

# From the President, April 2010

Thursday, April 15, 2010

## To the Georgia Tech Community:

It's hard to believe, but Val and I recently marked our first year here at Georgia Tech. I can empathize with President Emeritus Wayne Clough, who in his return to campus for last week's [groundbreaking of the Undergraduate Learning Commons](#) noted that in both of his residencies at Tech — as a student and then as an administrator — he wasn't quite prepared for what he encountered during the first year. Speaking for myself, I have benefitted immensely from the strong and loyal support network that exists both within the Institute as well as with our alumni around the state and the world, for that matter. Our gratitude goes to all of you who have welcomed us so warmly and shown us just what it means to be a part of the Georgia Tech community.

Despite the external pressures on higher education around the country, we have accomplished a great deal in a short amount of time: moving forward on a new strategic plan, growing our research enterprise, attracting more and better qualified students, and bringing new leaders to campus. In spite of the present challenges, I remain optimistic about the future of our great institution, and look forward to marking many more anniversaries here at Georgia Tech.

**G.P. “Bud” Peterson**