean of Ivan Allen College Dr. Richard Barke, the main behind the task force is to gather information from the students and take this information when making the final proposal. “Our mission is to gather information about the students needs and preferences.”

See Input, page 7

Wang elected RHA president

By Tony Kluemper
Assistant News Editor

On Wednesday, March 23, RHA held officer elections for next year’s positions at their week-ly meeting. Former RHA National Communications Director Jason Wang was named president for next year as he ran un-opposed for the position.

Former treasurer Ryan Spanier was elected vice president, Bella Jacobson was elected treasurer, and Angie Pallen was elected secretary.

According to Wang, he ran for the position of president of RHA in order to build the relationship between the association and the numerous Hall Councils. “The position of RHA president allows me to build a better relationship with the residents overall,” said Wang. “I believe that I can do and make the Hall Councils better so that residents will enjoy their stay here on campus to make residents life better.

Wang would like to see his term as president lead to a return to a more sense of community among Tech residents. “I plan to restore RHA to what it was before the Olympics. With the Olympics, they tore down the Techwood dorms to build the Georgia State Village and they built a lot of apartments,” said Wang.

“In the apartments everyone just sticks to their rooms, they don’t do anything. My plan is to get the residents back to enjoying what campus and residence life is all about by meeting people and getting along with people.”

Spanier hopes to increase the publicity of RHA on campus. “I plan to increase the PR role during the year to make sure that RHA name gets out in the Georgia Tech community,” said Spanier.

“Want to make sure everyone knows what RHA is, what we do, and what services we can provide for the residents.”

Next year Wang hopes to accomplish this restoration of RHA by sponsoring such events as weekly barbecues and other large events on various parts of campus that help to make campus life better for the residents. “I don’t think the residents are getting what they pay for at this moment,” said Wang.

See Input, page 7

Selling Georgia Tech since 1911 • Volume 86, Issue 27 • 36 pages.

News Feature Grading Our Faculty

By Nazir Barady
News Staff

The faculty tenure process, which heavily impacted undergraduate learning, includes components that evaluate both teaching and research. According to Turgay Uzer, a profes- sor in the School of Physics, the tenure process at Georgia Tech involves evaluation of four areas of performance for each candidate, including research, service to the industry, ability to attract funding, and teaching. “At the time of tenure, the person has to be an all-rounder,” said Uzer.

In fact, according to Cartron Schwan, a Professor in the College of Computing, research and teaching are important factors in tenure decisions. “If you’re an awful teacher, you’re not going to get tenure. The same goes for research,” said Schwan.

A candidate’s service to his or her respective professional community also plays a role in the decision to offer tenure. “If [the faculty mem- ber] is well known in the communi- ty, they’re adding to Georgia Tech’s prestige,” said Schwan. “That’s not as important,” added Schwan admis- sively.

According to Schwan, “teaching performance is quite important”. Another factor that affects the overall evaluation of teaching includes innovation of curriculum while be- ing a “creator of content that is important to the institution as well,” according to Schwan.

After becoming “tenured”, a facul- ty member’s post-tenure perform- ance in the classroom varies from case to case. “The faculty member’s availability in the classroom is af- fected. They may have a lot of TAs to help with teaching,” said a pro- fessor who wished to remain anon- ymous. But he does not believe that tenure adversely affects the perfor- mance of faculty once tenure is reached. “I think if they’re good, they’re still good,” he continued.

See Tenure, page 6

Guest Speaker Bob Barr

U.S. Representative Bob Barr spoke on campus Monday about the current political climate in Washington and his current legislation.

By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Friday, March 23, 2001

Opinions 8 Campus Life 11 Entertainment 19 Comics 28 Sports 36
LCC creates digital media track

By Jennifer LaHatte
News Staff

Upon approval from the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee and the Academic Senate this week, the school of Literature, Culture, and Communication (LCC) will be opening up a new path of study for its undergraduate Science, Technology, and Culture (STaC) program. This new initiative spearheaded by Dr. Robert Kolker, Chair of the LCC department, and Dr. Jay Telotte, professor in film, involves the creation of a new media and film studies track, similar to the options or certificate programs that are offered in other schools at Tech.

“It is the STaC major because the STaC major always had film and media courses. Our suggestion was to take and pull those out, keep them within the STaC major and then various faculty committees found ways of keeping it in STaC by making sure that the important fundamental STaC courses were also part of the new media track. So it remains a STaC major only with an emphasis on film and media,” said Kolker.

Although approval for the track is now in its final stages, the process spans most of this school year, and it is a product of several committees within the LCC department. These committees included the STaC Steering Committee, the LCC Curriculum Committee, and the LCC Executive Committee, all consisting of members of the LCC faculty. The department hopes to begin advising students for this new track in fall semester.

“It allows another option for STaC students and opens up the opportunity... to go into film.”

Brian Randall
STaC major

The new track is still required to take six hours of history oriented courses in the department, but will increase their required hours of media related courses (34XX, 44XX) from nine to 12 hours. Additionally, the STaC issues course requirement will remain at nine hours, but two of these courses will be specified as LCC 3414 Technologies of Representation and LCC 3352 Film and/as Technology. The senior seminar that is required of all graduating STaC majors will require those in the track to pick from LCC 4400 Seminar in Media Studies or LCC 4500 Seminar in Film Studies.

“What does this do is it opens the door for us to see what other interests our students have and therefore what other tracks or options or focuses we might be able to create in the coming years,” said Telotte. “I think a lot of the faculty like the notion of opening up the potential for other tracks.”

While they didn’t seek student opinion directly in the form of structured committees, they inferred the need based on the demand for media related courses and talking informally with both STaC students and individuals in other majors at Tech.

“We didn’t have student committees, it’s mainly been a case of constantly fielding student questions about media courses and also looking at our graduate students in Information Design and Technology (IDT) and how successful they’ve been with their media background,” said Telotte.

See STaC, page 6
Council Clippings Undergraduate House of Representatives

Graduation referendum passes

By Mary DeCamp
News Staff

Assistant Vice President for Development Patrick McKenna came and spoke to the Undergraduate House of Representatives at the March 20 meeting. He discussed the Capital Campaign. He also reminded the crowd that people who make donations are not only giving money to Tech but also investing in a cause that they believe in. McKenna also listed some of the benefits that are available to students through such campaigns. Some of these include scholarship funds, the renovation of Stamps Field, and money to groups such as the co-op program and club sports, among other organizations.

Jeev Katzen, Vice President of Administrative Affairs, authored the first bill that the reps addressed. This bill dealt with adding a question to the election voting page on the web asking students if they would prefer graduation right after exams with the real diploma included. After some discussion, this bill passed.

Two bills came out of a conference committee to be reconsidered by the representatives.

The first bill, authored by Biology Rep. Ramenem Ghoitashi, was for the allocation of money to the Muslim Students Association for Islamic Awareness Week. The amount agreed on by the Conference Committee was $2,165.50. This bill passed.

The second bill, proposed by Sophomore Rep. Tiffany Massey, was for an allocation of money to Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority for a fashion show to benefit charity. The amount agreed and voted on was $4,701.50. This bill passed as well.

Chemistry Rep. Rusty Johnson authored a bill asking for the allocation of money to the Caribbean Student Organization for a Haitian Conference. The representatives amended this bill per Joint Finance Committee recommendations and then passed it.

Tiffany Massey also authored a bill proposing the allocation of money to the Gay and Lesbian Alliance of students to show a movie about gay issues in the student center. After amending this bill to match JFC's recommendations, this bill passed.

The next bill to be considered, authored by Freshman Rep. Nate Watson, proposed the allocation of money to the Honor Advisory Council to fund speaker fees for Honor Awareness Week. After much debate, this bill was passed. Rusty Johnson then proposed the allocation of money to the Musician's Network for various equipment in the next bill which later passed.

The next bill presented asked for the allocation of money to many student organizations to pay fees for a leadership conference at UGA. This bill passed and was authored by ECE Rep. Eric Woods. ECE Rep. Brian Lasseter authored a bill asking for the allocation of money to the Georgia Tech India Club to rent the First Center for a show. This bill passed as well.

Watson, Economics Rep. Stephen Popiek, and ECE Rep. Luis Salas co-authored a bill proposing adding an amendment to the Undergraduate Student Government Bylaws. The proposed amendment would set a limit on how many meetings reps can miss before being relieved of their duties as well as requiring all reps to join an SGA committee. After much discussion, the clause requiring all reps to be on an SGA committee was removed, and this bill was sent to the Internal Development Committee for further discussion.

Two bills concerning the Student Advisory Board's budgets were considered. The first had to do with amendments to the 2001 SAB budget. The House decided to match the graduates and pass the bill. The second bill dealt with the 2002 SAB Budget. After a few amendments, the representatives passed this bill.

To vote on potential graduation options

In addition to voting for Student Government representatives and officers, students will also be able to state their opinion on the two graduation options offered by the President's Office.

The members of the Undergraduate House resolved that the graduation ceremony should be held immediately following exams, but the student body will be able to affirm or reject that decision. A vote of yes supports the resolution, which also means students will not receive real diplomas. A vote of no rejects the resolution, which indicates support of a delaying graduation up to a week to receive real diplomas. A vote of yes would set a limit on how many students would vote for a delay.

This referendum is binding, and the result will determine the graduation format in the fall. Previous information about the graduation options can be found in the February 16 edition of the Technique. Students can vote on the referendum at http://elections.gatech.edu from Monday at 8:00 a.m. to Wednesday 4:00 p.m.

By Pat McKenna

The Truman Foundation announced the selection of William Bruce Roper as Georgia Tech's fifth Truman Scholar. Roper, a double-major in math and physics and a native of Madison, was the only student selected from Georgia. He has excelled in academics at Tech, making only one "B" in the process.

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The Truman is a national scholarship comparable to the Rhodes or Marshall for students who are interested in pursuing public service as a career. It is awarded to approximately 75 students from across the nation each year, and it provides a stipend of $30,000 for each student to apply to graduate school.

Roper's particular interest in public service in education, specifically math and science. In high school Roper created a tutoring program for middle school students that received funding from the state legislature. He continued with this activity at Tech, where he created a math tutoring program for inner-city students.

In addition to being an outstanding student with an interest in public service, Roper is also an accomplished singer and athlete. He recently sang with the Atlanta Ballet's production of Carmina Burana, and he lettered in three sports in high school.

Will Roper becomes Tech's fifth Truman Scholar

Training, education part of Honor Awareness Week

As part of this educational initiative, the Council developed the Seminar on Ethical Leadership (SoEL), an hour long training program that will teach students and organizational leaders how to deal with matters of academic integrity. Topics to be covered include honor code meaning, judicial process, and real-life applications, and they will taught through small group discussions, role playing and games. The seminar will teach students and organizational leaders how to deal with matters of academic integrity.

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## Undergraduate Student Government Executive and Legislative Candidates

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<td>President</td>
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<td>Executive Vice-President</td>
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Tech women start local sorority

By Andrew Santelli

Tech women may soon have a seventh choice when selecting a sorority. Chi Omega Tau is a new group dedicated to establishing themselves as a local sorority at Georgia Tech, with the goal of being recognized by the Panhellenic Council — the governing body for female Greek life at the Institute — at its upcoming meeting Tuesday, March 27.

The group began its recruitment and establishment efforts last fall, and it has grown in numbers to their current membership of 30 women.

Chi Omega Tau president Jordan Dudney said “Chi Omega Tau would provide variety” in Greek life, and that “the underlying basis of our sorority is to try to be open and accepting.” Vice President Sonali Vedak noted that the founding of the sorority would alleviate some of the “difficulty in this male-dominated school to find people of similar beliefs and ideals.”

Over the past years, female enrollment at Georgia Tech has increased, but rush numbers have not. Dudney found a problem with this fact, and said that “sororities are a good way to meet people,” and that Chi Omega Tau’s establishment would help increase those rush numbers. “We’re trying to add to the Greek system.”

Another goal of the group is to give a place for Tech women to find comfort.

“If every member [of Chi Omega Tau] felt comfortable in one of the six other sororities, they would be in them,” Vedak said.

The road to Panhellenic Coun-
I called him Grandpa Turkey.

Tenure

A process exists that regularly reviews the performance of tenured faculty. According to the Georgia Tech Faculty Handbook, “All tenured faculty…shall undergo a post-tenure review at least once every five years.” “[The process] insures that none of the important areas are neglected,” said Uzer.

But according to the faculty interviewed, non-performance has not usually been a problem. “The department looks really bad if we don’t perform. It’s not an option,” said Schwan. If a faculty member’s performance falls below par, a review can be scheduled on a 3 year basis, as opposed to the traditional 5 year interval, according to the Faculty Handbook.

In the College of Computing, the control instituted on bad performance is an annual review, performed by the administration within the school. “You get salary cuts if you don’t perform,” said Schwan.

While the annual review process provides the administration’s view of faculty performance, the tenure review process provides the view of tenured faculty performance by fellow faculty, according to Schwan.

When being reviewed under the post-tenure review process, a tenured faculty member can request distribution of the weight of his review in each of the four areas, said Uzer. “That doesn’t mean that teaching is ignored,” he added.

According to the anonymous professor, the post-tenure review process can be negative. “It raises the specter of uncertainties.” But according to him, the process is not intimidating. “It’s more disciplinary, it’s not threatening.”

“The process is intended to be constructive”, said Uzer. If negative points come up in a post-tenure review, recommendations are made to the faculty member to correct them, he said.

“I would say,” said Uzer, comparing the two faculty review processes, “the requirements [for tenure review] are less stringent.”

STaC

from page 2

said Telotte.

“It allows another option for STaC students and opens up the opportunity for students who do want to go into film by giving them a more focused route,” said Brian Randall, a third year STaC major.

“We’re hoping it will contribute in two ways. As one it will lure more people who are at Tech and are not happy with their particular major, because that is for good or ill, been one of the major ways that the STaC program develops its constituency. But, by the same token, people who would not normally apply to Tech and are not happy with their particular major, because that is for good or ill, been one of the major ways that the STaC program develops its constituency. But, by the same token, people who would not normally apply to Tech, and who might look to a place like Georgia State or the University of Georgia because they offer programs in communication, would certainly have a whole new path they can follow here,” said Telotte.

This is just one in a series of initiatives that the LCC department has been working on this year. In addition to the new track for STaC majors, they have also restructured the graduate IDT program to allow more junior and senior level STaC students to take graduate-level courses in the design and production of digital media.

LCC has also created a new technical writing course that will be offered in sections, according to students’ major school. While the LCC faculty has designed most of the content for this course, the major schools have been able to choose the documents used in the course to better meet the needs of their students.

A freshman writing course that puts more emphasis on written and oral presentation, as well as collaborative writing and editing has also been added to the list of new classes. With an increased emphasis on new media through the STaC track, a new digital video lab has been added to support both undergraduate and graduate courses.
In order to reach the entire Tech student body, the task force looked at many different options to really see what the needs and opinions of the students were. In late February and early March, the first of these options took place in the form of student focus groups. We had students of various aspects of campus come together and meet in these focus groups to discuss what they felt was needed in the space,” said Goguts. “We wanted to get a wide range of people so we looked for both campus leaders and those who are not so involved as well.”

Barke felt that this ability to reach all types of students was achieved through the student focus groups. “[Reaching all students] has been a concern of ours from the very beginning,” said Barke. “We wanted to use outreach processes that would tap all students’ interests. We knew that getting input from those in organizations would be easy, but getting info from those not as involved or commuters would be more difficult. The focus groups help to reach many different groups.”

In the task force has also provided another outlet in which students and organizations can suggest their ideas about the use of the old bookstore space. An email account has been set up so that students and organizations can comment about what they would like to see the space used for.

However, Steele hopes that students won’t look at this as a way only to promote their own self-interests. “We want to discourage people from supporting their own interests,” said Steele. “They need to show that there is a deep need on campus for their suggestion, and how it will benefit the entire campus and build a sense of community.”

Although the task force has until the end of the semester to submit their ideas to Thompson, they are now beginning to take the ideas from the focus groups and work with the ideas to see how feasible and functional the students opinions would be in the space provided. In the four focus groups that were held earlier this month, many of the groups found common ground on numerous ideas. Each of the focus groups wanted to see more meeting space and a multipurpose lounge area included in the space. Many also suggested that some of the spaces be multi-functional such as using the meeting space for study spaces at times and converting the lounge area into a dance or music area if needed.

In addition to these general ideas, the groups also suggested many proposals for different types of retail space that would contribute greatly to the campus as a whole. These retail ideas included a Kinko’s, a restaurant such as Applebees or Houston’s, and an upgraded movie theater. Furthermore, many of the groups also commented that they would like to see some type of offices or cubicles for student organizations in the space.

At the same time, Steele hopes students realize that space may not allow for some of the retail space suggested. “We don’t have a ton of space,” said Steele. “Therefore, in general we’re looking at what is happening in the Fifth Street project or the proposed Undergraduate Learning Center to make sure that we don’t duplicate ideas while at the same time suggesting that maybe the larger ideas such as a full-blown Kinko’s could serve better in the Fifth Street project.”

For any groups and organizations that still have ideas on how they would like to see the current bookstore space used, the task force is taking suggestions through email until March 30. Goguts encourages anyone with an idea to email staccomments@stac.gatech.edu and give a short description of their idea. Goguts wants to remind students that this is not a place to request space but instead to submit a proposal on how the space should function for the students.

While the expansion task force has been preparing ideas for the current bookstore space, many behind the scenes changes have been taking place within the bookstore itself. In early February, the future of the Georgia Tech bookstore changed greatly when the management of the store was signed over to a private company. As of July 1, the GT bookstore will be under the management of Barnes and Noble College Bookstores, which operate on over 400 university campuses across the nation.

The decision was made in order to provide the Georgia Tech student body as well as all of midtown Atlanta a bookstore superstore that will include a college bookstore as well as a cafe and CD department. The bookstore moves with the completion of the Fifth Street project. When Barnes and Noble takes over operation of the bookstore in July, officials in Auxiliary Services feel that students will notice little change in the operation of the store.