“Tuition Runs Out Day”
CAMPUS NEWS
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Xavier University tuition funds ran out Tuesday, April 5 — hypothetically.

Each year, the Student Alumni Association (SAA) hosts an event known Tuition Runs Out Day, or T.R.O.D., two-thirds through the school year to symbolize that tuition only covers approximately 66 percent of the cost to run the university.

While most Xavier students soundly slumbered or furiously crammed for an 8:30 test, a few dozen were hard at work at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday. SAA members covered campus in bright yellow signs before the first classes began.

Along any walking path to classes, Gallagher and even the police station, these signs educated students about alumni supplements to tuition dollars, without which our Xavier experience would be dramatically different.

“We are encouraging students to think about why they love about their Xavier Experience and recognize that it would not be possible without support and donations from Alumni,” said junior Brianne Pelletier, SAA historian and TROD executive chair. “This also encourages students to give back once they become alumni, making that experience possible for someone else.”

Though this annual event continued traditions of yellow signs and free City BBQ, the 2011 T.R.O.D. also featured new additions. After receiving a grant from the Women of Excellence Giving Circle last spring, SAA splurged for extra entertainment and 500 free t-shirts.

“T-shirts are a great addition because they are a free gift that students love but also serve as advertisement and a reminder to the students who wear them and see them around campus all year long,” said club president Emily Mowery, senior.

Students, faculty and staff enjoyed a bounce house, corn hole tournaments, a special appearance by the Blue Blob and performances by Xavier groups HarmonX and Acabellas.

Another key component to T.R.O.D. requires all event attendees to fill out a thank you post card prior to getting food. These post cards are then mailed to alumni donors as a small acknowledgment that their contributions make a difference in students’ lives.

 “Giving back may not always be able to be through monetary donations for some people,” said Emily Mowery. “So even if someone cannot give back to the university by giving money we encourage they give back by sharing their time and talents with the Xavier students and community.”