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Andrew Snow/photo assistant

Senior Karunya Manikonda (l.) and sophomore Ruby Jain mimic the actions of a peacock at the Bhangra Blowout, an annual South Asian dance competition, as GW took another trophy Saturday.

GW wins Bhangra title Annual dance Blowout attracts thousands

by Samantha Saifer
Hatchet Staff Writer

Radiant costumes and rhythmic music filled Constitution Hall Saturday night as students celebrated GW's win at the South Asian Society's 9th Annual Bhangra Blowout.

GW won the 10-school competition for the third time since 1995, the most wins of any one

team in the history of the competition. The University of Maryland won last year.

Ten Bhangra groups from colleges all over the country and Canada joined the dance competition this year to raise money for South Asian charities and the South Asian Society Scholarship. The scholarship was established in 1998 with event proceeds. Money figures were unavailable by Sunday night.

The Blowout, co-sponsored by the Student Association and funded by club sponsors, started with an all-day carnival in the Smith Center and ended with an official Blowout afterparty at the Old Post Office Pavilion.

Bhangra is a form of folk music and dance that originated in village regions of India and

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SBPM loses prof to cancer

by Elizabeth Crawford
Hatchet Staff Writer

Geza Peter Lauter, a dedicated GW professor for 34 years and chairman of the department of international business, died March 29 of intestinal cancer after fighting for four days what was thought to be only a severe case of the flu.

Lauter reported being ill at the start of the week March 25. Although he canceled his Monday and Tuesday classes, he was in the office Thursday preparing his lessons for his Saturday class on the Virginia Campus despite still feeling sick.

"The fact he was here on that Thursday is a sign of his dedication," said Kevin Stephenson, Lauter's co-worker as the administrative manager in the International Business Department. "In spite of his illness, he was here and taking responsibility of his obligations and doing things. He had a sense of duty to his job, and he was very dedicated to that."

Lauter, who first came to GW in 1968 as an assistant professor of business administration after



Courtesy School of Business and Public Management

Professor Geza Peter Lauter died March 29 after a bout with intestinal cancer.

earning his Ph.D. from the UCLA school of business management, gave a lot to his students and expected a lot in return. He always demanded high standards of academic performance and met that with his own strong dedication to his teaching and to his students, Stephenson said.

"He loved his profession, and he loved teaching," said Birhane Yigezu, who worked with Lauter as the secretary in the

International Business Department for the past seven years.

"He was a gentleman and always very respectful to everyone. He was a very excellent professor, and his students liked him very much," Yigezu said.

In 1972, Lauter earned tenure with the business school, during which he taught graduate courses in business management and marketing.

Twenty years later, he traveled to the Budapest University of Economics as a senior Fulbright scholar. He traveled to Hungary to research the business privatization of Eastern European countries and to develop the curriculum for his course on "The New Global Competitive Framework" that he taught Mondays and Tuesdays with professor Scheherazade Rehman at GW.

The course focused on the European Union's "single market," or the development of competitive industries within a global framework. It also examined the changing Japanese economy

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Students dispute SMPA major fee

by Erin Gamble and Amanda Mantone
Hatchet Staff Writers

As student majors in the School of Media and Public Affairs grumble about a \$1,000 fee that will become a permanent addition to their yearly GW tuition bills, GW Vice President and Treasurer Louis Katz says that students are misinterpreting the purpose of the added cost.

Katz said the fee, which was started last spring, is needed in order for the school to remain competitive and may increase as the school gains prestige.

"You have to charge what is a competitive price to get the quality of student needed for a better program," Katz said.

Students majoring in political communication, journalism or electronic media will pay \$28,790 in tuition in 2002-03, compared to GW's general tuition rate of \$27,790 for next year. Students minoring in

one of the three disciplines pay an extra \$500.

The Student Association passed a resolution against the fee in 2000 after expressing concern that the fee would deter some students from applying to the program.

While SMPA interim Director Jarol Manheim said the money from the fee goes to building technology, Katz said the fee is split between facilities, curriculum and technology.

"The fee is applied, and all of the money collected from it is used to support, maintain and replace all the equipment in the SMPA," Manheim said.

Many students said they do not benefit from the equipment because it is not useful in their major or they do not have access to it.

Sophomore Suzanne Jordan said most of the equipment in the building is useless to her because she is a political communication

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Faculty reacts to complaint line

by Artemy Kalinovsky
Hatchet Reporter

GW professors at Friday's Faculty Senate meeting called for the University to immediately disconnect a phone number anyone can call to file an anonymous complaint about a faculty member.

Professors unanimously passed a resolution condemning the line, reiterating a previous demand that it be disconnected because they said it infringes on academic freedom within the University.

A similar resolution was passed a month ago, but senators said GW Vice President and Treasurer Louis Katz did not act on it. The number was still in

operation during Friday's meeting.

Lilien Robinson, chairwoman of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, said she did not receive a response from Katz until Friday morning.

"We would like to see the line immediately suspended so that it can be studied," Robinson said.

Katz wrote in a letter addressed to Robinson that he did not consider the line to be a problem on April 11.

"I continue to believe that the general operation of the compliance program and compliance line are laudable and not objectionable," Katz wrote.

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Andrew Snow/photo assistant

NATIONAL COVERAGE
Sophomore Ben Schmidt is interviewed by Darcy Spencer of NBC News 4 as he made posters with about 100 students at Hillel Sunday in preparation for the Monday Pro-Israel rally outside the U.S. Capitol. It is expected to garner more than 20,000 supporters.

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