Next week, SGA elections will be held online at www.elections.gatech.edu between Monday, April 11 and Wednesday, April 13. On the following three pages, you will find profiles of the candidates for the four executive offices of SGA. The content on these pages was written by the candidates themselves to communicate why they believe they should be elected as the next leaders of Tech's student body.

Major: Biology  
Year: Sophomore  
Related Experience:  
- Biology Representative, Science Caucus Chair, SGA Executive Secretary, Georgia Tech Night at Six-Flags, SGA Volunteer, Chairman, Member of NSCS, Connect With Tech Host, MD Walk Volunteer, Tech Buzz Volunteer, Georgia Tech Night at Six-Flags, Student Volunteer, Summer Program Volunteer, Relay for Life Volunteer, Feed the Hungry Volunteer  
- President, School of Public Health Student Volunteer Group Leader.

I'm running for Student Body Vice President because as the only person in Tech with an executive position, I have seen what is expected of the vice president. This experience is what has set me apart and prepared me for this position. I desire to be a part of improving Tech, and as Vice President I would be able to work with the SGA President and Administration by voicing your opinions on current issues and changing policies that affect us as a student body.

As SGA's Secretary, I have worked closely with the Vice President and President on the bill process, in making amendments and recording votes total as well as taking minutes. While in this position, I have experienced the three main duties of the Vice President, running the house meetings, assisting SGA President with his/her duties and initiatives, and attending to the needs of the student body, besides the President, for the student body.

As biology representative in SGA, I worked with the President to get all students who were in need of lab equipment for the biology department. I have been directly involved with Georgia Tech Night at Six Flags, Sting Break, and One Night Stand. I believe in Georgia Tech’s motto, “Progress and Service.” I believe on the ways we can go is to get wireless Internet for our entire campus. I also want service projects to continue through SGA.

I love Georgia Tech and am very passionate about improving this place as SGA Vice President. I want to work on issues like parking registration, on campus safety, and making Georgia Tech Atlanta’s home to students. I have a few changes that I would like to make on good on their promises. I pride myself on following through with everything I discuss in my platform.

Since the 4th job of the Vice President is to run the undergraduate House of Representatives, experience is a necessity for any candidate. Of all the candidates for VP, I clearly have the most experience. My four years of extensive experience have taught me to learn the intricacies of Institute and SGA policy and to meet the movers and shakers on campus. I would be a valuable asset as Vice President.

The first part of my platform is to establish a Student Activity Fund. The endowment would allow the pressure to cut funding from Tier III organizations and allow for the large-scale funding of campus-wide events such as Sting Break and the various comedians and entertainers that students would like to see. The financial future of these events and organizations would be greatly protected by this endowment.

Second, I have worked very hard with the Student Lobby Board that I founded to get the Georgia State Legislature cut all taxes off all textbooks in GA. This would save each student $60-$75 a year and students in this state would save an estimated $20 million every year.

Third, I want to open the Student Center Food Court for dinner and give students a meal plan option they can use there. This would give students an added choice in the evening. I have already spoken with the Student Center leadership and they are open to making this a reality.

Fourth, I want to go throughout the Online Parking System to not only improve the online ticket appeal process, but also to get students the ability to pay their tickets online, saving them time and money when they can avoid the late fees.

I have spent all four years of my time at Tech working in SGA to make Tech a better place, a place that students are happy and willing to call home. It would be an honor to be your next Student Body Vice President and I thank you for your support.

Aaron Bolduc
Paul Byrne
Toyo Sarah Okanlawon
Mark Youngblood

AaronNVP.com
www.pbvp.com
www.votebyou.com
www.votebyou.com

Youthful, energetic, and dedicated, Aaron Bolduc, a Junior from Palmetto, GA, has already begun making a name for himself on campus. Aaron serves as the Student Body Vice President, and is a member of the Georgia Tech Student Senate, and the Student Body Nominations Committee.

Aaron's platform emphasizes several issues, including increasing student involvement in the decision-making process, improving campus safety, and enhancing the student experience. He is dedicated to working closely with the SGA President and administration to ensure that the student voice is heard and valued.

Aaron's related experience includes being the Student Body Vice President, and serving on the Georgia Tech Student Senate. He is also a member of the Student Body Nominations Committee, and is dedicated to ensuring that the student body has a strong voice in the decision-making process.

Aaron is a dedicated student leader who is committed to making a positive impact on the Georgia Tech community. He is passionate about improving campus safety, enhancing the student experience, and increasing student involvement in the decision-making process. He is dedicated to working closely with the SGA President and administration to ensure that the student voice is heard and valued.

Toyo Sarah Okanlawon
Mark Youngblood
Patrick Cook

SGA Experience:
- Vice President of Administrative Affairs summer 2005-spring 2006
- Member, Undergraduate Advisory Board
- Member, Search Committee for Dean of Students
- Member, Mandatory Student Fee Allocation Committee
- Member, Academic Affairs Committee
- Co-chair, Environmental Policy Major Committee

Alisa Graab

SGA Experience:
- Vice President of Administrative Affairs summer 2005-spring 2006
- Member, Undergraduate Advisory Board
- Member, Search Committee for Dean of Students
- Member, Mandatory Student Fee Allocation Committee
- Member, Academic Affairs Committee
- Co-chair, Environmental Policy Major Committee

William G. Ferguson

SGA Experience:
- Vice President of Administrative Affairs summer 2005-spring 2006
- Member, Undergraduate Advisory Board
- Member, Search Committee for Dean of Students
- Member, Mandatory Student Fee Allocation Committee
- Member, Academic Affairs Committee
- Co-chair, Environmental Policy Major Committee

Richard Wright

Quick Points
- Well-versed in the workings of the Student Government and able to represent your voice.
- Was the top vote-getter in the recent SGA elections.
- Has a proven track record of success in elected office.

Your SGA Platform

Welcome to my campaign for Student Government President! I am confident that I can provide a new perspective and a fresh approach to the challenges facing our campus.

My first priority as your next president will be to ensure that Georgia Tech is a place where students can thrive. I will be committed to providing all students with the resources they need to succeed.

I believe that every student deserves the opportunity to learn and grow. I will work to ensure that Georgia Tech is a place where students can reach their full potential.

I will fight for budget transparency and accountability. I will ensure that every dollar is spent wisely and in the best interest of our students.

I will be an advocate for student needs and concerns. I will be available to listen and work with students to find solutions to their problems.

I am your advocate for the future.

Thank you for your support.

Your SGA President
William G. Ferguson

For more information, please visit my campaign website at www.beerchamp.com/ferg
When I was elected vice president of the graduate student body last year, I immediately set out to delve into the issues surrounding graduate student health insurance. I quickly found myself sitting on a Board of Regents task force that was procuring a system-wide health insurance plan. We succeeded in our goal, and beginning in Fall 2006, graduate students will have access to an improved health insurance plan with reasonable premiums. However, the battle has just begun. Now that we have procured quality health insurance for our graduate students, we need to help make Georgia Tech’s offerings as competitive as those provided at other institutions across the country. Namely, we must secure funding from the State of Georgia to subsidize graduate assistant health insurance premiums. If elected, from my first day on the job as graduate student body president, I will work with the Georgia Tech administration, the Board of Regents, and the Georgia legislature to secure the funding that we need in this area.

Another problem facing graduate students here at Tech is high semester start up costs. Each semester, we must pay for tuition, fees, and health insurance all up front. Not to mention that students residing on campus must pay for a full semester’s rent, and those having cars to park on campus must pay for parking in August. If elected, I will work to reduce the semester start up cost as much as possible by allowing graduate assistants to opt for monthly payroll deduction for some of these expenses. Many steps were taken in this direction during the past year, and I feel that my continued involvement will be essential in succeeding in this important area.

Health insurance and semester start up costs are only two of the issues facing Georgia Tech graduate students. If elected, I will improve lines of communication with graduate students across campus to learn about their concerns. I will also ensure that Graduate SGA works with the administration to resolve those issues and make Georgia Tech better place to pursue graduate studies. We are on our way to establishing a graduate student-ombudsman, a neutral third party graduate students can consult if they are uncomfortable speaking with an administrator in their department. We must also work to ensure that graduate assistant stipends keep pace with the cost of attending Georgia Tech and the cost of living in Atlanta.

Of course not everything that we as graduate students do here at Georgia Tech involves academics. The Graduate SGA plays an important role in fostering interdepartmental interactions between our graduate students. The Graduate Student Picnic has been a long term success, and the Graduate Student Research Symposium is off to a good start. If elected, I will not only ensure that these programs continue but that they get even better. Graduate SGA should also work with groups on campus that plan events to ensure that the focus is given to how campus-wide events can best include graduate students and their families.

I have spent the last two years working on behalf of graduate students here at Georgia Tech and believe that I am uniquely qualified to serve as your next graduate student body president. During the past two years, I have developed relationships with administration across the campus and the university system that will enable me to achieve many things on behalf of graduate students. If graduate students, faculty, staff, and administrators work together, we can accomplish much in the coming year. I’m ready to take the next step in working for graduate students and sincerely hope to have your support April 10-12.
Thank you for attending the 2006 Black Leadership Conference! The African American Student Union would like to thank everyone for supporting our third annual conference. You’re continued support made this event an amazing success and we would like to extend an invitation for all students to attend our fourth annual conference.

BLC 2007

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