

WELCOME BY GEORGIA TECH PRESIDENT G. WAYNE CLOUGH  
College of Engineering Awards Dinner, Nov. 2, 2007

- More than 40 years ago, Gordon Brown (then dean of engineering at MIT): “Engineering is not merely knowing and being knowledgeable, like a walking encyclopedia; engineering is not merely analysis; engineering is not merely the possession of the capacity to get elegant solutions to non-existent engineering problems; engineering is practicing the art of the organized forcing of technological change.”
- More true today than when he said this. In global economy, those who practice “the art of the organized forcing of technological change” are the winners
  - Routine engineering work becoming commoditized, outsourced to cheaper locations
  - United States: challenge is to educate engineers who are prepared to be leaders at the edge of technological change.
- Tremendous opportunity:
  - At the same time routine engineering tasks going off-shore, society is looking for leaders who understand technology and can manage it creatively to shape a positive future.
  - Challenges of our time demand leaders who understand systems and can visualize causes and effects, so that important decisions realize goals with a minimum of unintended consequences.
- Incredible opportunities for engineers with:
  - Global perspective
  - Understanding of sustainability
  - Leadership, teamwork, communication skills
- If we give our students these abilities, they will be able to apply their engineering skills more broadly as leaders
  - In the field of engineering, of course.
  - Also in wide variety of other fields, from medicine to law, from business to politics.
- Georgia Tech is in the business of educating engineers who are poised for leadership. Tonight honor engineering alumni who have emerged as leaders.
  - Accomplishments reflect well on Georgia Tech and help to build our reputation for educating leaders.
  - Provide important role models for our students.
  - Most importantly, help make our world a better place.
- Proud to claim these award winners as alumni. Grateful for their leadership, appreciative of their example, thankful for their support of Georgia Tech, and pleased to honor them on this special evening.

- Congratulations to each inductee into the Engineering Hall of Fame, the Academy of Distinguished Engineering Alumni, and the Council of Outstanding Young Engineering Alumni.