Post office begins reorganization, plans major changes

By Daniel Amick
Senior Staff Writer

Bookstore renovations scheduled to begin in July will bring major changes to the Georgia Tech Post Office. All of the post office boxes lining the left side of the facility will be taken out or shifted to the opposite wall. A corridor connecting the Student Center and the remodeled bookstore will take their place.

A passageway through the post office is “the most logical way to connect the two buildings so there is an ease of flow and an easy transition,” said Student Center Director Rich Steele. “Creating the right traffic flow is really the most important part of the [bookstore renovation] project.”

The renovation will have wide-ranging impact. “At some point, we’ll have to eliminate a big section of boxes,” said Steele. In all, about 5,000 of 15,020 P.O. boxes will be removed.

“If we have to create something of that capacity, we’ll do it,” said Student Center Director Rich Steele. “Creating the right traffic flow is really the most important part of the [bookstore renovation] project.”

The reality is a lot of students will have to change their address. “We know that that is a very inconvenient thing to have to do,” he said.

The fact that a student has a P.O. box in a section that will be removed does not necessarily mean that their box number will be eliminated. Some boxes may simply be shifted to the right wall. However, this step creates an entirely new problem.

“We can create something that’s logical in terms of box number flow,” said Steele. Logical arrangement is important both for students and for postal workers trying to deliver mail.

Renovation will also affect package delivery and pickup. Designers are looking into the possibility of adding a second package pickup window to cut down on lines and waiting times. Designers also considered replacing all current P.O. boxes with larger versions that could hold catalogs, small packages and oversized envelopes.

“It’s a great idea, if we had all the money in the world and all the space in the world,” said Steele. “A plethora of problems could be resolved if...”

Scholarship info meeting Tuesday

Any student interested in learning more about prestigious and international scholarships should attend an information session at 11 a.m. on Tuesday in President’s Suite B of the Student Success Center. Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Goldwater, and other top scholarships will be discussed. The meeting is open to all graduate and undergraduate students. RSVP with Paull Hunt at paul.hunt@sp.gatech.edu.

Woodruff dining hall to close this summer

Auxiliary Services plans to renovate Woodruff Dining Hall over summer 2003. The $1.4 million project, scheduled to end in time for the start of fall classes, includes provisions for new food options, a new décor for the dining room and new kitchen equipment. During the renovation, Britain Dining Hall will serve as the only dining hall on campus.

The planning committee has nearly finalized the plans. “We’ve already, for instance, selected the carpet, the fabrics, the furniture and the light fixtures. We’re moving along; we have to in order to start on time and finish on time,” said Rosalind Meyers, Vice President of Auxiliary Services.

Two students from the Residence Hall Association attended one of the meetings where renovation planners selected furniture and carpet and determined the layout of the changes.

The renovation calls for the addition of a bakery capable of producing rolls, pies, cookies and cakes.

“We want to actually produce all the bakery items for the whole campus out of that location,” said Dining General Manager Todd Schram.

The scale of the bakery is one of the final undecided factors in the renovation plan, according to Schram. In the current plan, the bakery would supply Britain, the Student Center Food Court, campus catering and Woodruff with baked goods, but it may be scaled down to fit budget limitations.

“Minimally, obviously, we will have bakery items made for Woodruff,” Schram said.

“Now, can we take it farther,”...
From the archives...

The Nique’s top stories from:

10 years ago: February 5, 1993—The U.S. Swim Center announced that it would move its National Development Center to Georgia Tech. The Center would prepare amateur athletes for the Olympics. A knife suspect was arrested and charged with the attempted robbery and simple battery.

20 years ago: February 4, 1983—The GTPD arrested a prowler who had a fake Georgia Tech ID. He was arrested on two counts of theft of lost or mislaid property. Student government announced that it wanted 50 percent voter turnout. Tech fell to NC State and North Carolina.

30 years ago: February 9, 1973—Student Body Presidential candidate Greg Williams battled to break the traditional supremacy of the SAC-70 committee chairman Jac Kirkpatrick. Bulldozers razed the old TKE house after work was completed on the new chapter home. The National Aerospace Honor Society announced plans for a Paper Airplane Contest.
Graduates charter five organizations

By Tony Klaempf
News Editor

During one of the busiest meetings of the semester, the Graduate Senate chartered five new organizations, approved amendments to the Activity Fee budget and finally addressed the resolution on immigration policy Tuesday. During the meeting, the senators discussed nearly 15 bills, none of which failed.

The first matter of business addressed was the chartering requests of nine new Tech organizations. According to Joint Campus Organizations Committee (JCOC) chair Tim Cailloux, all nine received JCOC’s approval to become official Tech organizations.

However, according to Coordinating Officer Jennifer Matthews, representatives from only five of those organizations were present. Matthews then made a motion to slate the bills of the five organizations present.

Matthews’s motion passed and the chartering requests were considered as a slate. The slate passed unanimously with no discussion and those five organizations were granted charters. Matthews then made a motion to table the other four chartering bills until representatives were able to attend. The motion passed.

The debate then shifted to proposed amendments to the Activity Fee Budget. Senator Dave Himmelheber made the motion to untable the budget bill, which has been up for discussion over the past two weeks. Himmelheber wanted to amend the funds allocated to the Association of Environmental Engineers and Scientists in the budget. “I would like to allocate at least enough money to the organization to cover their operational costs,” said Himmelheber.

JPC had originally recommended that AEES not be allocated any budget because they did not meet the requirements for

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Representatives Michael Handelman and Matt Ridley listen to debate concerning the Election Code. The UHR debated the code extensively during the meeting.

Undergrads debate 2003 election code

By Daniel Amick
Senior Staff Writer

Undergraduate representatives met Tuesday night in sweltering heat. Perhaps the high temperatures were to blame for a not-so-productive meeting. During consideration of the 2003 Election Code, reps got bogged down in a quagmire of amendments, amendments to amendments and motions to reconsider amendments. Reps spent so much time on the Election Code that budget discussions had to be put off until next week.

Most of the controversy and confusion centered on disclosure of candidates membership in student organizations. The Code requires that all candidates, both legislative and executive, submit a list of all their student organizations memberships. The thinking behind the requirement is that it would reveal potential bias for or against certain organizations.

ISE Rep Matt Ridley introduced an amendment to remove the requirement, saying that some organizations, like Pride Alliance and ANAK, have closed membership. No one is supposed to know who is a member.


Management Rep Ben Lawder said he felt that the requirement would put too much “undue information” in the public arena.

Others argued that the requirement should remain.

“I’m not ashamed of anything I’m involved in on campus,” said ME Rep Josh Alexander.

“Some people don’t like me because I’m in band,” said Junior Rep Chris Rankine, “but I’m going to put that out there.”

Senior Rep Lindsey Mazza said that

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Council Clippings Senate and House

Bills Considered

Undergraduate House of Representatives

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<td>Joint Allocation to Campus Civitan</td>
<td>Matt Ridley</td>
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<td>Joint Chartering of Sports Riders</td>
<td>Tim Cailloux</td>
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<td>Joint Chartering of Hong Kong Stu. Assoc.</td>
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<td>Joint Chartering of Art of Living Club</td>
<td>Tim Cailloux</td>
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<td>Joint Chartering of Squash Club</td>
<td>Tim Cailloux</td>
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<td>Joint Chartering of Apple Users Group</td>
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<td>Joint Chartering of Women’s Ultimate</td>
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<td>Joint Chartering of Campus Girl Scouts</td>
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Graduate Student Senate

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<td>Joint Allocation to Tech Ultimate</td>
<td>Kasi David</td>
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<td>Joint Resolution on Immigration Issues</td>
<td>Yasser Bhatti</td>
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<td>Allocation to Graduate Student Senate</td>
<td>Alan Michaels</td>
<td>passed</td>
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and do it for the entire campus? That’s what we’re not sure about.” Woodruff currently offers two non-genre specific “display cooking” options, where students custom-order food and watch the chef prepare it before them. The renovation will bring a third display cooking choice dedicated to Italian food. “A lot of the cooking that’s now done back in the kitchen, where you can’t see it, is going to be done in the front where you can see it,” said Meyers. Another display cooking option, called “Salad by Design,” will allow students to do self-serve salads if they want, but what we’ll be able to do is have a chef back there who will, perhaps, cook off marinaded chicken breast, or it could be shrimp, crab, [and top salads with it],” said Schram. The present salad and deli sections will be integrated under this concept. An open-art cooler will store the tomatoes, cucumbers and other produce, while allowing them to remain on display to students. Woodruff’s standard offerings, like the pizza section, pasta counter and grill, will return next year, although in different locations. “We’re not taking any of the elements away, we’re just redistributing them,” said Schram. The dining room, which did not receive any attention during the last renovation of Woodruff in 1996, is slated for renovation. “Currently it’s cold, it’s poorly lit and it’s kind of a cave-type dining room,” said Schram. The plan for the dining room includes new booths along the sides of the room and stretches of fabric extending to the ceiling to cover the cinder block walls. The televisions will likely remain in the dining room, although their locations may change, according to Schram. “We’re certainly going to improve the lighting, [add] new tables and chairs and carpeting. A lot of these things hopefully will warm up the space, kind of make it feel a little more like home, or at least softer,” said Schram. “We also plan on the total renovation of the second floor space, so that people can go up there and actually use that. Right now it’s wasted space,” said Meyers. Along the south wall of the dining room, an automatic tray processor called an “accumulator” will replace the garbage cans and cup racks students currently encounter after a meal. “It’s so wonderful that the last thing you experience before you leave Woodruff is a sloppy garbage can; it’s not very attractive,” said Schram. Meyers agreed with the need for these changes. “That’s going to make a big difference in the cleanliness and the convenience for students. All you need to do is put your tray in there and leave,” said Meyers. The accumulator will connect to a dish room, where eating utensils will be prepared for reuse. The dish room will require part of the space in which the Woodruff South laundry room currently lies. “We’re going to have to take away some of the washers and dryers and replace them with stackables because we’re going to have to take a little bit of that space,” said Meyers. The kitchen will also receive new equipment including a freestanding, larger food preparation space and a steam line for heating up large quantities of water. “We do not have a large steam line, which is unheard of for a kitchen,” said Schram. After the renovation, “[Students] won’t recognize the place,” said Meyers. “Until about two years ago, the main decoration in the dining room at Woodruff was about an eight-foot long replica of a slide rule, and the other wall had an eight-foot replica of a T-square.” “We said to some students, ‘Do you mind if we take that down?’ They said, ‘We don’t even know what it is!’ So that’s how life has changed, and that’s how long it’s been since that place was originally done. It’s way overdue,” said Meyers.

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annual dues. According to the AEEs president Roby Greenwald, the organization had recently started charging members $10 a semester, the JFC minimum. “We’ve met those requirements and we would like to receive a budget,” said Greenwald. “We’ve modified our budget so that it now only covers operational costs.” Greenwald also explained that the reason AEEs has not needed a budget before was due to its large number of corporate sponsors. “In past years we have had up to 17 corporate sponsors, but this year we only had five,” he said. After some debate from the senators and a friendly amendment that reduced the requested funds slightly, the amendment passed.

The only UHR amendment that was largely debated by the senate was the request by the Music Department to fund six band concerts and four choral concerts.

Although most senators agreed that the funds should be provided, they were not sure if the activity fee was the best way to fund the concerts. “I am concerned that students’ fees are going to be paying for this,” said Senator Pelham Norville. “There has to be a more appropriate place for this [money] to come from.” Matthews also questioned where the money for the concerts had come from in past years. Although a student representative from the Music Department was present, he wasn’t able to confirm where the funds had previously come from. Some senators felt that the issue needed to be looked into further and motioned that the discussion of the amendment be withdrawn. The last major issue of discussion at the meeting was the resolution on immigration policies for international students. The resolution had changed from its original version with the addition of numerous amendments. According to Norville, the amendments were made by himself and Yassir Bhatti, who authored the bill. Most of these amendments came from the recommendations of senators and other international students on campus,” said Norville. Bhatti also commented on the amount of students that he had worked with in the past few weeks. “In the month since the resolution was first introduced, we have talked with many different groups,” said Bhatti. “In the end, I know that if we pass this resolution, it is going to mean a lot to the international students.”

The senators with no dissenting votes. Of the resolution, it was passed by as to some of the particular wording to the appropriate parties.

Bhatti also commented on the basic idea of the resolution, some senators questioned how the resolution would proceed if passed. Graduate President Alan Michaels said he would take responsibility for preparing and sending the resolution to the appropriate parties.

After a fair amount of discussion as to some of the particular wording of the resolution, it was passed by the senators with no dissenting votes.
these bins can often be missed dur-

tions unusable. “Contamination kills the pro-

cess,” said Jackson.

In all, Tech has a strong history of participating in the recycling pro-

gram. Students and faculty recy-

cled a total of 937 tons of material in 2001—which includes plastic bot-

tles, paper products, mixed metals, and other materials.

While there is a large awareness on campus in regards to recycling, these bins can often be missed dur-

and forth, reps waffling, seemingly not clear as to what they wanted. Newly elected UHR secretary Sung

Freshman ChE major Andrew

Sadow summed up the situation with his reaction to the news of the new receptacles being put in place: “We had old ones?”

The new containers, while being more aesthetically pleasing, will con-

serve the purpose their pre-

decessors did—and bring more awareness to the Tech community regarding recycling.

The initial amendment to remove the requirement failed. ECE rep Tim

Cailloux introduced another amend-

ment that would not require disclo-

sure of membership in a closed organization. This failed as well.

ECE rep Bill Asher introduced an amendment expanding the ex-

emption to religious and lifestyle organizations. This amendment

failed after Handelman pointed out that singling out certain types of

organizations would be discriminat-

ing in favor of them, which is in violation of bylaws.

Lawder introduced yet another amendment that would only require relevant memberships be disclosed, but reps shot it down with a “not germane” vote. Not germane means the amendment was too similar to others already considered.

And so the debate went, back

and forth, reps waffling, seemingly not clear as to what they wanted. Newly elected UHR secretary Sung

Park got an initiation by fire as he tried to keep up with the rapid-fire succession of motions. Finally, the

Elections Code passed with only one change, a requirement that candi-

dates be informed of any code viola-

tion and a time and place for a hearing within 24 hours. President Massey

chastised reps for wasting time and not bringing up concerns about the

code prior to the meeting.

“Make sure you do your home-

work,” she said.

Reps speedily slated all eleven remaining bills up for consideration and passed them without discus-

sion. They again failed a motion to remove from the table and consider an Immigration Policy resolution. Biology rep Srikantha Banerjee said the issue was time-sensitive, hap-

pening right now.

Rep Alexander argued that no productive discussion could be held on the matter because of the time.

“The issue may be time-sensi-

tive, but it’s also one of great impor-

tance,” he said.

Freshman ChE major Andrew

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receptacles being put in place: “We had old ones?”

The new containers, while being more aesthetically pleasing, will con-

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decessors did—and bring more awareness to the Tech community regarding recycling.
we were able to go to larger boxes.”
However, larger P.O. boxes would cost about $250,000 to purchase and install. Steele says improvements such as email notification of package arrival have increased efficiency of package pickup to the point that the “need [for larger boxes] is not as great.” He is “not hopeful” that larger boxes will be installed.
Remodeling will also give administrators a chance to address P.O. box sharing. Currently, about 6,000 people share a box with someone else.
“We don’t like the situation,” said Steele. “We want to get to the point where we have one student per box.”
Two and a half years ago, a Mail Operations Task Force recommended that boxes only be assigned to students living on campus.
“[The task force] found that students who did not live on-campus did not value having a box on campus,” Steele said. Students who live in a fraternity or sorority house prefer to get their mail at that house. Students who live off-campus prefer to get their mail at their residence.
“We’re looking at an opting-out process,” said Steele. “We’d be saying to people, ‘You really don’t need your box. You really don’t use your box. Tell us, and we’ll eliminate your box so you don’t have to check it anymore.’”
Sharing will probably not be eliminated by the time renovation is complete.
“I think like anything else, it’s going to take a few years to move to a new model,” said Steele. “That’s not necessarily bad. It’s just not going to get us to the level of efficiency and convenience that we prefer.”
Steele added that a charge of $12 or $13 per semester may be imposed to give off-campus residents more motivation to cancel their P.O. box and change their address. But, he added, this is a “very preliminary” idea.
Recent Tech graduate Carter Green has been hired to look at all of these concerns and determine the best way to solve them.
Carter and a team of students recently distributed surveys to gauge student opinion. The team will use them to outline a process that will minimize difficulties. Rough details of the process should be announced on or about March 1.
Carter says the changes “will greatly increase our efficiency.”
“We’re looking at decreasing redundancy,” he said.
No disruption in post office service is expected. Steele emphasized that while he understands the process will be inconvenient, “we’re trying to look out for the greater good. We’re trying to work out some long-term problems and create a much better situation.”