Multiple committees facilitate judicial process

By Chanchala Kaddi
Contributing Writer

Student government at Tech is not limited to the common sights of the student legislature and the executives of SGA. The judicial process is also alive and well. Many student judicial boards can be found on campus.

The student adjudicating process at Tech is divided into two categories: academic and non-academic. According to the rules and regulations of the Institute, anyone can report an alleged violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Students. If the case is to be heard by a judicial board, the Dean of Students refers the case to the proper board. The board then reports its findings to the Dean of Students, who is responsible for issuing penalties.

The different adjudicating committees for students are:

Student Honor Committee (SHC)

The Student Honor Committee is a committee of the Faculty Senate. A SHC hearing consists of four faculty members, two undergraduates elected by the Undergraduate Student Council and one graduate student elected by the Graduate Student Council.

Honor Advisory Council (HAC)

The Honor Advisory Council is not a judicial board but provides information about the Honor Code and the judicial process primarily the academic judicial process.

“The Honor Advisory Council is a proactive student group charged by the Office of the Dean of Students with educating the Georgia Tech community about the honor code and integrity in general. We do not make judicial decisions,” said Mitch Keller, vice chair of the Honor Advisory Council.

As stated in the Honor Code, honor advisors are not permitted to discuss individual cases with students; they may only discuss policy and procedure.

“We provide confidential, drop-in counseling during scheduled office hours in Student Services room 150,” Keller said.

Students who wish to report an honor violation are advised of the process for doing so and what information may be required from them. Students accused of a violation are counseled on the judicial process (from the level of an administrative hearing with an OSi personnel through appeal to the Board of Regents) and what is expected of them at each stage. We help students understand the differences between situations in which pursuing a hearing is optional as opposed to situations in which pursuing a hearing is mandatory.

Residence Hall Association Judicial Board

According to the constitution of the Residence Hall Association (RHA), the RHA Judicial Board is responsible for investigating Code of Conduct violations occurring in or around housing. The RHA Judicial Board consists of one chief justice, who is appointed by the RHA president, and six associate justices, who are chosen by the chief justice.

“According to the RHA constitution, the Judicial Board can take disciplinary measures against students. ‘The most common offense is alcohol,’” said Bhavesh Mehta, the Chief Justice.

“The student has the option of their first offense with alcohol, the disciplinary measure is a $75 fine, an online alcohol course and either a reinstatement or warning from Housing and from the Institute.

After an incident, the student will talk to the Residence Life Coordinator,” Mehta said.

“Student has the option to take the sanctions that Housing gives them or to be heard by the RHA Judicial Board. The Judicial Board makes a recommendation to the Dean of Students and the Director of Housing, who have the final decision but will usually listen to what we recommend.”

Undergraduate Judiciary Cabinet

The Undergraduate Judiciary Cabinet (UJC) deals with cases involving non-academic misconduct. According to the rules and regulations as published in the 2001-2003 General Catalog of the Institute, the UJC consists of 11 members: 10 undergraduates and one justice and one undergraduate student judge.

See Judicial, page 12
Taste of Africa educates, entertains Tech community

By Trevor Stettleburg

African beans and traditionally dressed greeters welcomed attendees to the Taste of Africa event last Saturday night, hosted by the African Student Association (ASA) in the Student Center.

Programs designed as menus detailed the night’s activities, including poetry reading, singing performances, African dances and a short drama put together by the Georgia Tech Drama and Dance Teams.

“The event was organized to truly entertain, educate and enlighten any and everyone who wants a taste of Africa,” said Ugo Ezeamuzie, a third-year Management major and president of ASA.

“We get to expose people outside Africa to African drama, music, dance, fashion and food, and make them more aware of issues,” said Uzoma Onunkwo, a graduate student in Electrical Engineering and ASA member.

The event featured a short, comical, yet educational play about a young African couple’s wedding.

“What important [about the play] is that Africans have a very distinct culture in terms of the family perspective. Marriage is a much bigger event, incorporating a lot of organization on each family’s part,” Onunkwo said.

“People should realize that most Africans from the east or west side speak French or English,” he said.

Even though there is the traditional language, and you’ve got a lot of diversity there, [French and English] are the official languages of most African countries since the colonial era.

“One of the prevailing sports is soccer. The World Cup is a big deal for Africans,” he said.

“I came because I just wanted to experience it. This is the first time I’ve been to an ASA event,” said Dylon Dsilva, a graduate student.

The ASA conducted all preparations and rehearsals for the event in a month and a half, making it a truly difficult undertaking.

“People have a lot of imagi­nation notions about [African culture], and here they get to see first-hand that they are just like regular people,” said Brittain Skinner, a graduate student.

Flags from many African nations hung over the event, representing the presence of African

By Amanda Thomas

One man’s poetry is another man’s porn.

Poetry is primal. It’s my human need.

Irate White Males

I Wear Makeup

I’m Weird, Man!

Blaaahhhhh

Sorry I couldn’t come to movie night

How about we leave the sliver spaces blank for one week in honor of the dead bodies of the people that wrote it.

The chalk used to write IWM all over campus should be used to outline the U.S. soldiers who could have written slivers if they weren’t sent or any newspaper for that matter?

The professors of the Georgia Institute of Technology should be thinking about the dead bodies of the people that wrote it.

I can’t believe I’m saying this, but I’d be happy with British food if it was right now.

I’m in the fashion show, and the officers and performers did a lot in terms of organization,” she said.

Interestingly, one of dance performances was an Indian dance by Nazaaqat, India Club’s official dance team. Indian culture is permeating influence in southern Africa, where Indians make up a large proportion of the population.

“We’re performing a typical Rajastani dance from the Indian film Paheli,” said Shalini Bumb, a third-year Biomedical Engineering major and a dancer on the ‘Nazaaqat’ team.

The team will also be performing at the Holi Show in April.

The final event of the night was a fashion show in which ASA members and others entertained the audience as they strutted down the runway in traditional African garb with bright, colorful patterns and lively headwear.

After the events of the night drew to a close, students gathered for a true “taste” of Africa, as a traditional African meal was served, complete with fried plantains, jollof rice (a mixture of fried rice, vegetables, and meat), and rice and bread.

“(I really enjoyed seeing different aspects of the culture, I liked it),” said Brittain Skinner, a graduate student.

Flags from many African nations hung over the event, representing the presence of African

What’s hot at the beach?

One man’s poetry is another man’s porn.

PIZZA’S NOT FOR BREAKFAST!

Zupan is a f’ing badass! Bring him back!

I can’t believe I’m saying this, but I’d be happy with British food right now.

’tin drum tastes like elephants!

Life just hasn’t been the same since C&C Music Factory broke up.

Sorry I couldn’t come to movie night

ugh, 4 tests this week. my hand and brain hurt. blaaahhh

Everything means nothing if I ain’t got you.

I Wear Makeup

Institute of Working Men

Irate White Males

Illusions by Well-known Magicians

It Was a Mistake

Jennifer in heat transfer is extremely beautiful

Jill in Liang’s 4210 class is HOT.

I’m Weird, Man!

Will the Technique please get some FUNNY cartoonists? I miss

I can’t believe I’m saying this, but I’d be happy with British food right now.

I can’t believe I’m saying this, but I’d be happy with British food right now.

Irate White Males

I Wear Makeup

Institute of Working Men

Irate White Males

Illusions by Well-known Magicians

It Was a Mistake

Jennifer in heat transfer is extremely beautiful

Jill in Liang’s 4210 class is HOT.

I’m Weird, Man!

Will the Technique please get some FUNNY cartoonists? I miss

I can’t believe I’m saying this, but I’d be happy with British food right now.

I can’t believe I’m saying this, but I’d be happy with British food right now.

Irate White Males

I Wear Makeup

Institute of Working Men

Irate White Males

Illusions by Well-known Magicians

It Was a Mistake

Jennifer in heat transfer is extremely beautiful

Jill in Liang’s 4210 class is HOT.

I’m Weird, Man!

Will the Technique please get some FUNNY cartoonists? I miss

I can’t believe I’m saying this, but I’d be happy with British food right now.

I can’t believe I’m saying this, but I’d be happy with British food right now.

Irate White Males

I Wear Makeup

Institute of Working Men

Irate White Males

Illusions by Well-known Magicians

It Was a Mistake

Jennifer in heat transfer is extremely beautiful

Jill in Liang’s 4210 class is HOT.

I’m Weird, Man!

Will the Technique please get some FUNNY cartoonists? I miss

I can’t believe I’m saying this, but I’d be happy with British food right now.
CETL helps students show faculty appreciation

By Melissa Cataldo
Senior Staff Writer

Starting with a Thanksgiving kick-off, there will be a new service for students to thank professors who made a special impact.

The Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning (CETL) is creating a simple online form for students to write notes of appreciation for especially effective teaching. CETL will then send the note along with a letter explaining the program and a certificate to the faculty member or TA.

Students will be able to use the service at any time, for courses they are currently enrolled in and for courses they have already taken.

The online form will be at www.thankaprof.gatech.edu and will also be accessible through the CETL website under the ‘Services’ heading.

‘It’s tremendous…because you just came here in September, and this is a program we started several years ago at the University of Minnesota,’ said Joyce Weisheimer, Assistant Director for Faculty Development.

The program was well-received by students and instructors and spread to other Big Ten schools.

So what does the service offer that writing email or thanking a teacher in person doesn’t?

Aside from the special certificate and letter for the instructor, the program offers the option of anonymity.

‘It’s making it so students can either sign their names or leave [the note] anonymous. [Some students at Minnesota would say], “I don’t want to look like I’m trying to get a better grade, but I wanted to say thanks a lot,”’ Weisheimer said.

The service can allow professors to see what individual students really appreciate.

“When [professors] are teaching several classes…[students] come and go, lots of times faculty and TA’s start to think nobody really cares,’ Weisheimer said.

Hopefully, as students voice their thanks, professors will be inspired to keep trying the things that students appreciated in the first place.

“In general institutions are set up to be somewhat impersonal…so if we care about teaching we need to set up easy ways for students and teachers to talk about that.”

Joyce Weisheimer
Assistant Director, Faculty Development

A positive effect of the service can be ‘letting TAs or faculty know students value what they’re doing. Lots of times the [the teacher whom the student] chooses to thank might have gone out of his or her way…so that’s reinforcing,’ Weisheimer said.

At the University of Minnesota, school officials and faculty were often surprised to find that the things students appreciated the most were often little things like remembering students’ names in a large class.

As is typical at a research institution, Tech students also often attend large or impersonal classes, especially during their first few years.

So when a teacher reaches out, even small efforts to get to know students might be greatly appreciated.

“It wasn’t that we felt something was wrong. We know that when teaching is appreciated it gets better and better…success breeds success. The only venue we had was student evaluations [or] nominating an outstanding person as an outstanding teacher,” Weisheimer said.

Nominations only allow for a small number of highly outstanding faculty members to be recognized, whereas the new program can make it difficult for instructors to get input, and this system can give faculty an opportunity to see what is working.

“As someone who teaches very large classes, you get very little feedback. So any feedback is good, especially positive feedback,” said Gregory Hui, a professor of Environmental Science.

The notes also allow for a more informal thank you than the major school wide awards.

“They’re so real. When people nominate someone for a teaching award, [it’s] so flowery…with these people get a real sense of the student and the teacher…it’s refreshing. You never see those things on nominations: [it’s] very genuine, very straightforward,” Weisheimer said. “[The service] per-

Weisheimer made the point that in her experience some students were uncomfortable thanking a professor directly.

“I can see situations that I’ve been in where it would have been nice to have this service…however [at the time], I was just lazy… I could have emailed the professor,” said Martin Walsh, a fifth-year STaC major.

In general, institutions are set up to be somewhat impersonal…so if we care about teaching we need to set up easy ways for students and teachers to talk about that,’ Weisheimer said.
Judicial from page 9
chairperson.
All GJC members are selected by the undergraduate student body president and confirmed by the Undergraduate Student Council. (The UJC hears cases when the Office of Student Integrity refers to it students who have chosen a judicial hearing instead of an administrative hearing.

Graduate Judiciary Cabinet

The operation of the Graduate Judiciary Cabinet (GJC) is similar to that of the UJC. It also deals with cases of non-academic misconduct. According to the SGA website on the GJC, this judicial board consists of six graduate student justices and one graduate student chief justice. All GJC members are selected by the graduate student body president and confirmed by the Graduate Student Senate.

The Office of Student Integrity, the GJC hears cases when the Office of Student Integrity refers to it students who have chosen a judicial hearing instead of an administrative hearing.

Interfraternity Council Judicial Board

The Interfraternity Council (IFC) Judicial Board has jurisdiction over the 30 fraternities on campus. This board is responsible for investigating fraternities charged with violating the Institute alcohol policy or the IFC’s fraternity code conduct, social, hazing or rush policy.

According to the IFC constitution and bylaws, the IFC Judicial Board consists of 15 rotating members. Seven justices, including the board chairmen, hear each case. Three of the justices must be from the larger half of fraternities, according to chapter size, and three from the smaller half.

The board chairman is responsible for choosing the justices that hear a case. If a fraternity of a justice (including the chairman) is involved in the case, an alternate justice will hear the case.

Panhellenic Judicial Board

The Panhellenic Judicial Board hears cases dealing with the six sororities in the Panhellenic Council. According to Sally Kline, the Coordinator of Greek Affairs, the Panhellenic Judicial Board is comprised of six justices and one chair.

Each sorority has one justice and one alternate, and the executive vice president of the Panhellenic Council serves as the chair.

June 24, 2005
FOCUS

Africa from page 10

students and other attendees from various parts of the continent.

“I really enjoyed everything, it was well put together and there is a lot of diversity here,” said Bhuan Agrawal, another graduate student who attended the event.

Taste of Africa was not just a Georgia Tech production; singer U. Aamuta from UGA and dancers from Florida State and Spelman College performed at the event.

“It’s great that they brought a bunch of schools together for the event,” said attendee Talya Trudell, a graduate student.

“We do this to showcase our culture to the Tech community. We realize that it doesn’t get exposure in the media, and this helps promote understanding,” said Eden Wernyo, a graduate student in Electrical engineering and member of ASA.

“Since Georgia Tech is such a multicultural environment, I think it really students understand each other,” she said.

“I’ve had discussions with people and they ask, ‘Where are you from?’ What kind of music do you love?’”

The fashion show seemed to be a particular hit with attendees.

“I came just really because I don’t know much about African culture. I liked the fashion show, I’ve never seen these [clothes] before,” said Mitchell Chui, an international student from Hong Kong.

The ASA’s Taste of Africa put on every year by the Georgia Tech ASA.

“It was a really good turnout, a diverse crowd and the house was full. Every year we try to add more variety with the show, like this year you saw we featured the Indian dance, and next year we’ll try to tap into other areas of Africa,” said Karan Chopra, a fourth-year Electrical engineering major and an Executive Board member of ASA.

In the spring, the ASA will host the annual Africa Fest, a concert event held in the Burger Bowl.

“Africa really students understand each other,“ she said.

“I’ve had discussions with people and they ask, ‘Where are you from?’ What kind of music do you love?’”

“Since Georgia Tech is such a multicultural environment, I think it really students understand each other,” she said.

“They do this to showcase our culture to the Tech community. We realize that it doesn’t get exposure in the media, and this helps promote understanding,” said Eden Wernyo, a graduate student in Electrical engineering and member of ASA.

“Since Georgia Tech is such a multicultural environment, I think it really students understand each other.”

African artist or band along with feature presentations by African comedians, dances by African students and last but not least, the ASA’s renowned drama group.

“Since Georgia Tech is such a multicultural environment, I think it really students understand each other,” she said.

“The campus is huge! I have to get on the trolley just to go to the library,” Watkins said.

“All three students agree that the faculty and staff here at Tech have been extremely accommodating.

“[Tech] has done everything they can to make me feel welcome. I have my own office, and I even have my nameplate on the outside. I love them all,” Watkins said.

The Tulane students all plan on going back for the spring semester.

“Tulane will continue to provide financial aid to students on Jan. 9, 2006, and the first day of classes will be Jan. 17.

All of their grades will be reported to Tulane pass/fail, so the different system doesn’t shouldn’t negatively affect their GPA.

“Tulane sanctions on its member organization include reprimand, social probation, intramural probation, suspension and expulsion. Expulsion would be the most serious penalty a chapter could receive, as it would result in the loss of the organization’s charter for an indefinite period of time.”

“The primary disciplinary sanctions which may be given to an organization or individual include reprimand, social probation, intramural probation, fines, philanthropic service, educational programming, suspension and expulsion. Expulsion would be the most serious penalty a chapter could receive, as it would result in the loss of the organization’s charter for an indefinite period of time.”

National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) Judicial Board

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) Judicial Board oversees the historically black fraternities and sororities at Tech. According to the NPHC constitution, the NPHC Judicial Board consists of six justices and a chair. All justices and the chair each case, except those from the accused organization(s).

The NPHC Judicial Board can issue sanctions on its member organizations, ranging in severity from reprimand to a recommendation that the organization’s charter be revoked.

The last three judicial boards report to the Dean of Students, who is responsible for issuing the disciplinary measures.