

What: Legislative Network Update

Length: 15 minutes

Background: Andrew is basically looking for you to update them on what's going on on campus, thank them for their involvement, and reinforce the budget priorities. (Andrew will do an additional speech going into detail on each priority.)

Good morning. It is a pleasure to be with you today to discuss both the present and future issues affecting Georgia Tech. It will be an even greater pleasure to share with you this afternoon the experience of beating the heck out of Maryland.

Once not long ago at a school far far away from here, a teacher interrupted a student in the midst of a daydream to ask him a question. The question was: "John, what is the difference between ignorance and apathy?"

Being an honest fellow, John replied, "I don't know and I don't care."

Well, obviously John was right and that one remark helped launch his career in the state legislature, but that is another matter entirely. The point I wish to make is that so many students today do not care about what they are learning. However, here at Georgia Tech, not only do our students care, but our alumni and friends care as well. That is why we are able to host a Legislative Network, and your continued interest and involvement is one reason the Legislative Network is so very effective.

As president of Georgia Tech, I would like to thank you for the care, concern, and involvement you give to MaTech. Each year, most of our legislative priorities are funded, and we have you to thank for those accomplishments.

This morning, I'd like to brief you on some of our

other accomplishments during the past year as well as discuss our current legislative priorities and their impact on our future.

I. Current state of affairs at the Institute

A. National rankings

1. Top 10 public--U.S. News & World Report
2. 2nd best value, Scientific and Technical Schools--Money Magazine
3. Top 20, Information Technology Labs--BusinessWeek

B. National rankings for faculty

1. Career Awards--13, top for 97 in the nation
2. NAE--12th nationally in the number of NAE members

C. Recent improvements to student life

1. New degrees/programs
 - a. Human-computer interface M.S. Degree
 - b. M.S. in international affairs
 - c. Joint biomedical engineering department with Emory
2. New endowed faculty positions (17) (Campaign)
3. Career Services--record 1,100 employers came to interview Tech students in 1996-1997 school year

D. Recent improvements to academic life (helping students get a leg up in the competitive working world)

1. Computer ownership
2. Curriculum innovations (enhanced use of web, campus cable)
3. Campus cable (Live tutorials)

E. Best of all, students at Georgia Tech, pay tuition that is substantially lower than most of our peer

institutions.

F. Research

1. Fiscal Year 1997 was a record year. Research expenditures totaled \$220 million, and new contracts and grants equaled \$197 million--\$16 million above the former record.

2. The percentage of research awards from industry doubled from Fiscal Years 1994 to 1997, reflecting a focused effort to diversify our research portfolio.

II. The Future

A. Aggressive building program

1. The Master Plan (airline joke)

-creating a campus commons

-creating a pedestrian campus

-bringing academic buildings up to speed

with athletic and student housing buildings. New buildings planned include MRDC Phase II (\$26 million); the Institute of Bioengineering and Bioscience (\$30 million); the Sustainable Education Building (\$3.3 million); and Skiles renovation (\$4 million)

B. Continue growing campus community spirit

1. Team Buzz Community Service Day

C. Continue growing our national reputation

III. Georgia Tech Budget Priorities for Fiscal Year 1999

1) 6% Salary Increase million	\$70
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2) Formula Workload million	\$12
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3) Parking Deck million	\$10
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4) GRA Funding million	\$40
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IV. Thanks and appreciation