Crowding forces addition of classes

By Haining Yu
Assistant News Editor

The increased size of the freshman class has caused problems not only in dorms, but in the classroom as well. There are roughly 400 more freshmen in this incoming class than last year, adding up to just under 2,600.

The main struggle with scheduling freshmen into classes is the fact that most freshmen happened to take the same classes. "Fall is always hectic, because every program tells their students to start with chemistry," said Toby Block, a General Chemistry professor. Nearly all freshmen take calculus, chemistry, and computing their first semester. The Math Department is hardest hit, with about 2,450 students enrolled in some kind of math class. The Chemistry program basically told us how they wanted their students to be pre-registered," Brakewith said. The registrar then pre-registered all incoming freshmen by hand into classes with the goal of giving each freshman 10 credit hours on their schedule by FASET.

"Before the freshmen arrived we were forewarned that we were going to have over 2,600 freshmen, so we added classes in anticipation," she said. What was unanticipated, however, was the number of freshmen wanting to take each course. "Right around July we received the AP scores," Brakewith said. She helped judge which students should be placed into 1502 or 1501, (or, depending on major, into 1711 or 1712). "Each department basically told us how they wanted their students to be pre-registered," Brakewith said. The registrar then pre-registered all incoming freshmen by hand into classes with the goal of giving each freshman 10 credit hours on their schedule by FASET.

"Fall is always hectic, because every program tells their students to start with chemistry."  

Toby Block
Chemistry professor

1501 professor, and the woman in charge of placing incoming freshmen into math classes, the Math Department was unprepared for the numbers of freshmen.

"Before the freshmen arrived we were forewarned that we were going to have over 2,600 freshmen, so we added classes in anticipation," she said. What was unanticipated, however, was the number of freshmen wanting to take each course. "Right around July we received the AP scores," Brakewith said. She helped judge which students should be placed into 1502 or 1501, (or, depending on major, into 1711 or 1712). "Each department basically told us how they wanted their students to be pre-registered," Brakewith said. The registrar then pre-registered all incoming freshmen by hand into classes with the goal of giving each freshman 10 credit hours on their schedule by FASET.

"Before the freshmen arrived we were forewarned that we were going to have over 2,600 freshmen, so we added classes in anticipation," she said. What was unanticipated, however, was the number of freshmen wanting to take each course. "Right around July we received the AP scores," Brakewith said. She helped judge which students should be placed into 1502 or 1501, (or, depending on major, into 1711 or 1712). "Each department basically told us how they wanted their students to be pre-registered," Brakewith said. The registrar then pre-registered all incoming freshmen by hand into classes with the goal of giving each freshman 10 credit hours on their schedule by FASET.

"Before the freshmen arrived we were forewarned that we were going to have over 2,600 freshmen, so we added classes in anticipation," she said. What was unanticipated, however, was the number of freshmen wanting to take each course. "Right around July we received the AP scores," Brakewith said. She helped judge which students should be placed into 1502 or 1501, (or, depending on major, into 1711 or 1712). "Each department basically told us how they wanted their students to be pre-registered," Brakewith said. The registrar then pre-registered all incoming freshmen by hand into classes with the goal of giving each freshman 10 credit hours on their schedule by FASET.

"Fall is always hectic, because every program tells their students to start with chemistry."  

Toby Block
Chemistry professor

1501 professor, and the woman in charge of placing incoming freshmen into math classes, the Math Department was unprepared for the numbers of freshmen.

"Before the freshmen arrived we were forewarned that we were going to have over 2,600 freshmen, so we added classes in anticipation," she said. What was unanticipated, however, was the number of freshmen wanting to take each course. "Right around July we received the AP scores," Brakewith said. She helped judge which students should be placed into 1502 or 1501, (or, depending on major, into 1711 or 1712). "Each department basically told us how they wanted their students to be pre-registered," Brakewith said. The registrar then pre-registered all incoming freshmen by hand into classes with the goal of giving each freshman 10 credit hours on their schedule by FASET.

"Before the freshmen arrived we were forewarned that we were going to have over 2,600 freshmen, so we added classes in anticipation," she said. What was unanticipated, however, was the number of freshmen wanting to take each course. "Right around July we received the AP scores," Brakewith said. She helped judge which students should be placed into 1502 or 1501, (or, depending on major, into 1711 or 1712). "Each department basically told us how they wanted their students to be pre-registered," Brakewith said. The registrar then pre-registered all incoming freshmen by hand into classes with the goal of giving each freshman 10 credit hours on their schedule by FASET.

Six Flags tickets still available

Even though the 5,000 $12 tickets for next week’s Tech Night at Six Flags are no longer available, up to an additional 1,000 student tickets will be sold for $15 until 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 31.

After either the ticket capacity or the deadline has been reached, students must purchase $25 general tickets for the Sept. 3 outing. Season passes will also be accepted this year as long as they are presented with a valid BuzzCard.

For more information, visit www.sixflags.gatech.edu.

Tech receives in-kind contribution

Partners for the Advancement of Collaborative Engineering Education (PACE), a corporate alliance between General Motors Corp., EDS, Sun Microsystems Inc. and UgS has entered into a $208 million partnership with Tech.

The contribution, one of the largest ever made in-kind by a corporation to Tech, will give Tech software and other technology for use in computer education. Gm will also pursue increased recruitment at Tech.

String of thefts, break-ins raises concerns

Campus police issued a notice this week about a string of recent thefts on campus. This month, at least eight bicycles have been stolen and 12 cars broken into.

In an email to the student body Tuesday, Aug. 24, officer Carla Cook warned students about the crimes. Bicycles secured with either chain or cable locks are being stolen from bike racks, the said. In response to the problem, U-lock are normally open to the public. Students can call 404-894-2500 or press the red button at an emergency phone to contact campus police.

Cook said she hopes the email notice will help. "The last time I sent out a megamail email about our burglaries, within about two hours of that megamail going out, we did arrest one of the burglary suspects," she said.

JUNIOR’S: KEEPING TRADITION ALIVE?

Hitesh Upadhyay, Jinesh Karia, Johnny Li and Atish Kalyan enjoy a meal at Junior’s Grill.

Tech leads in black graduation numbers

According to Black Issues in Higher Education magazine’s annual college rankings report, Tech was named the top producer of African-American engineering graduates at the master’s level during the 2002-2003 academic year, awarding 31 degrees.

The Institute also ranked second behind North Carolina A&T State University in the number of bachelor’s degrees awarded. North Carolina A&T State University awarded 143 bachelor’s degrees, while Tech awarded 141, missing out on the first place ranking by a narrow margin.

These rankings highlight Tech’s strong recruitment and retention practices. "Over the years, Tech has developed and maintained programs aimed at recruiting and graduating minority undergraduate and graduate students," said Raymond Vito, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the College of Engineering.

Robert Haley, director of special projects in the College of Engineering, also said the success of these programs would not be possible without support from administration. "You have to have a commitment, and...it has to be the commitment of the Institution, beginning with the president," Haley said.

One of Tech’s most successful recruitment programs is FOCUS, which is intended to attract qualified minority undergraduates to Tech’s graduate programs and takes place over the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Approximately 300 African-American students from more than 80 colleges and universities across the nation attend each year.

Haley, the creator and coordinator for FOCUS, said the three-day program aims to show prospective graduate students all aspects of the Institute. "When they come here, they get an opportunity to see…our president, our provost, our deans, our chairs, our faculty, our students and all the departments on campus—housing, graduate admission, communications," Haley said.

While recruitment is crucial, retention is also equally important. Haley emphasized the importance of providing an inclusive atmosphere and a strong support system for African-American students at Tech.

"You have to have a commitment, and...it has to be the commitment of the Institution, beginning with the president," Haley said.

One of Tech’s most successful recruitment programs is FOCUS, which is intended to attract qualified minority undergraduates to Tech’s graduate programs and takes place over the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Approximately 300 African-American students from more than 80 colleges and universities across the nation attend each year.

Haley, the creator and coordinator for FOCUS, said the three-day program aims to show prospective graduate students all aspects of the Institute. "When they come here, they get an opportunity to see…our president, our provost, our deans, our chairs, our faculty, our students and all the departments on campus—housing, graduate admission, communications," Haley said.

While recruitment is crucial, retention is also equally important. Haley emphasized the importance of providing an inclusive atmosphere and a strong support system for African-American students at Tech.

"You have to have a commitment, and...it has to be the commitment of the Institution, beginning with the president," Haley said.

One of Tech’s most successful recruitment programs is FOCUS, which is intended to attract qualified minority undergraduates to Tech’s graduate programs and takes place over the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Approximately 300 African-American students from more than 80 colleges and universities across the nation attend each year.

Haley, the creator and coordinator for FOCUS, said the three-day program aims to show prospective graduate students all aspects of the Institute. "When they come here, they get an opportunity to see…our president, our provost, our deans, our chairs, our faculty, our students and all the departments on campus—housing, graduate admission, communications," Haley said.

While recruitment is crucial, retention is also equally important. Haley emphasized the importance of providing an inclusive atmosphere and a strong support system for African-American students at Tech.

"You have to have a commitment, and...it has to be the commitment of the Institution, beginning with the president," Haley said.

One of Tech’s most successful recruitment programs is FOCUS, which is intended to attract qualified minority undergraduates to Tech’s graduate programs and takes place over the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Approximately 300 African-American students from more than 80 colleges and universities across the nation attend each year.

Haley, the creator and coordinator for FOCUS, said the three-day program aims to show prospective graduate students all aspects of the Institute. "When they come here, they get an opportunity to see…our president, our provost, our deans, our chairs, our faculty, our students and all the departments on campus—housing, graduate admission, communications," Haley said.

While recruitment is crucial, retention is also equally important. Haley emphasized the importance of providing an inclusive atmosphere and a strong support system for African-American students at Tech.
From the files of the GTPD...

**Crime Reports**

- **Theft**
  - 8/18/2004 10:23:00 hrs.
  - Location: Barnes & Noble
  - Incident: Report of theft by shoplifting.
  - 8/18/2004 15:39:00 hrs.
  - Location: Undergraduate Living Center
  - 8/19/2004 10:42:00 hrs.
  - Location: 760 State Street

- **traffic accident**
  - 8/18/2004 8:09:00 hrs.
  - Location: Peachtree Place/Atlantic Drive/State Street
  - 8/18/2004 8:34:00 hrs.
  - Location: IPST
  - Incident: Report of a vehicle/fixed object accident.

**Corrections**

- In the Aug. 20 Entertainment section, the local restaurant guide described Fifth Street Ribs & Blues as “the only place you can buy beer with a BuzzCard.” Ribs & Blues does accept BuzzCard for food and drink orders, but not for beer.

- In the Aug. 20 Focus section article “After one year, Tech Square continues to grow,” restaurants and shops north of Fifth Street were described as being part of Technology Square. These retailers are actually part of Centergy, a related but separate development created by Kim King Associates, Inc. and Gateway Development Services.
**UHR fills executive vacancies**

By Stephen Baehl
News Editor

The Undergraduate House of Representatives elected two executive officers and three members-at-large Tuesday, filling vacancies left over after April’s elections.

Aaron Brins will serve as the new secretary after running unopposed at Tuesday night’s meeting. After hearing speeches from three candidates for the position of treasurer, representatives moved to a closed session to choose Ambika Bumb to fill the executive role.

Bumb cited prior experience with JFC and specific ideas for future financial management, including using better investments to grow SGA’s funds.

Another series of speeches from four candidates and another closed session later, UHR elected Well Welch, Christopher Rankine and Aaron Marr as the new members-at-large. They will represent the undergraduate student body as a whole.

A chorus of representatives recited their oath of office as they were officially sworn in before getting down to the business of bill passage.

A series of votes by unanimous acclamation saw the official appointments of JCOC Chair Ed Greco and JFC Chair David Andersen, as well as the undergrad executive officers and committee chairs.

The undergrads also brought one allocation bill into old business for consideration Tuesday night: an allocation to Georgia Tech Night at Six Flags.

“They [JFC] need the money to subsidize these tickets,” said Matt Ridley, vice president of administrative affairs. “Let’s consider this now.” The measure passed with little discussion.

Special guests at the meeting included Associate Vice President of Auxiliary Services Roz Meyers, Auxiliary Services Communications Officer Melissa Moore and new CRC Director Mike Edwards.

Edwards spoke of the CRC’s offerings, saying, “Don’t always work those books; come over and work the other part, too.”

---

**WHERE IS YOUR MONEY GOING?**

**Bills considered by both houses of the Student Government Association**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate House of Representatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint appointment of JFC chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint appointment of JCOC chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student council executive appointments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student council committee chair appointments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointment to Institute Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint allocation to Georgia Tech Night at Six Flags</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution expressing condolences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduate Student Senate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Student Senate fall 2004 picnic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint appointment of JFC chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointment of graduate chief justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint allocation to Georgia Tech Night at Six Flags</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointment of graduate student senator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint allocation to Student Government Association</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Graduates appoint new senators, okay new sign**

By Stephen Baehl
News Editor

The Graduate Student Senate started off its first meeting of the year with just eight senators in attendance Tuesday morning.

Executive Vice President Lisa Brown started the meeting with a plea for senators to hang fliers in their respective departments to attract more membership.

“Obviously, as you can see,” she said, “we need some more senators.

Two more were added soon thereafter as a bill to appoint two senators was brought from new business to old; last year’s GSS president Pelham Norville reelected the senate for another year, this time on the other side of the podium. The bill was amended to also add Stewart Jenkins as a new senator.

The meeting progressed quickly, with all bills brought from new to old business for unanimous passage.

The one exception came with a joint allocation to the Student Government Association.

The bill was to allocate $5,000 to the SGA for the purchase of a new sign to hang outside the SGA office in the Student Center Commons. Ed Greco, newly-appointed Joint Campus Organization Chair, said the cost was too high for a sign.

“I don’t think it’s worth $5,000 dollars for a sign,” he said, “especially when we’re so frugal with how we spend money on other organizations.”

Other senators pointed out the need to make the SGA office accessible for those wanting to submit bills. The measure passed 8-2-1.
**Classes**

from page 1

that we were pretty much set, that we had the right amount of seats for everybody and that everyone was happy. But at a FASET I, we discovered that they weren’t the right sort of seats.

It turned out that some of the students who had AP Calc credit, who and should have been placed in 1502, did not take the credit and wanted to be placed in 1501.

So we were kind of in a fix. We had expanded as much as we could with hiring more TAs, and making the class size bigger. But the funding was an issue at that point," Brakebill said. Additional funds were needed to hire more TAs and instructors.

At that rate, the Math department was negotiating to be able to accommodate all who wanted to take Calc I. "Dr. [Bob] McMath came to the rescue," Brakebill said. "He offered us some financial assistance. And we were able to hire two new graduate students.

McMath, vice provost of undergraduate studies and academic affairs, agreed. "The Provost’s office provided additional funding for some of the most heavily impacted departments so they could add additional sections."

"In general I think it worked pretty well, given the increase in the number of students," McMath said.

The Schools of Chemistry and Biology saw problems of their own with scheduling laboratory times. "For the basic laboratory sciences courses there was an absolute requirement of the number of spaces available in the labs," McMath said.

"There are only a certain number of labs and each lab can only fit so many people. According to Block, lab times go as late as 10 p.m.

"This past week, an additional Friday night Chemistry lab section was added to the schedule but it’s certainly not a great time for a lab," McMath said, "it shows that the departments were doing everything possible to make space available for freshmen."

The absolute size of a lecture room, the largest of which can contain a maximum 240 students, to ensure that everyone can have a seat, has also been an obstacle in scheduling classes. The normal size of a chemistry class has grown from 200 students to 230 students. "Usually we have about 1,300 students," Block said, "but this year we have about 1,450."

Schools realize the problems of increased class size. "We discovered it’s very hard when every seat is taken. The newcomer can’t get into the middle row, and if you were in the very last row it is hard to see the board and it can be hard to see the teacher," Block said. To make up for these disadvantages, most Chemistry teachers use large projection screens for notes instead of the black board, and use microphones. The increased class size also means increased traffic in and out of classes. With so many students trying to enter and exit a class at the same time, said Block, "Tests are going to be strange.

The increased number of students also means that the class day is longer for some freshmen. "Certainly some freshmen are having classes early and late, but that’s better than not being able to get them all, or so it seems to me," McMath said.

The larger class sizes affect not only individual students, but also the Institute as a whole. In the U.S. News & World Report rankings for 2005, Tech was ranked at 41st among national universities, down three spots from last year. Though Georgia Tech consistently attains one of the top five places in terms of quality among its peers—where it received a 4.0 this year—variables such as class size, faculty resources, and faculty-to-student ratios lower Tech’s ranking in U.S. News & World Report’s yearly assessment.

"Our reputational measurements continue to rank very well," Institute President Wayne Clough said in a press release, "but when it comes to variables like class size, we’ve lost ground with our competition. When you compete at the highest level nationally, even a percentage point or two can make a difference."

**Grads**

from page 5

At Tech.

The Georgia Tech Chapter of the Society of Black Engineers (GTSEE), for example, seeks to help minority American students meet Tech’s rigorous demands. "Our purpose once they get here to campus is to build a building over a period of time," said Charles Norwood, president of GTSEE.

"It is a continuum of things that we plan in place to ensure success for all of our students," Haley said. "We like to say that our programs go from K through… that Georgia Tech is an institution where you will feel at home, and Atlanta is a city where you will feel at home.

Both Haley and Norwood mentioned Atlanta’s richness as a city as well as the popular dual degree program with the Atlanta University Center and Atlanta’s historically black colleges and universities. Despite strong rankings, Tech continues to develop its programs further. We recently expanded our interactions with the Atlanta University Center Colleges," Vito said.

Haley also said that there was room for improvement in providing programs for students who were to return to school from industry, and also in encouraging minority students to pursue Ph.D.s and go into academia. "We can’t become complacent; we know that competition is always slippery at your heels, so we will continue to raise the bar," he said.

**OBITUARY**

Georgia Tech lost a member of its community when N. Newbold passed away Sunday, Aug. 5.

Newbold, 19, was about to return for his second year at Tech as a Chemistry major. His friends described him as "rough, funny, generous and very much a friendly person." He left them with fond memories, and "was selfless and loyal to his friends," he is survived by his parents, William and Catherine Newbold, as well as his brother Brett and sister Brittany.

The funeral service was held last Wednesday.

"He will be deeply missed by a wealth of friends from his hometown of Alpharetta," said his friends, "and, of course, here in Atlanta."