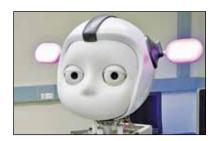
# Friday, July 16, 2010 • Volume 96, Issue 4 • nique.net THE SOUTH'S LIVELIEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

### Simon does

Simon, a socially perceptive robot, shows promise to make new friends. ▶7



# In Memoriam Former Tech President Hansen dies



**By Matt Hoffman** News Editor

Arthur G. Hansen, Tech's seventh President, died on Monday, July 5 due to complications from surgery at the age of 85. He served as President from 1969-1971 before leaving to become the President of his alma mater, Purdue University.

Hansen initially came from the University of Michigan to become the dean of Engineering in 1966 but asked to replace Edwin D. Harrison after he decided to retire in 1968.

In 1982, Hansen left Purdue to become the Chancellor of the Texas A&M University system.

"[Hansen] has maintained contacts with student leaders and non-leaders in a fashion which resulted in a degree of mutual respect of the highest order," said in a piece titled "Hansen's Credo: A President must be visible and vulnerable" in April 30, 1971 edition of the Technique.

'It can be said without qualification, Dr. Hansen has been the spokesman of the students," the piece went on to say.

Even though his tenure was short, many notable events took place at Tech under his watch. The Student Center opened its door for the first time on Aug. 3, 1970. Hansen also spearheaded the effort to get funding from the state for the Student Athletic Center, which would later be renovated into what is now the

Hansen also shepherded the campus through the Kent State incident. Some members of the community at the time of the occurrence questioned the need to have the military on campus in the form of the ROTC program, but Hansen was able to preserve the historic program.

"I am glad that I chose Georgia Tech. It has filled my life. We shall go our separate ways, but a part of me shall always be here. My thanks to all of you for being [so] wonderful to me," Hansen said, in his farewell speech to the Tech student body in 1971.

# **Bras named new Provost**

**By Matt Hoffman News Editor** 

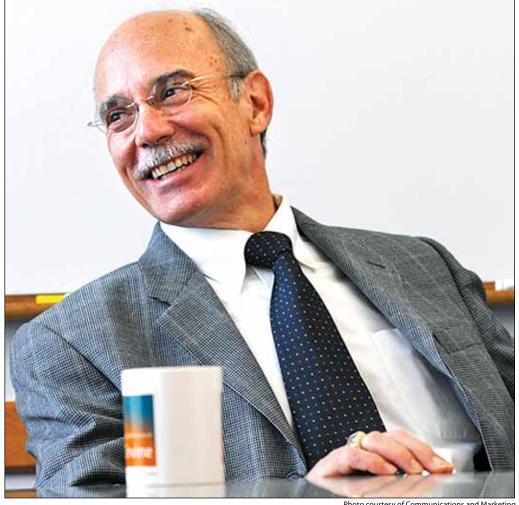
On Wednesday, July 7, the Institute announced Rafael L. Bras as the new Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. He will begin his tenure on Sept. 1. Bras comes from the University of California-Irvine, where he was Dean of the Henry Samueli School of Engineering.

"It is with great pleasure that I announce Rafael Bras will join Georgia Tech as its next provost. Over the course of his career, he has developed an international reputation centered on service, teaching and learning," said Institute President G. P. "Bud" Peterson in a release.

"As a full spectrum university centered in engineering and science, Georgia Tech is in an excellent position to lead higher education in the 21st century. I am honored to become part of an extraordinary team that builds on a tradition of great institutional leadership. More importantly, my wife Pat and I are thankful for the welcoming offered by...a great family of students, staff, faculty and alumni(ae)," Bras said in the release.

Before his tenure at UC-Irvine, Bras was a professor in the department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at MIT for 32 years, the last nine of which he was head of the department. Bras also served a stint as the Chair of MIT Faculty.

Among his many achievements, Bras was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2001 and the National Academy of Arts and Sciences of Puerto Rico in 2009. Bras received all three of his degrees in Civil Engineer-



Rafael Bras was named the new Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. Bras comes from UC-Irvine where he served as dean of the school of engineering.

ing from MIT.

"Dr. Bras was a standout candidate for Provost and we are very lucky that he will serve as our Chief Academic Officer. He brings with him a wealth of experience and an exceptionally strong commitment to quality teaching—one I think students will be very happy with. I am confident that he is going to make education (especially at the undergraduate level) a clear priority," said former Undergraduate Student Body

President Alina Staskevicius, who also served as a student representative on the search committee.

Dean of Management Steve Salbu headed the search for the new Provost, which was initiated after current Provost Gary Schuster announced his intentions to return to the faculty in October.

"I want to thank the members of the search committee, led by Steve Salbu, as well as those in our community who

provided their comments on our finalists. Participation of this kind is vital to maintaining a healthy campus discourse, ensuring that all have an opportunity to be heard on what makes sense for the future of Georgia Tech," Peterson said in a release.

The search involved three finalists, all of whom made presentations to campus discussing their philosophies in a

See Bras, page 3

### MSE, PTFE combine into one school



Photo by Kellie Kosiba / Student Publications

The J. Erskine Love Building is the home of the MSE School, which recently merged with the PTFE School to form the largest MSE faculty in the nation.

By Andrew Zoorob **Contributing Writer** 

On Thursday, July 1, the schools of Polymer, Textile, and Fiber Engineering (PTFE) and Materials Science Engineering (MSE) merged to create the largest program in the country. The programs will continue under the name Materials Science and Engineering and command more than 55 thesis-granting faculty, 11 more than the next largest school, MIT.

Prior to the merger, the MSE department conducted all polymer research jointly through the school of Polymer Engineering. The newly merged school will streamline and expedite interdisciplinary research activities.

"Goals of the merger include becoming a top-five MSE school in three years, and the No. 1 school in five," said Dr. Robert Snyder, the current chair of the MSE department.

Talks of consolidation began in January of this year, as Institute President G.P. "Bud" Peterson questioned the existence of separate schools for Materials Science and Polymer Engineering. According to Snyder, "outsourcing of

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From the files of the GTPD...

### campus Ciime

By Hahnming Lee Editor-in-Chief

#### Like royalty

A victim called GTPD to report a suspicious email. The email stated that the sender was in a "dire situation" and needed some money to "donate through you for charity." It asked for a reply from the receiver and signed the email. The email was sent to the victim's personal account from a Tech mailing address. GTPD suspects there may be a connection to a previous report of a suspected email scam.

Outside of the Alpha Delta Pi sorority, a car was suspected stolen on the morning of July 12. The victim's car contained several person items which added value to the amount stolen, including a purse with the driver's license, bank card and check book. There was no broken glass or sign of a break-in at the scene of the suspected theft. The last time the victim saw the car was the night before in the parking lot near the sorority house.

Parking and Transportation as well as the company owning a dumpster by the parking spot were contacted to see if the car had been towed; both said it had not been towed by them. The value of the vehicle is estimated to be about \$9,000.

### Who started the fire?

On the morning of July 7, GTPD was called to the Mason Building after a report of a fire. The officer was directed to a portable oven with a "poignant" odor. Upon opening the oven and looking for its content, the burnt material appeared to be a deformed and melted white plastic bucket. The bucket had caught fire in the oven and was extinguished using water. The student who put out the fire stated that the most likely cause of the fire would be either that the temperature in the oven was too high or the bucket was left in there for too long.

Later, the Atlanta Fire Department arrived and determined that the bucket and the oven were extinguished and did not pose a fur-

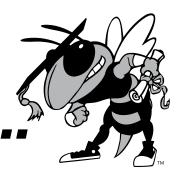
#### POLL OF THE WEEK Which new fast-food option do you prefer? Next issue's 6.3% 3.2% question: Chick-fil-a Taco Bell Subway 10.4% What is your Waffle House favorite summer-time 75.1% song? I hate fast Tell us at nique.net

### **SUMMER 2010 COMMENCEMENT**

Based on 221 responses



You'll soon be ramblin' on...



Friday, August 6

7:00 PM

**LOCATION** Alexander Memorial Coliseum

**SPEAKER** 2010 Distinguished Professor **Charles Liotta** 

**★ Visit the Bookstore** to purchase your customized regalia and official Georgia Tech Balfour class rings and announcements.

RSVP by July 30: www.commencement.gatech.edu



#### **Bras**

from page 1

broad range of topics dealing with the responsibilities of the Provost position.

As the Provost, Bras will be the chief academic officer of the Institute, and in such capacity will have broad budgetary oversight of all the Colleges. With continued uncertainty from the state, budget issues should continue to play a major role in the day-to-day work of the Provost.

"I do believe that, unfortunately, the relationship between state universities and the state, the funding model of the past, which worked quite well, will never come back.... The challenge of the team, between the administration and the faculty, becomes to come up with ways to develop a new model," Bras said in his oncampus presentation.

The Provost is also responsible for collaboration between the Colleges and works with the faculty within the Colleges to set the

### Merger from page 1

the textile industry to China" and a large faculty shift "away from textiles towards polymers" were major reasons for the merger of the two departments.

Current PTFE students will be allowed to complete their degree, and the Polymer and Fiber Engineering degree will be continue to be offered until Fall 2011, when it is phased out.

"Although we will not offer a separate Polymer degree, the MSE School will offer a Materials Science degree with a focus in polymers. This will allow for a broader focus, increasing employment prospects for students," Snyder

said.
The Academic Common Market, which grants out-of-state students reduced tuition if they enroll in certain programs that are not offered in their home states, will curricula.

"In an institution like Georgia Tech, which should remain unique in its science and engineering-centric ethos, the humanities, social sciences and the arts have to learn and we have to learn, those of us not in those areas, how to interact beyond what is the service [of those programs]," Bras said.

"I am not interested in the science and engineering student learning simply how to write. I am interested in [those students] learning how leaders have evolved, how writing has evolved and how writing in the 21st century will play a role in culture and in science and engineering," Bras said.

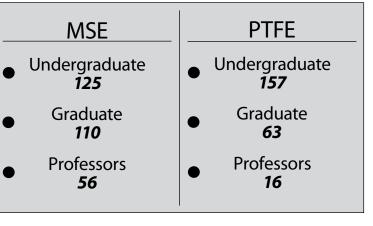
During the Strategic Planning process and the SGA elections, many students expressed a disconnect between them and the faculty. One of the primary complaints by students was that professors seem to only be concerned about their research and not teaching their students.

"If I wanted to do only re-

search, I would not be at a university. I would go to a national lab because that is what they do. And would urge everybody that feels that way to go to a national lab.... We need to improve the delivery of education in a broad sense to our undergraduates, and [I have been told] that there may be some level of dissatisfaction [from the students]. If that is true, then believe me, I am uncompromising on [improving] that," Bras said.

Bras will be one of several new faces in the upper level administration this Fall. Zvi Galil started at his position as the new Dean of Computing on July 1, while Jacqueline Royster will begin as the new Dean of the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts by the start of the Fall semester.

"The top universities of engineering and science already have the particular reach and reputation, but to maintain and enhance those lofty reputations, they must be willing to change, be bold and take some risk," Bras said.



also be phased out this year. This poses concerns as half of PTFE students participate in ACM.

"The school of Materials Science will crank up recruiting efforts to maintain the number of students pursuing a polymer focus," Snyder said.

A full-time recruiter will be

hired, and the number of polymer students is not expected to decline.

"According to a formula accounting for the number of graduate students, publications and full-time thesis-granting faculty, the newly merged school will rank No. 1 in the nation," Snyder said.

# Breaking **Bubble**

A lot of things went on outside the bubble of Tech in the past week. Here are a few important events taking place throughout the nation and the world.

### Steinbrenner, 80, dies of heart attack

On July 13, Yankees owner George Steinbrenner died of a heart attack. He was 80 years old. He died on the same day as the All-Star Game.

The controversial baseball figure had a reputation for supporting his squad with his own wealth to improve his team while being extremely handson. His attitude and micromanaging earned him the nickname "The Boss."

He famously fired manager Billy Martin five times, even firing and rehiring him multiple times in one press conference.

While Steinbrenner won two titles in the late 70's, the Yankees would not win a title again until he had come back from a suspension and detached himself from many of the personnel choices. After that, the current Yankees dynasty began. The team reached its peak when it won four times from 1996-2000. They had a nearly-decade title drought before again winning the title last year.

Steinbrenner bought the team back in the early 70's for nearly nine million dollars, and Forbes pegs the current value at over 1.6 billion dollars, the third richest franchise in any



sport around the world.

Operations of the franchise are expected to be handled by his sons, Hal and Hank. They have handled the day-to-day operations and taken over many of the responsibilities their father used to assume before falling into poor health.

### Google, China agree to renew license

Google renewed its license with China, ending a long standoff between the two that spanned back to the hacking attacks from last year.

Shortly after the hacks, Google threatened to not cave to China's demands for certain results to be censored. Instead, Google redirected its users to the Hong Kong search engine where all the results were not filtered. The new agreement will now disable an auto redirect to the Hong Kong website but still feature a link to it on the Chinese website.

Critics say that the agreement is a small victory for both sides and may also help the Chinese people. While Google gets to remain in China, an extremely lucrative market with the most internet users in the world, and have some autonomy, China displays the influence it can still exert over larger companies like Google. It also gives users an alternative to the extremely popular Badiu.





### sliver

### www.nique.net

### I AM NOT FAIL

Alex Mitchell...changing the way major league soccer is played is one of the stupidest ideas I have heard...MLS does not have the beauty or technique of international futbol...thats why it sucks Football doesn't score all that many more goals than soccer, they just count for more...also it shouldn't take four hours to play an hour long game, that's ridiculous

could we possibly have hired dumber interns? online shopping is NOT what you get paid \$15/hr for.

We can't keep your interest now, increasing pixels and sound. cute girl at the RAC desk, thanks for letting me in free. It won't be forgotten:3

why does the technique not have a twitter handle?

...for that matter why is #sliverbox not a hashtag? okay i missed the huge twitter icon on the top of

okay i missed the huge twitter icon on the top of the page, but i still think there should be a sliverbox hashtag. a sliver bot would be even better

No one will help you unless you first help yourself

...but what if you can't help yourself?

i once was an optimistic freshman. it's been two weeks, optimism gone.

### TO HELL WITH GEORGIA

i just want to get in the newspaper....

i should be studying right now.... i feel like i say that a lot what

i <3 u

alcohol arrests

Someone kill the ants at the library snackers - please

Congrats to LeBoshade the best player of all time. Currently playing for the Miami Heat!

I love it when new freshman try to participate in lecture. It's so cute.

And by cute I mean annoying

All these bright-eyed, studious freshmen are actively participating in lecture and making the rest of us look bad

I love it when my professor goes ghetto fabulous