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GW trustees approve 4.9% tuition hike

by Mosheh Oinounou
News Editor

GW's Board of Trustees approved a 4.9 percent tuition hike Friday, raising tuition and fees to \$27,820. The majority of the extra money will pay back facilities debts and staff pay raises.

When added to room and board, the GW pricetag is now \$36,930 for incoming freshmen and sophomores and is set to top \$40,000 in two years at the current rate.

With a 23 percent tuition jump coupled with a 20 percent increase in room and board in the past five years, the incoming freshmen class will pay almost \$7,000 more than members of the class of 2002 did when they arrived at GW.

GW will cost more than Cornell and Yale universities and the University of Chicago for the

second year in a row.

Tuition accounts for about 73 percent of the University's revenue, according to the Office of the Vice President and Treasurer's 2003 budget. Officials said at a student leaders meeting Wednesday that GW needs to raise tuition while it works at increasing alumni giving and its endowment.

This year's boost breaks with a 13-year trend of declining tuition hikes and is the highest increase in four years. GW raised tuition 4.4 percent last year.

The tuition increase is expected to pour more than \$19 million into the University budget. GW plans to increase spending by \$36 million.

Almost half of the budget increase is set aside for facilities and debt repayment, while another 20 percent will go to professor and administrative staff

increases.

About \$6 million will be allocated for faculty and staff raises, one million more than last year. The raise will boost professors pay checks by almost 4 percent, said Don Boselovic, GW assistant vice president for finance.

Financial aid will also receive its greatest boost in three years with another \$10 million to hand out to students.

Student Financial Assistance Director Dan Small said Wednesday that students who already receive aid will see the bulk of the increase as the University raises its maximum grant \$2,000 to \$23,000.

Boselovic said the University normally sets aside a portion of every tuition increase for financial aid.

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Tuition Increase 2002-03

	2001-02	2002-03	Increase
Tuition & Fees (Entering Fall '01 or later)	\$26,520	\$27,820	4.9%
Tuition & Fees (Entering Fall '00 or earlier)	\$26,170	\$27,460	4.9%
Room	\$6,130	\$6,610	7.8%
Food	\$2,700	\$2,500	-7.4%
.....			
Estimated Cost (Entering Fall '01 or later)	\$35,350	\$36,930	4.5%
Estimated Cost (Entering Fall '00 or earlier)	\$35,000	\$36,570	4.5%

source: Office of Vice President and Treasurer



Comedienne Margaret Cho performs for a packed Smith Center Saturday night as part of Winter Hoopla.

photo illustration by Brandon Perlman/Hatchet photographer

Cho entertains at Smith Center

by Elizabeth Maxwell
and Amanda Mantone
Hatchet Reporters

Stand-up comedienne Margaret Cho returned to campus for her fifth GW performance as part of her "Notorious C.H.O." tour Saturday night, entertaining students with tales of alcohol abuse, eating disorders, sex and drag queens in the Smith Center.

"It kind of freaked me out a little bit," freshman Jeremy Stadelman said. "It was more gross than funny."

Up for a Grammy for her most recent comedy album, *I'm the One that I Want*, Cho said she now wants to devote her time completely to stand-up comedy.

The Smith Center was packed with bead-wearing students, who were given Mardi Gras beads upon

entry. The event sold more than 3,000 tickets, and adults were noticeably absent.

A San Francisco native who was in New York on Sept. 11, Cho spoke about her personal experience, joking about snorting white anthrax powder if discovered in a letter and performing sexual favors for New York City's rescue workers.

Cho mixed comedy with political commentary, joking that she has learned mostly about sex from her gay male friends and drag queens, but also mentioning gay friends who had recently died from AIDS.

She speculated about male menstruation, which drew roars from the audience. Cho's ability to impersonate different voices also drew many laughs.

Cho discussed her colon hydrotherapy in detail, which

prompted confusion and even discomfort from students.

A single woman, Cho likened husbands to tattoos and said she wished they could be removable "like henna."

She also openly discussed her personal struggles, specifically the eating disorders anorexia and bulimia. She blamed her father for her eating disorders, which brought a marked silence from the audience.

Cho frequently mentioned her mother, impersonating her mom's voice while joking about her views and personality.

Cho has spent 17 years touring, acting and hosting a short-lived television show called "All American Girl." She also had guest appearance on "Sex and the City" last season and

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Panel plans SJS review

by Elizabeth Crawford and Joseph Pollak
Hatchet Staff Writers

SA Executive Vice President Josh Singer said there are "a ton of problems inherent in the judicial system" at GW and asked the Joint Committee of Faculty and Students to begin a process of reforming the Student Code of Conduct at a Friday meeting.

"I want to see a fundamental change in the total procedures and the way that (Student Judicial Services) hear cases," Singer said.

Singer said he wants to eliminate minimum sanctions for offenses and increase publicity of SJS policies so students can be "better informed and understand their rights."

"Right now the sanctions don't fit the charges," Singer said.

SJS considers sanctions it imposes confidential and has declined repeated requests to release monthly reports of charges and the sanctions that resulted.

Interim SJS Director Sarah Janczuk was unavailable for comment on Singer's criticism. Former SJS Director David Pine and Assistant Director Emily Walker resigned this year for personal reasons.

But SJS Hearing Board members said students should be confident in the system.

See COMMITTEE, p. 7

Web unfit for housing

by Trevor Martin
News Assistant

When students log on to GWeb Feb. 24 to choose housing for next year, they might not be able to pick the exact room they want, GW officials told the Residence Hall Association Friday.

RHA President Noel Frame said Housing Services Director Andrew Sonn told her Friday that BannerWeb will only allow students to select a room size and building and not specific rooms.

The RHA plans to propose a resolution that would bring the housing selection process back to its live version in J Street rather than the currently planned online selection if the University is unable to change the format of the online program.

"The University is choosing technology at the

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