Summer housing crisis

After a fairly smooth fall housing selection process, panic ensued during the summer process due to a glitch in the computer software that handles room assignments. The Department of Housing itself cannot be blamed for the computer malfunction, as the glitch was not caused by human error. It is also understandable that Housing personnel didn’t discover the magnitude of the data loss until the last minute given the fact that the number of summer housing requests is highly variable.

The situation was highly unfortunate, and many unsuspecting students were given the runaround by a Housing department which, quite frankly, didn’t have the data it needed to make accurate placement decisions.

Although many students have “housing horror stories” to tell, the department performed as well as it could under the circumstances. However, it was absolutely unacceptable to force any student who selected the “stay” option online to move if the payment deadline was met.

In the future, the Department of Housing should more thoroughly test its software and should allow itself more time between summer room selection and the end of Spring Semester to handle any problems that may arise.

Fraternity hazing

Yet another fraternity has been found responsible for violating institute and IFC policies regarding hazing. This type of activity is completely inappropriate, and the fact that it has continued despite several highly publicized hazing cases is quite disturbing. One complicating factor is the fact that Kappa Alpha Psi, a historically African-American fraternity, is not an active member of the Interfraternity Council. This in itself is not bad, but it robs the Kappas and other historically African-American fraternities of an avenue to communicate their needs and concerns with the administration.

Of course, there are other avenues of communication available, but the benefits of an overarching organization designed to promote interaction are difficult to deny. Such an organization does not exist for Tech’s African-American fraternities. Whether IFC or some yet to be created entity should strive to meet that need remains to be seen. The Tech community will be watching.
They're out to get us, and just who are they, anyway?

Objectification of “Them” combined with a strong “Us versus Them” mentality contributes to antagonistic relationship between students and university administrators.

Administrators and students have fundamentally different perspectives when it comes to the Georgia Tech experience. Students tend to be interested in short-term goals, while administrators are more focused on the future. This is not necessarily a bad thing, but it has recently been a source of frustration and confusion over several issues.

When the administration pushed for the expansion of the Student Athletic Complex last year, the idea was met with strong opposition by factions within the Student Government Association and by parts of the student body in general. Graduates of the Student Government Association and the student body in general. Graduates of the Student Government Association and the student body in general.

Unfortunately, the students and the university administrators are unwilling to consider others’ viewpoints.

A lack of communication is certainly one cause of the problem. Students frequently don’t articu- late what their concerns are and they rarely take time to explore what their values are. Their pleas to the administration are often based on matters of convenience and selfishness, with no consideration of what really matters or what might be bet- ter for Tech in the long run.

Because of this self-defeating— and shift-influencing— attitude, it is very easy for individuals to dismiss students with legitimate concerns as just another bunch of whiners.

It is very easy for administrators to dismiss students with legitimate concerns as just another bunch of whiners.

Jennifer Hinkel
News Editor

“We are living in a city that is not free of crime, violence, and too many students would rather hold a door open for a stranger than appear rude or inconsiderate.”

Jenifer Hinkel
News Editor

I applaud the campus organiza- tions that make our campus as safe as it is, and I realize that a fe- deral-instructed university is a far-fetched im- possibility. However, there is undeniably room for improvement in many areas.

I urge the Tech Police Department, those who control transportation and parking, facilities employees who maintain phone lines and lights, and the Women’s Resource Center to provide a more secure campus for both women and men. Moreover, our reporting ar- cinets we can make each other aware of the safety, or lack thereof, of our surroundings. I have great admira- tion and respect for the woman who was forthright enough to report a sexual assault. Why do we find it easy to call the police when our cars are broken into but so difficult when a person commits a crime?

We must realize that the latter is much more grave and far-reaching, and that the consequences are not to be ignored. As a student body, we need to make our safety a priority, so we can jog, drive, park, walk, and live without unnecessary fear.

A few small changes could save many students from harm; if only one incident could be avoided, one ton- son’s safety preserved by such a change, the change is not only worth- while, but also essential for the well being of the student body.

If Jennifer Hinkel were the Buffy the Vampire Slayer, she wouldn’t have to wor- ry about campus safety. In fact, she could solve campus safety problems all by herself.

~ Jennifer Hinkel

There’s no point in nitpicking the things that we’re unsatisfied with. What we need is a collective effort to change the way we think about our campus and to make it safer and more secure for everyone. Let’s work together to create a safer environment for all.

~ [Student]

Opinions

A letter to the editor: and parking, facilities

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