

August 15, 2016



KRISTEN BAILEY INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

The Board of Regents (BOR) approved the appointment of Georgia Tech faculty members to named chairs and professorships, 2017 benefits plans, and a few business items related to upcoming



Georgia

campus projects, at its Aug. 10 meeting. The Board approved health care plans and

see BOR, page 4

4 Faculty Members Earn Regents Professor, Researcher Titles

SUSIE IVY INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

The University System of Georgia (USG)'s Board of Regents has appointed three Georgia Tech faculty members as Regents Professors and one as Regents Researcher. The titles represent the highest academic and research recognition bestowed by the USG, and demonstrate distinction and achievement in teaching and scholarly research.

- The three Regents Professors:
- Seymour E. Goodman, professor in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs with a joint appointment in the College of Computing, and co-director of the Center for International Strategy, Technology, and Policy.
- Nicholas V. Hud, professor in the School of

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COMING ACADEMIC **PROFILE*** SAT 1330-1490 аст 30-34 AP/IB/DE 7-13 30,537 GPA A *mid-50% ranges APPLICATIONS GEOGRAPHICS RATE 26% STATES 43 GEORGIA COUNTIES 89 HIGH SCHOOLS 1,429 (307 IN GEORGIA)

New Class Continues Trend of Prestige, Diversity

KRISTEN BAILEY INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

On Aug. 22, another impressive group of students will begin their careers as Yellow Jackets.

A record number of students applied for acceptance to Georgia Tech this year, with applications exceeding 30,500 for the first time. Of those who were accepted, around 2,860 will make up the new class. As has been the trend in recent

years, their credentials set new highs for an incoming class. These students have taken an average of 10 college-level courses, and 95 percent have take college-level calculus or an

see GT20, page 4

Summer in the City: How to Stay Cool in the Atlanta Heat

KRISTEN BAILEY INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

It may almost be time for fall semester, but it's still the peak of summer heat and humidity in Atlanta. How are you supposed to get to and from class, work, and campus meetings without constantly toweling off?

For Jess Hunt-Ralston, senior designer in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering who bikes to work, thinking "like a

hiker" is key.

"Stay hydrated, stick to shaded areas, and wear a hat," she said. "I often wear a tank top or T-shirt on my commute, with a sweater packed in my bag for the office." For those who walk, bike, or take transit, she also suggested wearing athletic clothes for the commute and packing work clothes to change into once on campus.

One group whose job it is to be outside at Georgia Tech Landscape Services team. Each year, the team meets with Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) at the beginning of the summer for a reminder of

important tips for safety in the heat and how to identify heat illness.

"We perform the hardest tasks that are in full sun in the morning, and tasks in shaded areas in the afternoon," said Hyacinth Ide, associate director for Landscape Services and Fleet Services. Employees are also encouraged to wear sunscreen and get plenty of rest at night, and are provided hats and cotton clothing. EHS advises that they wear loose, lightweight clothing made of cotton or cotton blends that let air circulate and can

see **HEAT**, page 4

The Search Is On

President G.P. "Bud" Peterson named a nine-person search committee of students, faculty, and staff to recommend candidates for the vacant position of director of athletics. The committee is lead by Al Trujillo, president and chief operating officer of the Georgia Tech Foundation.





Parking at Tech 3

NEWS

First-Year Students Ben Rapsas, who applied to overcome a fear of public

Biomedical Engineer to Address

speaking, was selected to address incoming students at this year's New Student Convocation. Learn more about Rapsas at

c.gatech.edu/rapsas

EVENTS

ARTS & CULTURE

Through Oct. 2

The School of Industrial Design, the Institute for People and Technology, the Wearable Computing Center, and the GVU Center present *On You: Wearing Technology* at the Museum of Design Atlanta. The museum, located in Midtown, is open Tuesday through Sunday. Hours vary. **museumofdesign.org**

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Aug. 17

The Office of Human Resources hosts a Be Well session on Leaves of Absence, including family and medical, disability, sick, or military leave. The session takes place from Noon to 1 p.m. in Room 101, Scheller College of Business. Register at

c.gatech.edu/leave

Sept. 22

The Kaiser Permanente Corporate Run/Walk 5K will take place at 6:30 p.m. at Turner Field. Employees can sign up with the Georgia Tech team for \$10. Learn more at **c.gatech.edu/kp5k**

TRAINING

Aug. 26

The Center for Teaching and Learning hosts a conversation about the opportunities and pain points associated with teaching large classes, from 1 to 2 p.m. in Room 469, Clough Commons. Light refreshments will be available. ctl.gatech.edu

SEMINARS & LECTURES

Aug. 26

The Cybersecurity Lecture Series kickoff will take place from noon to 1 p.m. at the College of Computing. iisp.gatech.edu

Aug. 27

The Wearable Computing Center hosts a panel session on *Wearable Technology and Industry* from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Museum of Design Atlanta.

EVENTS continued on page 3

wcc.gatech.edu

Connecting with Georgia Tech's 'Queen Bee'

BRIGITTE ESPINET INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

From managing the President's Residence, to fundraising, to serving in the Association of American Universities, to mentoring, and public speaking — sometimes even in Spanish (in which she has her Texas A&M master's degree) — Georgia Tech's first lady is one busy bee. The "Queen Bee," that is.

Exceptionally warm, jocular, and irrepressibly charming, the Seattle-born, Kansas City-raised Val Peterson prefers not to be addressed as "Mrs. Peterson." Instead, she says, "Just call me Val ... or Queen Bee." As the Institute's first lady of the past seven years, the mother of four biological and nine foster children, today, also proudly considers herself "mom" to Tech's more than 25,000 students, which is why she happily lays claim to the moniker Val P., the Queen Bee.

But the nurturer that is Val P. is as much Val, the connector. She zealously embraces her role as a "great cheerleader for the Institute," and, in so doing, fervidly connects with all things Tech — down to the four closets of self-made outfits that are each some combination of white and gold, black and gold, or navy and gold. Her clothes have been the topic of many a conversation that has facilitated one of things she most enjoys: "I specialize in making connections; it's one of my favorite things. I am a connector. I love to find out where people's passions lie and where their passions connect with Tech."

Read on to find out more about what makes the Queen Bee buzz.

What do you enjoy most about being Georgia Tech's first lady?

I enjoy fundraising. That's what I spend most of my time doing. I go where I think I add value. If I'm choosing whether to accept this invitation or that, I will always take the fundraising opportunity. My family says that I can talk to rocks, and that is a wonderful skill in fundraising, especially in this job, in my support of Bud.

Which cause within the fundraising realm are you most passionate about?

I love the Tech Promise program! Bud and I give our personal philanthropy in support of this program. We just finished the capital campaign in which we were supposed to find \$1.5 billion, and we found more than \$1.8 billion. So proud! Our goal specifically for Tech Promise was \$50 million, but when we finished the campaign, we had more than \$60 million. (Editor's Note: Fundraising for Tech Promise continues to be one of Georgia Tech's highest priorities in the post-campaign period.) Tech Promise just fits in with who I am because I love to take care of the underdog. I love to tell people about Tech Promise because it's such an inspiring story. I'm so thankful to [President Emeritus] Wayne Clough for starting it right before we got here so we could carry on his good work.



Val Peterson has been first lady of Georgia Tech for seven years. In the President's Residence on 10th Street, the Petersons have many family photos, including their foster children.

"Tech Promise just fits in with who I am because I love to take care of the underdog. I love to tell people about Tech Promise because it's such an inspiring story."

Talk about your involvement in foster care.

That conversation could actually be a separate interview because it's so big, but we basically had nine children over 11 years, after the last of our four entered the public school system. I was at the point where I didn't want to work anymore, and I didn't want to get any more degrees; I just wanted to stay home and be a mom. Today, I have one young lady who says to me, 'Of all of my moms — and I have a lot [biological mother, stepmother, motherin-law, foster mother] — you're the best.' She makes me cry when she says that.

What's your favorite place on campus and why?

It's the President's Residence at Tech because my family is here. Half of our children have lived here, and my father [who passed away four months ago] lived here.

Also, the arch on North Avenue is another of my favorite places on campus. I think it's so pretty; it's a neat way to enter the campus. That archway is just filled with hope as to what you're going to find on the other side.

What are the top three things on your bucket list?

I want to zip line with my family. I want to lead a Tech tour for the Alumni Association.



And, I want to be a grandmother — which is coming Jan. 8, 2017! Man, these kids are 33, 35, 37, and 39 ... I've been waiting forever!

How do you and President Peterson unwind together?

We walk. On nights that we don't have Tech events, we walk on campus and meet the most interesting people.

If you had to choose one thing that makes you the most proud of Dr. Peterson, what would it be?

His vision! I recently accused him of RUNNING into the future with Georgia Tech!

What do you want your legacy as First Lady of Georgia Tech to be?

For our students, I want to be known as their Georgia Tech mom, while they're on this campus, and I want our marriage to be a model of a relationship to which they can aspire. For our faculty and staff, I want to be known as a sincere supporter.

For the administration, I want to be known as a member of the team. But most of all, I want to be known as an amazing fundraiser for our incredible, cutting-edge, life-changing university!



Editor: Kristen Bailey Photos: Rob Felt or Fitrah Hamid, unless noted Published biweekly throughout the year by Georgia Tech Institute Communications. comm.gatech.edu

Calendar submissions should be emailed to **editor@comm.gatech.edu** at least 10 days prior to desired publication date. For more information, call 404-385-7061. Archives are posted at **whistle.gatech.edu**. *Georgia Tech is a unit of the University System of Georgia*.



Staff Council Session Highlights Health, Breaks Down Parking

KRISTEN BAILEY INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

At the Staff Council's third Inform Georgia Tech event, leaders from the Center for Community Health and Well-Being and Parking and Transportation Services (PTS) gave an overview of their department's offerings, plans, and challenges.

Suzy Harrington, director of the Center for Community Health and Well-Being, explained the holistic approach the Center takes when it comes to wellness.

"Health and well-being is about who we are, not what we do," she said. She mentioned the breadth of health and wellness-related programs and initiatives on campus, but that they are not always connected. Some aspects, such as Stamps Health Services, have varied accessibility for students versus employees. Stamps recently began accepting insurance for employee prescriptions, and Harrington hopes to continue to expand the Center's employeefocused efforts.

One upcoming initiative that will be available to all is a LiveHealth kiosk in the Student Center. Students, faculty, and staff will be able to teleconference with a doctor and receive prescriptions, which can be filled a few steps away at Stamps.

Harrington was followed by Lance Lunsway, senior director for Parking and Transportation Services and New Business Development. Lunsway outlined how parking costs are structured, why they continue

to rise, and other campus transportation options.

Georgia Tech's parking is completely funded by users. As the campus continues to become more friendly to multi-modal transportation and build more parking decks — a nationwide trend, Lunsway said — costs continue to rise, as decks are more expensive to construct and maintain than surface lots.

PTS does subsidize user parking rates through special event parking, visitor parking, Official Business Permit sales, and other methods, all of which add up to bringing down the cost around \$550 per year, per user.

PTS is also looking at ways to conserve energy and cut costs where possible. Recent LED light installations in the Tech Square deck brought a 70 percent energy savings, and the installation will pay for itself in around four to five years.

Still, Lunsway acknowledged that not everyone can afford or wants to pay to drive and park on campus. He encouraged users to consult the commute calculator at gacommuteoptions.com to determine the best commute method for them.

This fall, Tech will partner with the City of Atlanta's new Relay Bike Share program to bring five stations and around 50 bikes to campus in the coming weeks.

Finally, Lunsway presented what he said could be the future for campus transport a driverless car named Olli whose parts are made on a 3-D printer. For now, though, trolleys and buses will continue to service Tech's campus.

For full presentations from both Harrington and Lunsway, visit staffcouncil. gatech.edu.



President G.P. "Bud" Peterson shares his 2016 Institute Address with students, faculty, and staff.

>>> Thursday, August 25 11 a.m. - noon

× www.president.gatech.edu



Submit a question in advance at townhall@gatech.edu

Watch via live stream at

Follow on Twitter with @georgiatech and #InstituteAddress

REGENTS, from page 1

- Chemistry and Biochemistry and director of the Center for Chemical Evolution.
- Vladimir Tsukruk, professor in the School of Materials Science

and Engineering, founding co-director of the Air Force BIONIC Center of Excellence, and founding director of the Microanalysis Center. The Regents

Researcher: • Alexa Harter. associate director and

chief scientist of the Advanced Concepts Lab.

"Georgia Tech is incredibly proud to have some of the world's best and brightest scholars, and we congratulate these faculty members on their new appointments," said Rafael L. Bras, provost and executive vice president for Academic Affairs. "This new distinction is a testament to their continued commitment to excellence in teaching, research, and scholarship."

Each year, academic deans may nominate two academic faculty members for the Regents Professor title and one research faculty member for the Regents Researcher title. The Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) may nominate two research faculty members for Regents Researcher.

The titles are awarded upon approval of the chancellor and the Committee on Academic Affairs, only with unanimous recommendation of the president, the chief academic officer, the appropriate academic dean, and three other faculty members.

"The contributions of these faculty members make a lasting impact on the research and education enterprise here at Georgia Tech," said Steve Cross, executive vice president for Research. "That impact also bolsters the Institute's goals to serve as a driver of economic vitality in Atlanta, the State of Georgia, and beyond."

HR UPDATES

New Supplemental Retirement Savings Option Now Available

Tech employees now have an option for a supplemental retirement investment. Employees now have access to a Roth 457(b). While there has been a Roth 403(b) option available for some time, this new offering gives employees the opportunity to defer compensation after taxes.

Visit ohr.gatech.edu/retirement to learn more about the Roth 457(b) option. Employees can contact supplemental savings plan vendors for more specific information regarding contribution limits, taxation questions, or any aspect of Roth contributions.



MISCELLANEOUS

Aug. 17

Graduate Student Employee Processing takes place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third floor of Clough Commons. c.gatech.edu/gradproc

Aug. 18

Freshman move-in begins. housing.gatech.edu

Aug. 18

The Office of Graduate Studies hosts the GradExpo resource fair to help new graduate students learn about campus services, student organizations, and local businesses in the surrounding community. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Clough Commons. grad.gatech.edu

Aug. 19

The Center for Teaching and Learning hosts Teaching Assistant Orientation from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 144, Clough Commons ctl.gatech.edu

Aug. 19

As part of this year's Project One activities, the Center for Academic Enrichment hosts a free screening of The Martian at 8:30 p.m. at the Ferst Center for the Arts. c.gatech.edu/p1

Aug. 21

New Student Convocation takes place from 5 to 6 p.m. at McCamish Pavilion. specialevents.gatech.edu

Aug. 22

Classes begin for fall semester. registrar.gatech.edu

Aug. 22–24

The new Center for Diversity and Inclusion, part of Institute Diversity, hosts open house events from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Chapin Building. diversity.gatech.edu

Aug. 23

How to Shop a Farmers Market will demystify the farmers market experience and help you learn how to get to know farmers and your community, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Piedmont Room, Student Center. c.gatech.edu/farmersmarket

Aug. 23

Startup Summer participants present their products and services at a Demo Day from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Egyptian Ballroom, Fox Theatre, 660 Peachtree Street NF. startupsummer.gatech.edu

For a more comprehensive listing of events. or to add vour own. visit calendar.gatech.edu.



Seymour Goodman

Nicholas Hud

Vladimir Tsukruk

Alexa Harter

BOR, from page 1

premiums for 2017, stating that all plans will see an increase as the University System of Georgia (USG) moves to a defined contribution model. More information will be available soon about exact plan pricing, but increases for each plan will range from 0 to 8 percent. Open enrollment this year will take place from Oct. 31 through Nov. 11, and Georgia Tech Human Resources will continue to share information as it becomes available. For more details, visit ohr.gatech. edu and usg.edu.

Two new named positions were approved as a result of Campaign Georgia Tech: the Betsy Middleton and John Clark Sutherland Dean's Chair in the College of Sciences, and the John F. Brock, III School Chair in the School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering.

The BOR approved the appointments of Paul Goldbart and David Sholl to the two new positions, respectively. The Board also approved three new Regents Professors, a Regents Researcher, and the renewal of seven Regents Professors.

In Real Estate and Facilities, the Board authorized a new project to build a Cell Manufacturing Facility in the Marcus Nanotechnology Building. This project will involve the build-out of clean room space as part of Georgia Tech leading the National Cell Manufacturing Consortium. Georgia Tech was selected to lead this initiative by the federal government, with more than \$15 million in support from the Marcus Foundation over five years.

The Board also authorized renovations on the first floor of the Savant Building, home to offices for the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. The project will replace exterior doors and windows, update fire and safety equipment, and replace audiovisual, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, as well as furnishings.

Also at the meeting, Chancellor Hank Huckaby announced his intention to retire at the end of the calendar vear. Huckaby has served as chancellor since 2011 and oversaw the consolidation of several USG institutions. Since his arrival, the USG has grown to serve 318,164 students as of the fall 2015 semester, up from 298,510 in July 2011. Huckaby also prioritized the Complete College Georgia initiative, which helped the USG increase its graduation rate by 14 percent over the past five years.

For a full agenda from the August meeting and more information, visit **usg.edu/ regents/meetings**. The Board's next meeting will take place Wednesday, Sept. 14.

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equivalent. The students represent 69 countries, 43 states, 89 Georgia counties, and 1,429 high schools (307 in Georgia). The class is 42 percent female — an Institute record for the second year — and 58 percent male.

"We need more women in STEM and at the table when it comes to policy and product creation in the workforce, and we look at ourselves as part of the solution," said Rick Clark, director of Undergraduate Admission.

Still, it's not just the stats that make Clark proud. "The fact that we continue to become more academically talented with each class, and more diverse on almost every metric of what you would call diversity, is really an anomaly," he said. "Colleges often have to give up one or the other. It kind of blows my mind, but it's just indicative of Georgia Tech's excellence and national prominence that we are coupling those two things."

This year, Tech saw an especially high increase in applications to the College of Computing and growth in matriculation in the College of Sciences, which will make up 13 percent of the new class.

As this class arrives on campus, the next admission cycle has already begun. This week, Georgia Tech joins the University of Georgia, Georgia State University, and several others for the start of the Peach State tour, where colleges collaborate to visit communities around the state and meet with prospective students.

One of Georgia Tech's challenges is continuing to attract the best and brightest in all of Tech's disciplines as the cost of higher education continues to increase.

"The people we are in the pool with are the best in the country, and we're racing right there with them."

"We don't want to be an institution where students come out with a high debt burden, even if they are willing to pay," Clark said. "We have to find a way to meet a higher percentage of financial need."

Another challenge is to continue the upward trajectory Georgia Tech has seen in enrollment for the past five years.

"We're really competing with the best schools in the country," Clark said. "To make the Olympic comparison, the people we are in the pool with are the best in the country, and we're racing right there with them."

Follow activity from the incoming class on social media with #gt20 and #igotin.



Suiting up in the heat can cause you to work up a sweat. When possible, wear light-colored clothing, carry water, and be prepared to refresh after a hot walk across campus.

HEAT, from page 1

wick sweat off the skin. They also suggest avoiding dark-colored clothing, as light colors will reflect the heat and help keep you cool.

Other materials that are good for the heat include linen, silk, hemp, or even lightweight wool.

Georgia Tech tour guides also spend much of their time outside. These student employees work with Undergraduate Admission to lead visitors from around the world on campus tours, and summer is as busy a season as any — but they are prepared.

"We remind everyone before their visit to wear loose-fitting clothing and comfortable walking shoes, as the tour is nearly two miles," said Elyse Lawson, senior admission counselor who coordinates campus visits. "When talking to visitors at length, tour guides try to always stop inside air-conditioned buildings or at least in the shade. During the summer, we provide all visitors with bottled water as they head out on tours."

Having a handy supply of products in a desk drawer or office cubby can provide a quick refresh before class or a meeting. Deodorant, oil-absorbing sheets, and face cleansing towelettes should all be components of a refresh kit.

The Georgia Tech Urban Honey Bee Project offers a beeswax lip balm for \$2, made from honey harvested on the roof of the Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons. Barnes & Noble @ Georgia Tech has several hats and water bottles that can be useful for the summer months to stay shaded and hydrated.

Hunt-Ralston even makes her own salt spray, which can provide a quick cooldown after a hot walk. The formula is a 1:4 ratio of sea salt to hot water, shaken until dissolved, and kept in a spray bottle for easy use.

"Salt spray will soak up oil and sweat on your face, so if you have dry skin, you may want to switch to Epsom salt, which will absorb sweat while also hydrating your skin," she said.

In the summer, you are what you eat. EHS advises that hot, heavy meals can add heat to the body and divert blood to the digestive system that could otherwise be helping the body cool down. Eating light, cool meals can help on days when you may work up a sweat.

CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

3BD/3BA house for rent. Perfect for a Tech family. Walk to work, restaurants, and shops. Beautifully renovated with den, office space, backyard with play structure. Within half a mile of Atlantic Station, Georgia Tech, Tech day care. \$2,800/mo. Contact Soojin at 404-271-5454, homepark2rent@ gmail.com.

Tech Square 1BR/1BA condo for lease, spacious third floor loft, 1,080 sq. ft. at MidCity Lofts. Kitchen boasts gas range, stainless steel appliances. Large balcony offers views of Midtown and Downtown. Rooftop pool, reserved garage space. \$1,900/mo. Also available furnished. Available Sept. 24. Contact 404-918-8069, chrisdowningpe@yahoo.com.

"A Cottage with a View" — 3BR/2BA peaceful, furnished, waterfront cottage w/ private beach and sundeck along southern Outer Banks (Morehead City, North Carolina). WiFi, central A/C, W/D, DW, rocking chairs, hammocks. Excellent fishing from 430' dock. Boat slips. No smoking or pets. \$1,200/wk. or \$250/nt. More info at vrbo.com/571844. Contact jud.ready@gatech.edu.

Lovely garden apartment in Ansley Park. 2BR/1BA (1,050+ sq. ft.) with parking. 2 mi. from Tech near bus/ train lines. Across from Piedmont Park and Atlanta Botanical Garden. Available Sept. 1. \$1,600/mo. but negotiable. Contact 53theprado@ gmail.com.

Looking for working professional, graduate student, or visiting professor to share large, furnished Buckhead condo, conveniently close to Tech campus. \$750/mo. includes utilities, cable, internet. Private bedroom, bath. Have leased to Tech Ph.D. student; also Tech graduate/Delta employee. Available Aug. 5. Very clean and private. Referrals on request. Contact 404-514-7662, reba.darr@gmail.com.

MISCELLANEOUS

Looking for a carpool partner for the daily commute from East Cobb to Tech campus. Email bdespy@hotmail. com.

Pair of IKEA Henriksdal bar chairs (with backrest) available for \$50. Dark brown frame, cream-colored fabric cover for the seat. Call or text 404-642-4869.

Pair of Pier 1 Papasan rocking chairs available for \$60. Comes with pair of foot stools and set of cushions for both chairs and stools. Call or text 404-642-4869.

For sale: Shaker/mission style Storehouse desk. Dark wood finish, 5' x 2.5', pull-out tray under desk for keyboard or supplies, good condition. \$250 firm. Text 404-790-9831 for photos.

Free yellow jacket nest removal. Nests to be used for research in the School of Biology. Call 404-385-6311 or e-mail michael.goodisman@biology. gatech.edu.

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