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# The GW Hatchet

AN INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER • WWW.GWHATCHET.COM

VOL. 99 No. 27

SERVING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY SINCE 1904

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2002

## INS beefs up tracking

■ University to provide foreign student information

by **Andrea Nurko**  
Hatchet Reporter

GW officials have yet to subscribe the University to a new federal tracking system that keeps tabs on foreign students. The system, which was instated in response to Sept. 11, will force all colleges and universities participating in foreign exchange programs to report students' activities to Immigration Naturalization Services.

University officials said they are "confident" GW will meet the Jan. 30 deadline. They also said that the University has not registered because the government is still working out "technical problems" with the program. The system is set to start tracking students Jan. 1, giving schools about a month-long grace period to sign up, according to the Chronicle of Higher Education.

"GW will apply within the appropriate time frame," said Susan D'Amico, associate director of international services. "Established institutions that have been diligent in following the law should not encounter problems with the approval process."

D'Amico said GW has concerns about the method universities and INS will be using to exchange required information.

The computerized program, Student and Exchange Visitor Information System, will trace students temporarily staying in the United States on visas. The need for a system arose from the first attack on the World Trade Center in 1993 because one of the terrorists involved in the bombing was on a student visa, INS

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Vietnam war veteran Ken Trautman traced the name of his best friend Thomas Riley on the Vietnam War Memorial Saturday. Thousands of Americans made their way to the national monuments for Veterans Day weekend. See Around D.C., p. 3.

Andrew Snow/photo editor

## Sens. say step down

by **Alex Kingsbury**  
and **Mosheh Oinounou**  
News Editors

As the Student Association prepares for an emergency town hall meeting Monday to address recent scandals, unofficial letters are circulating within the SA Senate calling for the resignation of senior student government leaders.

Senators have also personally called for the resignations of Sens. J.P. Blackford (G-SEAS) and Dan Moss (U-SBPM).

Sen. Nina Kollars (G-ESIA) said she will resign her position this week if Blackford does not.

"I need Senator Blackford to step down," she said, calling resignation an "appropriate sanction."

A Lafayette Hall community facilitator, Kollars said there is a conflict of interest between her role as a CF and her role as a senator in light of the possibility that SA funds were used either to buy or to support an unregistered party at which alcohol was distributed to minors.

"It's an ethical dilemma on my part ... a contradiction I can't resolve," Kollars said. "If we can't be an example of upholding the University's rules, who can?"

Though Kollars acknowledged that Blackford, a nine-year senator, has been "invaluable" to the Senate, she said, "that doesn't mean that he shouldn't be held accountable."

Kollars is joined by at least four other senators in calling for Blackford's resignation. Sens. Adam Greenman (U-CCAS), Mark Hershfield (Law), Omar Woodard (U-ESIA) and Rodney Zwahlen (Law) all said Blackford should resign.

Greenman, Hershfield and

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## University adds program

■ GW may require incoming classes to take writing courses

by **Rachel Gould**  
Student Life Editor

An initiative in the works will replace English 10 and 11 next fall with freshman writing workshops and will add "writing intensive" courses for upperclassmen, officials said. Administrators said the new curriculum will give freshmen with different skill levels the same "base knowledge" and get them more interested in learning.

Neither requirement would affect current students.

The freshman workshop would be similar to English 10 and

11 but last only one semester and focus more closely on one field of study, officials said. Upperclassmen would also be required to take two courses that include a regular three-credit course and a two-credit writing development workshop.

"Writing is a way to get students more actively engaged," said English professor and director for the Major Advising Program Linda Salamon, who served on the writing program task force.

For example, psychology majors could choose to take their writing intensive course in the psychology department; they would learn writing skills and research methods applicable to psychology.

The proposed program would also include a "capstone writing experience" in the student's major similar to a senior thesis.

All students would have a portfolio of their work at the end of their college years, said Vice President for Academic Affairs Donald Lehman, who chaired the initiative.

Lehman announced the program, which officials said will hopefully be ready for a small portion of incoming freshmen this fall, last May.

Lehman said he plans to randomly assign one-third of next year's incoming freshmen to the seminars instead of English 10 and 11 so the University can test the

## On call with EMeRG

by **Robyn Keyster**  
Hatchet Reporter

During a quiet night for the Emergency Medical Response Group, three team members left their office at the Marvin Center parking garage to answer their first and only call of the evening Friday.

At 3:45 a.m., two well-dressed, intoxicated male students attempted to talk their way out of University Police questioning about their actions during the evening. The two male students allegedly started an argument with a taxi driver across the street from the Marvin Center before outside help was summoned.

"We're usually all over campus and we rarely have a night

with just one call," said senior Kelly Schirmer, EMeRG crew chief for the night shift. "This is really unusual." She said there are usually about four to five calls a night.

EMeRG, GW's 24-hour emergency response service, was started in 1996 and has more than 60 volunteer members. All students must be certified Emergency Medical Technician-Basics, a rank they can achieve either through prior certification or through a GW course. Volunteers must also complete an additional University-sponsored course.

Members often perform CPR, splint broken bones, stabilize patients on backboards and use ambulance equipment.

Friday's response team first checked the two students' full set

of "vital signs," including blood pressure and pulse rate, "so we knew exactly what we (were) dealing with," Schirmer said.

The patients had to try to walk a straight line to demonstrate their levels of intoxication.

"Most patients are 100 percent cooperative; they realize that we're here to help and nothing else," Schirmer said.

After about 15 minutes of filling out forms and attempting to walk a straight line, the students at the H Street scene were handed over to UPD for questioning.

Although students in unstable conditions are immediately rushed to the GW Hospital, the two students returned to their residence

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Jeff Baum/Hatchet photographer

EMeRG members senior Kim Stambler and freshman Marc Berenson treat an intoxicated student Friday night.

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