



# THE WHISTLE

WORK AND LIFE AT GEORGIA TECH • June 21, 2022

Georgia  
Tech.

Vol. 47, No. 13  
whistle.gatech.edu

## Transforming Tomorrow

THE CAMPAIGN FOR GEORGIA TECH

### A Message From President Cabrera

Since our founding in the late 19th century, Georgia Tech has always looked for ways to transform itself — to be better and do better, and to expand our reach and amplify our impact.

What hasn't changed

is our commitment to Progress and Service

— our belief in the power

of technology,

science, and committed leadership to make things better for everyone.

Thanks to decades of investments from visionary philanthropists and state and federal government, coupled with the extraordinary dedication of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni over the generations, we have more impact today than ever before — in the number of students we serve, the talent we develop, the research we conduct, and the innovation and economic opportunity we create.

As we wrap up another record



year at Georgia Tech, I am excited to announce the launch of Transforming Tomorrow: The Campaign for Georgia Tech, a comprehensive campaign designed to fuel a new chapter in this remarkable story. Grounded in the Institute's strategic plan, this campaign will bring unprecedented advancements to the Institute that will have the power to shape the future — transforming lives, ideas, learning, our community, and our world.

I am talking about offering financial support to attract the brightest talent from every background and stage of life, powering the discovery of new scientific and technological breakthroughs, accelerating innovation and entrepreneurship, adapting our campus and technology to the evolving needs of the 21st century, supporting personal growth and well-being, and emphasizing work that improves lives and livelihoods — here in Georgia, across our nation,

see **CAMPAIGN**, page 2



Photo by Allison Carter

Buzz is reflected in Christen Steele's glasses as she admires the Progress Pride Staircase at its grand opening in 2021.

## Celebrating Pride Month

KRISTEN BAILEY  
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

June is Pride Month for the LGBTQIA community, a celebration of culture and community. It originated in the early 1970s with daylong and weekend commemorations of the Stonewall riots of 1969.

"Pride Month is an important time for the LGBTQIA community that represents identity, community, and ally solidarity as well as resistance to discrimination and violence,"

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and around the globe.

Over the next five years, with the support of committed alumni and friends alongside visionary corporations and foundations, Georgia Tech will secure the resources that will help us achieve our ambitious goals, build on our history, and multiply our impact for decades to come.

*“What hasn’t changed is our commitment to Progress and Service — our belief in the power of technology, science, and committed leadership to make things better for everyone.”*

Philanthropy has been indispensable to the Institute’s work since its very establishment. We simply cannot do our job without the support and engagement of individuals and organizations who believe in our mission and vision for the future. Your philanthropy makes Transforming Tomorrow possible.

In Progress and Service,  
Ángel Cabrera

*P.S. — We have a unique goal for this campaign — a historic number among mathematicians and computer engineers, and a playful Yellow Jacket homage to some of the Institute’s greatest accomplishments and milestones: 2<sup>31</sup>-1 (or \$2,147,483,647). Learn more about this uniquely Georgia Tech goal at [transformingtomorrow.gatech.edu](https://transformingtomorrow.gatech.edu).*

# Tuition Assistance Registration Period for Fall Closes in July

JAKERYA RANDOLPH  
HUMAN RESOURCES

Did you know eligible Georgia Tech employees can apply for tuition assistance?

Two programs are available.

The **Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)** provides a tuition waiver to full-time, benefits-eligible employees who have worked for at least six months within the University System of Georgia (USG). Time worked in a temporary position does not count toward the six-month eligibility requirement. Eligible employees may seek approval to enroll in up to nine academic semester hours for each of the three designated semester periods: Fall, Spring, and Summer. You must apply for TAP by the application deadline to receive the tuition and mandatory fee waiver.

The **Staff Tuition Reimbursement Assistance Program (STRAP)** is an educational assistance program that provides partial tuition reimbursement for classified Georgia Tech employees at any accredited private institution.

## TAP and STRAP Application Procedures

- Apply for school through the admissions office of the institution you plan to attend during their designated application dates.
- Complete the applicable TAP or STRAP application. Make sure to put your OneUSG Employee ID (not GT ID) on the form.
- If you are not sure of the courses you are taking, put your best guess. It can be changed later.
- Use DocuSign to complete your application.



Photo by Rob Felt

A student waves during the Master's Commencement Ceremony in May 2022.

- Email your completed applications for TAP and STRAP to [eduassist@gatech.edu](mailto:eduassist@gatech.edu) by Friday, July 15. Applications received after this date cannot be honored. A new application must be completed for each semester by the deadline.

## Special Note About TAP Registration Dates

As a TAP participant, it is important that employees only register for classes during the TAP employee registration dates (updated each semester). These dates change each semester and will differ depending on the USG institution you are attending. If you register prior to the employee registration period, you risk your classes being dropped and your TAP waiver being removed.

Additional information can be found in the TAP Policy and STRAP Policy, both available at [policylibrary.gatech.edu](https://policylibrary.gatech.edu), or by emailing [eduassist@gatech.edu](mailto:eduassist@gatech.edu).



# TECH LAWN AND GARDEN

*Georgia Tech's main campus, with 400 acres and more than 13,000 trees, has a team of landscape professionals maintaining its beauty year-round. Tech Lawn and Garden taps into the knowledge of the experts in Infrastructure and Sustainability, showing how they do what they do and sharing tips you can use at home.*

## Planting a Vegetable Garden

STEVE PLACE  
INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY

There are many reasons for growing a vegetable garden. In addition to having fresh vegetables on hand, gardening can help you save money, and you can control the pesticides used. Also, homegrown vegetables just taste better. Here are a few tips to start your garden.



First, you will need a garden location that gets at least 6 to 8 hours of direct sunlight a day. Vegetables need sunlight for photosynthesis.

Select plant varieties that are suited for your environment. Some plants are the 'running' variety and require more space. For new gardeners, particularly in the Southeast, I recommend planting tomatoes, okra, squash, or eggplants.

When purchasing plants, inspect them to make sure they are not rootbound or infested with pests. Before planting, gently break apart the



Steve Place, horticulturalist with Landscape Services in Infrastructure and Sustainability, tends the garden on the rooftop of The Kendeda Building for Innovative Sustainable Design.

root ball to allow the roots to spread. Water the seedlings before planting and again immediately after they go into the ground. Water deeply and less frequently to encourage deep root growth.

After planting, apply a layer of mulch to retain soil moisture and protect plants from drought.

Regularly inspect your plants for pest damage, and groom dead leaves or remove pests manually as needed. Keep your garden clean and free of any debris and weeds that might attract pests.

Disinfect your garden tools regularly

by wiping, spraying, or dipping in isopropyl alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, or vinegar.

What I love the most about gardening is how peaceful it is. There is always something going on, so if you are observant, you can learn and be impressed by how nature works.

You can contact your county's extension office or consult a gardening website for more gardening tips.



Hear Steve Place talk about his tips for maintaining a vegetable garden at [c.gatech.edu/veggiegarden](https://c.gatech.edu/veggiegarden).



**PRIDE**, from page 1

said Tegra Myanna, director of the LGBTQIA Resource Center. “Each year, June reminds me of the importance of community and the resilience of LGBTQIA people.”

This month, there are several ways to get involved in educational or advocacy efforts, and opportunities to engage with the LGBTQIA Resource Center on campus. A few of those include:

**Queer Coffeehouse**

Drop by the LGBTQIA Resource Center (located in Suite 140, Smithgall Student Services Building) to enjoy coffee and treats while getting to know others. RSVP is requested. Summer dates are:

Tuesday, June 28  
11 a.m. – noon

Wednesday, July 20  
11 a.m. – noon

**Pride ERG Picnic**

Bring your lunch and join AFFIRMED @ GTRI and PRIDE ERG as we close out Pride Month at Georgia Tech and celebrate with other LGBTQIA employees.

Tuesday, June 28  
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
EcoCommons

**Trans 101**

Trans 101 is the LGBTQIA Resource Center’s introductory education program designed to provide participants with the knowledge and skills to support transgender, gender-nonconforming, and gender questioning individuals at Georgia Tech. RSVP to attend.

July 14  
9:30 a.m. – noon

To learn more about these events, RSVP, and find other resources, visit [lgbtqia.gatech.edu](https://lgbtqia.gatech.edu).

# CAMPUS CENTER TAKES SHAPE



Photos by Allison Carter

Construction in the middle of campus continues this summer as the John Lewis Student Center and Stamps Commons take their final shape. The project is expected to finish in July, with a grand opening event planned for this fall. Learn more about the project and see the current status through the construction camera at [studentcenter.gatech.edu/campus-center](https://studentcenter.gatech.edu/campus-center).

