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THE WHISTLE

FACULTY/STAFF NEWSPAPER

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THE GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Spring commencement ceremonies at the Georgia Dome

David Terraso
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

For the first time in nearly a decade, Georgia Tech held a commencement ceremony somewhere other than Alexander Memorial Coliseum. Tech combined the undergraduate and graduate spring ceremonies, moving them to the Georgia Dome to accommodate the ever-expanding size of the undergraduate class. Approximately 2,400 graduates and their families were expected to turn out.

Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman delivered the address. He became the nation's eleventh secretary of energy on February 1. Bodman has served in the Bush administration since 2001 when he joined the Department of Commerce to serve as deputy secretary. In 2004, he moved to the Department of the Treasury where he again held the position of deputy secretary.

A financier and executive by trade and an engineer by training, Bodman received his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Cornell University in 1961 and his science

doctorate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1965.

A Family Affair

Graduation is always a special day for families, but this year it was even more so, with four graduates sharing the stage with family members.

Mona Kashlan received her bachelor's degree in management, while her daughter Farah Kashlan received her master's in Public Policy at the Dome. Later that day, sisters Rosie and Gina Kwok were presented with their Master's of Business Administration (MBA) at a separate reception and hooding ceremony held by the College of Management.

It's fair to say the Kashlans are a die hard Georgia Tech family. Next year, three more Kashlans are expected to get their diplomas at Tech. Mona Kashlan's daughter, Nadine, will graduate from the College of Architecture, while nephews Samy and Osama will get their bachelor's degrees in biomedical engineering and chemical engineering, respectively.

"When I came here in 1986, I heard so many things about the school because my brother-in-law was



photo by Nicole Cappello

Farah Kashlan helps her mother, Mona, adjust her tassel. Farah Kashlan received her master's in public policy at Saturday's ceremony, while her mother received a bachelor's in management.

Commencement continued, page 2

Pikowsky named new registrar

Amelia Gambino
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

Reta Pikowsky, of the University of Idaho (UI), has accepted the registrar's position at Georgia Tech. She currently serves as UI's registrar, a position she has held since 1996.

Pikowsky replaces Jo McIver, who announced her retirement after 25 years at Tech and 36 years in the University System of Georgia. McIver will retire at the end of the month.

During her tenure at the University of Idaho, Pikowsky directed all aspects of registration services, including a successful implementation of SCT Banner Student Module. She was also responsible for bringing Web and telephone registration online and began implementation of the CAPP degree audit system. She is actively involved with campus administration and serves as chair of the Administrative Commencement Committee, and member of the Academic Advising Advisory Board

and the University Curriculum Committee.

Deborah Smith, associate vice provost for Enrollment Services and chair of the Selection Committee, spoke confidently about the decision the group made. "The committee was fortunate to have so many outstanding candidates in the pool. However, it was clear that Reta stood out as someone who has vision, is a global thinker and has a complete understanding of the role that the Registrar's Office plays in providing service to the campus community. At one point during a recent conversation with Reta, she said, 'I think we can do some good work here.' I believe Reta is absolutely correct, and I look forward to having her join the Enrollment Services team."

Prior to her position at UI, Pikowsky served as registrar and interim director of Financial Aid for the University of Michigan-Flint. She earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish and history

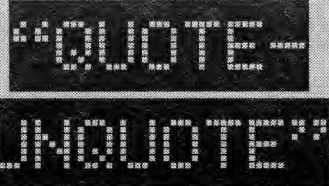
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IDT/Digital Media Day Spring '05



photo by Gary Meek

Each spring and fall, the Graduate Program in Digital Media and Information Design and Technology in the School of Literature, Communication and Culture presents a demonstration of outstanding student and faculty projects. This spring projects included experimental games and media, expressive computing, 3-D spaces, wireless gaming and interactive TV projects. Undergraduate Rob Fitzpatrick explains his "Life Tunnel" project to visitors while fellow student Kalani Reel looks on.



"We're better at designing technology than we are at understanding what technologies should be designed. So the challenge with creating a \$100 useful Internet appliance is understanding how people will use it, how they will be empowered by it."

—Mike Best, assistant professor in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs and adjunct assistant professor in the College of Computing, on efforts to develop cheap laptop technology as a result of Nicholas Negroponte's challenge at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.
(Christian Science Monitor)



THE WHISTLE

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Georgia Tech is a unit of the University System of Georgia.

New device developed by Georgia Tech and Emory checks for concussions on the sidelines

Megan McRaney
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

A football player just took a hard knock to the head and is lying on the field. The coach rushes to his side, but the player sits up and seems fine.

He knows who the president is and how many fingers the coach is holding up. But is he ready to get back in the game?

More than 750,000 mild traumatic brain injuries (mTBI) occur in the United States each year. When a player or soldier with even a mild concussion is sent back to the field, another blow to the head can lead to additional lifelong problems or even second impact syndrome, which has a mortality rate of up to 50 percent. But the injury is difficult to diagnose, even with a quiet room and a several-hour-long test.

Michelle LaPlaca, an assistant professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering, and David Wright, assistant director of Emory University's Emergency Medicine Research Center, have developed a new device to detect brain injuries right on the sidelines of a football game, on a battlefield or in the emergency room.

Called DETECT — Display Enhanced Testing for Concussions and mTBI system — the device is a fast, easy-to-administer and sensitive system for assessing problems associated with concussions. The DETECT device is an integrated system that includes software applications, a portable computer and an LCD display in the headgear.

While a typical mTBI test requires



Photo by Gary Meek

a quiet room and two hours of testing, DETECT performs neuropsychological tests in an immersive environment in about seven minutes, regardless of surrounding noise and movement. So, a football player or soldier who just took a blow to the head can take the test and either be safely cleared to get back on the field or sent to receive medical attention.

The device blocks external stimuli such as light and sound that could interfere with testing, which allows the test to be given in virtually any setting, even a bright football field with a roaring crowd.

When suffering from mTBI, a person will have difficulty with certain types of thinking controlled by different areas of the brain. DETECT runs the wearer through three types of neuropsychological tests that measure the function of several parts of the brain as the wearer attempts to perform the tests.

For example, the first shows the wearer a series of shapes with

different colors and textures and gives voice instructions. The wearer uses a simple controller similar to a video game controller to respond to the commands. The device measures the wearer's response times and answer selections; if the response time is too slow or the incorrect answers were provided, it indicates impairment.

In addition to the advantages of its speed and portability, DETECT can also be administered by non-medical personnel rather than a trained neurophysiologist.

While the device has already been tested in the lab and in a hospital emergency room, the Tech football program recognizes the need for improved concussion assessment and plans to test the technology during the upcoming season.

DETECT is expected to be commercially available in the next three to five years.

Commencement, cont'd from page 1

in school at Georgia Tech," said Mona Kashlan. "I fell in love with the school."

Being a non-traditional student at Tech was tough, but worth it, she said. She's graduating with highest honors, with an expected grade point average of 3.83.

Following graduation, she has her sights set on a position in marketing or strategic management at a large international corporation. Daughter Farah is looking at Ph.D. programs and plans to work in public policy as a consultant.

Rosie and Gina Kwok didn't plan on graduating together, but it worked out that way. Rosie Kwok returned to

her alma mater in 2002 to pursue her MBA, but took an internship the next year at Disney World. Her sister, Gina, started Tech in 2003. By the time she returned from her internship, the sisters were scheduled to finish their degrees at the same time.

Rosie Kwok was working for AMB IT, a Smyrna-based company that makes timing equipment for the racing industry, when she decided to pursue her MBA.

Gina Kwok was also working in the industry when she decided to make the jump to Tech. "I knew that the MBA program at Tech is very well known in the international business community, so I figured this would be

a good way for me to build contacts," she said.

She spent a semester in South Korea last year at her parents' alma mater, Seoul National University. She also took a class in Singapore during spring break.

Rosie Kwok plans to return to AMB IT after graduation, while her sister is still looking for a position in the marketing or human resources fields.

Like the Kashlan's, the Kwok sisters aren't the only ones in their family to have Yellow Jacket fever. Their brother Marcus graduated from Tech in December with a dual degree in computer engineering and mathematics.

Soccer-playing robots come to RoboCup U.S. Open

Elizabeth Campell
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

Robotic teams from top universities in the United States and around the world converge at Georgia Tech to compete in the third annual RoboCup U.S. Open May 8 – 10 at the Technology Square

Research Building. Teams representing China, Hungary, Iran, Japan, Mexico and Canada are participating in the event to support RoboCup research and competition in the Americas. The U.S. Open was first held at Carnegie Mellon University in 2003, and each year the robots continue to improve.

"The success and progress of

RoboCup is representative of what is happening in robotics overall," said Tucker Balch, professor of computing and chair of the RoboCup U.S. Open. "We are on the verge of a sea change in the economics of robotics, and their impact on society. Georgia Tech is a leader in engineering and robotics, and we are poised to help usher

Robots continued, page 3

Management honors alumni leaders

Elizabeth Campbell
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

The College of Management recently recognized the vision, achievement and leadership of its alumni at the Second Annual Celebration and Awards Dinner, inducting eleven leaders into the Hall of Fame, Academy of Distinguished Alumni and Council of Outstanding Young Alumni.

"We're here to salute you who give your time, your talent and your treasure," said College of Management Dean Terry C. Blum. "We appreciate the time you take to guide us. It's a lasting legacy to the students who follow you."

New members of the Hall of Fame, which recognizes leaders for their lifetime career achievement and commitment to Georgia Tech, include:

- **Robert A. Ancien**, IM 1969, M.S. IM 1970, retired from 32 years with Accenture. Currently general partner and owner of Liberty Land Group and of Windmill Point Resort and Yacht Harbor.
- **Don L. Chapman**, IM 1961, CEO of ChapCo Investments, and has founded or led eighteen different companies over the course of his career, including Opti-World and Tug Manufacturing Corp.

- **A.J. Land Jr.**, IM 1960, founder of Pope and Land Enterprises.
 - **Joseph W. Rogers Jr.**, IM 1968, president of Waffle House since 1973.
 - **J. Leland Strange**, IM 1965, president, CEO and chairman of Intelligent Systems.
- New members of the Academy of Distinguished Alumni, which recognizes leaders for their contributions to business, Georgia Tech and society at large, include:
- **Jerome A. Atkinson**, IM 1971, executive vice president, general counsel and chief compliance officer for Assurant Solutions.
 - **Hubert L. Harris Jr.**, IM 1965, CEO of INVESCO North America since 2003.
 - **N. Richard Kalikow**, IM 1964, managing member of Manchester Real Estate and Construction.
 - **Gregory J. Owens**, IM 1982, chairman of Manugistics.
 - **John T. Salley**, MGT 1988, twelve-year National Basketball Association veteran, co-host of the *The Best Damn Sports Show Period* on Fox Sports Net and head of Black Folk Entertainment production company.
 - **William J. Todd**, IM 1971, president of the Georgia Cancer Coalition since 2003.



Left to right: Georgia Tech President G. Wayne Clough, Council of Outstanding Young Alumni Inductee John T. Salley, College of Management Dean Terry C. Blum, and Georgia Tech senior Kristen Schierle.

Registrar, cont'd from page 1

from Monmouth College and a master's degree in education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

She has co-authored several articles on strategic enrollment management and academic advising, and is a member of the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

"Reta Pikowsky is the right person to become Tech's next Registrar. Her experience matches our needs, and she brings to the job the kind of professionalism, integrity, and good humor that we have come to expect in that position," said Bob McMath, vice provost for Academic Affairs and Undergraduate Studies.

Pikowsky will assume her duties as registrar at Tech on June 15.

Robots, cont'd from page 2

in this new era, since more than 30 faculty at Georgia Tech conduct research in robotics."

RoboCup, an international joint project to promote research in artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, computational perception and related fields, uses the soccer game as a central topic of research, aiming at innovations to be applied for socially significant problems and industries. Winning teams at the RoboCup U.S. Open qualify to compete at the international RoboCup 2005 competition in Osaka, Japan, in July.

The U.S. Open consists of five competitive leagues, including the popular Sony AIBO dogs, the Segways, which have been converted into robots, unusual-looking search & rescue robots that compete in a simulated earthquake environment with rubble for the robots to navigate around to find victims, custom-made, small-size robots, and soccer simulations.

The campus is invited to see some of the top robots in action during the U.S. Open. The updated, detailed RoboCup schedule is available at <http://www.robocup-us.org>.

IN BRIEF:

Regents' Best Practices

The Office of Organizational Development (OOD) is now accepting applications for the third annual Board of Regents Best Practices Competition. The purpose of this annual competition is to collect, reward and disseminate new and innovative practices with institutional impact throughout the University System.

Entries must be in one of the following categories: Academic Affairs, Finance and Business Operations, Information Technology, or Student Services.

Five best practice entries will be selected by a committee to represent Georgia Tech in the statewide competition. The BOR will issue two awards in each category from all University System submissions, with projected award amounts of \$15,000 to first place and \$10,000 to second place winners. Award recipients will also have the opportunity to present their best practices to the Board at a subsequent meeting.

The application and a full description of Competition rules and criteria can be found at http://www.orgdev.gatech.edu/BP/bp_bor-bp.htm. Applications are due to the OOD by Friday, May 20. For more information, visit the Web site or contact Juana Cunningham at 404-894-1065.

MARTA cards

Parking and Transportation received a Congestion, Mitigation and Air Quality grant from the Atlanta Regional Commission for alternative transportation and is discounting the MARTA monthly cards by \$10.

Cards for the month of May are on sale now at the Student Center Box office for \$30 for students and \$39.50 for faculty and staff. The Box Office hours are Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and closed on Sunday. The phone number is 894-9600.

For more information about this grant, monthly discounted MARTA cards and carpooling, visit the Parking and Transportation Web site at www.parking.gatech.edu.

Paving on campus

The following streets will be repaved starting May 9, with a scheduled completion of May 20. Parking will not be available on these streets while the work is being done and traffic will be limited.

- Fowler St., from Fourth St. to Bobby Dodd Way
- Bobby Dodd Way, from Cherry St. to Williams Street
- Techwood Dr., from North Ave. to Sixth St.
- Sixth St., from Techwood Dr. to Fowler St.
- Center St., from Curran St. to Tenth St.

Outstanding Educator Award

Ajit Yoganathan, the Wallace H. Coulter distinguished faculty chair and Regents' professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering, has been awarded the 2005 Theo C. Pilkington Outstanding Educator Award from the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Bioengineering Division.

Yoganathan will receive the award for his significant contribution to the development of the Joint Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory University and his infusing of problem-based learning methodologies throughout the curriculum.

He will be honored at the annual award ceremony and dinner at the ASEE Annual Conference in Portland, Oregon, on June 13.

C A M P U S E V E N T S

Arts & Culture

May 27

Deadline for registration for the Ferst Center for the Arts Drama Camp for kids ages 4-13. For the application, or more information, visit <http://www.ferstcenter.gatech.edu/>

Brown Bags/Conferences/Lectures

May 10

The School of Biology and the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning hosts Dr. Michael Klymkowsky, University of Colorado-Boulder, speaking on "Rebalancing Teaching: How Tools Designed to Discover and Address Student Misconceptions Lead to Course and Curricular Transformation" at 11:00 a.m. in room L1205 of the Ford ES&T Building.

May 12

The Office of Information Technology hosts a free brown bag seminar on "Pretty Good Privacy (PGP) Software Usage," at 11 a.m. in room 321 of the Student Center. To register, visit www.trainsweb.gatech.edu.

May 12

The Office of Organizational Development hosts a brown bag seminar featuring Buck Cooke, assistant director of student involvement for Greek Affairs, on "From Alpha to Omega: Fraternity and Sorority Life at Georgia Tech," at 11:30 a.m. in room 308, Savant Building. To register, visit www.trainsweb.gatech.edu.

May 19

The Office of Information Technology hosts a free brown bag seminar on "Introduction to Windows Security." To register, visit www.trainsweb.gatech.edu.

Faculty/Staff Development

May 17

The Office of Organizational Development hosts a course in "Dreamweaver MX — Level 2," which will introduce participants to advanced concepts of the Web development application. The one-day course includes advanced Web site creation features available in Dreamweaver, including libraries and behaviors. To register, visit www.trainsweb.gatech.edu.

Ongoing

Faculty, staff, alumni and graduate students are invited to join Georgia Tech's chapter of Toastmasters International, which meets every Thursday at 7:30 a.m. in room 102 of the Petit Microelectronics Research Center. For more information, visit www.techmasters.gatech.edu.

Miscellaneous

May 7 - 14

The CRC hours will change to:

M-F 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Sun. 12:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Also, starting Saturday, May 7 through 14 the CRC will experience a steam outage for routine maintenance.

May 8-10

Georgia Tech hosts the RoboCup U.S. Open in the Technology Square Research Building. For more information, visit www.robocup-us.org.

May 13-15

The men's baseball team hosts Virginia Tech for a three-game series at Chandler Stadium, 7 p.m. (May 13-14) and 1:30 p.m. (May 15).

May 16

First day of classes for summer semester.

May 20

Deadline for submissions for the 2005 BOR Best Practices Competition. For the application, or more information, visit http://www.orgdev.gatech.edu/BP/bp_bor-bp.htm.

May 30

Campus closed for Memorial Day.

The Whistle will go to a biweekly publication schedule during the summer semester. The next issue will be published on May 23.
E-mail events to editor@icpa.gatech.edu.

C L A S S I F I E D S

AUTOMOBILES

1980 MGB convertible. Runs well, sky blue exterior, leather camel interior. Good condition, 17K original miles. \$4,500 OBO. Call 290-4506 or e-mail edharrell@yahoo.com.

1995 Nissan Maxima GLE. Leather interior, Bose stereo, automatic, air and more. 106K miles, one owner. Priced below bluebook at \$4,000. Call 404-894-3098.

1996 Acura Integra. Red, body kit, 17-inch wheels, custom interior. Too many modifications to list. \$7,200. E-mail karen.glover@library.gatech.edu.

1992 Subaru Legacy Wagon. 5-speed stick-shift with all-wheel drive. 97,000+ miles. Burgundy exterior and grey cloth interior. Very reliable. \$2,000 OBO. Contact Bob Harty @ 404.733.6855 or bob.harty@icpa.gatech.edu.

FURNITURE

Dining room set: table, 6 newly reupholstered chairs and china cabinet. Blonde wood, great condition. \$400 OBO. 55-gallon aquarium and wood stand. \$250 OBO. E-mail gte530r@mail.gatech.edu.

Wanted: extra-long twin bed or two twin beds with headboards. E-mail brenda.woods@vpss.gatech.edu.

REAL ESTATE/ROOMMATES

1BR/1BA Chastain Park condo priced at \$135,000. Estimated monthly payment \$889.60. New HVAC, hardwood floors, pool, clubhouse and exercise room. Move-in ready. Call 404-931-9922.

1BR/1BA 1930s condo across from Piedmont Park. Old-style charm with modern amenities. Association fee includes cable, gas, water, landscaping and sanitation. \$169,900. Call 894-9822 or e-mail shannon.sullivan@admission.gatech.edu.

1BR/1BA condo in Cross Creek. Convenient to GT. Golf, tennis, pool, gated community. W/D, A/C, ready to rent for \$750/month. E-mail mercedes.saghini@arch.gatech.edu or call 404-894-3476.

1BR/1BA condo in downtown Atlanta. Gated, assigned parking, pool and courtyard. For details and pictures call Ms. King at 404-385-2382.

2BR/1.5BA townhouse. Brick w/deck, totally renovated with new appliances, roof, HVAC, hardwoods. Walk to

Smyrna Village Green. \$129,900 OBO. Call 404-723-1716 or e-mail eileengram@juno.com.

3BR/2BA brick house in Decatur. Large fenced backyard with deck. Covered parking, convenient to MARTA. No pets. \$975/month. Call 404-433-8017.

3BR/1.5BA house in McDonough. New interior and exterior paint, flooring and appliances, close to all major stores. \$975/month. Call 404-433-8017.

2BR/2.5BA townhouse in Smyrna near I-285 and Atlanta Road. Hardwood floors on main floor. Garden tub with skylight. 11 miles to Tech. Offered at \$149,900. E-mail clint.lyle@cetl.gatech.edu.

4 BR, 3 full baths, formal living & dining, large family room, eat-in kitchen, large fenced back yard. Approximately 20 miles from Tech in Clayton County. Close to I-75 and I-675. \$1200.00 per month. Call 404-385-8772, or 678-480-7218.

East Atlanta Townhome. \$204,900. 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 2 half baths. Stainless appliances. Deck, private fenced yard, garage w/storage,

washer and dryer, gated, pool, alarm. Shelly Reynolds - shellyr@kw.com, Raheem Beyah - raheem.beyah@ece.gatech.edu.

3BR/2BA house in So. Clayton Co Lovejoy Middle/High, Kemp Elem. For Rent, \$975.mo Call DeeDee at 770-719-3088

1BR/1BA newly renovated, furnished terrace apt. in Morningside. Off-street pkg. No pets, non-smoker. \$755/month, includes DSL and satellite TV; gas not included. Available August 1. Call 404-873-2052.

MISCELLANEOUS

Stroud upright piano with heater and bench. Good condition, \$250. Call 770-386-3181.

"Star Trek" magazines. 23 ST:TNG and ST:DS9 magazines from 1992-1995. \$75 OBO. E-mail andrea.goldblum@vpss.gatech.edu for list of titles and dates.

FOUND in the area of the ISyE complex a silver necklace. Call 404-894-8039 and describe.

E-mail ads to editor@icpa.gatech.edu.