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Candidates display potential at SGA forum

Potential officers debate tuition, new student union

By TRAVIS STEWART
Staff Reporter

Candidates for the Student Government Association presidency were split Thursday over how to curb TCU's rising annual tuition costs.

Current SGA president David Watson mediated Thursday's debate, which included four of the six can-

didates discussing campus issues. Candidate John Campbell was absent, and Neal Jackson withdrew Sunday for personal reasons.

Although candidate Sheldon Pearson, a senior finance major, called high tuition costs a "losing cause," the other candidates had ideas for solving the problem.

Glenton Richards, a senior radio-TV-film major, said TCU needs to adopt either a two or four-year locked-in rate. He said this will prevent another 8 percent to 10 percent tuition

jump, which has happened each of the last three years.

Junior accounting and finance major Ryan Panno said any kind of locked-in rate would not come into effect until after a majority of the present student body had already graduated. Panno advocated a capped rate instead, which would prevent tuition from increasing more than a specific set percentage every year.

Trevor Heaney, a junior entrepreneurial management and finance major, said either

of the plans would work, but a four-year locked-in rate would most likely be out of the question.

"It's not really feasible to say that we're going to be able to lock tuition rates for four years in just one year," Heaney said.

One thing all four candidates did agree on, however, was that they were in favor of increasing the \$20 student fee included in tuition costs that is paid to SGA and used to finance student events.

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Emily Goodson / Photo Editor

Student Government Association President David Watson poses questions Thursday to SGA presidential candidates Glenton Richards, a senior radio-TV-film major; Ryan Panno, a junior accounting and finance major; and Trevor Heaney, a junior entrepreneurial management and finance major, during a debate in the Student Center Lounge.

Fast food frenzy



Alisha Brown / Staff Photojournalist

Junior communication studies major Chase Ortiz, sophomore finance and accounting major Eric Tabone, and a senior communication studies and English major James Hodges compete in a sandwich eating contest at Potbelly on Thursday night. Check out the story online at www.tcdailyskiff.com.

Student leaders favor tuition cap

Intercom presents issues to trustees

By AMY WILLEY
Staff Reporter

Intercom presented various topics to the Student Relations Committee Board of Trustees on Thursday in the Kelly Alumni Center, but tuition was on the minds of most.

Intercom is a group of students, mostly presidents from different organizations, who present issues every year to the Board of Trustees.

Lance Kearns, president of Hyperfrogs, presented an alternative plan for setting tuition: a capped increase rate.

"A capped rate would guarantee that students' tuition would not increase at more than an agreed upon rate every year beginning freshman year," Kearns said.

The committee was given tuition control measures used by universities, students' views on tuition and what Intercom heard from administration about a capped increase rate.

Kearns said the rate was introduced to the committee because it is always a concern to students.

"(Intercom) sees this proposal as a compromise between students' needs to keep tuition low and the board's need to increase tuition for revenue purposes," Kearns said.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Don Mills said the idea is workable, but

questions if it is wise.

Other issues presented to the committee were centralized academic advising, a community outreach center, an educational entrepreneurship fund and "the buzz" on campus.

Centralized academic advising was introduced by Whitney Merritt, president of Panhellenic Council, as a solution to the problems of the current academic advising.

Merritt said academic advising created an unbalanced proportion in student and faculty advising ratio and said permanent advisers are not assigned until a few weeks into fall semester. Centralized advising would allow first-year students to have continuity from academic orientation to the first weeks of class, she said.

Tiffany Baack, vice president of Programming Council, added that the Community Outreach Center should be moved to 2990 W. Berry St. because it would be a convenient location. The center's purpose, Baack said, is to provide students with practical experience and community service.

Student Government Association President Dave Watson further proposed the educational entrepreneurship fund.

The fund allows student teams to consult business alumni and professors while creating ideas, Watson said.

The members of the Student Relations Committee Board of Trustees were unavailable for comment.

Fans 'think pink' for breast cancer awareness

Percent of ticket sales to go to fund

By LANA HUNT
Staff Reporter

TCU fans are trading in their signature purple attire for a day and replacing it with all things pink.

In an effort to raise money for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, the athletics marketing department decided to "think pink," telling fans to wear pink to Saturday's football game against Colorado State.

"We wanted to marry TCU to a nonprofit organization in order to do something good for local people," said Jeff Crane, director of athletics marketing.

TCU is raising money by donating \$5 to \$10 of each ticket sold to the Komen Foundation.

Also, the TCU Bookstore is giving the foundation all of the profits from Pink Out T-shirts and hats, manager Lliisa Lewis said.

"All proceeds will be given to the local affiliate of the Komen Foundation," Crane said.

The Komen Foundation is

dedicated to education and research on the causes, treatment and search for a cure for breast cancer.

Some students said that Pink Out is a good idea because breast cancer is something a lot of people can relate to.

Because breast cancer affects so many people, it is widely known, and people want to help in any way they can, said Catherine Boone, a senior art history and anthropology major.

"People can get involved just by going to the game," Boone said.



Emily Goodson / Photo Editor

This is the first year the athletics department has hosted Pink Out.

"I think that says a lot about TCU," Sarah Thompson, a sophomore accounting major, said.

"It's a great opportunity to raise

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Panel: Proposition 2 not Christian

Crowd gathers to listen to discussion

By BETH WREFORD
Staff Reporter

More than 50 people crowded into the Brown-Lupton Student Center Lounge on Thursday night to hear four professors voice their views that Proposition 2 not only denies U.S. citizens their fundamental rights but also goes against the Christian principles supporters use to defend it.

Stephen Sprinkle, an associate professor of practical theology at Brite Divinity School, said the public misunderstands much of Proposition 2, which will ban gay marriage in Texas

if passed and uses faulty religious reasons to defend it.

"Early church leaders said all sexual behavior was sinful," Sprinkle said.

Sprinkle pointed out that the church said in past years that slavery was acceptable and that a man could not be a Christian and serve in the military.

"Today the church teaches sexuality is a gift from God," Sprinkle said. "Changes are a result from applying the changes that come with mutual love, respect and justice. To act contemptuously and self-righteously toward anyone is un-Christian."

Sprinkle quoted state Rep. Senfronia Thompson's speech made in front of the State Legislature saying Proposi-

tion 2 is about hate.

Thompson, as paraphrased by Sprinkle, said she never read a Bible verse that said gay people can't marry or that people should discriminate against those not like them.

Christie Neuger, professor of pastoral theology and pastoral counseling at Brite, said many people view gay and lesbian marriages as a threat to the institution of marriage, but many straight couples are cracking under the stress of marriage.

Allowing gay couples to marry, Neuger said, offers committed couples the crucial protection of legal rights and the support of just knowing they're married.

"God loves diversity," more on PANEL, page 2

Gay marriage divides students

Texans to vote Tuesday on fate of Proposition 2

By JANELLE STECKLEIN
Staff Reporter

TCU students are getting involved, taking sides and promoting awareness of an amendment dealing with same-sex marriage that voters will decide on Tuesday.

"(The proposition) is taking a lot of rights away from a lot of people," said Joanna Bernal, a sophomore news-editorial journalism major and a member of the TCU Gay-Straight Alliance.

"I just feel that the govern-

ment should focus more on

things like education," she said. "They should focus their time more on things that are needed instead of things that are already being handled."

The proposed amendment, which would ban gay marriage in Texas by adding a definition of marriage into the Texas Constitution, has generated heated debate.

Critics say there is no need for the amendment because Texas already bans gay mar-

riage by law.

Supporters, however, say if the amendment is approved by voters and added into the constitution, it will be more difficult for courts to overturn.

If passed, Texas would join more than a dozen states that have adopted similar propositions into their constitutions.

In response to the debate, Gay-Straight Alliance is helping promote the "No Nonsense in November" campaign — a statewide campaign designed to promote awareness of Proposition 2.

The campaign is led by former Texas Rep. Glen Maxey, an openly gay legislator.

Bayliss Camp, an assis- more on VOTE, page 2