Did you learn all you needed in Psych 1000?

By Kim Holton / Frogs' Awesome

It is a class that has become as much of a Tech tradition, for better or worse, as RAT caps and the Vanzity. Psychology 1000: Freshman Seminar, as it is known formally, is an intro-
duction to college life. The class began several years ago when the
Institute sought to address re-
tention and prepare its students for the work world.

According to Dr. Bill Osher, Director of Success Programs, "Students are often busy with classes and other activities and often they neglect to learn the skills they will need during their career search. This class makes those skills activities that are re-
quired."

The basic goals of the class are simple, Osher said, "The pro-
gram is designed to help stu-
dents succeed academically and professionally. Additionally, it strives to help students become more involved in campus life and improve as leaders.

Proposers of the program cite the improved retention rate resulting from the entire Fresh-
man Experience, which includes the class, as one justification for the class. Brian Aley, a sopho-
more team leader for Psych 1000, said, "As a student, 'Freshman Psyh' is helpful in making the transition to college life, and it offers helpful advice for making adjustments in everything from money spending to resume build-
ing to campus involvement," he said. "Not all of the information is useful—I'm sure any fresh-
man at Tech will tell you that—but the important thing is that it presents the advice and guid-
ance so that it's there for you, and you take from it what you want, how great or little that may be."

Some students, however, have criticized the program for not maintaining the academic rigor of other Tech classes. Students question whether or not life skills such as resume writing, time man-
agement, goal setting, and table manners should be taken as an almost-mandatory class. Many freshmen feel they must take the class since it is billed as being "required" by Freshman Expe-
rience, although the requirement is unenforced. The logistics of the class are criticized; a specific example centers around the text-
book controversy. The class text-
book, written by Osher, is changed every year, which pre-
vents students from purchasing used textbooks or selling back theirs at the end of the class. Marc Calahan, a student who took the class on quarters, said, "I think it was a complete waste of my time. The only thing good out of the entire class was mak-
ing me do a resume." A current student, Elizabeth Funder, said she would advise incoming fresh-
man, "not to take the class.

"Funder said, "All we did was
time management and goal set-
ing... I hate when they force these things on you... while they spend all this time talking about managing time, it ended up de-
tracting from my other classes.

She also said she was annoyed by the speaker on etiquette, who she felt was unnecessarily "sex-
ist" in the way she described manners. On the subject of re-
sume writing, though she ad-
mits it was useful, Funder said, "I probably could have figured
to Gable. Karen had not even con-
sidered pursuing her graduate stud-
ies abroad. "If it hadn't been for a few key people, I wouldn't have pur-
sued it as much as I did," said Karen
"I had a snowball effect.

She began researching schools in
Britain and came across Cranfield, which appeared to have everything she wanted.

"All the programs at Cranfield looked really exciting," said Karen, who wants to study air traffic, avi-
onics, and simulation, "I also decid-
ed it would be good to get global experience."

Some ACM meetings have guest speakers to enrich its members. Other ACM meet-
ings might against oth-
er international competition to test their program-
ing skills. The team members David Minnen, Nick Black, who had moved to the Vancouver, B.C. Motivated Tech students recruited former UCF team members to help them prepare for world competition. The team members David Minnen, Nick Black, and Jeff Collins, and alternate Mahesh Balakrishnan practiced every weekend.

Coach Van Brackle empha-
ses the discipline that needs to be built to compete, but also said, "the team is extremely tal-
ted." The competition doesn’t require the normal set of pro-
gramming skills. The team mem-
bers have to do much of their programming on paper, because the single computer is a “bottle-
neck”—since it can be used to work on only one problem at a time. Because of limited time, they also need to learn how to code accurately the first time.
Buzz
Around
the
Campus

Our fearless leader already used the word “toke” in a sentence.

Question of the week
“What is ‘Ginger’?”

David Erie
CmpE Senior
“Isn’t that one of the Spice Girls?”

Michael Brimblecom
AE Senior
“Chris Young’s pet name.”

Dana Habeeb
Arch Junior
“A plant used in wasabe.”

Mike Levins
ME Junior
“A great plan to make a lot of money and do no work.”

Joohee Lee
Inta Freshman
“The stuff you eat in sushi. It is good for you – it fights cancer.”

Rob Louckes
BC Junior
“What is what?”

Babak Banijamali
CmpE Junior
‘IT.’ A cool new way to get around.”

Kristin Wilson
Bio Sophomore
“A movie star stranded on a desert island.”

Feature and Photos by
Sarah Graybeal & Christina Freyman
Campus briefs

Women’s Leadership Conference looking for nominees

The Women’s Leadership Conference is seeking to honor outstanding female individuals from Georgia Tech at the conference on February 23 and 24. If you know of a student, faculty member, staff member, or alumna of Tech who deserves recognition, nominate them for an award. Nomination forms are available in the Office of the Dean of Students, Suite 210 of the Student Services Building. Nominations are due Monday, February 5, 2001. Also, if you are interested in working as a volunteer for this year’s conference, contact Lauren Bronikowski at get197p@prism.gatech.edu.

Intramural tournaments held during next few weeks

During the next several weeks, there will be several Intramural sponsored tournaments. On January 19 and 20, the Roundball Classic will be held at SAC. It is a five-on-five tournament, and the entry fee is $25. On February 3 is the three-on-three hoops tournament. It is a free A-league tournament. The winning teams will represent Tech at the state tournament. Finally, on February 14, the Sweetheart Fun Run, a 5K run, will be held on campus with prizes awarded to men, women, and couples. For more information, contact Dan Hadlett at dan.hadlett@sac.gatech.edu.

Career Services offers career planning workshops

Career Services is sponsoring help sessions for students this month. On January 23, a session called “Successful Interviewing Strategies” will be held from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. in the Student Success Center, Presidential Suite A. On January 30, “Choosing a Major” will be presented from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. in the Student Success Center, Presidential Suite A.

RHA sponsors dance club event at Brittain, Jan 19

Club Brittain, an organization sponsored by RHA, will be held on Friday, January 19 at Brittain Rec. It will be open for dancing from 9:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m. Admission is free, and snacks will be served. Contact Erik Gordon at get779@prism.gatech.edu for more information.

Blood Drive being held next week, ve tant your blood

From Tuesday, January 23 until Thursday, January 25, the MOVE Office and Co-op Club will be sponsoring a Blood Drive. It will be held from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. each day in the Student Center Ballroom.

Shoot ‘em up, Photography Club is recruiting members

The Photography Club is looking for new members. If you are interested, attend their next meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, January 23, at 8:00 p.m. in Student Center Room 321. For more information, visit www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/photo, or e-mail Kristi Odom at get696@prism.gatech.edu.
Modern Robin Hood installs free phone at Penn State U.

A phone mysteriously appeared near a local campus hair salon, this anonymous donation for the lucky students is hailed as a first ever contribution of free local phone service to the community, with no advertising strings attached.

By Susan Kay Smith
Daily Collegian

(U-WIRE) UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. - A modern-day Robin Hood crept through the night last week to deliver a gift that will help the quarterless stay in touch — and perhaps set the phone companies back a few dollars.

Overnight last week, a free telephone appeared next to a hair salon in University Park, Pennsylvania, near Penn State University. The owner of the telephone, who is not connected to the Hair Loft, does not want recognition for the phone and asked that his name not be used.

“But he did talk about his reasons for constructing and installing the $300 utility.

“You do things because you like people,” the owner said. “So many people put their names on things and think that’s important. I don’t think it is.”

The owner said he purposely installed the phone during the night so no one would know who provided it.

Last week, Hair Loft employee Branden Miller noticed a metal pole next to his workplace. The next day, he found a phone.

“I saw this pole, and I thought, ‘Oh, they’re going to put a light there. That’ll look really nice,’” Miller said. “The next morning I turned around and there’s a telephone there.”

It looks like an ordinary pay phone at first glance—only there is no coin slot begging for quarters and dimes. Large blue letters read “telephone” from the side of its aluminum and steel frame, but the phone is free of any company logos or other advertising. A sign on the telephone says it is free for local calls.

“I think we all think it’s a great idea. We just hope it’s not destroyed…”

Amy Beck
Student

He even has three extra telephones, nearly 150 pencils and stacks of paper ready if anything is stolen or damaged. He even has 12 extra phone books in stock. The telephone might have been particularly useful during the Verizon strike last August, when hundreds of students were stranded without phone service for several weeks, said senior Karl Jones.

“I waited for phone service for a few weeks,” he said. “I probably would have used it every day.” Now, Jones said he uses the phone to occasionally call friends when he doesn’t feel like walking all the way up to his apartment.

In the future, the owner said he plans to add free long distance calling that will be routed through his computer. “I’m going to lose (money),” the owner said. “I get up every morning, and feel good that I did that. I’ve done something for somebody.”

http://cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/technique
Feigh

The Marshall Scholarship was started in 1953 by the British Parliament to show its gratitude to the United States for its help after World War II.

The award was named after General George C. Marshall.

Forty scholarships are awarded each year, and they may be used to pursue graduate studies in any one of over a hundred British universities.

The scholarships are worth about $50,000 over two years. In order to receive the scholarship, students must have at least a 3.7 GPA, be a U.S. citizen, and be a graduate of an accredited four-year college or university in the U.S.

“It is basically a public version of the Rhodes Scholarship because it is sponsored by Parliament instead of private donors,” said Feigh.

“At the interview, they asked about everything on my application. It was a very technical interview. They asked about calculus, probability, and how airplanes fly,” said Karen. “It was a very scary prospect to put your life on paper and ask people to choose or not to choose you.”

Feigh found out in late November that she had received the scholarship. “I was thrilled,” she said. “It was a very surreal experience to get the phone call and be told that I got it.”

The scholarship covers tuition and other fees, a personal allowance to cover residence and living expenses, the fare to and from the United Kingdom, and an annual grant for approved travel in connection with studies.

The last two Tech students to receive the Marshall Scholarship were Marie Hill in 1979 and Daniel Massey in 1980.

In her years at Tech, Karen has been very active on campus. In 1998, she founded the T-book, an online survival guide for students.

For most students, this is probably not the first time they have run into Karen, who has definitely become the “woman about campus.”

She is currently the Chair of the President’s Council Governing Board and a former chair of Women’s Leadership Conference.

In the aerospace department she heads up the Undergraduate Advisory Board, and helps design and build remote control airplanes for competition.

At Cranfield University, she will study for a Masters degree, with a specialty in avionics and simulation in association.

When she finishes there in two years, she will pursue a PhD either in the U.S. or the U.K.

This is one Tech student for whom the sky is not the limit.