

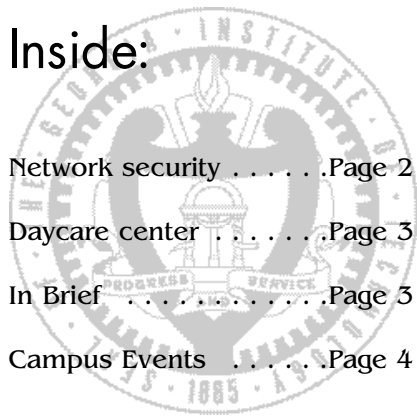
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THE WHISTLE

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THE GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Security breach leaves employees vulnerable to fraud

Financial system files involving reimbursement vouchers exposed

Michael Hagearty
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

In the early morning hours of Sunday, March 10, computer hackers circumvented Georgia Tech server security and gained illegal access to a server in the business office.

An ensuing investigation reveals that the system was used as an illegal file transfer protocol (FTP) site and appears to have been used to distribute large digital files. The intrusion also resulted in the downloading of some 350 gigabytes of data from that server, giving the

intruder an opportunity to view files that were on the server.

There are potentially serious ramifications, specifically to those who have submitted travel or reimbursement vouchers since July 1, 2000. Though the Institute has already taken steps to limit access to this information, Joel Hercik, associate vice president of Financial Services, said the foremost concern is the integrity of any personal information that may have been accessed.

"This compromise of several of our financial system files is a matter of great concern, especially as it may impact individual faculty and staff," Hercik said. "While we are hopeful the financial and personal data contained in some supporting imaged documentation is not readily usable, we are responding to a

Security continued, page 2

How to protect yourself:

1. Contact the credit reporting agencies and tell them that your personal information may have been compromised and request a credit report. The three agencies are listed below. There is no need to pay anyone to obtain this information, unless you want to receive it in an expedited fashion. This is a free service.

Equifax: 800-525-6285

Experian: 888-397-3742

TransUnion: 800-680-7289

2. Contact your credit card companies and inform them that your credit card number may be compromised. The phone number for your company should be on the back of each credit card. If not, contact the financial institution through which you received the card.

3. A Web site has been established specifically for this issue, with additional information and links to other sites, at www.fraud_concern.gatech.edu.

4. For specific queries, a new e-mail address has also been established: fraud@gatech.edu. You may also contact Judy Whitfield in Procurement Services at 894-9054. Due to call volume, however, be advised there may be problems getting through.

Committee begins search for new dean of Computing

Hopes to have position filled by fall

Michael Hagearty
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

For the first time in its history, the College of Computing has begun the search for a new dean.

Appointed by Provost Jean-Lou Chameau, members of the advisory search committee have the task of recommending a replacement to the position vacated by Dean Peter Freeman in May. The 12 members represent a cross section of faculty, staff, students and external partners.

"In only 10 years, the College of Computing has experienced tremendous growth and brought first-rate professors to Georgia Tech," Chameau said. "I have complete confidence in this committee's ability to find a leader who not only has impeccable credentials, but also the vision to continue developing the College's

reputation as a leading center for education and research."

The search committee held its first official meeting at the end of February, and its first task was to approve copy for an advertisement that will appear in professional magazines around the country over the next two months.

"The College has made great strides in advancing the quality and stature of its programs under Peter Freeman's leadership," said Richard Fujimoto, who chairs the search committee. "We are seeking an individual with a strong commitment to education, a distinguished record of research, and the administrative skills necessary to lead the College to the next level of accomplishment."

Fujimoto added that he and the committee hoped to have a new dean selected by this fall. Though the committee has not hired a professional organization to aid in the search, it is still an option for certain aspects of the process.

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Former President Jimmy Carter to speak on campus

Will receive award during IAC Founder's Day

Elizabeth Campell
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

On Friday, March 22, former President Jimmy Carter will be awarded the 2002 Ivan Allen Jr. Prize for Progress and Service, the Ivan Allen College of liberal arts, celebrates its Founder's Day by awarding the former President the second Ivan Allen Jr. Prize. Last year, Senator Zell Miller received the first Prize, named in honor of former Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr. ('33), the College's namesake. The campus is invited to hear President Carter speak about "An Open Society in an Age of Terrorism" at 1 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom.

In addition, Ivan Allen College invites the campus to a panel discussion on "Civil Liberties in an Age of Terrorism" that morning from



9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in the Student Center Theater. The distinguished panel includes the Honorable Marvin Shoob, senior judge, U.S. District Court; Adbullahi A. An-Na'im, professor, Emory University School of Law; and Stefan Aust, chief editor, Der Spiegel, the major German weekly newsmagazine. Miles O'Brien, CNN's morning anchor, will moderate.

Long-awaited childcare center soon to be a reality

Elizabeth Campell
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

This month, Georgia Tech and the Home Park Community begin work on a new, fully accredited childcare center, which is tentatively scheduled to open for faculty, staff, students and Home Park residents in early 2003. The current building, a former city-owned community center converted into a neighborhood childcare center in 1985, will be demolished to make room for the center, leaving the neighboring park intact.

Over the years, different groups have attempted to create a campus childcare center. In 1997, more than 5,000 surveys were distributed to faculty, staff and students to ascertain the level of interest in providing childcare services for the Tech community. Survey results indicated an overwhelming response in favor of childcare. Within the last two years, an additional opinion survey was conducted by a top childcare management company to determine the feasibility of providing childcare services on or near campus. The results of this survey confirmed the findings of earlier campus surveys favoring campus childcare services.

In October 1998 the Institute received a request from the Home Park Community Improvement Association (HPCIA) soliciting financial support to renovate the existing Home Park Learning Center. After consulting with various childcare support groups on campus, a mandate from President Wayne Clough established the current Childcare Committee led by Chuck Donbaugh, associate vice president of Human Resources (OHR), and Jean Fuller, director of Employee Services. After an engineering firm examined the existing facility, the committee determined that rebuilding the facility would be more cost effective.

"As our campus population has changed with younger faculty, more female faculty and



A rendering of the Home Park Learning Center, slated to open in early 2003.

graduate students, the need for a quality childcare program becomes critical," said President Clough. "When recruiting young faculty and staff, a childcare center is a major competitive advantage."

During the past three years a childcare partnership was established with HPCIA. Tech representatives have facilitated and attended meetings with representatives of HPCIA to bring the project to fruition — including the city's Office of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, numerous city building and zoning regulation offices, and the Mayor's Office.

The one-story childcare center will be located at 1015 Tumlin Street, near the intersection of Tenth and State Streets. The center is designed for 120 children from 6 weeks in age to pre-school. According to the agreement with Home Park, 80 percent of the spaces are reserved for the Tech community and 20 percent for Home Park community residents.

The building and childcare program will be accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the nation's largest and most influential organization for early childhood educators.

The new childcare center is a unique partnership between Georgia Tech, HPCIA and the city of Atlanta. The city owns the property and the current building, which serves the Home Park community. Georgia

Tech and HPCIA formed a non-profit corporation called Home Park Learning Center, Inc. (HPLC) to enter into a long-term, 30-year lease with the city and to hire a professional childcare management company to operate the childcare program. The HPLC board has awarded a contract to Bright Horizons Family Solutions, one of the top childcare management companies in the United States, to manage the Center.

"In the nearly 30 years the Home Park community has been operating a childcare center, the majority of enrollment has come from Tech families, so this partnership is a natural fit that helps us meet many of our goals," said Tim State, president of HPCIA.

"This joint childcare project with the Home Park Community is an exciting and positive step in Institute/Community partnering," said Bob Thompson, senior vice president of Administration and Finance. "We have several other joint ventures in the planning stages and look forward to a strong community relationship with the Home Park neighborhood."

"We're taking a non-traditional approach as a public employer entering into a long-term agreement with a neighborhood association and the city of Atlanta to construct a childcare center," said Donbaugh. "It will be a first-rate educational program and facility for both Georgia Tech and neighboring Home Park."

IN BRIEF:

Industry Contracting gets new manager

Following an extensive search, Jilda Garton, associate vice provost for Research, has announced the selection of **Jim Berkowitz as manager of the Industry Contracting Office.** Berkowitz, who has been with Georgia Tech since 1998, started as a contracting officer and has served as team leader of the Universities, Foundations, International and Other group. A retired U.S. Army officer with more than 20 years of experience in procurement, contracting, logistics and government property, Berkowitz came to Tech from Raytheon Support Services Company.

With the creation of the Industry Contracting Office, Tech's efforts in contracting with industry have received greater emphasis and support in recent years. Working closely with the Office of Technology Licensing, the Industry Contracting staff works to facilitate partnerships with the public and private sectors in research and technology. Overall, the Institute is ranked nationally among the top colleges and universities that work well with industry. In fiscal year 2001, Tech was awarded more than \$34 million in industry funding.

Library wants your opinion

As part of an overall assessment of its services, the Georgia Tech Library and Information Center is reviewing the relevance of both the materials in and those being added to its collections. One of its efforts has been the creation of an **online survey** that will be **distributed to all faculty** next month. The survey is designed to gather information on materials that the faculty considers essential to their teaching and research functions, as well as determine whether a preference for digital or print formats exists. The survey hopes to provide a better understanding of the faculty's perception of the collections and services as they currently exist. Results will be used to facilitate decisions on how to allocate resources, as well as where to improve or emphasize services.

Newest fellowship at 'home of golf'

Tech is accepting applications for the new Charlie Yates Fellowship at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. The graduate fellowship covers fees and living expenses for the 2002-2003 academic year. Georgia Tech students who are considering **graduate studies in physics or electrical and computer engineering** are invited to apply. The program is aimed at prospective graduate students pursuing the one-year Master of Science degree and at more advanced graduate students whose programs could benefit from participation in the research environment at St. Andrews.

The University of St. Andrews was founded in 1411, making it the oldest university in Scotland and the third oldest in the United Kingdom. For centuries the university has earned the highest reputation for teaching and scientific research. Recognized as the "home of golf," St. Andrews is located on the east coast of Scotland, about 50 miles north of Edinburgh.

The **Charlie Yates Fellowship** is made possible by the Robert T. Jones Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund and honors distinguished Georgia Tech alumnus Charles R. Yates. Inquiries should be directed to Ian Ferguson, a graduate of the University of St. Andrews and a professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, by phone at 385-2885 or e-mail to ianf@ece.gatech.edu.

Dean, cont'd from page 1

Freeman is stepping down after serving as founding dean of the College since 1990. He will assume a position with the National Science Foundation (NSF) in Washington as assistant director for Computer and Information Science and Engineering. Officially, he will remain a member of the Georgia Tech faculty, on assignment to NSF.

Computing dean search committee members

- Richard Fujimoto (chair), professor, College of Computing
- Dick Lipton (co-chair), professor, College of Computing
- Terry Blum, dean, DuPre College of Management
- Aaron Bobick, associate professor, College of Computing
- Charles Hardnett, graduate student, College of Computing
- Mary Jean Harrold, associate professor, College of Computing
- Mary Alice Isele, director of development, College of Computing
- James McClellan, professor, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Tom Noonan, president and CEO, Internet Security Systems
- William Rouse, chair, School of Industrial and Systems Engineering
- Yannis Smaragdakis, assistant professor, College of Computing
- Andrew Neal Stein, undergraduate student, College of Computing.